



Lowland Derbyshire Biodiversity Partnership Forum 2010



← *Looking Back and Moving Forwards* →



16th October 2010 Chesterfield Library, Chesterfield

A programme of talks, and site visits to celebrate the International Year of Biodiversity, the end of the current Biodiversity Action Plan period and the launch of the consultation draft for the next .



Event is supported by Countdown 2010



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Every year the Lowland Derbyshire Biodiversity Partnership holds a themed Annual Forum for partners and community groups. The theme of this year's Partnership's Annual Forum is *Looking back and moving forwards*. The Lowland Derbyshire Biodiversity Partnership is made up of over 90 organisations from the private, public and voluntary sectors who have agreed to work together to deliver the aims of the Lowland Derbyshire Biodiversity Action Plan. The action plan was revised in 2004-5 and some ambitious targets were set for completion by the end of 2010.

Over the last 5 years, members of the Partnership have been working very hard to work towards reaching those targets. This has been achieved by a combination of methods, including land being entered into agri-environmental schemes for habitat management, habitat creation and management associated with development, partnership projects working on particular habitats or species within a specific area and land management of individual sites.

The event will consider whether the partnership has achieved the targets and includes a number of talks on projects and opportunities which have contributed towards them. In the afternoon there is a choice of site visits to see where some of the work has been achieved. The event will finish with the launch of the consultation draft for the 2011-2020 Lowland Derbyshire Biodiversity Action Plan, which will frame our work for the next 10 years.

Site Visits

The afternoon will include the option to go on one site visit. Site visits have been chosen to illustrate practical habitat management that has contributed, and will continue to contribute, towards Local Biodiversity Action Plan targets.

1. Holymoorside

In early 2009, more than 150 hectares of land on the edge of the moorland gritstone, was entered into an agri-environmental scheme. This landholding includes areas of acid grassland, heathland, rush pasture and wood pasture and much of the land is either within a Site of Special Scientific Interest or Local Wildlife Site. The agreement includes restoration of 18 hectares of acid grassland and 30 hectares of heathland.

2. Avenue Washlands

Avenue Washlands is one of Derbyshire Wildlife Trust's newest nature reserves and was opened in 2005. The wetland site consists of newly created reedbed, marsh, ponds and grassland in the valley of the River Rother, south of Chesterfield, on part of the site of the now decommissioned Avenue Coking Works. Further restoration work on the northern part of the site should lead to the creation of a further 40ha of nature reserve in the next few years.

There will be plenty of opportunities within the event to share experiences amongst like minded individuals, as well as to meet other groups and individuals within the county. The event is free and is aimed at partners, landowners, and community groups.

Attendance at the Annual Forum is **free, but places must be booked** in advance using the booking form. Due to the size of the venue and the transport arrangements for the site visits, there are only 100 places available and these will be allocated on a first come, first served basis. Numbers of delegates are limited to a maximum of two delegates per organisation. If more places are required, you are advised to contact Debbie Alston and have names put on a waiting list to be allocated, if spaces are available, nearer to the event.