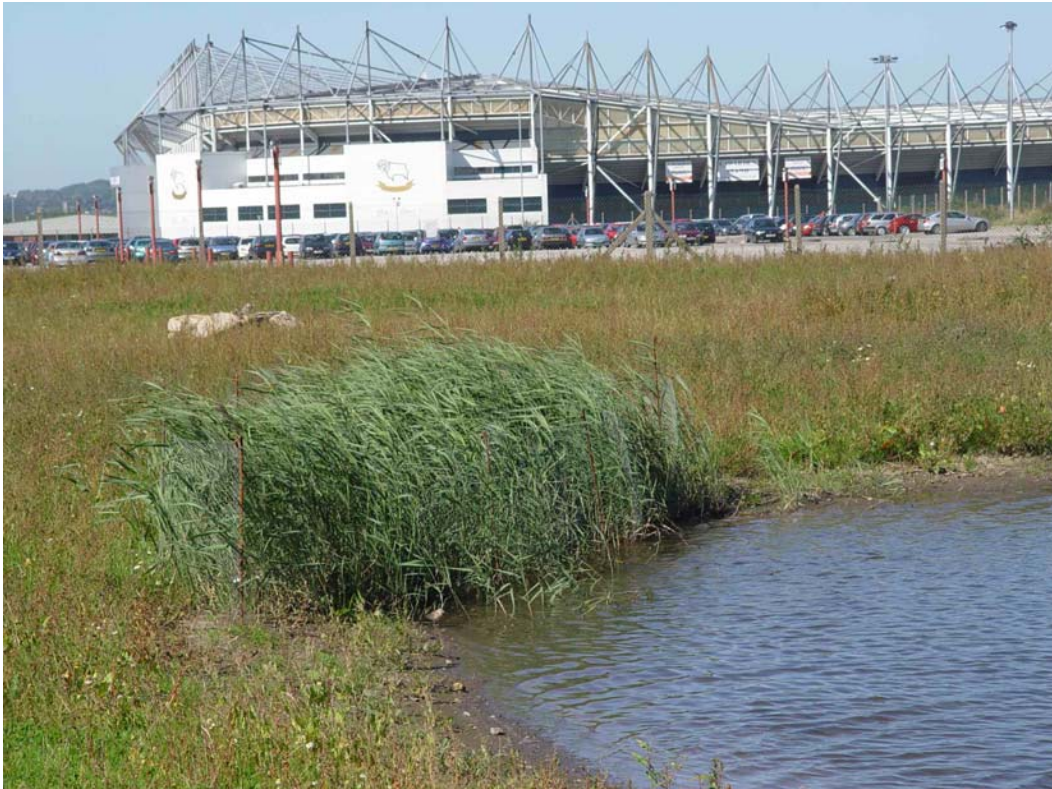




Lowland Derbyshire & Nottinghamshire LBAP Forum 2008



Biodiversity in the urban and brownfield environment



10th - 11th October 2008

**Bramcote Memorial Hall, Nottinghamshire
& Pleasley Landmarks Centre, Derbyshire**

A programme of talks, workshops and displays showing the relevance of biodiversity within the urban and brownfield environment and helping to build the capacity of local groups to manage sites.



Event is supported by Broxtowe Borough Council and Clear Ecology, a specialist trading division of Clear Environmental Consultants, based in Derby (www.clear ecology.com.)



Biodiversity within the urban and brownfield environments

This years Annual Forum is a joint event between the Lowland Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire LBAP Partnerships and will explore the importance of biodiversity within the urban and brownfield environments. This Forum will look at opportunities for biodiversity protection, enhancement and creation/restoration within these environments and the role of local groups.

Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire have extensive urban conurbations, particularly within the M1 corridor yet these areas retain pockets of open space that are important to both wildlife and people. Both counties have a legacy of mining activities which have presented good opportunities for habitat creation whilst other post industrial sites have developed into important wildlife areas through natural processes yet these sites are often threatened by development.

The event will be held over two days, with various elements to interest the wide membership of both LBAP partnerships. Delegates are welcome to book on one or both days and the whole event is open to LBAP partners from both counties.

Day 1, held in Nottinghamshire, is aimed primarily at those LBAP partners who deal with planning, leisure and regeneration and want to incorporate biodiversity further into their functions. Planning and Policy Statement 9 (Biodiversity and Geodiversity) indicates that development proposals provide many opportunities for building-in biodiversity as part of good design and that such opportunities should be maximised in and around developments. The morning session will cover issues related to this.

The site visit in the afternoon, to Bramcote Hills Park, will pick up on aspects of the topics from the morning sessions and other issues associated with urban wildlife sites. This site is a Green Flag award-winning open space in this heavily urbanised part of Broxtowe Borough. Parts of the park have recently been designated as a Local Nature Reserve and the park has an associated community involvement.

Day 2, held in Derbyshire, is primarily aimed at 'Friends of 'groups, community groups and people working within the voluntary sector. Workshops will look to give a greater understanding of species that use urban and brownfield environments as well as exploring a variety of issues that some groups may find difficult to address.

There will be plenty of opportunities within the event to share experiences amongst like minded individuals as well as meet other groups and individuals both from within your county but also 'across the border'.

Attendance at the Annual Forum is free but places must be booked in advance using the booking form. There will be a maximum of three places per group/organisation. This will allow as many groups/organisations to attend as possible



Saturday Workshops:

Delegates will have an opportunity to attend 2 workshops. These are designed to be interactive so please come armed with questions on particular issues.

- 1. Funding for biodiversity projects**– most biodiversity projects require funding and this is often seen as a barrier to starting the project. There are a good variety of funding sources to suit projects both large and small and this workshop will explore these and provide some hints and tips to successful applications. The workshop will be led by Lorna Wallace from the Community Education Centre in Bolsover.
- 2. Writing management plans** – management plans are often viewed as being big and unwieldy documents that take a long time to write. They do not however, have to be like this and are in practice a useful document showing a vision for the site and some practical steps to take to achieve the vision. The workshop will look at the practicalities of writing a site management plan. The workshop will be led by Derbyshire Countryside Service.
- 3. Publicity for biodiversity projects** – biodiversity projects are usually good news stories and are often lapped up by the local media. Funders often require a press release as part of their conditions and the media can be a difficult environment to penetrate to get coverage. This workshop will explore how to make a good press release and get wider publicity for your projects. The workshop will be led by Gill Grievson from the Greenwood Partnership.
- 4. Wildlife surveying**– the basis for habitat management is knowing what you have on site before you start. This workshop will explore some basic principles on wildlife surveying and how to monitor habitats to see if your management is having the desired effect. The workshop will be led by local experts.
- 5. Reptiles** – reptiles are known to inhabit brownfield and urban environments and have now been added to the UK list of priority species. This workshop will look at the basic ecology of reptiles and their habitats with special attention paid to those species which groups are likely to come across on their sites. The workshop will be run by Chris Monk from the Derbyshire Amphibian and Reptile Group.
- 6. Brownfield butterflies** – Butterfly Conservation has noted that a number of butterfly species associated with brownfield sites are declining and have recently been added to the UK list of priority species. The dingy and grizzled skipper in particular rely on habitats that can be found in the former coalfields. The workshop will explore habitat management principles for these sites. The workshop will be run by the East Midlands Butterfly Conservation.
- 7. Invasive Species** – Invasive plant species are becoming increasingly common in the urban environment and are difficult to manage on sites. This workshop will explore these invasive species and some practical management issues relating to their control. The workshop will be run by Rebecca Brunt and Louise Duffy from the Environment Agency.
- 8. Glow worms** – the glow worm is not a UK priority species but is a characteristic and under recorded species within Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire. This workshop will provide an introduction to glow worms, their basic ecology and habitat requirements and use a colony in the Mickleover area of Derbyshire as a case study for habitat management. The workshop will be run by Beverley Rhodes from WildDerby and Martin Bradley a volunteer ranger with Sustrans.



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Programme

**10th October 2008 Bramcote Memorial Hall,
Bramcote, Nottinghamshire**

Day 1

9.45 - 10.00	Registration and Coffee
10.00	Introduction, <i>David Jackson, Natural England (Chair for Day 1)</i>
10.05	Welcome to Broxtowe Borough and Official Opening of the Event by <i>Cllr Sue Wildey, the Mayor of the Borough of Broxtowe</i>
10.10	Biodiversity, Green Infrastructure and the 6C's project <i>Charlotte Gault, The Wildlife Trusts & Alison Hepworth, East Midlands Biodiversity Partnership</i>
10.35	Green Flags and Biodiversity <i>Phil Beard, Newark and Sherwood District Council</i>
10.55	Questions for speakers
11.05	Coffee Break
11.30	Biodiversity considerations in regeneration and brownfield development – a consultants perspective <i>Neil Crofts, Clear Environmental Consultants</i>
11.50	Green Roofs and biodiversity <i>Jeff Sorrill, Centre Manager, The Green Roof Centre, Sheffield</i>
12.10	Questions for speakers
12.30	Buffet Lunch
13.30	Site visit - Bramcote Hills Park (Guided walks led by Tim Crawford, Broxtowe Borough Council & Gaynor Jones Jenkins, Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust).
16.00	Finish



**Saturday 11th October,
Pleasley Landmarks Centre,
Pleasley, Derbyshire**



Day 2

9.45 – 10.00	Registration and Coffee
10.00	Welcome by <i>Dan Abrahams, Natural England (Chair for Day 2)</i>
10.05	What is the value of urban and brownfield sites <i>Dr Peter Glaves, Biodiversity and Landscape History Research Institute.</i>
10.30	Pleasley Pit Nature Study Group <i>Ken Lomas, Chair, Pleasley Pit Nature Study Group</i>
10.50	Friends of Bingham Linear Park <i>Jenny Craig, Secretary, Friends of Bingham Linear Park</i>
11.05	Questions for speakers
11.15	Coffee Break
11.30	Workshops – Session 1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funding for biodiversity projects <i>Lorna Wallace, Community Education Centre</i> • Writing management plans <i>Iaian Stafford, Derbyshire Countryside Service</i> • Publicity <i>Gill Grievson Greenwood Community Forest</i> • Wildlife Surveying <i>Tom French, Derbyshire County Council</i> • Reptiles <i>Chris Monk, DARG</i> • Brownfield Butterflies <i>Bill Bacon and Jane Ellis, Butterfly Conservation</i> • Glow worms <i>Beverley Rhodes, WildDerby and Martin Bradley, Sustrans</i> • Invasive Species <i>Rebecca Brunt, Louise Duffy & Ros Kaye, Environment Agency</i>
12.45	Buffet Lunch
13.45	Workshops – Session 2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funding for biodiversity projects <i>Lorna Wallace, Community Education Centre</i> • Writing management plans <i>Iaian Stafford, Derbyshire Countryside Service</i> • Publicity <i>Gill Grievson, Greenwood Partnership</i> • Wildlife surveying <i>Tom French, Derbyshire County Council</i> • Reptiles <i>Chris Monk, DARG</i> • Brownfield Butterflies <i>Bill Bacon and Jane Ellis, Butterfly Conservation</i> • Glow worms <i>Beverley Rhodes, WildDerby and Martin Bradley, Sustrans</i> • Invasive Species <i>Rebecca Brunt, Louise Duffy & Ros Kaye, Environment Agency</i>
15.00	Coffee Break
15.20	Shirebrook from pit to park, a case study. <i>Ted Wooddisse, Nottinghamshire County Council</i>
15.40	Lowland Derbyshire LBAP & Nottinghamshire LBAP <i>Debbie Court & Chris Jackson</i>
15.50	Final discussion and round up
16.00	Finish