



MARBLED WHITE BUTTERFLIES ARE FLYING NOW AT THE RESERVE

Monkton Nature Reserve Newsletter



July 2020

OVERLEAF

Message from the trustees

Hello Everyone

Welcome to the first of our monthly 'snapshot' newsletters.

As you will know, we made the very difficult decision to close the reserve for an extended period until we get to grips with all the essential preparations to ensure that we can invite you back to a 'Covid-secure' environment.

Over the coming weeks, we will start to bring volunteers back to the reserve to begin all the tasks that need doing before we can think about re-opening.

Vital conservation work has already started this week and we anticipate that we will eventually be able to welcome you back to a Monkton Nature Reserve that combines our idyllic surroundings with some new attractions.

Thank you for your patience and continued support.

Stay safe and well and we look forward to seeing you in the future.

From Trevor Shonk
(Chairman) and the trustees

Thanet Countryside Trust



Our beautiful orchids



Volunteering at Monkton

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Nature notes

by Clive Nuttman

In Britain, there are nearly 60 species of orchid and Kent is the best county for seeing these beautiful plants with 38 recorded – 10 of these have been found at Monkton

Orchids flower between April and September but the best time to look for them is during May and June, the peak flowering months

Woodland and chalk grassland are two of the best habitats to find orchids

Orchids have unusual pollen; the grains are packed together in a single structure called a pollinium



Man orchid

that gets attached to visiting bees and other insects

Some orchid flowers look like insects such as bees and flies to attract these visitors, even producing scent that mimics them!

WHEN TO SEE ORCHIDS AT MONKTON

Orchids begin flowering in April at Monkton but the best time to see them is from the end of May through to early July



Volunteering at Monkton Nature Reserve

by Sharon Blayney, Volunteer Co-ordinator

Want to meet new people? Develop skills? Get involved in a project? Why not join the team of volunteers at Monkton Nature Reserve?

As the Thanet Countryside Trust is a charity, volunteers are at the core of our operations at Monkton Nature Reserve and we are always looking for new members to join our team to allow us to expand by offering more activities and events. In the coming weeks, we hope to re-introduce volunteers to the reserve to begin preparations for re-opening; all work will be done under 'Covid-secure' working practices that are under development.

If you feel you would like to join us and help us to expand on what we can offer all our visitors, please contact us by e-mail to request a Volunteer Application Form. We will then contact you to arrange an informal interview to discuss how you can join our teams – indoor and outdoor tasks are available.

VOLUNTEERING AT MONKTON

FOR MORE DETAILS CONTACT: volunteering@monkton-reserve.org

