



A WINTER SCENE AT MONKTON NATURE RESERVE

Monkton Nature Reserve Newsletter



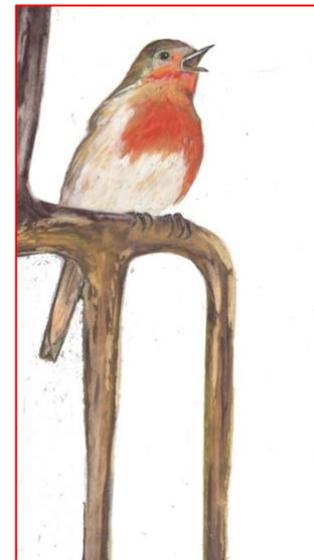
December 2020

Looking to the Future.....

In our increasingly mild winters, it is rare that we see any snow at all – the scene above at the Dragonfly Pond seems a thing of the past but we have a message of hope for the future.

As for just about everybody, we will be grateful to see the back of 2020 but we remain optimistic about the future. We have been humbled and extremely grateful for the support and encouragement that we have received from all quarters – from the government and Thanet District Council to our wonderful volunteers that have continued to give their time and energy to keeping Monkton Nature Reserve a ‘going concern’. We have also been delighted that so many members have continued to support us in so many ways; attending the limited sessions that we have managed to run, donating books and funds, and renewing memberships despite limited opportunities to come to the reserve.

Overleaf, we describe some of the things that we hope to offer, once we feel it is safe to start the ‘rebirth’ of the reserve.



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*Happy Christmas
to all our members and thank you
for your support in this most
difficult of years. We look forward
to welcoming you back to the
reserve in 2021*

Our hopes for 2021.....

Last month we reported on all the work that has continued at the site during lockdown and we are still working hard to try and re-open in the spring – we remain in the ‘hands of Covid’!

Amongst ongoing preparations, we will complete all our nature trail improvements, including Lester’s (fossil and dinosaur) Trail and the Walk, Watch, Listen and Learn education trail. Our volunteer conservation team has continued with maintenance around the reserve and, having finished work on the lower level, is now underway in Sparrowhawk Wood and the upper level along the chalk cliff. The new ‘Top Trail’ will be accessible, too, when we re-open.

Our ‘indoor team’ has continued to raise much-needed funds through book sales and curation and cataloguing has restarted in the museum.

We hope that, safety measures permitting, everything will be able to re-open at the same time. We will keep in touch with you in the New Year to keep you abreast of further developments and let you know some proposed dates for events and activities.

New for next year.....

As part of our revival plans, we have been working with various parties to bring an exciting new range of activities to Monkton Nature Reserve in 2021. Designed to get us outdoors after the trials of 2020, we hope to start the following:

Wellness In Nature - Outdoor Dramatherapy: A series of 8 weekly creative sessions, enhancing wellbeing through contact with nature

Wild Classroom - Cooking fresh food outdoors is undoubtedly good for the soul as it is for the taste buds

Forest School

Nature and Wellbeing Walks

In addition to the vital support from you, the members, we are pleased to acknowledge contributions from the following:

*CLA Charitable Foundation
Cleary Foundation
Cummins Power
The Hovenden Family
Kent Community Foundation
St Mary Magdalene PCC*



Our new fossil and dinosaur sculptures are ready to install

IF YOU WANT FURTHER INFORMATION ON OUR PLANS FOR 2021

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