



# The Harnham Water Meadows Trust

Newsletter 48 2020





## Chairman's Letter 2020

**D**ear Supporters of the Harnham Water Meadows.

Having moved from the Isle of Wight to Wilton in August 2017 my husband David and I set about learning something of the area where we now find ourselves. One of the first great pleasures was to catch sight of the Cathedral's spire from so many view-points. This pleasure has not diminished and now we know where many of the reveals are, the pleasure grows with familiarity. What we had no idea about was anything about the Meadows. The expression Field Drowning was completely unknown to us and we were enchanted by it. As luck would have it, a new friend introduced us to the Harnham Water Meadows and the work that has been going on since 1989 to restore these to something like their original working order. We went to the Open Day in February this year when we heard Hadrian Cook, aka The Drowner, tell us how the Meadows had been used to improve the agriculture of the area which centred around sheep and corn. Later I met some of the volunteers and Trustees who work so hard to make it all work. They are an enthusiastic and very agreeable group who welcome people to the team. This is good because inevitably, like in any organisation, there are spaces for new-comers from time to time.

This year has, of course, been more testing than many and not being able to have the usual Open Day or any other encouragement to members of the public to see what the Meadows are all about has been a disappointment. However, the Meadows are still there, work continues and Salisbury remains lucky that this large open space, particularly well placed as it is to showcase the Cathedral, cannot be despoiled. In these days of uncertainty about planning laws and far too many flood plains having been built on, the Harnham Water Meadows are a wonder and something to be cherished.

May we find ourselves back inprecedented times sooner rather than later.

Thank you all for your valued and continuing support.

**Gay Edwards, Chairman of Trustees**

## 2020: CHANGING TIMES

**W**elcome to the 2020 Newsletter. This year has seen many changes in the life of the Harnham Water Meadows Trust: changes in Trust management and the roles of key volunteers, and changes to how we may use the Meadows during the Covid 19 pandemic.

During the year both the Board Chairman (Graham Jagger) and the long-serving Chairman of the Management Committee (Jan Fitzjohn) stepped down as Trustees. The Trust is very much indebted to both Graham and Jan for their impressive and long lasting contributions to the development and advancement of the Trust, and its work on the Harnham Water Meadows. A reflection of their time by each of them is included in this edition. Thank you, Graham and Jan, for all you contributed both seen and unseen, and for leaving your mark on the Trust's achievements.

We are pleased to welcome our new Chairman, Gay Edwards. You will see in the article about Gay that she brings extensive experience of charitable work to the Trust. She and her husband have quickly immersed themselves in our activities. We look forward to continuing our development and progression under Gay's chairmanship.

We also mark our second win of a Wiltshire Life award. This year we are delighted to report that the Trust came second in the Conservation Project category. Our thanks to Jan Fitzjohn for submitting the evidence for our successful entry.

The two lockdowns and general Covid 19 restrictions have curtailed our activities this year. Sadly we have been prevented from welcoming schools and the public to events, although we did manage the two public demonstrations of drowning the Meadows in February. This has affected our public visibility and income. We would encourage our supporters to spread the word about our charitable work to enhance and protect Salisbury's 'green lung' in its centre. It would be good if all whose houses benefit from views of the Meadows and those who enjoy walking the Town Path could be encouraged to become supporters. Please contact us at Rose Cottage or via [info@salisburywatermeadows.org.uk](mailto:info@salisburywatermeadows.org.uk).

While it is not certain when we may resume our public events, we certainly wish to share the Meadows as much as we are allowed in 2021. Please do join us and bring your friends.

**John Hunter**

## GAY EDWARDS, OUR CHAIRMAN

**G**ay's background is printing and publishing, but since marriage she has looked in other directions on moving to live on the Isle of Wight. Her voluntary work has to a large extent been involved with the criminal justice system beginning with working in various capacities in two of the

then three prisons on the Isle of Wight. She was invited to join the Parole Board for England and Wales in her late thirties when the Board was still only forty strong. After that joining the Hampshire Probation Committee before it was changed to a Board led to a very long time with the governance of the Probation Service covering Hampshire and the Isle of Wight.

Apart from criminal justice, Gay has served on the Customer Services Committee of OFWAT for the South East of England, the Area Health Authority for Portsmouth, South East Hampshire and the Isle of Wight as well as a couple of national committees. Later she concentrated on serving on Boards of Trustees locally including Women's Refuge, Isle of Wight Housing Association, Brading Roman Villa and was President of the local branch of CPRE. Gay served as the High Sheriff for the Isle of Wight in 2009/10.



Meanwhile she was working for her husband who had two department stores and a furnishing business so she has experience of the private, public and charity sectors. When the business was sold she trained as a garden designer and has only recently retired from this.

She and her husband, David, moved to Wilton in 2017 since when Gay has become an Ambassador for Alabaré Christian Care and Support and recently a member of the PCC for St Mary and St Nicholas in Wilton. David is a 'digger' on the Meadows.

## A REFLECTION BY GRAHAM JAGGER

**H**aving greatly enjoyed the honour of being a Trustee for six years and Chairman for four, I felt it was time to leave the Board and make way for a person with new vision and ideas to take my place. I look forward to continuing to support the Trust as an active volunteer.

The Meadows Trust has heavily depended on a stalwart group of originally 'Friends' and now 'Supporters' who have been very active in the original acquisition, development and continued care of the Water Meadows. To ensure this vital support continued to be generated I saw as my purpose the encouragement of new generations to visit the Meadows to become aware of the unique agricultural and sociological history of the 'winter drowning' system, and appreciate and cherish the structure and biology that has been preserved for their sakes. Without this ongoing recruitment of a cohort of helpers (to join our established loyal supporters) I feared the finely and so precisely constructed hatches and bedworks would be neglected, destroyed or lost in the future.

To this end we set about holding educational and social events on the Meadows to draw in a new generation of people. These included the annual pre-Christmas Sing -



a-Long at Rose Cottage. Initially my wonky keyboard, ably played by supporter Lyndall Willis, accompanied the carol singing. A ragged band including saxophone, clarinet, guitar and trombone took over in later years. The passing Christmas shoppers were coaxed in by the offer of mulled wine and mince pies, (and a supporter's application form).

To contribute to the community, involvement in 'The Great Get Together', an annual Kite Flying Festival, was started on Deanery Mead. This site was chosen as it is the flattest part of the Water Meadows having been flattened to grow vegetables in WWII. This national festival commemorates community cohesion in memory of Jo Cox MP (she of "We have more in common than that which divides us" maiden parliamentary speech fame). However the annual June date meant that there was never enough wind at that time of year!

One innovation at the Kite Flying was a river dipping table set up by supporters Tim and Heather Olsen. This was so successful that Lesley Wright has included this in her Schools Educational Programme (with advice and support of Trustee and River Warden John Beckett).

Another successful event was the 'Music on the Meadows picnic' in Rose Cottage gardens with enthusiastic musicians taking part, and drawing in a new crowd to the Meadows. Likewise the local sea shanty group, The Navy Larks, offered their services for a crowded afternoon of entertainment including cream teas, with more new visitors to the Meadows.

The Rural Crafts Project, which was funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund, collected unique oral histories and records from craftspeople whose expertise was related to the working on, and living around, the meadows. A Young Persons Rural Crafts Discovery Book, Rural Crafts Discovery Chests and a Data Computer Programme, on a shareable data stick, were constructed. The Project culminated in the Rural Crafts Day on the Water Meadows, with young people encouraged to see what is so satisfyingly possible by constructing things with one's hands.



I have revelled in being part of the organisation of these events but could not have done my job without the help and knowledge of all the Trustees. I have learned so much from Jan Fitzjohn about the practical management of the Meadows, and was in awe of John Beckett's deep knowledge of the river, the meadows, and their inhabitants.

Hopefully the colony of bees that I have introduced will flourish, and in the future there will be HWMT honey for sale to swell our fundraising.



## A REFLECTION BY JAN FITZJOHN

**T**he great outdoors, be it the country or the sea has patterned my life. It was a difficult decision to move from our country home leaving the horses and farm animals for the benefits of urban life. Salisbury, a city with 84 acres of countryside at its heart, was a good compromise and because of this it became a home that I love.



14 years ago we were lucky to buy a house overlooking the Harnham Water Meadows and I immediately joined the Trust as an enthusiastic volunteer.

In the autumn of 2010 Jenny Bowen one of the founders of the HWM Trust invited me to become a Trustee and join the Management Committee. When I moved to Salisbury I had no idea what made water meadows special but I wanted to find out. Two Jack Russell dogs had the answer, mine and John Beckett's. Each morning we would walk with the dogs around the fields, each day there

would be something new to see or discuss, on occasions hatches to be opened or closed, I could have had no better teacher.

It has been an exciting period of growth, a big step forward from the hard work that followed the formation of the Trust, whose members collected donations to purchase the land and to restore fences and hatches whilst also clearing the neglected land of weeds, brambles and debris. Progress followed and hard work was rewarded; registered as a farm the meadows qualified for the government's top farming subsidy, HLS Higher Level Stewardship to be replaced two years ago by CSS (Countryside Stewardship Scheme) where Higher Tier was granted. These awards increased the government's basic payment and perhaps more important contained an education grant which was paid for each school visit.

Prior to this the wonderful opportunity to go into schools and have children visit the Meadows to show them nature and conservation giving them a lasting educational and fun experience was realised. I remember visiting schools with Hadrian Cook and my promotion to take the stage complete with bowler hat and a plastic grass snake!

A very generous donation to be used for education contributed to the building project in Rose Cottage which created one bright space upstairs with a large screen to show slides and videos to children and visitors. I had huge pleasure in overseeing the work and then under the guiding hand of Lesley Wright see the increased educational value and the enthusiasm of teachers and children on a visit.



Seven years ago we were so lucky to find new graziers, Rob and Anna Hawke. The wonderful green fields, the healthy flocks of sheep with sometimes the sight of the sheep dogs moving the sheep from field to field has brought an awareness and great pleasure for many people who cross through the meadows on the Town Path. I always enjoy answering their questions and sharing their interest.

I love our Meadows; walking through them in all weathers they are ever changing and fill me with joy. My involvement over the past 10 years has been a privilege, thank you.



Photograph by Jan Fitzjohn

## MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

**T**his year the Chairman of the Trust and the Chairman of the Management Committee both stood down from those roles. However, management of the Meadows had to carry on: there was much Autumn and Winter work to organise. I was temporarily without an education job so I put my name forward as a stand in. I was so relieved and hugely grateful to John Hunter who agreed that we should both take it on together temporarily.

So, now it was my turn to be educated! To that end, I am indebted to our small group of highly professional workers on the Meadows for their guidance. They are an absolute delight to work with. These men have worked for the Trust for many years and are experts. I have had the pleasure of meeting them all. As a little aside I have found myself back in my childhood and into the popular card game of “Happy Families” because many of our workers have surnames that fit their work, for example Mr Lumber looks after the trees.

Dear Reader, do take a stroll down the Town Path and stand by the fence of the Hatch pool looking on to the Meadows. From here you can see much of the work that has been achieved during this ‘short’ year, some of which is reported elsewhere in the Newsletter. Many of the fences have been repaired or replaced, and the trees that need pollarding and a couple that need removing will be cut this year. Three people who have been very helpful and patient with John and myself since we took over are John Beckett, Jan Fitzjohn and Ray Topp. We owe them many thanks for sharing their expertise with us. Another three people who have recently joined our volunteers and to whom we are most grateful are Sandra and John Newsome, and Sally Wilmot. Sandra is a teacher and has been bringing our education programme into this decade with many good ideas. John’s engineering expertise has been greatly appreciated both on the Meadows and in Rose Cottage. Sally Wilmot has kindly volunteered to be in charge of Rose Cottage and has already made a great difference. The wonderful thing about these three people, apart from their hard work and enthusiasm, is that they are, on average, twenty years younger than many of us lot!!! Yippee.

The Trust is looking for somebody who would enjoy a volunteer job to help manage the Meadows. Possibly a person who knows something of farming or land management! I never thought that my fingers would type this but it is a fabulous job to keep this precious green space in the middle of our city looking good.

**Lesley Wright**

## EVENTS 2020

**S**adly 2020 has been a disastrous year for events on the Meadows. Happily the Drownings were able to take place at the beginning of the year as all our other events had to be cancelled as lockdown was brought in, followed by tight restrictions on numbers who could meet together. Initially we had hopes of being able to go ahead with the Annual Open Meeting in September but that too had to be cancelled. Although people were not able to be on the Meadows it must be said that the good state they are in and the grazing sheep were much admired by the hundreds of people walking the Town Path. Several commented, enjoying the views, the birdsong and clear skies as they took permitted exercise.

One glimpse of normality occurred on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> September when the Trust was invited to set up a stall for 'People in the Park.' – organised by 'Sustainable Salisbury' in Elizabeth Gardens. We recruited some new volunteers and raised our profile. It was a beautiful day, and I am grateful to all the trustees and supporters for stepping up to the mark at short notice to support this event.



Since lockdown eased, we have been



able to continue with the volunteer working parties as these are all outdoors. These have taken place on the first Monday of the month and are not only extremely valuable to the maintenance of the Meadows and Rose Cottage surroundings, but are enjoyable exercise with an enthusiastic group of supporters. More would be most welcome. Please let me know if you would like to join us.

### Membership

In updating our records, we removed 11 names but we have recruited 14 new supporters and one family since the beginning of the year. We hope that the greater, post Covid, awareness of our natural surroundings and desire to be more involved may result in further recruiting. Do please encourage friends and family to get involved. My thanks, as ever, to Ian Hobday for his assistance and keeping our records.

**Ruth Hawley**

# EDUCATION REPORT

**T**his year, 2020, started rather well. By February I had 10 mornings booked for the summer term and I knew that more teachers would be in touch after the Easter holidays, as usual. We had 3 mornings booked by Year 4 Harnham Juniors for March.

I now have to digress and explain 'mornings'. The Trust is paid by Natural England to deliver educational visits for school children up to the age of 16. We only get this grant because the Harnham Water Meadows Trust has been awarded Higher Level Stewardship of the land. These visits must last 2 hours or more. The class teacher must complete a form noting the details of the visit, including which subjects of the Key Stage of the Curriculum we had covered and rate our performance. They also have to record the activities which took place, for example, a slide show, a guided walk and a demonstration of 'drowning'. Every August these forms are submitted to Natural England and they substantiate our payment. For 2019, the Education team earned £3,480 for the Trust. Very sadly 2020 will yield very little income from this source because of the pandemic. We will have to work hard to get our schools to return in 2021 and I appeal to all our readers to advertise the Meadows to the younger generation and any local teachers known to them.



Returning to my theme, the 2nd and 3rd of March were pleasant mornings. As we all know children delight in watching irrigation at work and being allowed to paddle (under strict supervision of course!). So a good deal of paddling happened on the Seven Acres Meadow - with wellingtons a necessity! Sadly, it rained all day on the Thursday and the teacher was forced to cancel the visit. Never mind, we had plenty of time to fit them in and Harnham School were all going to return in the Summer Term to do river dipping. How wrong we were - that was the end of schools' visits for the whole year.

**Lesley Wright**

Harnham C of E Junior School



With Jan Fitzjohn at the aqueduct



With Lesley Wright at the ancient alder tree

## BRAMBLE

Bramble is on the march again,  
Roughly climbing over anything in its way,  
Armed with spikes, but not afraid of heights  
Marching along the hedge, menacingly attacking,  
Battling anything in its path,  
Lying in wait for its enemy,  
Edging round bushes, determined to attack.

Poems by Year 4 pupils aged 8/9 years  
Larch Class, Harnham C of E Junior School, March 2020

### HERON

Nest constructor,  
Air glider,  
Water watcher,  
Fish hunter,  
Statue holder,  
Sun catcher,  
Feather pecker,  
Leg dancer,  
River dweller.

### ACORN

As spark is to flame, as  
Colour is to rainbow, as tree is to forest, as  
Owl is to night, as petal is to flower, as  
Rock is to boulder, as grass is to meadow,  
as branch is to tree, as light is to dark,  
as cloud is to storm, as  
Net is to fish, as snowflake is to blizzard,  
as feather is to bird, as high is to low and  
as acorn is to wood.

# ARCHIVE

## 25 Years Ago

**T**he weather in 1995 got off to a very wet start. In January and February the Water Meadows were well and truly flooded with the eastern side turning into a vast lake. The Town Path became impassable for a considerable time, much to the annoyance of its regular users.

As a result of the wonderfully successful Craft Fair in the Mediaeval Hall the previous November, which raised over £1,200, more extensive work on the Meadows was carried out than had be expected. This enabled ditches and culverts to be cleared which meant that there was better control, and water flowed where it had not been seen for many years. Tree planting continued as did the eradication of thistles and ragwort.

Walks were organised for both the Salisbury & District Natural History Society and Wiltshire Wildlife Trust, in addition to the annual Festival Walk and walks for Friends. All those who came commented on how they had been impressed by the improvements which was very gratifying as so much hard work had been put in by both professionals and volunteers.

It is also worth noting that this was the year that Wiltshire Council decided to rebuild the Long Bridge. This caused further disruption to pedestrians and considerable comment regarding its design.

That year the AGM was held in the Lecture Theatre of the Salisbury and South Wilts Museum in the Close. This was to become the permanent venue for many years.

The major fund raising events were two garden openings in the Close, "Hemingsby" thanks to Admiral and Mrs Gueritz, and "Braybrooke House", thanks to Mrs Kate Christopherson, and an Evening of Music with wine and "little eats" held in the Big School room of the Cathedral School.

**Rosemary Allen**

## DROWNER'S REPORT

It is gratifying to be able to report to our supporters how well the irrigation of the Water Meadows is going and what a tribute this is to all our volunteers. Over the past two years, programmes of clearance of our main carriers and the hatchpool (halfway along Town Path) have been undertaken, and the Trust has continued to invest in essential infrastructure: double Hatches behind Rose Cottage and on Martin's Mead have been replaced.



Public demonstrations, on 8th and 22th February, attracted around 120 and 60 members of the public respectively. These events were regarded as highly successful. It is most gratifying to learn on such occasions of the support of the community. As ever, the support of Trustees and volunteers provided for a smooth operation and visitors were given refreshments and were made to feel welcome. Oh yes, and when it was all over, the grass looked superb!

Following these public demonstrations the entry for 25<sup>th</sup> February boldly states: **'MEADOWS SHUT'**

As we emerged blinking into the Covid twilight the 'Mud Larks' re-grouped and worked within the social distancing guidelines. Since May they have regularly undertaken work, mostly on drains, but in accordance with our Environmental Stewardship agreement will return to digging the carrier channels on the 'tops' on Martin's Mead, as well as continue essential remedial work on upper and lower Seven Acres (opposite the Cathedral).

No longer will the maintenance of historic water meadows be a matter of history. Harnham Water Meadows Trust has successfully captured much of the experience of previous generations and is applying it in practice! If you feel able to volunteer either working the meadows themselves or helping with lighter but nonetheless essential duties such as helping with Open Days, then do please contact the Trust.

**Hadrian Cook, Drowner**



The Meadows in February



## THE DIGGERS

**N**ow at the end of their second year, a willing group of volunteer supporters has been turning out once a week for a couple of hours, chiefly to try to keep the waterways clear of weeds and silt. Of course they will respond to sudden requests for specific tasks, but an annual schedule of work is followed, both to comply with the restrictions on surface work on the Water Meadows and also to fit in with public events, such as drownings and activities in Rose Cottage garden.

Membership of the Diggers (aka Mudlarks) has varied over this year; some have been restricted more by the Covid 19 pandemic, some have found other activities, including for financial gain. We still number about a dozen, of whom about half turn out each week for a two hour session (provided it's not raining at the time appointed; we tend to be fair-weather volunteers). Clearance of silt, weeds and the soil trampled back into the irrigation channels by the sheep is a continuing requirement. Of course, social distancing on the Water Meadows is easy.

We have been given three pairs of waders, by generous donors, in addition to three purchased pairs and more of the team have their own, so we can equip most volunteers (depending on foot size).

In November 2019 we hired a mud sucker (pump, not person) in order to improve our clearance of both the Rose Cottage channel and also the Hatch Pool. Predictably, we became as wet from the rain, as from trying to control the large suction hose. 'Wrestling an anaconda' was one description.

During the Spring and Summer the Diggers worked around the Meadows leaving the sheep to safely graze. This work included clearing the outflow by Scouts Island.

At the end of the Summer we hired an 8 ton digger with skilled operator to clear some carriers and drains on Martin's Mead, work which would have taken the Diggers many months. This work took place before the ground became too boggy: we just made it before the heavy rains. By November the banks had already shown signs of greening up, with the water running as it should.

There are always tasks for the Diggers and newcomers are always welcome. Tools are provided and fresh air and exercise are guaranteed.

**John le Quesne**



Clearing the outflow by Scouts Island



Clearing the carriers and drains around Martin's Mead



## HERITAGE CRAFTS OF SOUTH WILTSHIRE ON THE WATER MEADOWS

In 2017 Matthew Charlton, whose company facilitates educational archaeological projects, approached the Trust as he thought it would be valuable to HWMT to record and promote traditional crafts and skills that were not only essential to the maintenance of the water meadows, but also played an integral role in the lives of those living in the surrounding landscape. Graham Jagger and Hadrian Cook successfully bid for funding from The Heritage Lottery Fund and Wiltshire Council for the Trust to organise this educational research project.

The Trustees sought out and recorded fascinating oral histories from crafts people and their descendants to be archived for posterity. Salisbury Cathedral Archivist, Emily Naish, kindly loaned two audio recording devices for this purpose. On Saturday 18 May 2019, a Heritage Crafts Open Day was held at Rose Cottage. A large, fascinated crowd of all ages enjoyed the many crafts people demonstrating their skills, including thatching, scything, wood crafts, pottery making, lace making, weaving, sheep shearing, spinning, herbal medicine foraging, and bee keeping.

The Project lives on in the following resources which are available from the Trust: [info@salisburywatermeadows.org.uk](mailto:info@salisburywatermeadows.org.uk)

- The Young Persons' Heritage Craft Discovery Book describing the history of the water meadows crafts in cartoon form. Available from the Trust at cost price of £5.
- The Heritage Craft Discovery Chests. These wicker baskets contain boxes of hands-on lace making, wool spinning, pottery making, herbal medicine bottles, and a mini beehive with illustrative frames. Instructions are included. There are two of these chests available for loan to schools and adult education societies which will also be accessible at future Open Days on the Meadows.
- The Heritage Crafts Project on Memory Sticks. These are PC and Mac compatible and available for loan and download to your computer. They contain: the Oral Histories; The Young Persons' Discovery Programme; informative and entertaining videos about water meadows; and a light-hearted academic paper written by experts Drs Hadrian Cook and Kathy Stearne. See examples opposite.

Our thanks, and those of future generations, go to all who contributed to the success of this wonderfully useful Project.

**Graham Jagger**

## Rural crafts of South Wiltshire at the Harnham Water Meadows: **An introduction**

Textiles, herbs and wood are direct products of water meadows. Sheep provide wool which is spun into yarn before being woven or knitted to make a garment. Other textiles including lace may be made from a variety of threads including wool and linen.

By-products of regular tree management can provide material for hurdle-making, timber for construction, firewood or wattle or used to protect riverbanks from erosion.

Today significant networks of individuals maintain our rural crafts. Many people engage in heritage crafts for love but there are still some who make a living in a traditional way.

The Harnham Water Meadows Trust have created this interactive to tell the story of these rural crafts, and their important role in the community of Wiltshire.



Jenny Lang with spun wool sheared on the Crafts Day



Examples of crafts explained in the Young Learners' Pack



- |                                            |                                      |
|--------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| JANE ATKINSON<br>Bee keeping/Lace making > | LUIZA BARCLAY<br>Medical herbalist > |
| BRIAN CHALK<br>Thatcher >                  | PETER ETHERIDGE<br>Coppicer >        |
| MALCOLM FAY<br>Basket maker >              | THOMAS GAINSFORD<br>Drowner >        |
| ROB HAWKE<br>Grazier >                     | JONATHAN HOWE<br>Woodsman >          |
| JIM KING<br>Basket maker >                 | JENNY LANG<br>Weaver >               |
| CHARLEY MILLER<br>Hedge layer >            | JOHN PINDER<br>Bee keeper >          |
| KATHY STEARNE<br>Water meadows >           | TIM TATTON-BROWN<br>Water meadows >  |
- Some of the oral histories

## THE BIRD NEST BOXES 2020

**A**nually the boxes are checked, ideally on at least three occasions: during the nest building, egg, and raising of the young stages. These checks, together with others, are recorded on Nest Record Cards, which are submitted to the British Trust for Ornithology who use the information as part of a long running national project. Recording was curtailed this year due to Covid 19 and the nest building and egg stage were missed: recording began in mid May. The results may be found at [www.bto.org/birdtrends](http://www.bto.org/birdtrends).

In the following list the species inhabiting the box and the number of young present when the box was last checked follow the box number. The presence of well trodden lining materials containing feathers and droppings is taken to indicate that the young were successfully fledged. The state of each box is for the final visit whilst occupied and the comments column the final state of the nest. There were an average of 3.3 young successfully fledged in the 15 boxes, two boxes up on last year. The boxes will all be disinfected and weather proofed before next season.

Box	Species	Young	Comment	Box	Species	Young	Comment
2	BT	2 JD	NE	3	BT	2 JD	NE
4	BT		7 EA	5	GT	4 RF	NE
7	BT	8 FL	NE	9	GT	3 FL	NE
10	Great Tit	1 JD	NE	11	BT	3 FM	NE
12	GT	4 FL	NE	13	BT	5 FL	NE
14	GT	5 FL	NE	15	GT	5 RF	NE
17	BT	1 JD	NE	18	BT	7 FM	NE
19	GT	6 BL NA	NE				

**GT** Great Tit

**BT** Blue Tit

**JD** Juvenile dead

**BL** Blind

**NA** Naked

**EA** Eggs added

**FL** Primary feather long

**FM** Primary Feathers medium

**RF** Ready to fledge

**NE** Nest empty, undisturbed with well-trodden lining, containing feather scale and /or droppings.

A very unusual visitor to the Water Meadows this Summer  
Photographed by Katrina Glaister



Great Bustard

# HARNHAM WATER MEADOWS

## TRUSTEES 2020

Chairman: Gay Edwards

Co-Chairmen Management Committee: Lesley Wright and John Hunter

Bailiff: John Beckett

Education: Lesley Wright and John Hunter

Membership/Events: Ruth Hawley

Art/I T: Tom Harriott

Digging: John le Quesne

Representing the Dean: Canon Ed Probert

Legal: Alison Morris

Treasurer: Nicola Halls

Hydrologist: Hadrian Cook

Newsletter: John Hunter

### OFFICERS

Agent: Eloise Owen of Strutt and Parker

Secretary: Felicity Rickard

The headquarters of the Harnham Water Meadows Trust is:

Rose Cottage, Town Path, Salisbury SP2 8EU

Email: [info@salisburywatermeadows.org.uk](mailto:info@salisburywatermeadows.org.uk)

[Facebook@HarnhamWMT](https://www.facebook.com/HarnhamWMT)

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