

St.
George's



Flower Bank Local Nature Reserve

Newsletter Summer 2019 Page 1

It's been a great year so far -

Of course the fantastic show of wildflowers is expected.

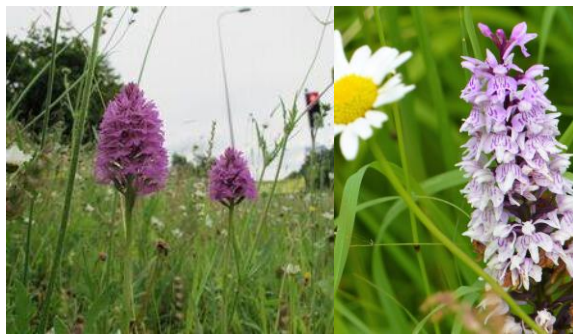
However it's been unusual - lots more Pyramidal Orchids but almost no Spotted/Common. Nothing to worry about, just part of Nature.

Fun-day was a great success too.

We've had information stall at Rag and Regatta helping to raise our profile.

There's a brand new leaflet and pin-badges. Do let us know if you'd like some.

We need to keep working at everything though!



Pyramidal Orchid

Marsh/Spotted Orchid

We need HELP – If we don't recruit now there won't be anyone to do the work.

Most of us are well over 60 and showing signs of use!

If you can't get to work-parties how about helping with admin?

Accounts/data protection/Social media

Do please encourage family and friends to join us.

Loads of Pyramidal Orchids



and a few Bee Orchids

'Verging-on-the-Wild' Fun Day SUCCESS



Poetry competition



Nest-box making

Cake Stall



Fun in the garden

Colouring



Do you have Swifts nesting in your house?

We are trying to find out how many there around Pill.

Please contact Giles Morris – danesmorris@btinternet.com

Why Swifts?

They are the spirit of Summer and very noticeable but are in trouble and need help. If you care about them you will probably be concerned about all our wildlife.

Over half UK species are in decline and 1 in 10 are threatened with extinction.

St. George's Flower Bank has been immensely successful in creating and maintaining a habitat that has declined by 97% since WW11. Not only special plants thrive there; it is home to a huge range of all sorts of wildlife that depend on such areas. The insects will help feed Swifts who don't visit garden feeders – keep those topped up too.

(a few more easily seen insects shown below)

However we can't do it in isolation - everyone needs to do their bit.

Along with all the other actions to halt the decline that we are being encouraged to take we can make a difference in our own gardens. You may not want to take direct action on the streets but we can and must do something.

If you work to make your garden more wildlife friendly you will make an impact.

Every little will make some difference. Here are some links to get you started.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episode/m0006nz2/gardeners-world-2019-episode-18>

<https://www.discoverwildlife.com/how-to/wildlife-gardening/top-plants-pollinators-garden/>

<http://www.sussex.ac.uk/lifesci/goulsonlab/resources/flowers>

<https://www.rspb.org.uk/birds-and-wildlife/advice/gardening-for-wildlife/>

<https://www.rhs.org.uk/advice/wildlife-garden>

<https://hoverflylagoons.co.uk/>

