



Registered charity 1076362

ANNUAL REVIEW

2019-2020

Roe deer, Congresbury Moor



Harry's Oak



Coltsfoot, Strawberry Line



Four-lined horsefly, New Croft

Achievements and Performance 2019-2020

YACWAG remains financially healthy with sufficient reserves to meet its contingent liabilities and further charitable objectives. The financial reserve was boosted by a back-payment from the Higher Level Stewardship scheme which provides for environmentally sensitive land management. YACWAG's agreement ceases in 2020 and it is important that sufficient financial resources are maintained for land management should YACWAG be unable to gain entry to new schemes in the future.

YACWAG had an exceptional year with a busy programme of events and activities to celebrate the charity's 20th anniversary. Young people were reached through engagement with schools and events, maintaining the charity's focus on spreading the intergenerational message of 'Nature As Your Neighbour' within our local communities.

New records were added to ongoing species lists for both Congresbury Moor and Stowey Reserves. Ecologists from Atkins carried out a bioblitz on Congresbury Moor (1st photo right) in April 2019 and 125 visitors to Stowey Reserve helped with wildlife spotting in May (2nd photo Francis Farr-Cox showing visitors insects at Stowey Reserve).

The popular Family Bat Walk on Cadbury Hill in May attracted 34 people.



Also in May, thanks to the North Family at Middlecombe Nursery, Congresbury, the 20th AGM was held in pleasant surroundings.

Educational work came to the fore during the year, with a two-day event at Court de Wyck School to inspire children about nature. YACWAG also supported St Andrew's School with the RSPB Big Schools Bird Watch. Trevor Riddle led two bird walks and Faith Moulin showed members 20 special flowers for YACWAG's 20th year. A similar theme was struck for a walk in New Croft to see 20 meadow species, and included the uncommon pepper saxifrage, which is increasing in the field. A visit from botanists from Avon Wildlife Trust confirmed that this field and those at Stowey Reserve are exceptional for floral interest.

In July St Mary's Church Flower Festival involved members of the community and one of YACWAG's members created a beautiful display around the font.



Four bat monitoring walks were undertaken in July and August for the National Bat Monitoring Scheme.

In August a Members' Tree Walk through Yatton and Congresbury highlighted 20 tree species while a walk for 15 members of Congresbury Footpath Group shared the delights of New Croft.

Other public events included stalls at Yatton School Carnival and Yatton Summer Show. Volunteers continued to carry out practical tasks amounting to approximately 700 person-hours. This included maintenance of trees planted for the Queen's Diamond Jubilee as well as work in Stowey Reserve, Yatton Junction Reserve and Kenn Moor.

In September YACWAG participated in another educational event over two days culminating in a walk to Cadbury Hill with 80 children from Yatton Junior School. The children had the opportunity to explore nature through arts, crafts and spirituality. YACWAG returned with activities for Learning College days, dissecting owl pellets, exploring mammal skulls and learning about bats. Sixteen scouts of the Claverham, Cleeve and Yatton group also enjoyed dissecting owl pellets.

A competition 'in words and pictures' on the theme 'Nature As Your Neighbour' was launched jointly with Yatton Library Writers' Group.



An open event was held at Littlewood giving members the opportunity to see the wood in autumn and focusing on 20 birds that are important in the wood. A walk for Apple Day in October around Yatton attracted 14 members.

Winter talks by Higgy and Tony Moulin were held in Congresbury to celebrate YACWAG's 20 years in 20 iconic species. In November 55 members attended a party held at Claverham Village Hall to celebrate YACWAG's 20 years.

Tree Dressing Day was marked with displays in Yatton and Congresbury Libraries. With help from Yeo Vale Forest School, local cubs and scouts and St Andrews and Yatton school pupils from the Learning College, leaf prints were made using the Japanese technique of Hapa Zome.



YACWAG continued to be represented on the Strawberry Line Management committee and also attended meetings of the Meadow View Group which manages the field in which Harry's Plot is located. Meetings were also held with Make Yatton Greener to provide information on how local people can take action against climate change and biodiversity loss.

YACWAG is grateful to all its members, volunteers, sponsors and supporting organisations who helped it achieve so much in the past year. Special thanks are due to Steve Devine and Andy Millward for their help with grazing and hay making on Congresbury Moor and Kenn Moor Reserves, and also to Andrew Hunt for his assistance at Stowey Reserve and Littlewood. Green Mantle and Trevor Richards continued to help with scrub management on the Strawberry Line.

The following financial statement has been extracted from the full financial statements for the year ended 28 February 2020 which were approved by the trustees on 21st May 2020. A copy of the full financial statements can be obtained from the Secretary, Win Lowman.

Statement of Financial Activities for the year ending 28 February 2020

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2020	Total 2019
Income from				
Subscriptions and donations	3898.01	336.00	4234.01	3259.78
HLS scheme	11927.24		11927.24	5974.62
Grants	-	810.00	810.00	500.00
Fundraising	1025.17		1025.17	439.55
	16850.42	1146.00	17996.42	10173.95
Expenditure on				
Direct charitable payments	5778.96	810.00	6588.96	7724.04
Overheads	473.19		473.19	349.77
	6252.15	810.00	7062.15	8073.81
Net income/ expenditure	10598.27	336.00	10934.27	2100.14
Reconciliation of Funds				
Total funds brought forward	29689.81	500.00	30189.81	
Total funds carried forward	40288.08	836.00	41124.08	