



## e-Newsletter

April 2022, Issue 7

Welcome! Spring has definitely sprung and we're very excited to get cracking on our program of events for 2022. Kicking off is Simon Booker's wildlife photography talk on April 26th in the village hall. £2 entry (bring your own booze) and you're guaranteed a couple of fascinating hours as Simon recounts behind the scenes stories. Reserve your seat [here](https://shoutout.wix.com/so/e1O0ORwJf/c?w=UZGPapKwgFsPn9WhKf3c82KD6cndOObd68nZMSSbCPs.eyJ1ljoiaHR0cHM6Ly93d3cuc291dGhzdG9rZXdpbGRsaWZILm9yZy9zaWdubWV1cCIsInliOiIwNzM0NzM3Yy03ZTg2LTQ0MDYtMDcxNy1iYjkyZTg4ZTRhNTliLCJtIjoibWFpbF9scCIsImMiOiJhY2I4MjA3NS1IODc2LTRlZTgtOTYyNy1jMDZjYTNIYmYwYjUifQ)

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tour of the Brightwell cum Sotwell Community Orchard followed by lunch in the Red Lion on Saturday May 14th. The tour will be led by retired fruit farmer, fruit expert and orchard founder Paul Chilton. Spaces are limited to ten people on a strictly first come, first served basis and you can sign up [here](https://shoutout.wix.com/so/e1O0ORwJf/c?w=UZGPapKwgFsPn9WhKf3c82KD6cndOObd68nZMSSbCPs.eyJ1IjoiaHR0cHM6Ly93d3cuc291dGhzdG9rZXdpbGRsaWZILm9yZy9zaWdubWV1cClslmMiOiJhY2I4MjA3NS1IODc2LTRlZTgtOTYyNy1jMDZjYTNIYmYwYjUifQ) (https://shoutout.wix.com/so/e1O0ORwJf/c?w=UZGPapKwgFsPn9WhKf3c82KD6cndOObd68nZMSSbCPs.eyJ1IjoiaHR0cHM6Ly93d3cuc291dGhzdG9rZXdpbGRsaWZILm9yZy9zaWdubWV1cClslmMiOiJhY2I4MjA3NS1IODc2LTRlZTgtOTYyNy1jMDZjYTNIYmYwYjUifQ)

And on with the newsletter which has a bit of a Brightwell cum Sotwell theme, but the two features are local gems! We've also got a fascinating article written by Ali Brazenor who attended the event 'Gardening for wildlife in a changing environment'. As ever, the newsletter is rounded off by a couple of 'fun and useful App suggestions'. Enjoy.



## **An apple a day and a community orchard**

### **With thanks to Paul Chilton**

The idea of a community orchard was reputedly first conceived in 1992 by the charity Common Ground. Since then, community orchards have grown up all over the country. Oxfordshire has several fine examples including, Brightwell cum Sotwell, Cholsey, Wolverton and Blewbury to name but a few.

Brightwell-cum-Sotwell was, within living memory, a predominantly rural community where agriculture dominated and the abundant orchards were a mainstay of the

Faced with this jolting evidence, in 2014, the village's (newly formed Brightwell Orchard Group) decided to raise money for, and plant, a community orchard with 45 heritage fruit trees - apple, pear and plum - in a designated village community orchard. Great care was given to selecting a variety of heritage trees that produced a decent yield, were disease resistant and of top quality.

parish economy producing fruit, cider and juice from July to April. In addition to the larger orchards, most villagers had a tree or two in their gardens and the sale of surplus fruit would likely pay much of their annual cottage rent!

With its history steeped in commercial fruit growing, the Brightwell-cum-Sotwell Environment Group, led by local retired fruit farmer Paul Chilton, carried out a survey of fruit trees in the village over the period 2009-2011. The objective was to catalogue the trees and apple varieties and also the wildlife associated with them. The survey was timely coinciding with an increasing number of farmers markets selling local food, an upsurge in interest in traditional ciders and real juice and the recent designation of traditional orchards as an important wildlife habitat in the Biodiversity Action Plan.

Sixty two varieties of apples were identified across 425 apple trees. A further 294 trees included damson, pear, cherry, fig, walnut and hazel. But, some of these trees were 100 years old and others only existed as a single specimen.

Seven years on, the community orchard is home to an annual Apple Day which is second only in reputation to that of Waterperry Gardens in Oxfordshire.

The village also holds the country's biggest annual Wassail and Mummer's Play celebration with Morris Dancers, cider punch, fireworks, guns and drummers, and bellydancers abounding. Its purpose is to wake the apple trees up as mid winter moves towards spring. This is a village rich in, and proud of, its rural community and centuries of tradition.

Paul Chilton, a retired Brightwell fruit farmer and fruit expert, and his family have been growing fruit in the area since the 1930s. Paul's grandfather set up the first fruit farm in the area, Chilton's Fruit Farm, which Paul and his wife Janice moved to 1965 and farmed until 1993. Paul is a stalwart of the Brightwell community orchard (and has also advised Blewbury, Long Wittenham, Begbroke and Wallingford on theirs). He's a key figure in Brightwell's Apple Day tradition.



Each year Paul produces an amazing display of some of the 101 traditional heritage varieties of fruits grown in the parish. A village fruit crusher and hydro press is used to make different varieties of juice which villagers bring their own containers to fill and take home.

Apple Day is a family event and children are well entertained; throwing fruit into the crusher, loading the press with the mush and filling their cups. Plenty of apple games are organised including apple bobbing, pinning the maggot on the apple, coating apples on sticks in melted chocolate and decorating with marshmallows and sprinkles!

Last year a further 100 native trees and shrubs were planted in an adjacent area, both areas been seeded with wild flowers.



The community orchard plays a big role in the life and education of the village. It provides an opportunity for villagers to learn and hone skills in planting, pruning and maintenance of fruit trees as well as social activities including fruit picking and jam making. But, the orchard is about so much more than the sum of its fruit, it is a wonderful area for children to play and to learn about wildlife. Paul comments 'the orchard is a very special village asset enjoyed by villagers and visitors alike. It offers wonderful social and also contemplative spaces and supports a wide range of flora and fauna as it's a perfect habitat for many birds, invertebrates and wildflowers'.

Find out more:

At about the same time a new stream was created which runs adjacent to the allotments, through the edge of the orchard and near the newly planted trees, to finish in the local brook where a bridge into the recreation ground has been created.

<https://www.brightwellcumsotwell.co.uk/millennium-wood>

([https://shoutout.wix.com/so/e1O0ORwJf/c?](https://shoutout.wix.com/so/e1O0ORwJf/c?w=DWDCW3dNqY3xJR347vdNYeewQF9ItaJaP5tydBiObiM.eyJ1ljoiaHR0cHM6Ly93d3cuYnJpZ2h0d2VsbGN1bXNvdHdlbGwuY28udWsvbWlzbGVubml1bS13b29kLWFuZC1jb21tdW5pdHktb3JjaGFyZCIsInliOiJhMjQ4MTQ4My0yNzQyLTQ2NjktYzI3NS1kNDIyYjYjRjYzEiLCJtIjoibWFpbF9scCIsImMiOiJhY2I4MjA3NS1lODc2LTRIZTgtOTYyNyJjMDZjYTNiYmYwYjUifQ)

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<https://ptes.org/campaigns/traditional-orchard-project/orchard-network/community-orchards/>

([https://shoutout.wix.com/so/e1O0ORwJf/c?](https://shoutout.wix.com/so/e1O0ORwJf/c?w=oAMS4AJEsQHqg3wSb7wbHpOwsvmfXmrHmBT7gfjD4Ww.eyJ1ljoiaHR0cHM6Ly9wdGVzLm9yZy9jYW1wYWlnbnMvdHJhZGI0aW9uYWwtb3JjaGFyZC1wcm9qZWNO L29yY2hhcmQtbmV0d29yay9jb21tdW5pdHktb3JjaGFyZHMvliwicil6ImEyNDgxNDgzLTl3NDItNDY2OS1jMjc1LWQ0MjJiMmViNGNjMSlsm0iOiJtYWlsX2xwliwiYyI6ImFjYjgyMDc1LWU4NzYtNGVlOC05NjI3LWMMwNmNhM2ViZjBiNSJ9)

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## Posipots and woolly compost

### Winterbrook Garden Nurseries

([https://shoutout.wix.com/so/e1O0ORwJf/c?](https://shoutout.wix.com/so/e1O0ORwJf/c?w=hz3CmClxYLIBB5BskZZvp4g6jCdaU6mNdQuJgjFgGmU.eyJ1ljoiaHR0cHM6Ly93d3cud2ludGVyYnJvb2tnYXJkZW5udXJzZXJpZXMuY29tL2hvbWUiLCJyIjoiMTM3NTkyZTQtZWU1ZC00MzI3LTUwYzMtOWJIMzIIZDY1MjAxliwibSI6Im1haWxibHAIiLCJjIjoiYW50ODIwNzUtZTg3Ni00ZWU4LTk2MjctYzA2Y2EzZWJmMG1lIn0)

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The vast majority of the plants are lovingly grown on site from seed or cuttings and many are 'unusual' or different from those typically found in mainstream centres. They're all nurtured with harvested rainwater stored within an underground tank. As a result, the plants are exceptionally healthy, lush and green!

Plants that need staking are also catered for within the family using the stock of traditionally grown and harvested bean pole

that period. It's now fully back under family management; run by father and daughter team John and Hanna. They aim to make it as sustainable as possible and minimise their impact on the environment. Getting there presents some interesting challenges and some equally ingenious solutions!

From day one, breaking the chain of plastic waste was a key objective for Hanna and John. Determined to eliminate single use plastic from leaving the site, they became the first independent nursery to proudly use Posipots (<https://shoutout.wix.com/so/e1O0ORwJf/c?w=SDMy8d32Fw5lwewq6WQfvaY1UH44fvhdFPWu-nSHZ7U.eyJ1ljoiaHR0cHM6Ly9wb3NpcG90LmNvLnVrLyIsInliOiIxMzc1OTJINC1IZTVkLTQzMjctNTBjMy05YmUzOWVvKjUyMDEiLCJtIjoibWFpbF9scCIsImMiOiJhY2I4MjA3NS1IODc2LTRIZTgtOTYyNy1jMDZjYTNIYmYwYjUifQ>) as a cardboard alternative to plastic pots.

Constantly challenged to repurpose plastic that's already on site, and find alternatives to 'traditional' packaging, they have come up with creative ideas such as saving and sewing empty compost bags into postal bags for online orders or asking customers to bring a single duvet as a 'wrapper' for

and pea sticks from John's brother, Mark, who grows the crops in local woods. They're available for sale at the nursery.

The importance of the environment goes beyond the commercial for the father and daughter partnership. Hanna, a trained artist, finds inspiration in nature for her wonderful range of limited edition prints, textiles and gifts sold exclusively at the nursery.

It's been a challenge but working with the land, plants and trees goes back generations within the Cottrell family and is one that Hanna and John are determined to preserve and move forward in an ethically and environmentally conscious way.

<https://www.winterbrookgardennurseries.co/homem/>

(<https://shoutout.wix.com/so/e1O0ORwJf/c?w=caeAxNjJtllnGbD7s7DjfHKDwcJAfgYpVS-cXmkWRA0.eyJ1ljoiaHR0cHM6Ly93d3cud2ludGVyYnJvb2tnYXJkZW5udXJzZXJpZXMuY29tLyIsInliOiJkMWRiY2Q4NS0zNjQ0LmNvLnVrLyIsImMiOiJhY2I4MjA3NS1IODc2LTRIZTgtOTYyNy1jMDZjYTNIYmYwYjUifQ>)

Christmas trees in place of plastic webbing (and the nursery donated £1 to dementia research for every duvet used. Win, win!).

Intent on being 100% peat free, they trialled many alternative products before finally settling on the use and sale of Dalefoot wool compost

(<https://shoutout.wix.com/so/e1O0ORwJf/c?w=vP->

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LCJljoiiYWNiODlwNzUtZTg3Ni00ZWU4LT  
k2MjctYzA2Y2EzZWJmMGI1In0) from the  
Lake District. It's a bi-product from sheep-  
farmers which would otherwise be wasted.  
John and Hanna report plants LOVE it!  
Being wool, it retains water and is packed  
with nutrients (high levels of potassium,  
phosphorus and nitrogen) negating the  
need for water retaining gels or feed.





# Gardening for wildlife in a changing climate

Ali Brazenor



On Saturday 26th March 2022, I attended the 'Gardening for Wildlife in a Changing Climate' event jointly organised by the Royal Horticultural Society (RHS) and the Royal Meteorological Society (RMetS). The event was a great opportunity to hear from experts about how we can use our gardens to reduce the impact of climate change on wildlife.

I'd been waiting 2 years to attend as it was meant to happen in March 2020!

We were welcomed by Mr Peter Gibbs, BBC Weather Broadcaster for 20 years, co-chair of the famous Radio 4 Gardeners Question Time and Fellow of the RMetS. Peter gave an overview of the impact of a changing UK climate.



Next, we were reminded of the importance of the soil and the role it plays in storing carbon and providing nutrients to plants and trees. Marc Redmile-Gordon, an expert in the crucial link between soil and climate change, and part of the RHS's science team, has published an educational book for children on the role of soil in regulating climate. *RHS Under Your Feet: Soil, Sand and Other Stuff* is available in hardback and as an eBook

<https://www.dk.com/uk/book/9780241412459-rhs-under-your-feet/>  
 (https://shoutout.wix.com/so/e1OORwJf/c?w=y11OTyATd\_jTPIGB8pUdLf\_SXFrujY4WI

- Native and near-native planting schemes support the most pollinators but exotics provide nectar and pollen for some pollinators and help extend the flowering season
- The more flowers you grow, the more pollinators you will support, regardless of plant origin

Messages for gardeners wanting to support plant-dwelling and ground-active invertebrates such as caterpillars, beetles, true bugs, springtails, spiders and sawfly larvae:

- Garden plants, regardless of origin, can support a wide range of these

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Helen Bostock, a Senior Wildlife Specialist (<https://www.rhs.org.uk/science/meet-the-team/plant-health-team/helen-bostock> ([https://shoutout.wix.com/so/e1O0ORwJf/c?w=KSTqM\\_w-tCCLV6Bd14CB0jtJfKN3MogNgaiVb-avH8w.eyJ1ljoiaHR0cHM6Ly93d3cucmhzLm9yZy51ay9zY2IibmNIL21lZXQtdGhlLXRlYW0vcGxhbnQtaGVhbHRoLXRlYW0vaGVsZW4tYm9zdG9jayIsInliOiJiYmlwZTE3MC0wNWZkLTRmYzEtMzViOS0zZTlmYTc4NWNkY2UiLCJtIjoibWFpbF9scCIsImMiOiJhY2I4MjA3NS1IODc2LTRIZTgtOTYyNy1jMDZjYTNIYmYwYjUifQ](https://shoutout.wix.com/so/e1O0ORwJf/c?w=KSTqM_w-tCCLV6Bd14CB0jtJfKN3MogNgaiVb-avH8w.eyJ1ljoiaHR0cHM6Ly93d3cucmhzLm9yZy51ay9zY2IibmNIL21lZXQtdGhlLXRlYW0vcGxhbnQtaGVhbHRoLXRlYW0vaGVsZW4tYm9zdG9jayIsInliOiJiYmlwZTE3MC0wNWZkLTRmYzEtMzViOS0zZTlmYTc4NWNkY2UiLCJtIjoibWFpbF9scCIsImMiOiJhY2I4MjA3NS1IODc2LTRIZTgtOTYyNy1jMDZjYTNIYmYwYjUifQ))), described a trial to put plant origin to the test – *do insects prefer native plants?*

In the Plants for Bugs project (<https://www.rhs.org.uk/science/conservation-biodiversity/plants-for-bugs#nav-get-involved> ([invertebrates](https://shoutout.wix.com/so/e1O0ORwJf/c?w=jJUcdmraOb4Kn3dTxmkuAa-R78IWgv6fZZQ6v5XK2iE.eyJ1ljoiaHR0cHM6Ly93d3cucmhzLm9yZy51ay9zY2IibmNIL2NvbnNlcnZhdGlubi1iaW9kaXZlcnNpdHkvcGxhbnRzLWZvc11idWdzl25hdi1nZXQta</a></p></div><div data-bbox=)

- Native planting schemes, enhanced with native or non-native evergreens, will support the most
- The more densely you plant, the more invertebrates your garden will support

A key publication from the Plants for Bugs project is free to download from the Journal of Applied Ecology – the article is an editor's choice!

Salisbury, A., Armitage, J., Bostock, H., Perry J., Tatchell, M., Thompson, K. (2015). Journal of Applied Ecology. EDITOR'S CHOICE: *Enhancing gardens as habitats for flower-visiting aerial insects (pollinators): should we plant native or exotic species?* Open Access <https://doi.org/10.1111/1365-2664.12499> ([<https://shoutout.wix.com/so/e1O0ORwJf/c?w=9fbAtpVdRH4gAQ85EVgvrUIsmbJ7nAZ1enc347rUoIU.eyJ1ljoiaHR0cHM6Ly9iZXNqb3VybmFscy5vbmxpbmVsaWJyYXJ5LndpbGV5LmNvbS9kb2kvMTAuMTEwMTExMS8xMzY1LTl2NjQuMTI0OTkiLCJyIjoibW9yZy51ay9zY2IibmNIL2NvbnNlcnZhdGlubi1iaW9kaXZlcnNpdHkvcGxhbnRzLWZvc11idWdzl25hdi1nZXQta>](https://shoutout.wix.com/so/e1O0ORwJf/c?w=9fbAtpVdRH4gAQ85EVgvrUIsmbJ7nAZ1enc347rUoIU.eyJ1ljoiaHR0cHM6Ly9iZXNqb3VybmFscy5vbmxpbmVsaWJyYXJ5LndpbGV5LmNvbS9kb2kvMTAuMTEwMTExMS8xMzY1LTl2NjQuMTI0OTkiLCJyIjoibW9yZy51ay9zY2IibmNIL2NvbnNlcnZhdGlubi1iaW9kaXZlcnNpdHkvcGxhbnRzLWZvc11idWdzl25hdi1nZXQta</a></p></div><div data-bbox=)

To finish, Helen shared three plants that would make great additions to our gardens, one from each category!

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VmZC00ZmMxLTM1YjktM2U5ZmE3ODVjZ  
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lwNzUtZTg3Ni00ZWU4LTk2MjctYzA2Y2Ez  
ZWJmMGI1In0))

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?w=ArM6Sj-](https://shoutout.wix.com/so/e100ORwJf/c?w=ArM6Sj-)

eJxFuFmJCaUij1dLajMRnGhIbQFy8NSKiO  
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Zy51ay9zY2llbmNIL2NvbnNlcnZhdGlvbi1ia  
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oiYmJiMGUxNzAtMDVmZC00ZmMxLTM1  
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xfbHAIcLCJljoiyWNiODlwNzUtZTg3Ni00Z  
WU4LTk2MjctYzA2Y2EzZWJmMGI1In0)

scientists tested the effect of selected  
assemblages of native and non-native  
plants on invertebrate abundance and  
diversity. To test the hypothesis that there is  
no difference in invertebrate diversity  
associated with assemblages of native,  
near-native and exotic garden border  
plants.

Results from the trial showed that for  
gardeners wanting to support pollinating  
insects such as bees and hoverflies;

- Plant a mix of flowering plants from  
different regions for maximum benefits

## What 3 plants?



Wild carrot  
(*Daucus carota*)  
Native



*Mahonia x  
intermedia*  
Near Native



*Verbena  
bonariensis*  
Exotic

To conclude the event, Chris Baines, one of the UK's leading environmentalists, horticulturalist, landscape architect, naturalist, television presenter and author shared his extensive knowledge and experience about what gardeners can do for wildlife in the face of a changing climate.



The free event was held at the stunning Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust (WWT) London Wetland Centre close to central London, and included a tour around the Centre.

The Centre is open 7 days a week, 364 days a year and there's always something to see and do! During

April and May the Centre is open 9.30am to 5:30pm (last admission 4pm) and they will be holding an Easter Duck Trail from Sat 2nd to Sun 24th April

<https://www.wwt.org.uk/wetland-centres/london/whats-on/easter-duck-trail-1>

(<https://shoutout.wix.com/so/e1O0RwJf/c?w=0XrxSIQxKrtu7uu9Nd9OQSFJl-NS4ieZWq30n67lqMc.eyJ1ljoiaHR0cHM6Ly93d3cud3d0Lm9yZy51ay93ZXRsYW5kLWNlbnRyZXMvZWZzdGVyLWR1Y2stdHJhaWwvliwici6ImUwODlhMjNjLWJhZjctNGU5MS03ODhiLWYwOGYxNmU0M2M3NSIsIm0iOiJtYWlsX2xwliwiYyI6ImFjYjgyMDc1LWU4NzYtNGVlOC05NjI3LWwvNmNhM2ViZjBiNSJ9>)

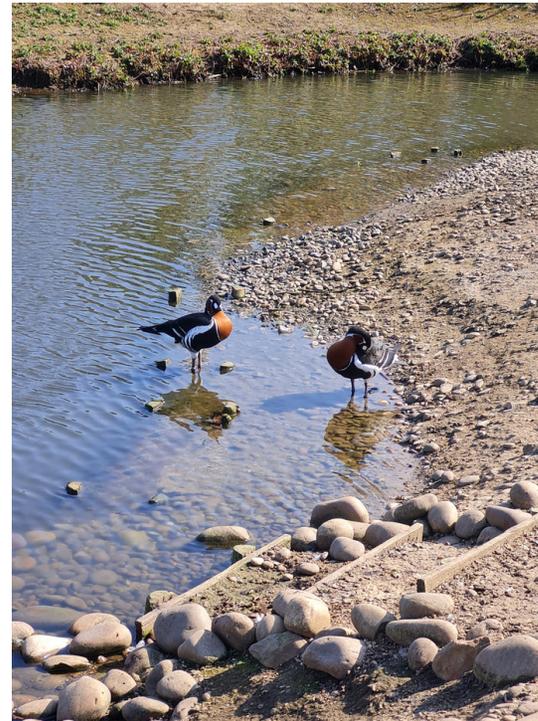


Inside the hide

**References:**

Meeting link

<https://www.rmets.org/event/gardening-wildlife-changing-climate-0#msdyntrid=iho9FRu-OrqMHmZbXP9bOj7qmCtDBGeVEsym0JlEywk>  
(<https://shoutout.wix.com/so/e1O0ORwJf/c?w=A2LiognOff-2XB-xfttyw1FG0iKr7i9-XlrcU1N9V5w.eyJ1ljoiaHR0cHM6Ly93d3c>



Red breasted geese

The event followed on from the 2017 RHS report 'Gardening in a Changing Climate' (<https://www.rhs.org.uk/science/gardening-in-a-changing-world/climate-change>) (<https://shoutout.wix.com/so/e1O0ORwJf/c?w=v7QTsD1C5o07FVfibAVsXgYN8Zm5Hf27lbrz0NuyShk.eyJ1ljoiaHR0cHM6Ly93d3cucmhzLm9yZy51ay9zY2llbmNIL2dhcmRlbmluZy1pbi1hLWNoYW5naW5nLXdvcmxkL2NsaW1hdGUtY2hhbmdlliwicil6ImYyNzYw>

ucm1ldHMub3JnL2V2ZW50L2dhcmRlbmmlu  
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RILTAjbXNkeW50dHJpZD1paG85RIJ1LU9  
ycU1IbVpiWFA5Yk9qN3FtQ3REQkdIVkVz  
eW0wSkIFeXdrliwicil6ljlxYWI5ZjVmLTl2OT  
UtNDIzMC0wZTE5LTU5NTA5M2JmNDIjYiI  
slm0iOiJtYWIsX2xwliwiYyI6ImFjYjgyMDc1  
LWU4NzYtNGVlOC05NjI3LWmWmNmNhM2  
ViZjBiNSJ9)

Interesting scientific research mentioned at  
the event:

Ulf Büntgen, Alma Piermattei, Paul J.  
Krusic, Jan Esper, Tim Sparks and Alan  
Crivellaro (2022). Plants in the UK flower a  
month earlier under recent warming.  
Proceedings of the Royal Society B  
Biological Sciences. Open Access (free to  
the public)

<https://doi.org/10.1098/rspb.2021.2456>  
(<https://shoutout.wix.com/so/e1O0ORwJf/c?w=6iQ-g0t-J116JzNt1kXCItPVIRv99e-t7xccW8t1XQY.eyJ1ljoiaHR0cHM6Ly9yb3IhbHNvY2lIdHlwdWJsaXNoaW5nLm9yZy9kb2kvMTAuMTA5OC9yc3BiLjIwMjEuMjQ1NiIsInliOiIyMWFiOWY1Zi0yNjk1LTQyMzAtMGUxOS01OTUwOTNiZjQ5Y2liLCJtIjoibWFpbF9scCIsImMiOiJhY2I4MjA3NS1IODc2LTRIZTgtOTYyNy1jMDZjYTNiYmYwYjUifQ>),

OTVjLTdiNjgtNDUzMi1kOTAzLWE2OTEzN  
zc2YmVhNyIsIm0iOiJtYWIsX2xwliwiYyI6Im  
FjYjgyMDc1LWU4NzYtNGVlOC05NjI3LWm  
wNmNhM2ViZjBiNSJ9)).

(<https://shoutout.wix.com/so/e1O0ORwJf/c?w=RRjcRvfTtIIQAZKoY3kJFTJGp957J5K77QkPMdi8EuE.eyJ1ljoiaHR0cHM6Ly93d3cucmhzLm9yZy51ay9zY2IibmNIL2dhcmRlbmLuZy1pbi1hLWNoYW5naW5nLXdvcmxkL2NsaW1hdGUtY2hhbmdlJTl5LlIsInliOiJmMjc2MDk1Yy03YjY4LTQ1MzltZDkwMy1hNjIxMzc3NmJlYtciLCJtIjoibWFpbF9scCIsImMiOiJhY2I4MjA3NS1IODc2LTRIZTgtOTYyNy1jMDZjYTNiYmYwYjUifQ>)

The report was written in collaboration with researchers from the University of Sheffield and University of Reading. The report presents the results of an extensive survey of amateur gardeners and interviews with industry professionals. It highlights the importance of gardens in terms of their interaction with the natural environment and provides recommendations on how gardeners can adapt to climate change through plant choice and garden design. The report also outlines ways in which gardeners can manage their garden to enhance carbon sequestration and flood alleviation.

<https://www.wwt.org.uk/wetland-centres/london/>

([https://shoutout.wix.com/so/e1O0ORwJf/c?w=4orxcPSeeMWbL8MY6-TdAo-49\\_RIPd4tqdGT4TlExvQ.eyJ1ljoiaHR0cHM](https://shoutout.wix.com/so/e1O0ORwJf/c?w=4orxcPSeeMWbL8MY6-TdAo-49_RIPd4tqdGT4TlExvQ.eyJ1ljoiaHR0cHM)

6Ly93d3cud3d0Lm9yZy51ay93ZXRsYW5k  
LWNlbnRyZXMvbG9uZG9uLyIsInliOiJmMjc  
2MDk1Yy03YjY4LTQ1MzItZDkwMy1hNjkk  
Mzc3NmJlYUJlcjltljoibWFpbF9scCIsImMi  
OiJhY2I4MjA3NS1lODc2LTRlZTgtOTYyNy  
1jMDZjYTNIYmYwYjUifQ)



## And a couple of fun and useful Apps to finish!



### Spot-a-Bee

(<https://shoutout.wix.com/so/e1O0ORwJf/c?>

w=bHqxB4GOQkU6KmGK5xXAYD3z2UD6  
t0UI5zA7IGkBABs.eyJ1ljoiaHR0cHM6Ly93  
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iYWNiODIwNzUtZTg3Ni00ZWU4LTk2MjctY  
zA2Y2EzZWJmMG11In0) **App**

(<https://shoutout.wix.com/so/e1O0ORwJf/c?>

w=bHqxB4GOQkU6KmGK5xXAYD3z2UD6  
t0UI5zA7IGkBABs.eyJ1ljoiaHR0cHM6Ly93  
d3cuc3BvdHRlcm9uLm5ldC9hcHBzL2dsb2

JhbC1jb21tdW5pdHktc2NpZW5jZS1wcm9  
qZWN0cy9zcG90LWEtYmVILWNpdGI6ZW  
4tc2NpZW5jZS1hcHAiLCJyJjoiZmJmN2JhZ  
WYtNTNmMC00NGNILTkyNzAtOTU1ZTkW  
MzdmMDkxliwibSI6Im1haWxfbHAIiLCJjJoi  
YWNiODIwNzUtZTg3Ni00ZWU4LTk2MjctY  
zA2Y2EzZWJmMGI1In0)

The Spot-A-Bee app allows Citizen Scientists to observe and document any flowers, shrubs, climbers or trees and the bees on them. Additionally, it contains useful information on those plants and the most common bee species in the UK.

### **FIT Counts**

(<https://shoutout.wix.com/so/e1O0ORwJf/c?>

w=2XFbwQNcspIPngK9G8Q0BK4M4wFI  
sU22YcC1r4Rcjs.eyJ1ljoiaHR0cHM6Ly9wb  
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QiLCJyJjoiZjQxYzZhN2MtZWm3ZS00NTA0  
LTAxNzUtY2Q1MTYyODdkOWEzliwibSI6I  
m1haWxfbHAIiLCJjJjoiYWNiODIwNzUtZTg3  
Ni00ZWU4LTk2MjctYzA2Y2EzZWJmMGI1I  
n0)

Wild pollinators may have declined in the UK by more than 30% since 1980, but we need much more data to be able to track changes in abundance. You can help by doing a FIT Count, maybe even repeating it



over the season. You don't need to identify the insects to species level, only to within broad groups e.g. bumblebees, hoverflies, butterflies & moths, wasps



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RwJ  
f/c?  
w=d

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(<https://shoutout.wix.com/so/e1O0ORwJf/c>)