



## THE NOAK BRIDGE NATURE RESERVE SOCIETY



# NEWSLETTER

Spring 2003



### EVENTS FOR YOUR CALENDAR

#### *Basildon Countryside Services Events*

**Sunday, 22 June 2003**

**OPEN DAY!**

**12:00 pm - 4:00 pm**

**Noak Bridge Nature Reserve**



**Sunday, 18 May 2003**

**OPEN DAY**

**Mill Meadows Nature Reserve**

**Billericay**



**Wednesday, 16 July 2003**

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**Village Hall, 7:30 pm**



#### **WORK PARTIES**

**Noak Bridge Nature Reserve**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday each month**

**1:00 p.m - 3:00 p.m**

**(meet at Eastfield Road)**



**Spring is here!** Our reserve is bursting into life again after the wet and snowy winter. Undergrowth has been thinned out and cleared, the entrance gates have been refurbished and two new doggy-bins provided. We look forward to our annual Open Day on Sunday, 22 June with all the usual attractions, walks, pond-dipping and refreshments for your enjoyment. Come along and have fun.



**Yuletide Ramble.** Six members braved the pouring rain on Sunday, 15 December to celebrate the season with a walk through the reserve followed by warm mince pies and mulled wine at Kenilworth Place. A very enjoyable event!



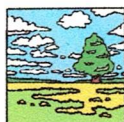
**OPEN DAY! Sunday, 22 June 2003 - 12:00 pm – 4:00 pm**

Make sure to reserve this date for our annual Open Day in the reserve. We will be inviting local craftsmen/women, and representatives of wild-life organizations to come along for your entertainment. There will be lots of useful information available and an exhibit of wild-animal/birds of prey. Ice creams and snacks will be provided by Tony Leonardi and you will be able to purchase bird-food too! Pond-dipping and games for the children are to be arranged and guided walks around the reserve. You may want to buy a ticket for one of our great raffle prizes! Let's make it a great day!



**Annual General Meeting – Wednesday, 16 July 2003 in the Village Hall – 7:30pm.**

Tony Youé, our Vice Chair will review briefly, the past year and the Treasurer and Membership Secretary will make their reports. Officers and Committee members will be elected for the coming year, so if you would like to offer your services or would like to nominate another member (with their permission, of course) you may do so at the meeting or forward your/their name to Janet Bircham, Secretary, 42 Crouch Street (Tel. 526344). We **need** more of our members to fill these positions. After the election there will be time to chat and enjoy refreshments. Notices and agendas will be distributed in May.



**Mill Meadows Open Day – Sunday 18 May 2003. Billericay. (Greens Farm Lane)**

The committee will be attending this event to publicise our reserve and to meet with our friends for an enjoyable day out.





**Work Parties. 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday each month – 1:00 – 3:00 pm.**

We've been busy! Thinning trees, tidying-up and installing two new Doggy Bins.  
Come along and enjoy the fun!



**Memberships.** We will have a table/display at the Village Faire in June where you will be able to join/renew your membership and obtain information.



**Guided Walks.** We hope to arrange one or two Saturday or Sunday walks in the reserve during the summer. More information will be available at the AGM. There will also be an evening walk in June – watch the notice board for further details.



**Doggy-Bins.** The addition of two new bins should help with the ever-present doggy deposits!



**Something to say?** Would you like to contribute an item to the Newsletter?  
Contact Janet Bircham at 526344.



These are some of the flowers identified in the Noak Bridge Nature Reserve in the summer of 2002.



Bluebell  
Common Vetch  
Honeysuckle  
Nettle (red)  
White Clover  
Purple Loosewort  
Groundsel  
Dead Nettle  
Floating Sweet Grass  
Bramble  
Common Violet  
Ribwort  
Campion  
Meadow Vetchling  
Wild Carrot  
Deadly Nightshade  
Primrose

Thistle  
Grass Vetch  
Bindweed  
Meadow Buttercup  
Purple Clover  
Goats Beard  
Fleabane  
Fern  
Meadow Foxtail Grass  
Blackthorn  
Woodland Violet  
Hedge Bindweed  
Wild Radish  
Sandwort  
Cowbane  
Chamomile  
Ox-eye Daisy

Teasel  
Tufted Vetch  
Poppy  
Dog Rose  
Scarlet Pimpernel  
Dandelion  
Field Horetail  
Common Couch Grass  
Common Horetail  
Meadow Grass  
Vernal Grass  
Birdsfoot Trefoil  
Wild Mustard  
Dock  
Forget-Me-Not  
Common Cats Ear  
Golden Rod



Here are some of the many birds observed in the reserve by Betty Haynes during the past year:

Sparrow Hawk  
Blue Tit  
Hedge Sparrow

Kestrel  
Long Tailed Tit  
Green Woodpecker

Kingfisher  
Great Tit  
Lesser Spotted Woodpecker

Spotted Flycatcher  
Magpie  
Collar dove  
Mistle Thrush  
Goldfinch  
Starling  
Heron  
Redwing

Blackcap  
Jay  
Chiff Chaff  
Pied Wagtail  
Blackbird  
Bullfinch  
Robin  
Stonechat

Wren  
Chaffinch  
Green Finch  
Wood Pigeon  
Song Thrush  
Treecreeper  
Rook