

Rare glimpse of a secretive bird on the Railway Land Nature Reserve

The water rail is slightly smaller than the more often spotted moorhen. They are fairly common, but very secretive, so are hardly ever seen!

This individual was spotted by the Railway Land Wildlife Trust's keen-eyed poet Patrick Bond.

Community Ranger Dan Fagan says:

"The winter months are the perfect time to spot this coy critter. Water rails can be found in most freshwater habitats in the South of England, often amongst thick reeds. In winter many of the

reeds have died back and so the birds are easier to spot and the numbers are increased and more widespread due to migrant birds arriving from Europe. You're most likely to see them dashing across open spaces for cover, or you can listen out for their call, which can only be described as a high-pitched piglet-like squeal".

Dr Patrick Bond is 'poet in residence' on the Railway Land. Starting in November 2014, he has now spent some three hundred hours on the land, in the space of a year. Week by week, he has walked the reserve in all weathers, open to the changing seasons, trying to reflect in words the creatures, plants, shapes and atmospheres of the reserve.

Patrick celebrates in vivid poetry the abundant beauty of the Railway Land, and the endless surprise of being surrounded by nature. His intention is always to honour the place and all its life forms.

He shares his experience with us on pages 5 & 6



Director's Reflection

What a year 2015 turned out to be. We started so well with a training session for Primary teachers who had joined our Railway Land Live! project which went on to become a huge success with 14 schools taking advantage of the underwater live cameras and getting a superb insight into the hidden wildlife and biodiversity of the Reserve.

This was achieved through a fantastic team of biologist Steve Savage, naturalist Paul Webster, IT whizz Tim Hall and, for this project, video archivist Phil Bracegirdle. The live broadcasts made by the pupils were a delight and I am pleased to say that we have our full quota of 15 schools for 2016 already lined up for an enhanced experience as we have learned from the 2015 programme.



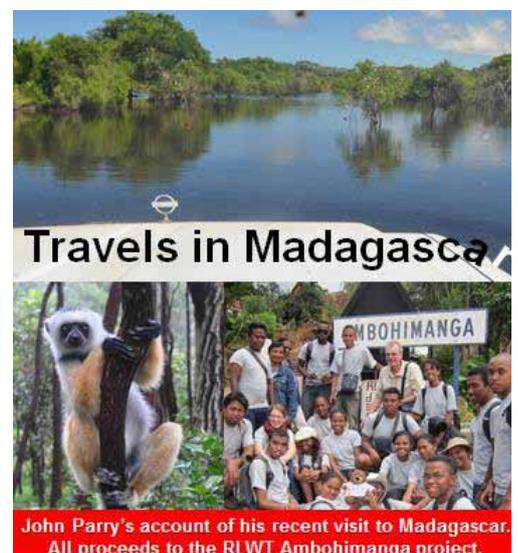
Helen Meade took up her post of volunteer and project co-ordinator and has done a superb job in a short space of time, mastering and delighting in the many layers of the project and starting to build a team of volunteers who will help us in many ways.

Rangers Dan Fagan and Thyone Outram continued to do a great job and we were delighted to hear that their posts seemed a little more secure than they were a year ago – long may they continue because however much people may think, sites such as the Railway Land do not simply look after themselves.

We also welcomed Patrick Bond as resident poet who started his weekly round of the reserve in all weathers, never missing a chance to experience the Railway Land in its many different guises. Towards the end of the year, he gave us a wonderful evening of his rich pickings and when this comes round again, I do urge you to come along.

In February, my wife Annie and I headed off to Madagascar (at our own expense!) to see the project the Trust is sponsoring at Ambohimanga, to deliver two days of teacher training and to also recce for a possible teenage expedition in 2017. With the very sad death of Alison Jolly last year, I felt it was important to see first hand the project she initiated after being inspired by our own Railway Land Project.

We also appointed 6 new trustees although sadly one of them had to resign soon after being appointed due to work overload and this is a significant issue for many trusts - of finding people with the time, energy and skills to act as trustees – no easy task for times that are so incredibly busy and often stressful for people. I wish them well and thank the longer serving trustees for their fortitude and patience.



Fergus Kennedy put together a superb video on the chalk cliffs and climate change featuring Professor Rory Mortimore which is now on show for visitors who can access the video as well as information about the rocks walls through the use of QR codes.

Our work with Priory school goes from strength to strength with a recent joint application to Kew Gardens regarding a planter project plus the launch of the 2017 Madagascar expedition in which we hope to involve feeder Primary schools.

Photographer David Stacey turned up to offer his skills in capturing the people who use the Linklater and the Reserve through his lens and we look forward to his exhibition in Artwave next year.

Which brings me to the Nature Corridors for All group who have had a superb year with many 'posts' being followed on their Facebook page. For the first time, they exhibited some of their work during Artwave and drew in 354 visitors and sold £138 of postcards by Stuart Townsend, Holly Morris, Josie Cyster James Platt, Robert Cash and Jackie Poole.

They appeared on Meridian news twice due to their pioneering fixed point photography of coastal erosion at Birling Gap and they have been engaged in a national project that will culminate in the summer of next year.

So proud of their work and so sure of our ground through a contract with ESCC adult social care that lasted through to the end of September 2017, that we hired the Towner for a week in September 2016 to showcase their work and to also bring to a close my time as Director of the project which began in 1988 when I founded the Railway Land Wildlife Trust.

You can imagine the shock when we received an e-mail in late October from ESCC to say that due to the present cuts to adult social care funding, there was a strong chance that all the funding of the Nature Corridors group would cease from 10th May 2016.

So the year ended with a huge amount of extra work, a good deal of stress and a lot of pain felt by the Nature Corridors group who posted their views on their Facebook page before the 18th December consultation deadline. The result was a flurry of activity and sharing and letters to the Commissioner for which I shall always be grateful – thank you to those who took the trouble to write so passionately.



This, from Rosie Davies, was typical of the comments made: *'What is so very good about the Nature Corridors For All Project is that is held in a local community facility which not only works with those with learning disabilities but the whole community from school age through to the retired population. Everyone is welcome. It is a multifaceted hub and an easily accessible one. The Nature Corridors For All Project is run alongside and overlapping many other things that occur within the Railway Land Wildlife Trust. For me I can't think of how much better it could be with regard to those that participate in the project. They are not isolated or segregated and they are attending a facility at the heart of Lewes.'*



This summed it up so well and we await a final decision on 10th February. We shall continue as an environmental community hub and our schools work is growing rapidly but as I wrote in my introduction to their Facebook page, *'This is a group of adults who have given so much to the Railway Land Project without whom I doubt if we would have built the Linklater Pavilion. They are preparing for three major exhibitions at the moment culminating at the Towner in September 2016 and yet we may be faced with the prospect of shutting everything down by 10th May, 2016.'*



So what a year indeed – and how very sad if this pioneering approach is really to come to an end. We will keep you posted and indeed, we felt it only right to include several letters towards the end of this Newsletter setting out our position. These were sent to a wide group of people from many backgrounds.

Dr John Parry

Ranger's Report



The Brighton Conservation Volunteers and the Nature Corridors group have removed all the vegetation under the Black Poplars. Over the past two years the leaves of the poplars have been turning yellow and dropping at the end of July. We have sought advice from an arboriculturalist who believes this may be a result of fungus in the leaves. Treatment involves the raking up of leaves as soon as they fall. All the leaf debris has been scraped up & burnt, so it should be easier to repeat the treatment next year.

Clear up after Bonfire was quick & a huge amount of litter was removed. Ruts along the side of the surfaced path were infilled neatly and hard matting put down to reduce impact next year. I'd like to thank the Members of South Street Bonfire Society for the efficient clean-up operation and the care and respect shown to the Nature Reserve during the event.

Daniel Fagan Black Poplar clearance photos © Daniel Fagan



Signals on the Railway Land

The year-long poetry project which ran from November 6th 2014 has come to an end. Or has it?

Over the course of a year I spent most Thursdays on the nature reserve itself, plus good chunks of other weekdays. The involvement became in effect much more than one-seventh of my time, and I should have known it would.

What can be said about a project which produced fifty two poems (with plenty more unwritten, or half-alive in the poet's imagination), 8,645 images on my digital camera, and a weekly intimacy with the whole earth-space of the nature reserve?

The experience was fundamentally one of the creative Divine – but not in the sense of elevated feelings, nor of a self-approving condescension to nature either. The Railway Land brought out a sort of grit in me, quite unlike my normal capacity for happily doing nothing...

It took commitment to get myself there, discipline to get through the hours of waiting around, passion to stay focused when plenty of other projects were shelved, and a sort of exaggerated receptivity to inspiration. The latter was, if anything, the most exhausting: to be permanently in writing mode, permanently listening out.

Looking back, after a few Thursdays away, I am overwhelmed by what I can only describe as a sense of being belonged to. That is not stylistically elegant, but it is accurate. I do not belong to the land, and it does not belong to me. Nonetheless, I am belonged-to. And yes, I needed to back off too, to take a break after twelve months, to leave a gap. That is what the last few weeks have been.

I was never lonely. I never once felt alien, or separate. The exquisite blackthorn blossom – petals on a wet, black bough to quote Ezra Pound – was as much part of me as the dead rabbit floating at the far end of Chilly Brook, its eye staring up at the sky. There does not have to be separation: I am part of nature as it is part of me. I am not different.

I became aware of an aliveness everywhere, once I had slowed myself down. Walking is much too fast for this; walking slowly is much too fast. I developed a mode of progress which was contemplative, spaced-out but without the assistance of recreational drugs, like a ballet dancer in slo-mo. Aliveness: you could breathe it in.



I felt admiration for all the people who make the landscape what it is, who promote conservation and the health of the ecological balance on the nature reserve. Their contribution, from the Rangers and volunteers, to the Trust and its active, imaginative oversight, walkers and strollers – there is evidence everywhere of how much people value this little patch of land.

And there is a blessing conveyed by those who walk the place because it relieves loneliness – like the man, widowed after sixty years of marriage; his constant presence is a kind of blessing. As is the nostalgia of the railway man, remembering the railway sidings, the two cottages which used to be occupied by the railway-lorry delivery drivers, the heated glasshouses on Lewes station which supplied flowers to all the local stations, the little turntable which stood close to where the Winterbourne now emerges...



I frequently felt an urgency about being there. An urgency to put it all to good use, to remember and make available everything I had been told, the memories and the confidences. In some mysterious way, the land itself seems to breathe memories. As these are wordless, it is impossible to give them embodiment but one can feel them nonetheless. What is felt is more important than words: as a poet, trust me, I know!

And what of the poems? Ten of them are now printed up in a little pamphlet called Tides and Rain. I will continue to work on the remainder – and they need it! – but certain lines, in certain poems, are said to have merit, according to a jury of my peers. I will get them printed and available as soon as I can, and I hope to repeat the reading which took place on 13th November, with wine and photos and recordings of the dawn chorus... It was a lovely occasion.



In a sense, the poems do not belong to me. They were always intended to be a window on to the Railway Land, its living forms and presences. A friend has called them Song-Lines, a kind of portal or place-marker in the mind. The poems are like seeds – the nature reserve in its essence, ready to take root in you and your imagination, the sacred place of your soul.

Patrick Bond
www.poetryinnature.co.uk
11th December 2015
07425-011341
all photos © Patrick Bond

A tribute to Lord Healey

We were so sad to hear of Lord Healey's death and felt it only right to remember him and his enthusiasm for the project.

Denis, as we got to know him, was so very generous on several key moments of fund-raising which led to him opening the Linklater Pavilion in Lewes in October 2010 with a short speech in fluent French for our colleagues across the Channel – the only person to attempt this during what had been readily agreed with the French would be an English celebration with lots of music and pictures!



Above: turf cutting...below....opening the Linklater

He had kindly agreed to be our Patron and provided much needed profile with charm and wit at several key moments from a huge Lewes Town Hall event to cutting the turf, being present at our topping out ceremony and then opening the Linklater with charm and wit.

His approach and touch with the Nature Corridors for All group – he opened their first exhibition at the Seven Sisters country park - put us all at ease within seconds with a smile and a waspish brush of eyebrows and a 'silly billy.'



But at a personal level, my wife and I shall never forget driving him and Lady Healey from their home in Alfriston to Glyndebourne to say a few words before the start of a charity concert – Mozart's Requiem – of which the Linklater Pavilion project was one of two beneficiaries.

In the car, they chatted so freely about the countryside and the startling white of hawthorn blossom that year as it was the first time Lady Healey had travelled after some time of illness. She was so gracious when we hit a minor lift problem to get her to her seat while Denis calmly waited in the wings with some of the adults with learning disabilities, children involved in the project and myself. And then after walking on stage to a packed house, without notes, he gave a wonderful synopsis and appreciation of the music we were about to hear.

On the drive home, they were so grateful to us when it was us who were thanking them! Helping them up the steps to a front door I had got to know quite well and saying goodnight as they walked into the Hall is an image of what Rowan Williams a few months ago in Firlie called 'wakefulness' and I shall never forget it. We are all incredibly grateful to Lord Healey whose picture graces the Reception area of the Linklater and we remember him with great fondness and huge gratitude.

Dr John Parry

Dates for your Diary - Sunday Fundraiser Events 2016

24th January	An Evening with Simon Evans	7pm - tickets £15 email or ring to reserve tickets (see below)
21st February	Cabaret with Alex Roose	4pm - £5 tickets on the door
20th March	The Importance of Elsewhere: Philip Larkin and Travel	4pm - £5 tickets on the door
17th April	The River Otter Beaver Trail	4pm - £5 tickets on the door

Each Sunday from May 1st - October 2nd the Linklater will be open to the public from 2-5pm.

If you would like to book tickets for Simon Evans please contact us on info@railwaylandproject.org or leave a message on 01273-477101

Goldifox Wows Audience at the Linklater



I was lucky enough to see the final Linklater performance by this remarkable Lewes-based duo - Sally and Andy Miller - with their Wishworks puppets. A packed audience were totally involved in this interactive, funny reworking of a well known fairy tale.

A rather naughty fox called Charlie tried, and succeeded, in taking over the main part causing mayhem and quite a lot of mess!

After the show Charlie came out front of stage and enchanted the children with special one to one conversations.

We have been delighted to welcome Wishworks for a pre-Christmas season at the Linklater, they played to several schools community groups and the public between 7th - 18th December. Wishworks have played in the woodland at our summer Railway Land Live Festival, and in the undercroft on a Sunday opening in August. Keep an eye out for news of their next visit!



Pat Rigg

Beyond Paris



The climate change agreement in Paris has at least cemented the fact that the majority of world leaders, scientists and NGOs are in agreement that CO2 emissions are affecting our planet. But as everyone has pointed out, there are no binding agreements and the work is only just beginning.

Our little project in Lewes seems so small and yet it will be contributions by communities such as ours rooted in buildings such as the Linklater as well as governments, businesses and so on that will shape the way we all confront or learn to adapt to some aspects of climate change – several will be unexpected, many are predicted.

We are trying hard to make a contribution to that process in many different ways from puppets to poets even! and your faith in us has been superb. We cannot cover every aspect - there are others doing great work such as Community Energy South whose launches and

AGMs at the Linklater have been so inspiring – but we can focus on three important educational aspects.

1. appreciation of the natural world
2. adaptation to sea level rise
3. social inclusion that is now sadly at risk from serious cuts.

These have been our corner stones and why I have been so pleased with the success of Railway Land Live!, the Linklater RATS youth group and Nature Corridors. Our schools work is set to blossom this year but I have also been sounding out several people over Christmas on how best we can advance and develop our community asset working closely with local government and the Environment Agency in relation to helping local people come to terms with the implications of sea level rise – which is arguably our biggest local threat.

Dr John Parry

To Do List: 2016!

Although the underwater cameras are currently offline for maintenance, you can still enjoy regular 'Daily Digests' by Steve Savage and view the live camera feed at the ditch, Leighside pond and the bird feeder. Go to www.railwaylandlive.org for Lewes's 24/7 answer to Winterwatch and appreciate our local natural world.

Would you like to be more involved?

Two new trustees have joined the RLWT this autumn, **Belinda Chapman** and **Roxana Raska**, bringing the total up to nine. We are so pleased to have the extra help and the chance to share the load as 2016 promises to be a very busy year!

Helen Meade can offer a number of different roles for volunteers, with varying levels of commitment. Please email her at coordinator@railwaylandproject.org or leave a message for her on 01273-477101. We really appreciate all your help. Volunteers repairing steps: photo © Daniel Fagan



Proposed Cuts to Adult Social Care

Two letters written by the Trustees and Dr John Parry outlining the arguments for retaining the Nature Corridors for All project for adults with learning difficulties. The Trustee letter was sent to the Commissioner for Adult Social Care Richard Lewis, relevant ESCC councillors and officers, and Maria Caulfield MP.

The decision will be taken at a meeting on 10th February.

We wish to draw your attention to our concern at the proposed 100% cut to the funding for the 'Nature Corridors for All' social inclusion initiative in Lewes, East Sussex. This ground breaking project makes a real difference to the lives of people who are often marginalised, rarely get the chance to express themselves to the general public and have their achievements properly appreciated and applauded. As such it plays an important role in meeting the requirements of the public sector equality duty in promoting real opportunity and fostering good relations between the adults with learning disabilities and the wider public with whom they interact through their work on the project.

It represents a model of social care that reflects the legislative and policy aims of the government, especially as expressed in the overriding duty in section 1 Care Act 2014. It promotes the well being of the participants, particularly in relation to the following key factors:

- personal dignity;
- physical and mental health and emotional well-being;
- participation in work, education, training and leisure;
- social well-being, and
- the individual's contribution to society

Half way through this 10 year project, the Railway Land Wildlife Trust, led by Dr John Parry, initiated the building of a £750,000 community environmental change centre in which adults with learning disabilities played an integral part in its success. The initiative has been praised widely with the magnificent support of East Sussex adult social care at the highest level.

Our latest three year contract, due to expire in October 2017, was dependent on us taking on a paid project and volunteer co-ordinator because in the words of the Commissioner at the time, he did 'not want the project to fail.' This was because it was felt by ESCC senior management that the project was 'pre-figuring aspects of social care' - not our words but theirs - and we have worked tirelessly at developing this to a point where it could even be rolled out elsewhere. The carefully crafted contract, to which we have responded and planned meticulously, took into account the fact that we would reduce from 2 St Nicholas staff assisting the project to one and then from October 2017 to be in a position to run the project on our own.

We signed up to a strategic plan to provide a community hub that ran a variety of activities while at the same time offering a powerful place for beneficiaries NOT within a day care centre setting but within a community social setting. This would free up spaces for severely disabled adults in a few remaining centres while allowing us to provide 16 places a week for those who could benefit from what we offer. We intend to continue with our other core business of providing educational projects for secondary primary schools in Lewes, free festivals, Sunday afternoon activities and exhibitions for the public and other grant aided community projects based at the Linklater with our volunteer work force.

This latest round of cuts at a stroke has undermined this to such a degree that beneficiaries will once again return to day care centres - the very opposite of the shared, strategic model that was working so well and in which we have acted in good faith. It is tragic that such long-term benefit is being squandered for short-term gain. The current contract that would lead to self-funded provision by the Autumn of 2017 would cost £67,556. We ask that ESCC at least maintain the funding from 10th May for a further 4 months, to allow the participants the satisfaction of completing their project with its attendant positive publicity and kudos. Dr John Parry who has devised and led this highly successful project, is currently working on a three-site major exhibition and programme of events with the participants, which appropriately brings together the various strands and activities of this unique project. The cost to the Authority would be £17,103. It would give us time to explore alternative funding to bridge the gap between the existing agreement for local authority provision and self-funding in 2017. The Authority's reputation for backing an innovative local partnership would be enhanced and its commitment to six years of funding will be rightly recognised as a pioneering approach to adult social care.

It's a small price to pay when seen in the round which is why we feel compelled to set out the case for this pioneering approach. We strongly believe that rather being a service that should be a victim of the current round of cuts, this innovative Railway Land project is a model for the future of day services and support for adults with learning disabilities, providing a strong combination of better outcomes for the service users and a lower unit cost than care provided in institutional settings.

Yours,
Railway Land Wildlife Trust Trustees

Agreed at Board Meeting held 9.12.15 by:
Jennifer Barton, Roger Beasley, Belinda Chapman, Martin Fox,
Liz Penrose, Roxana Raska, Pat Rigg, Sam Smith, Ruth Thomas

Personal letter to the commissioner and several benefactors from the Director:

Dear Commissioner

My trustees have written a separate letter expressing their dismay at the speed of the cuts and making the case for allowing time to establish an emerging succession plan designed to create the strategic vision that has been so strongly supported by senior ESCC staff. Namely, to offer 16 places at the Linklater to adults with learning disabilities with little or no involvement of the Authority from October 2017.

As Director, I am writing to underline a more immediate loss of the work that the beneficiaries have completed over the last year and which is continuing under a very carefully crafted plan that will culminate in an extraordinary exhibition called 'C Change' at the Towner gallery in Eastbourne at the end of September 2016. This was planned to coincide with our October 2017 transition plan by raising the profile of the Nature Corridors project even further but is now at serious risk.

Our partners in the exhibition are the National Trust which has contributed £1,000 and Elephant Graphics Ltd who will provide all the printing. We have good media contacts and are already starting to put together a programme of lunch time events linked to the exhibition. To lose this would be tragic at four levels.

First, the work will bring to a close the extraordinary and unique record of photographs of coastal erosion at Birling Gap that has been featured in the media as well as a series of audio soundscapes begun at the start of this year. The work is due to feature in a preview exhibition from 7th June to 4th July at the Birling Gap visitor centre next summer.



Second, we have been working closely with the head gardener of Sheffield Park gardens on a national project linked to the 300 year anniversary of the birth of England's greatest landscape gardener, Capability Brown. A group of beneficiaries have already visited and recorded change through all four seasons and are now embarking on recording dramatic physical changes based on Capability Brown's original plan for the garden. Their work is due to be previewed in a corridor leading to the restaurant or a specially erected marquee next August 2016.

Third, the extraordinary recording of change undertaken by the beneficiaries at the Railway Land Local Nature Reserve over the last 10 years through photographs and artwork is planned to be previewed throughout the Lewes Artwave exhibition in late summer 2016. At this year's Artwave the group could have sold some of their paintings 5 times over for £40 - £60 but were deliberately held back for the planned Towner exhibition.

Fourth, all three preview exhibitions will then join to form the Towner exhibition due to run from 29th September – 9th October 2016. This impressive venue will not only showcase their work but will launch some beneficiaries in an artistic career which we have been nursing with skill and dedication for the last two years working to a sensitive

plan based on a contract we believed would hold in good faith.

Finally, we know because so many people have told us, that we are providing something very special culturally for the beneficiaries working to their strengths and interests but also providing real interest beyond television and playing games – we are helping them work their brains and with it the well-being and self-esteem they so thoroughly deserve.



entering data at Birling Gap NT Visitor Centre

We appreciate the situation in which the Authority finds itself

and we have had nothing but support from its officers for a shared vision over ten years. We are on the brink of transition to a time of standing on our own adult social care feet which is why my trustees have written pointing out that potential gain.

My plea is to honour the work of the beneficiaries and if all funding is to cease then to at least fund the project to the end of September 2016 in order to provide humane and compassionate closure by formally thanking the beneficiaries and their families publicly and celebrating their wonderful contribution to a unique project on which they have worked so hard.

To deny them this would be so cruel and I do beg those who hold the financial strings to look beyond the immediate balance sheet and to get the human balance right.

John Parry

I attach letters from carers, parents, the National Trust and Priory School cc Maria Caulfield MP and local Councillors



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Headteacher : Tony Smith BA

Your Reference

Our Reference:

23 November 2015

Dear Sir

I write in support of the challenge to prevent the cutting of the funding for the 'Nature Corridors' project which supports Adults with Learning Difficulties at 'The Railway Land' in Lewes, East Sussex.

The project is exceptional in the outcomes it delivers. As the Head Teacher of the local secondary school, Priory School, I need to draw your attention to the importance of our young people working with the adults supporting their understanding of a truly inclusive society.

This contact has been steadily growing over the years from initial involvement in our 'activity week' presence at the Linklater to a joint Forest School and John Muir Award project due to start in February 2016.

Furthermore, our own fund-raising administrator recently identified a potential wildflower grant that would further enhance contact between our pupils and the Nature Corridors group. The Railway Land Wildlife Trust, in partnership with an emerging Lewes District wildflower project as well as ourselves, spearheaded the writing of the application within 10 days to meet the deadline. It has been acknowledged by Kew Gardens, who are running the scheme, as a strong application and we await the result in February.

The Trust is steadily putting together a co-ordinated environmental education project for local primary schools in collaboration with my school in which adults with learning disabilities will have the opportunity to play their part.

All of these projects are interwoven by the Nature Corridors work and approach which we believe is leading the way on delivering one aspect of adult social care. The withdrawal of funding for this project would have a cataclysmic negative impact on our community and the progress to date. I urge you to seriously rethink any decision to cease funding this work.

Yours sincerely,

Tony Smith
(Headteacher)





Dear John,

Nature Corridors Project

The work that you and the Nature Corridors group are doing with us at Sheffield Park is hugely important. I thank you for the commitment and time you have given to work with us in developing something which is both beneficial to Sheffield Park, the National Trust and also I feel sure to the members of the Nature Corridors group.

Our shared understanding of the value and importance of nature and landscape and a desire to enable everyone to connect with it is a significant factor in the success of our partnership. The work that you have done to develop a beautiful nature reserve with the Nature Corridors group is I believe unique, as is the commitment to build partnerships and connections with external arts, conservation and heritage organisations. This allows the work of the group to be shared widely.

Though the members of the Nature Corridors group are adults with learning difficulties, it is the group's quality of work and commitment to nature and wildlife that is the key reason for working together. I am not aware of anywhere else that is providing such deep rooted support that challenges wider perceptions of learning disabilities and allows adult to adult relationships to flourish outside a day centre environment. The team at Sheffield Park enjoy their time with the Nature Corridors group because they recognise like-minded individuals who share their passion for cherishing beautiful places.

We hope we can continue a partnership with you long into the future and we look forward to the exhibition of work created at Sheffield Park, which we are planning to host in August 2016. If there is ever a time you need our further support please don't hesitate to call on it.

I hope there is a time in the not too distant future when projects like Nature Corridors stop being projects and become a mainstream approach to adult social care.

Yours sincerely

Zara Luxford
General Manager Sheffield Park and Garden

Contact Details & Renewal of Membership 2016:

Please print the renewal form on page 16 and send it with your remittance to renew your membership of the Trust . Forms can also be picked up at the Linklater - usually open on Tuesday and Thursday between 10-2

to contact Dr John Parry, Director
email: info@railwaylandproject.org

to contact the Railway Land Wildlife Trust
email: info@railwaylandproject.org or
Tel: 01273-477101 (answerphone only)

to contact Lewes District Council Ranger
Daniel Fagan
Tel: 01273-484408
email: daniel.fagan@lewes.gov.uk

for membership enquiries
contact Helen Meade email:
coordinator@railwaylandproject.org
Tel: 01273-477101 (answerphone only)

For access to past newsletters go to:
www.railwaylandproject.org
& click 'newsletters' in the left hand column

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Annual Membership Renewal 2016

Forename:.....Surname.....

Address:.....

Town:..... Post Code:.....

Tel No:.....email:.....

I wish to become a member / renew my membership of the Railway Land Wildlife Trust (RLWT) and receive quarterly newsletters and make the following payments

Annual membership £10 (minimum per household) £.....

Donation towards RLWT funds £.....

I would like to receive newsletters by email (tick if applicable)

note: receiving newsletters by email frees up £1.20 of your subscription for other RLWT projects and services

I understand that the information I have provided above will be retained for membership records only; held securely and only processed in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998

Gift Aid declaration – please tick ONE of the following

Please treat

the enclosed gift as a Gift Aid donation OR

all gifts of money that I make today and in the future as Gift Aid donations OR

please do NOT claim Gift Aid on this donation

Signed:..... date:.....

You must pay an amount of Income Tax and/or capital Gains Tax for the year (6 April one year to 5 April the next) that is at least equal to the amount of tax that RLWT will reclaim on your gift.

Please notify RLWT in due course if you

1. Want to cancel this declaration
2. Change your name or home address or
3. No longer pay sufficient tax on your income or capital gains

Tax claimed by the Charity - the charity will reclaim 25p of tax on every £1 you give on or after 2008
If you pay Income Tax at the higher rate, you must include all your gift Aid donations on your Self assessment tax return if you want to receive the additional tax relief due to you

Please return this form to:

Helen Meade: Linklater Pavilion, Railway Lane, Lewes BN72FG

to contact Helen email: coordinator@railwaylandproject.org

or tel: **01273-477101** (answerphone only)

