



Going Wild In Bishops Castle

Peter Carty



Why is Bishops Castle going wild?

Ahead of the game?

History of Community Environmental activity 35+ years

- Waste Less society 1990s
- Lightfoot
- HES
- Community Wildlife Groups

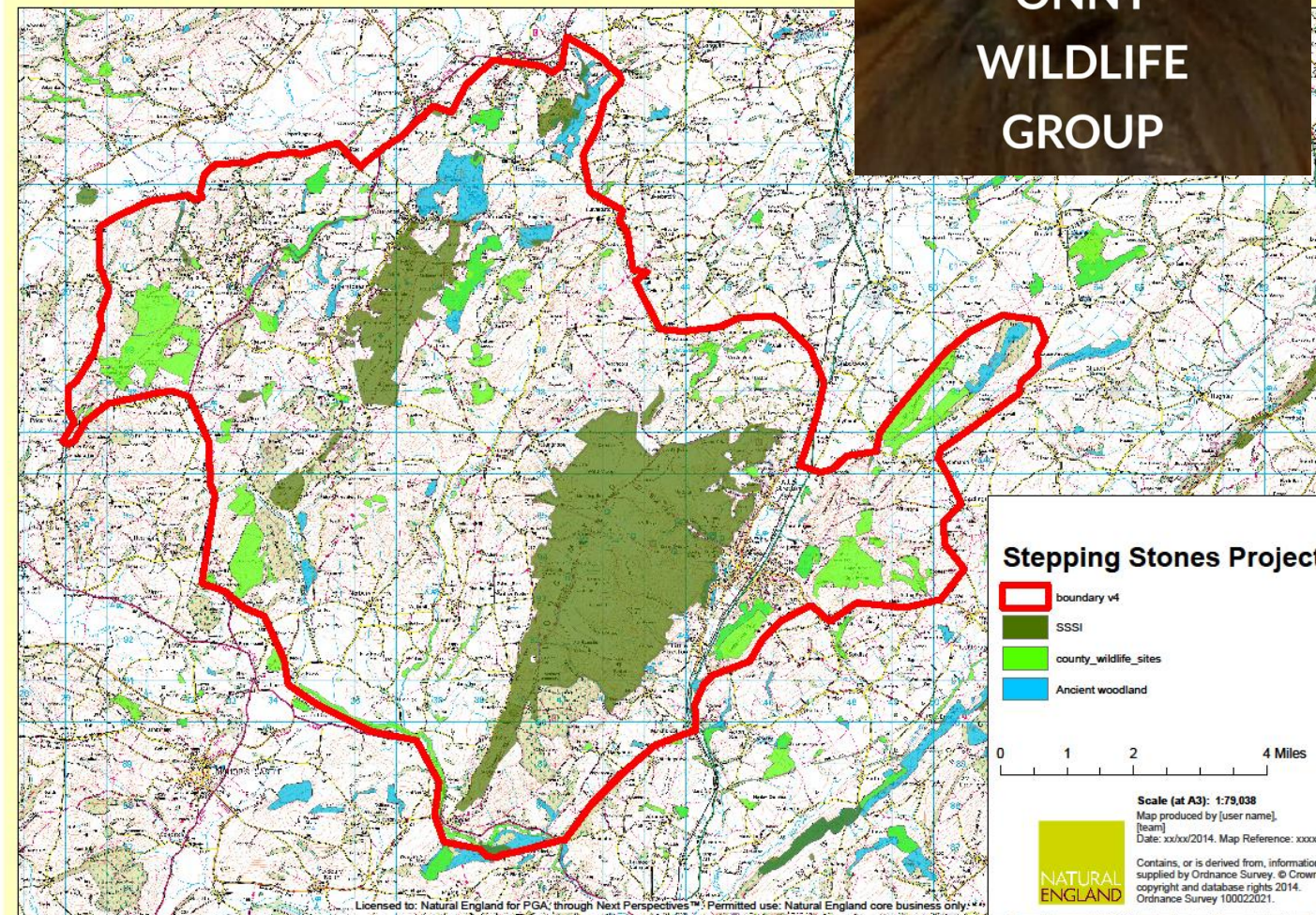
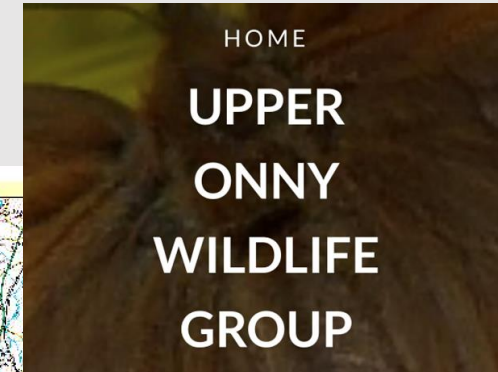
A Cluster of Wildlife specialists.

Edge of SteppingStones project NT/NE

SHAONB

Several projects in place in South Shropshire

E.G. ---



Community Groups within Stepping Stones



Marches Meadow Group



Butterfly Conservation



Caring for God's Acre



Restoring Shropshire's Verges Project



Stepping Stones Programme



Community Wildlife Groups x4



Shropshire Hills & Marches Community Archaeological Group



Shropshire Dormouse Group



Origin of Going Wild

BC Town Council declare a climate and Biodiversity emergency

Lightfoot write a Climate Action Plan for the Council





No Mow May

Fox and Cubs

White clover

Birds foot trefoil

Bee re-fuelling station

Pams Meadow



Late
April

July



Autumn



Bishops Castle loves its swifts – local group 15 years

Up to 100 swifts perform aerial displays over the town in May to August

Pru Dakins swift box

1 of 40 boxes in place over last 4 years



RSVP - Bow House verge – A489

Year 1



Year 2



Year 3



Going Wild In BC

Living With Swifts



Thurs 13th April
7.30 pm
(Doors 7:00pm)
Carol Wood
Town Hall,
Bishops Castle

Going Wild In BC's 'Winter Talk Series'

Butterflies and Moths of Shropshire's Commons

Launching Shropshire Upland Commons Butterfly and Moth Festival 2022, come along and find out more about the moths and Butterflies in our local area!



Thursday April 7th

Bishops Castle Town Hall

Talk starts 7:30pm
(Doors open from 7:00pm)

Free Entry
(Donations welcome)

Bar Open!



Going Wild In BC's Children's Walk

Saturday October 22nd
The Wintles

10am - 12:00pm

Clothing and footwear appropriate for weather on the day.
Age range 5-10 years

Meet by the footpath finger post on the bend of the Wintles spine road.
Leaders Cath Murphy, Glynn Roberts.
(Experienced leaders and retired teachers)

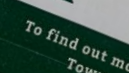
Book a place or for further info call or text Glynn on 01588 266345

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lightfoot

COMMUNITY FUND



- * STURDY FOOTWEAR & CLOTHING TO SUIT THE WEATHER ON THE DAY
- * BRING A DRINK
- * LIMITED PLACES AVAILABLE, BOOKING ESSENTIAL
- * PLEASE CONTACT THE TOWN HALL ON 01588 630023 TO RESERVE YOUR FREE PLACE

COME AND JOIN US IT'S Free
To find out more about the charter celebrations visit the Town Council website or Facebook, or email bishopscastlecharter@gmail.com

IN SEARCH OF CHARTER OAKS

Short Walks, Special Places & Ancient Trees

12th & 16th JULY STARTING FROM
WED 12TH 7.30PM PUBLIC HALL
SUN 16TH 2PM TOWN HALL

A walk (approx 1.5 hours) led by Catherine Murphy taking a look at living trees that were growing at the time the town of Bishop's Castle was granted the Charter of 1573

1573 Bishop's Castle 2023
450 Year Charter Celebration

Going Wild In BC's Fantastic Fungi!

Thursday October 13th

Bishops Castle Town Hall

7:30pm

Free Entry
(Donations welcome)



A quick pictorial tour of some of the many beautiful and extraordinary fungi that grow in and around Bishops Castle

@goingwildinbc
@goingwildinbc



The Map started it

Residents were asked to plot on a town map positive wildlife actions

- Ponds
- Verges and lawns – mini meadows
- Habitat box/bug hotel
- Swift nest boxes
- Hedgehog box
- Bat boxes
- Bird nest boxes
- Bird feeding
- Avoiding chemicals eg slug pellets



Everyone could do at least one of these

This had a big impact and collectively residents could see a sum of the parts and the gaps in habitats

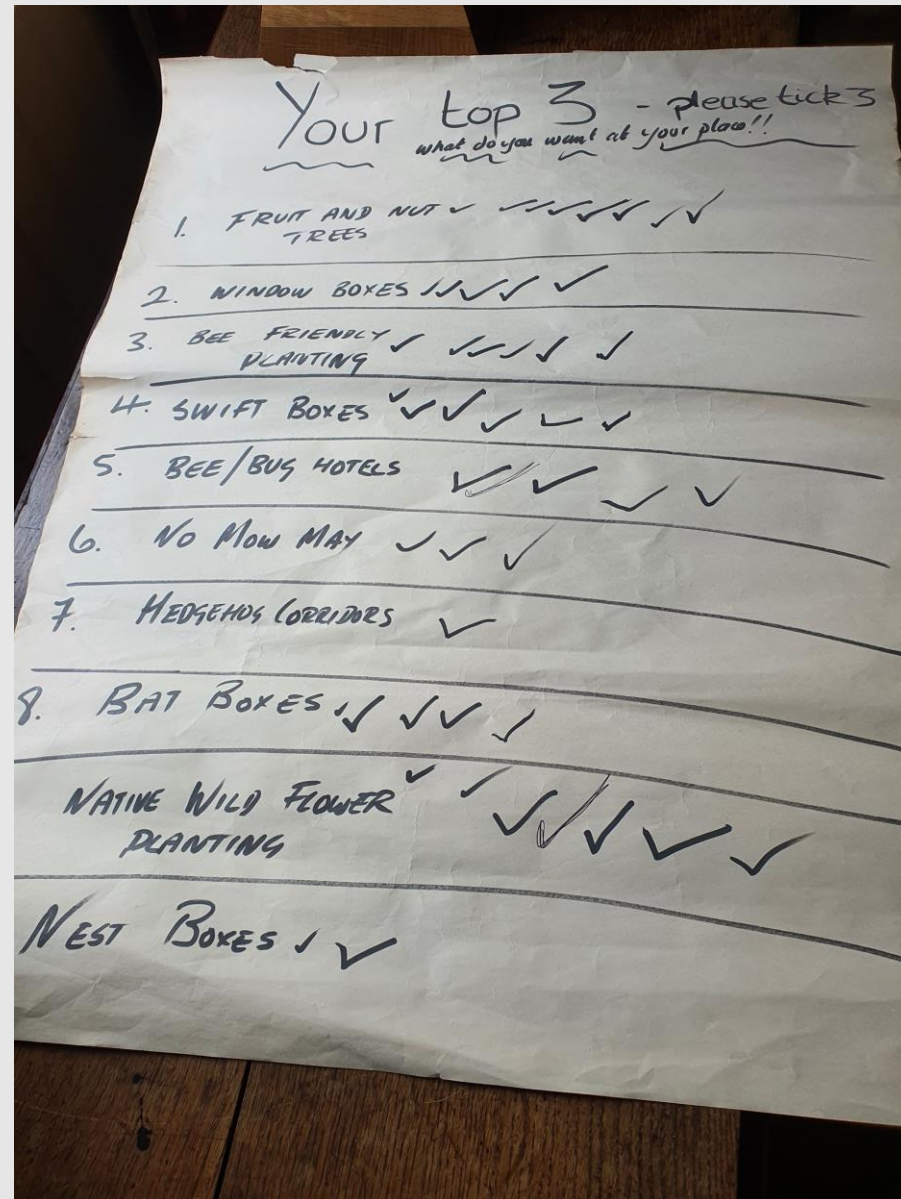


Consultation with community and schools

This work facilitated a series of small grants of low £1000s

- CO Op
- Connexus housing trust
- BC Town Council

These small projects have been pilots and trials for a large bid of £250 000 to National Lottery Heritage fund. In partnership with Enterprise House Community Hub who will be accountable body and Lightfoot who are match funding.





Summer programme of Nature activities

Nature events every week in Summer holidays was a success and much enjoyed

All for free!



Average of 9 kids attended now built up to 30 kids with waiting list.

Monthly programme until next easter 2024

Training programme for volunteer leaders



Fund Raising

Apple pressing day
at Woodbatch

Raised £350



Ceilidh

Raised £500



The Toolkit

GWIBC has gained a lot of community Nature Recovery experience and wish to share it.

“There is a need for advice to support Parish Clerks and Parish Councils to develop bespoke nature Recovery plans in line with the 2021 Environment Act.

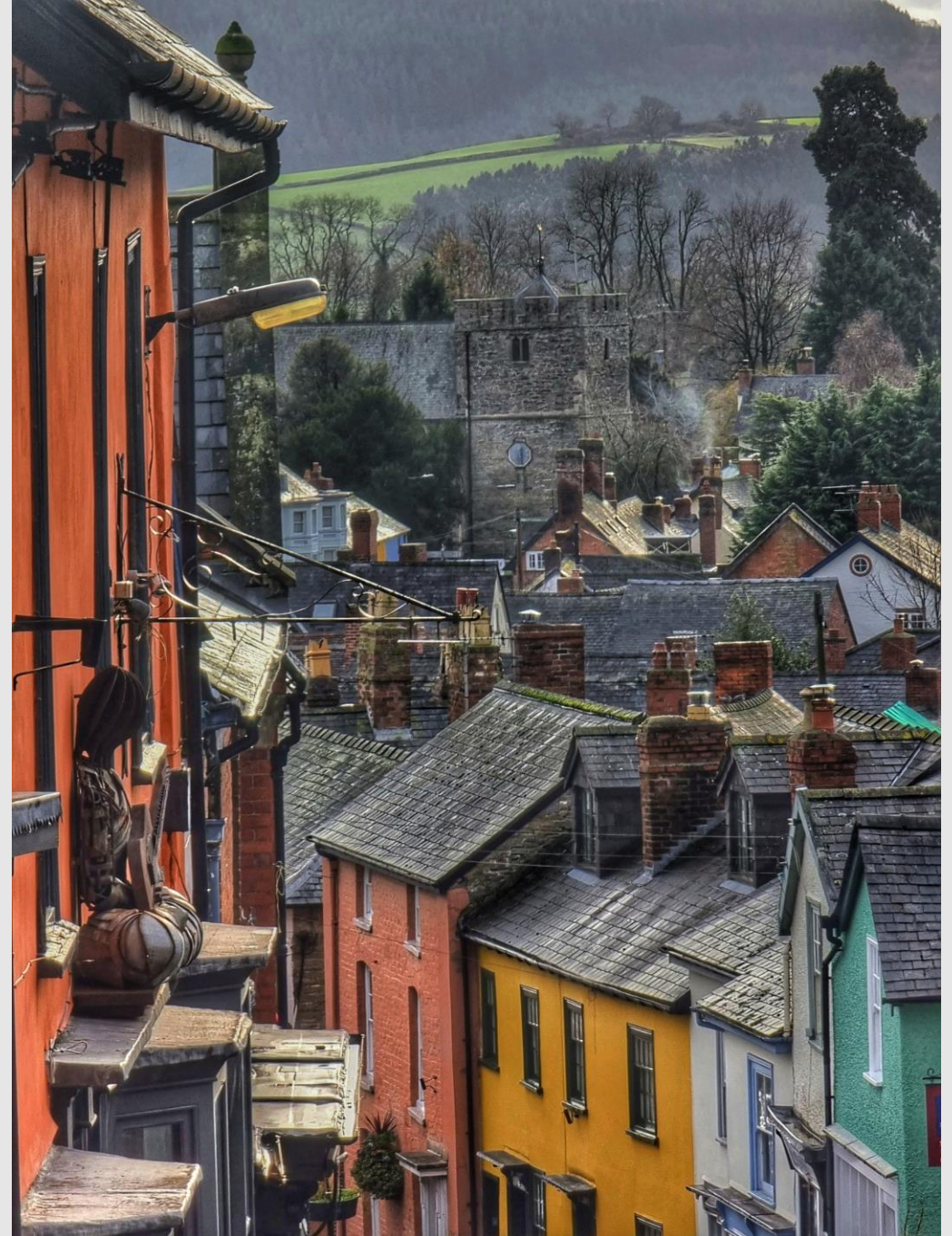
GWIBC is packaging up its experience into a tool kit that could be shared across Shropshire, Telford & Wrekin”

Janet Cobb Edgton Parish Clerk, SALC, MMCLT, RSVP

Recent conferences have confirmed this view

Next Stage

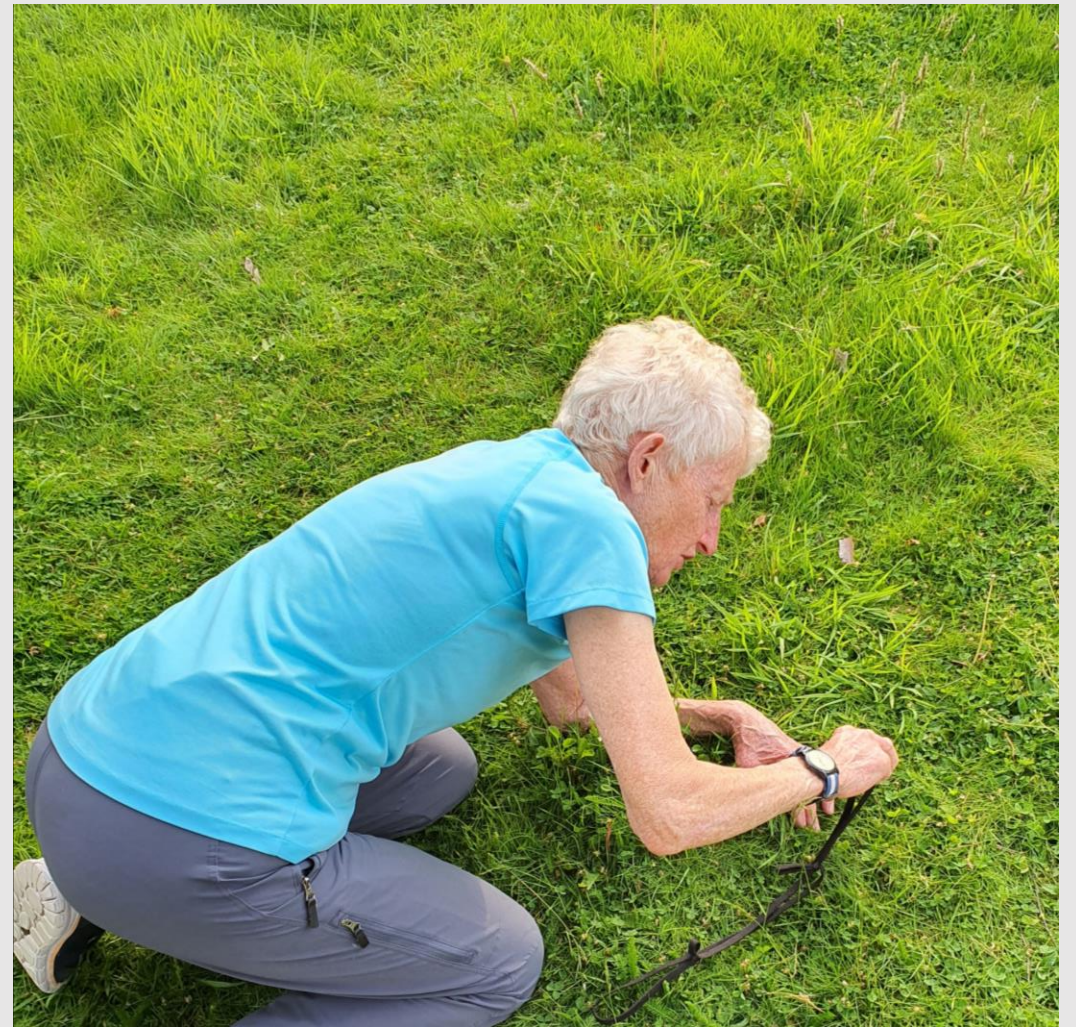
- Toolkit production and circulation
- Work with schools and young people
- 18 green spaces to receive management plans
- Volunteer task force for work parties – current demand
- Habitat improvement work parties



Takeaway message

Anyone can do a bit to put a SteppingStone for nature into the landscape

Tess let her lawn in Coppall paddock grow into a meadow for the summer and found Adders tongue fern an indicator species of old grassland



Tell us what you
need to Go Wild
where you live

Thank you

