

G-UP NEWS

MAY 2021

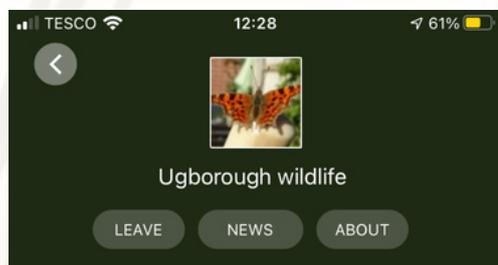


GREENER UGBOROUGH PARISH

A community where it's easy to live sustainably

This month we launched our citizen science project, Ugborough Wildlife, on iNaturalist.

iNaturalist is an easy-to-use app: you take or upload a photo of something you have seen, then click the 'what did you see?' button and the app identifies it for you automatically. It is amazingly good at doing this but there is a human element too. In a few days typically, other wildlife spotters will check your photo and confirm or correct the identification. Your recording is now 'research grade'. When you create an observation, the app automatically uses your phone or camera's GPS tag to locate it. The Ugborough Wildlife project collates all the observations that fall within the parish boundaries, from Ludbrook to Avonwick, Ugborough to Redlake, allowing you to see what else has been spotted and what might be just around the corner from where you are now.



374 OBSERVATIONS	229 SPECIES	34 OBSERVERS	14 IDENT
common dandelion...	common hawthorn	Germander Spee...	
Cow Parsley	Wood Forget-me...	sweet vernal grass	
Hedge mustard	Hemlock Water...	hawthorns	
ribwort plantain	Changing Forget...	Brooklime	

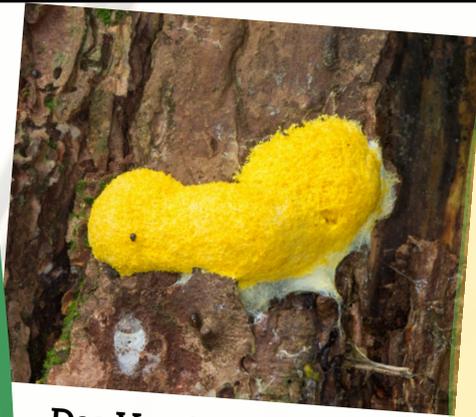
We would love as many people as possible to use iNaturalist to record the plants, animals, fungi and even slime moulds that they see while out and about in the parish. It's a great excuse to get out exploring Ugborough's footpaths and lanes or even identifying the bugs and weeds in your own back yard. You can build up a picture of what you have seen as the seasons progress, and test your knowledge of local wildlife. Your observations will help G-UP to create a thorough record of Ugborough's wildlife and discover if there are vulnerable species or habitats in the parish that we could do more to protect. They will also be important for measuring progress on our biodiversity projects like our new wildflower meadows and - launching later this year - our hedges project. We have over 350 observations already, from 34 observers and covering a whopping 227 different species ranging from owls and elms to the charmingly named Flowers of Tan, which is also less-charmingly known as dog vomit slime mould.

OTHER NEWS

MAY 2021

Faith presented a summary of G-UP's work to the Parish Council's Annual Parish Meeting.

We are grateful for the continuing involvement and support of our Parish Councillors.



Dog Vomit Slime Mould
Pic. Norbert Nagel

The G-UP steering group has been doing some thinking about ways of making Ugborough Parish a safer and more attractive place for walking and cycling. If you would like to join our **Transport and Mobility working party**, please get in touch with Rowan: rowan.o.martin@gmail.com.



Brown Streak Butterfly

G-UP has sourced and planted more trees at the school and distributed some around the Parish to those who had space for them.

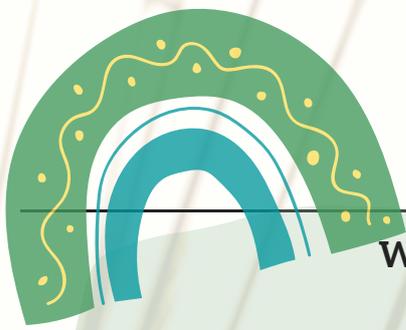
Graham Gilbert is spearheading a new hedge group that will work with landowners to look for opportunities to manage hedges for wildlife. Please get in touch with Graham (graham@artgilbert.co.uk) if you would like to join this group, especially if you fancy wielding a bill hook or looking out for the rare brown hairstreak butterfly, which lays its eggs on blackthorn. There is more information about conserving this butterfly here: <https://butterfly-conservation.org/sites/default/files/habitat-hedgerows-for-hairstreaks.pdf>

Ugborough History Group will be running some local walks this summer in conjunction with G-UP to explore the natural as well as manmade history of our local area. See <https://www.ugborough.com/history-group>

May is the time for May bugs, or cockchafer: <https://www.buglife.org.uk/bugs/bug-directory/common-cockchafer/>. The adults fly for only 6 weeks, having spent over 3 years as grubs underground where they provide an important food source for hedgehogs. Often the first that humans notice is when they ping against the windows of a lit room on summer evenings. Who will be first to post an Ugborough sighting on iNaturalist?



Sustainable Earth 2021: Climate Emergency the Race to Net Zero Online Forum: 24-25 June 2021
<https://www.plymouth.ac.uk/research/institutes/sustainable-earth/se21>



WILDLIFE AND BIODIVERSITY WORKING GROUP

Wildflower meadows

- Work has begun on managing the burial ground for wildflowers and wildlife. A team of G-UP volunteers raked dead grass and will survey the flowers and grasses growing there on 5th June. Please contact Susan Williams susan@inxite.co.uk if you would like to be involved. The burial ground has areas of tussocky cocksfoot grass, which might not be such great company for more delicate wildflowers but is an excellent habitat for small mammals, insects, amphibians and the barn owls that hunt them: <https://www.barnowltrust.org.uk/how-to-manage-land-for-barn-owls/>
- The Moorhaven meadow group cleared the Moorhaven cemetery of docks and planted field scabious and yellow rattle. We are hoping that the native poppies and cornflowers that we sowed will provide a vivid display of annuals this summer while the perennial flowers get established. The cemetery and the much larger meadow up the hill at Stoneybrook will be open to the public on Sunday 13th June, 11am-3pm, as part of the Moor Meadows open meadows scheme. There are lots of other fascinating meadows to view nearby: <https://moormeadows.org.uk/events/open-meadows-2021/>

Next meeting on Mon 7th June (8pm via zoom) to catch up on our various project strands and review the results of the surveys! Please get in touch if you'd like to come along and hear more about our plans.

The Art House re-opens in South Brent in May - programme of events here:

<https://www.arthousesouthbrent.com/whats-on>

All best wishes

Faith, Jane, Jackie, Vici,
Rowan, Ashley and Caroline

The Steering Committee

