

let's get buzzing in Buriton



With spring arriving it's time to embrace a bit of gardening for wildlife. Here are six simple and practical steps that everyone can take to help their gardens support a range of important creatures:

- provide a log-pile to help bugs, beetles and other wildlife
- don't remove all your dead leaves: they provide nutrients for plants and habitats for a range of creatures
- plant pollinator-friendly flowers to help bees, butterflies, moths, birds and other species
- provide food, shelter and water for birds and hedgehogs
- cut hedges outside the bird nesting season, which generally runs from the beginning of March to the end of July
- mow less often, providing a mini nature reserve for insects and helping pollinator-friendly wildflowers grow.

With more and more villagers now devoting parts of their gardens to nature, the community is helping a wide range of species which, in turn, can help crops and food flourish in surrounding fields.

There will be another series of local nature events this year, beginning with:

- a Seed Swop at the village coffee morning in March

- a 'Liking Lichens' event on Saturday 23 March (2pm at the pond)
- a talk about Farming's Help for Wildlife and the natural environment on Wednesday 10 April (7.30pm in the village hall)

Buriton's B-earth Day Show will be held on the afternoon of Saturday 11 May:

a big fun-packed family event with a range of activities, stalls and demonstrations in the village hall and on the recreation ground. Plans are being made for face-painting, bird displays, a fun dog show, the popular bee hive, bug hunts and much more.

Plans for events later in the year include the Wildlife Gardens Trail, insights into orchids at the Coulters Dean Nature Reserve, the Swift Pint evening, our guided bat walk in the Chalk Pits, the community Hay-Day on the recreation ground and a Fungi Foray in the autumn.

