



JANUARY 2023 | ISSUE 6

GLORIOUS COTSWOLD GRASSLANDS

PROJECT NEWSLETTER



Programme expansion news

We are delighted to announce that we are about to embark on an exciting new project in partnership with the National Trust to deliver a large area of wildflower grassland restoration in the Cotswold and Tewkesbury districts over the next three years using Biodiversity Net Gain funding.

Details will follow, but this will be a significant expansion of our current operations and we are in the process of hiring a new member of the team and are looking to run two seed harvesters next summer.

The new project is in addition to our ongoing relationships with Severn Trent Water and Thames Water to fund restoration work in the Severn Trent and Evenlode catchment areas respectively – without which we would not be able to achieve nearly as much so thank you very much to all our wonderful partners.



If you would like to contact the Glorious Cotswold Grasslands team:

Anna Field

Glorious Cotswold Grasslands Programme Officer | anna.field@cotswoldsaonb.org.uk

Harvey Sherwood

Operations Co-Ordinator | harvey.sherwood@cotswoldsaonb.org.uk

Newsletter continues on page 2

A busy summer

The extreme hot weather of last summer proved to be a positive thing for our seed harvesting operations – many wildflowers set seed quickly and in a more compressed timeframe than usual, meaning our seed harvests had higher yields than expected and we harvested over two tonnes of seed in total – a new record!

This meant we were able to seed an amazing 120 hectares of recipient sites ranging from less than an acre to over 12 hectares. We often receive enquiries from individuals wanting small amounts of seed to sow in their garden or tubs and so to facilitate this, we have recently partnered with **Daylesford Organic Farm** to sell small quantities of seed for this purpose – please do pop along to the farm shop if you are interested in supporting the project in this way.



The unique seed mix for sale at Daylesford

Autumn / winter scrub management

As usual, our wonderful volunteers have been hard at work this autumn, tackling scrub encroaching on some of our most precious remnants of calcareous grassland in the Cotswolds. As well as improving habitat for common calcareous wildflowers, the work we have done will benefit rarer wildflowers such as the fly orchid, and species further up the food chain such as the Duke of Burgundy butterfly.

Anna is currently arranging the remaining winter Wednesday sessions, details of which can be found in the accompanying email – please do come along!



Fly orchid

2023 workshop news

Our popular **equine workshop at Farm Ed** next summer will be on **Monday 19th June 2023**. As well as a morning of informative talks, the day will include site visits to nearby Cotswolds wildflower meadows, an equine centre managing their grassland for wildflowers, and the FarmEd demonstration fields. If you know of anyone who keeps horses and is interested in learning how best to manage their paddocks for horses and biodiversity please do let them know. **[Click here for more details and to book.](#)**

We will also be holding some wildflower identification days on **Monday 26th June & Monday 3rd July** – please check our website after Christmas for more details.



Grazing horses on grassland