



Sarah's Wildlife Projects

Protect, Preserve, Promote

Update to Sarah's Friends – September 2023



Sarah and Buddy at the helm during our sailing trip in Sept 2016

This Newsletter summarises the email we sent with a ppt type attachment to share the news of our Wildflower Poster being used by AWT-Grow Wilder at the Bee and Pollination festival. The full email and the ppt are on the website if anybody wants to have a look for more detail.



We've been really pleased to see this completed and especially to see Grow Wilder using it on their Wildflower stall at the Bee and Pollinator Festival at the University of Bristol Botanic Gardens earlier this month. Sarah had been a keen member of Avon Wildlife Trust, she had visited and done things at Grow Wilder and membership of the Botanic Gardens had been a leaving present from her colleagues at Mott MacDonald in Cambridge as she came back to Bristol with Motts.

We've tried getting the Poster printed on a tea towel but yet to find a good enough quality. Anybody any ideas?

We've been doing a little work on a couple of other little things:

- Clifton Downs and Observatory Tree Trail – We've been mapping the trees and compiling key facts as best we can with our limited but hopefully growing knowledge on the website. We've piloted the presentation and QR code

approach and Andrea and Mat have some ideas on a Web-App for phones. We have met Anna from the Avon Gorge and Downs Wildlife Project again and hoping to get her expert and experienced 'little human' and family friendly input and direction over the next few weeks. Aiming to continue the development and have something ready for use by Sarah's Birthday next year. Big challenge is how to print / engrave some form of tree label to include the numbering, our logos and a tree specific QR code without being too expensive. Anybody any ideas?

- Bats incl at Paradise Bottom – Buddy and I have been wandering around Paradise Bottom from sunset onwards a few times to try to identify any bats. Weather hasn't been favourable though and have so far only a few sightings and soundings – common and soprano pips with feeding around the pond, and perhaps noctules along the stream. Becky came on one walk and keen eyed she spotted some pips as we walked along the road by the garden centre but the rains came and forced us to the nearby pub. So we checked that out and yes, Buddy can come in and they have a few different ciders on draft so perhaps good for when we can get together with some of you guys again!
- Sarah's friends and colleagues from Motts planning to do a couple more expert, formal surveys and develop some info boards for Paradise Bottom. Laura and Jane from the Avon Bat Group invited us on a morning of bat box checks on the National Trust side of Leigh Woods. Simon, Sophie and Buddy came and it was lovely to see a good number of soprano pipistrelles as the ABG team took them from the boxes, identified and sexed them. We hoping to be able to check the boxes on the Forestry England side incl Sarah's Bat Boxes in Paradise Bottom in the next few weeks. Been on some roost monitoring at Tyntesfield too – horsehoes there. We also looking to collate info from across the Woods perhaps beyond with Luke from the bat walk in 2021 sharing his info, Max ex Motts and with ABG having done things on both sides, and Darren from National Trust also keen and digging out old records. .
- Paradise Bottom Info Boards - Sally, Buddy and I had a daytime walk to and then through Paradise Bottom couple weeks back which was good in working out the other things we might want to do there and elsewhere across the Woods apart from the bat boxes in Paradise Bottom and dormouse boxes in the Woods closer to the car park. Sally has a couple of ideas and we are working with Greg from Forestry England to consolidate on those.
- **Website** – We've done a few more things on the website and looking better, working better thanks to Charlotte and Auntie Mandy. www.sarahswildlifeprojects.org

Hope you find this interesting and if anybody wants to be more involved in the little things that we are doing, has any ideas for anything else they think Sarah would like us to do, please do email or call. We could do with a bit of help in a few areas and a few people have said they would like to donate, help.

😊❤️ Love Sally, Paul, Simon and Becky.