







Fabulous fungi discoveries on the guided fungi walk in Collyweston Great Wood

## STOP PRESS...

North Northants Local Nature Recovery Strategy  
 North Northamptonshire Council have drawn up a draft strategy setting out the priorities for nature in the county. This strategy will inform the local planning process, agreeing priorities for nature recovery and mapping the most valuable areas. The strategy document and map are now open for public consultation until 9th December 2024. Don't miss the opportunity to have your say. To help you through the process we have produced a single page step by step guide to taking part on the RFV website.

## Additional Community Grant Funding

Thanks to some additional funding from North Northants Council Rural Community Fund and from the Heritage Lottery existing funding we have been able to fund further community "green" projects including-

- Clearance of part of the churchyard in Cottingham as a great start to managing this beautiful site in the heart of the village for people and wildlife.
- All the equipment, tools and even a shed to develop and maintain a community orchard in Gretton. As well as first aid training for volunteers.
- Swift boxes, native spring bulbs and tools to support Oundle's Nature Recovery Plan.
- Equipment, tools, tarps and outdoor clothing to support Studfall Junior School, Corby in setting up their Forest School.
- Some wellies, loppers and secateurs for the Friends of West Glebe Park, Corby.
- Hard hats, ear defenders, scythes, rakes etc. for the volunteers in King's Wood Nature Reserve.
- Bird boxes, trees, spring bulbs, wildflower meadow seeds, tools, equipment to help Easton on the Hill put into action their Parish Nature Recovery Plan. Even included a couple of pairs of goshes and chain saw training for volunteers.



St Mary Magdalene Churchyard, Cottingham, has benefitted from the latest RFV Community grant



Community grant funded native Spring bulbs being planted in Oundle



Community grant funded wildflower seeds turn into nature friendly meadows

## Building the Links Numbers...

Over the past two years the project partners have worked in collaboration to connect people to the landscape and the wildlife of the Rockingham Forest. This has been delivered through a myriad of ways including; guided walks, workshops, training opportunities, drop in fun days, talks, forest school, parish nature recovery plans, landowner engagement and a creative art competition...



The diagram opposite gives a snapshot of the numbers of people the project has reached in just two years! impressive figures in such a short time. Our website has been at the heart of the project's success, providing a means of communicating far and wide all the opportunities for people to get involved. This is thanks to the fantastic work of Barrie Galpin who set up and keeps our website buzzing!





## Winter 2024 and beyond in Rockingham Forest ...

### What's to look forward to and how to get involved?

There is still plenty going on in the Rockingham Forest as the Rockingham Forest Vision moves onwards, maintaining all the links so successfully built so far. Ways you can stay or get involved include -

- Accessing and contributing to the Rockingham Forest website. The website is regularly updated with news, what's happening on the ground, events, workshops, blogs, volunteering opportunities and more. Please send us your news and photos. And how about writing a blog article yourself? To view the website click on the link - [Rockingham Forest Vision](#)
- Booking on one of our guided walks and/or workshops. Click the link to the RFV website for dates, detail and how to book - [events](#)
- A few free hours to help out? - there is an array of volunteering opportunities available whether you are looking for something cerebral, physical or both! To find out more about volunteering opportunities click on the link to the RFV website - [volunteering](#)
- If social media is your thing then try following us on - [@rforestvision@bsky.social](#), as we move away from X (formerly known as Twitter)



Help out in Nassington



Take a walk on the Bulwick Estate

### THE NEXT HERITAGE LOTTERY BID...

Just last week a host of organisations led by the Nene Rivers Trust got together at Stanwick Lakes to brainstorm the next National Heritage Lottery bid and what it would like. The bid is likely to be submitted in late Autumn 2025 and has potential to be far reaching but to include and build upon the work undertaken under the Building the Links for the Rockingham Forest. So watch this space...

### And finally...

As we take our leave of the project, Corinne and I would like to say how much we have enjoyed the project, working collaboratively with partner organisations, volunteers, community groups, schools, colleges, landowners, parishes, friends of groups and of course many local residents of the Rockingham Forest Vision area.

On a practical note, if you have any further queries about the project then please email for general enquiries - [info@neneriverstrust.org](mailto:info@neneriverstrust.org) and for queries about the Rockingham Forest Vision website please email [Barrie Galpin](mailto:Barrie.Galpin).

Wishing you all the very best and seasons greetings from Sophie, Corinne and the Rockingham Forest Vision team