

# Valley Conservation Society



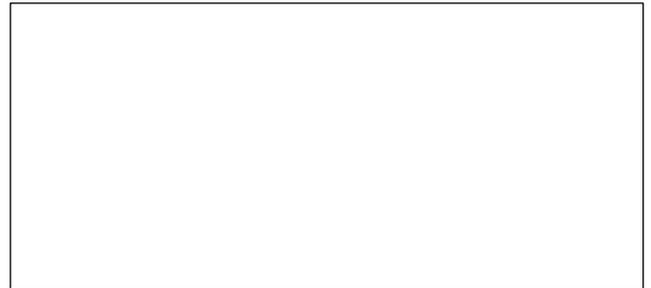
*doing nothing is not an option*

Members' newsletter No 172

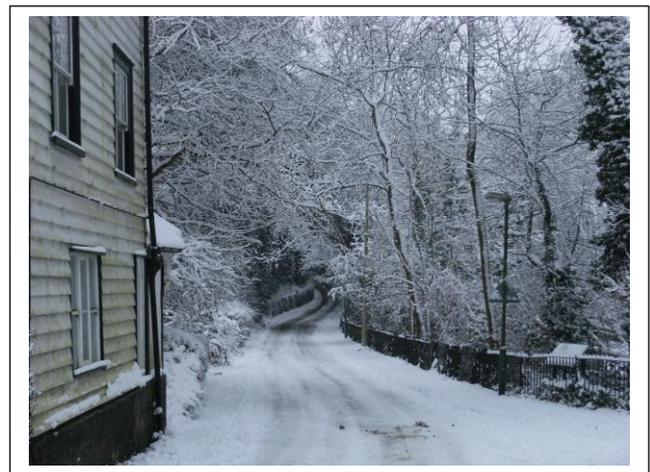
We are a non-political organisation

December 2020

Merry Christmas  
and a safe 2021  
to all members!



There seems zero chance of a white Christmas this year, so we hope you enjoy this reminder of what our winters used to look like. These pictures were taken in 2012.



It has been a quiet period for the society since our last newsletter. With the Covid restrictions in force there have been no regular Tuesday work parties, nor any meetings of the committee.

However some members of the work party did have to dash across to the new Dean Street site of the Hayle Park Nature Reserve at the start of the month to carry out emergency repairs to the fence after a car ploughed into it. The site has recently been named Walnut Tree Meadows in memory of Walnut Tree Farm that once stood there.

At the end of November, we had to call Kent Fire and Rescue after someone started a bonfire on our land near Reeds Pond. The flames were quickly extinguished. The culprits had long vanished leaving only some empty beer bottles behind them.

The reserve and our own land at Crisbrook Meadow and the Reeds and Lower Crisbrook Ponds remain open to visitors throughout the lockdown period.

Although reconstruction of the damaged wall in Crisbrook Meadow will not be undertaken until we are past the possibility of any frosts, there is some good news. Tovil Parish Council has kindly agreed to purchase on our behalf the sand that will be needed to complete the restoration, a gift worth in the region of £270 before VAT.

The year is now drawing to close and we end 2020 with 414 members – around 100 fewer than last year, no doubt a reflection of our inability to hold our regular events this year.

With this in mind, we urge all members to take five minutes over the festive break to fill in the attached membership form for 2021 and send it to our membership secretary Tony Day along with your subscription of £2 per person. Thank you.

We usually hold our annual meeting in February. With Covid that may not be possible and we may have to postpone until later in the year, but we look forward to seeing you all again soon. In the meantime, stay safe and have a happy Christmas.

