

Valley Conservation Society



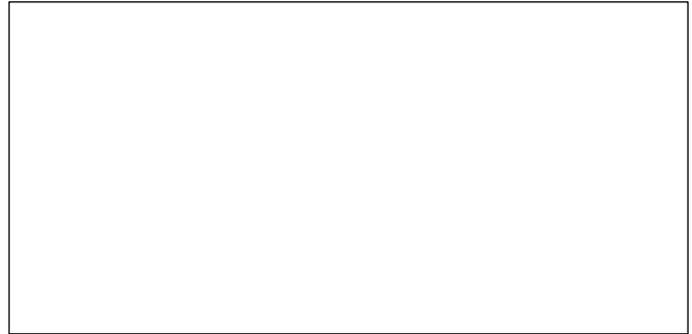
doing nothing is not an option

Members' newsletter No 178

We are a non-political organisation

April 2022

Just a few quick reminders



Please remember to come to our **Annual General Meeting** – and remember it is at a new venue and a new time!

It will be held on **Saturday, April 30**, starting at **2pm** in the **King George V Pavillion**, off Walnut Tree Avenue in Loose, **ME15 9RN**. There is a car park.

The AGM is your opportunity as a member to hear reports of all the Society's activities during the past two years. Importantly it is also the best opportunity to raise any concerns you may have or to offer any suggestions or ideas for the future course of the Society.

The meeting is for members only, but you can join at the door on entry. It must end by 4pm. Any queries to the Secretary, Alan Smith, on [01622 751926](tel:01622751926) or email a128smith@btinternet.com



A second reminder is that our **Spring Walk** is **this coming Saturday**, April 23. We meet at **10am** at the Conservation Cabin in Cave Hill. There will be a guided tour around the Valley ending at the garden of The Manor at Hayle Place where tea and home-baked cakes will be served. All welcome. Bring some loose change as a donation for the cakes.



A third reminder: We asked for photographs for consideration for inclusion in our new calendar next year. We are looking for scenes in the Valley that reflect each month through the year. So far we have had only three contributions. Surely there are more budding Justin Minns out there? Send your snaps to Alan by email as above. You don't need a fancy camera, a lovely scene taken on an i-Phone will do.



And our regular reminder: The Tuesday work party meets every week at the Conservation Cabin at 10am. Stay for as long or as little as your like. Inquiries to Bryn Cornwell on 01622 746514.

Barbecue

After two years' absence due to Covid, the **VCS barbeque** will be back this year.

Tickets will go on sale at the AGM, and can be obtained from the secretary after that.

Those who can remember our last barbecue in 2019 will recall it was, if anything, too popular, with large crowds resulting in long queues for food.

Your Committee is determined to avoid such a situation again this year and so will be **strictly** limiting the number of admissions to 100. (There were 180 in 2019!)

In addition, in the past we have allowed members to bring non-member guests. You will still be able to do so, but no more than two guests per member. There will be no-joining members on the day, so if you need to sign someone up as a member please do so in advance.

The barbecue will be on Saturday, July 23. Doors open at 3pm, food will be available from 4pm. It will be held in the gardens of The Manor at Hayle Place, courtesy of Jane Holman.

Vegan dishes will be available, but only if ordered in advance. The cost will be £12.50 for members, and £15 for non-members. Children under 14 remain free.

There will be chicken, sausages and burgers on the coals, with salad accompaniments, followed by a fresh fruit dessert. All food is included in the ticket price. Bring your own tables, chairs and drinks. Please, no dogs.

New arrivals in the Valley



Above, a mother mallard with her ducklings, photo by Sam Hipwell, and right, Fairy Teeth (*Lathraea squamaria*), a parasite that grows on the roots of trees - here it's on Laurel. Photo by Jane Holman