

Knoll Gardens Foundation

High summer 2019

Inside: More news of our annual garden wildlife survey... Find out about volunteering at Knoll ... Support our charity when you shop online at no extra cost to you!

What did we find in the garden?

Our annual garden wildlife survey was a huge success. The weather held, and our wonderful experts and volunteers had a busy day identifying creatures and helping visitors improve their own identification skills. There is still a lot of work going on behind the scenes to confirm the identity of all sorts of insects from many photographs taken on the day but we fully expect one of our best results yet.

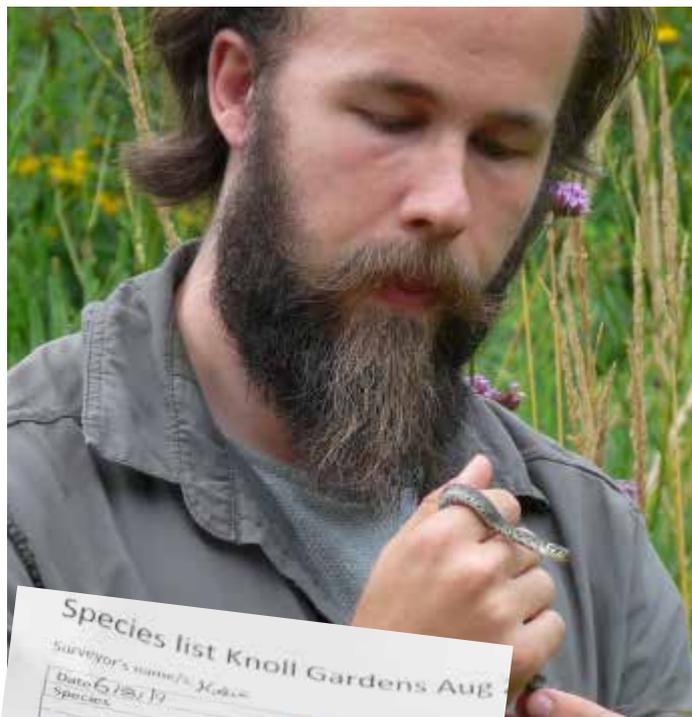
Thank you one and all

Our thanks are due to so many people including Dorset Wildlife Trust who organised our first Annual Garden Survey back in 2014 and are still providing so much support, expertise and enthusiasm, Dorset Bat Group, Dorset Mammal Group, Bournemouth Natural Science Society, our own volunteer surveyors and all the many visitors who help to ensure this annual snapshot of wildlife in the garden continues to provide a robust record of the health of Knoll's many inhabitants and visiting wildlife.

All listings and a final tally will be online in the next few weeks, so do check the website for more information. In the meantime these images from the day may give a brief snapshot of the many activities that went on. You'll find more inside.

www.knollgardensfoundation

Photos clockwise from top: Foundation volunteer Rob Bascombe with juvenile grass snake, Foundation trustee and bumblebee surveyor Rowena Jecock helps young visitor with insect hunt, Dorset Wildlife Trust brings together survey results, Holly Blue butterfly taking a rest, Jan Freeborn and Rosina Henderson prepare food for mammal traps, Common frog makes its presence known on species identification form.



Facebook: @knollgardensfoundation

Instagram: @knollgardensfoundation

Twitter: @knollfoundation

What's happening in the garden?



August

Changing Seasons Walk

Thursday 22 August, 2 - 3pm. £10. Book online.

Join Neil Lucas, Knoll's owner, to discover more about Knoll's stunning autumn colour.

Beginners Guide to Close-up and Macro Photography

Friday 23 August 1 - 4pm. £35. Book online.

Find out how to get the best from your camera with Dave Peckham and try out some of his photography kit.

Volunteer Recruitment Open Morning

Friday 23 August 10.30am - 1pm. No booking required

Meet up with Knoll Gardens Foundation trustees and volunteers and find out about volunteering opportunities on offer.



September

Ornamental Grass Masterclass - also on 3 October

Thursday 12 September, 2 - 4.30pm. £35. Book online.

All you need to know about grasses and how to use them in a garden setting with Knoll's owner Neil Lucas.

Better Plant and Garden Photography Workshop

Saturday 14 September, 6.30am - 12.30pm £70. Book online.

A special early morning course with Philip Smith, one of Britain's leading garden photographers and founder of International Garden Photographer of the Year.

Pick up an event leaflet for more details or look online: knollgardensfoundation.org



Support us when you shop - and it won't cost you a penny extra!

Did you know that thousands of businesses now make a donation to charity every time you place an online order? That donation could benefit the Knoll Gardens Foundation as you can choose the charity you support.

Shop via easyfundraising.org.uk

easyfundraising is the UK's biggest charity shopping fundraising website. It works with over 3000 retailers including amazon, John Lewis, M&S, ebay, Sainsbury's, Argos, AVIVA and Booking.com and the Knoll Gardens Foundation is one of its registered charities.

If you choose to go through the easyfundraising website every time you place a supermarket order, shop for your home or garden, purchase insurance, online travel or hotel bookings, you could be supporting us. It is easy to do, adds just a couple of extra clicks to your online shopping process and costs you nothing at all.

More information at www.easyfundraising.org.uk or scan the QR code above to see a short video about how it all works





Get involved

If you've got some time to spare and an interest in gardening and wildlife we'd love to tell you more about the work of the Knoll Gardens

Foundation, and explain what we do and how you can get involved.

You'll find a lot of information online at www.knollgardensfoundation.org but if you prefer to talk to someone face-to-face we are holding a Volunteer Recruitment Open Morning from 10.30am - 1pm on Friday 23 August.

The morning offers an opportunity to meet up with charity trustees and volunteers and find out about the volunteering roles available. You are welcome to then stay on and spend some time enjoying the garden.

Calling all teachers

We are inviting teachers to spend some time in the garden free-of-charge on Saturday 19 October.

This new Community Open Day is part of our first autumn Festival of Grasses celebrations, and our way of acknowledging all the valuable work teachers do, every day, inspiring the minds of the future. Please spread the word to let the local education sector know what we are offering. We hope visiting teachers will in turn get some inspiration from what they see here at Knoll and want to get involved in our drive to promote wildlife-friendly gardening across the generations.

Our Teachers' Open Day runs from 11am - 4pm on 19 October. Please be prepared to show details of your school or college on arrival.



Mark Spencer of BNSS with his moth trap, and a Peppered moth - one of 40+ species found that night.

24 hours in a garden

Our annual garden wildlife survey began many hours before the garden gate opened at 10am.

The previous night saw a lot of activity with Dorset Mammal Group setting traps for early release the next morning, a Dorset Bat Group walk with overnight sonagram recordings, installation of trail cameras to capture images of foxes and badgers, and a six hour vigil by BNSS to record Knoll's many moths.

Working with wildlife

As always the wildlife was unpredictable. Only one bat was seen on the walk - but five species were recorded later on, by sonagram when the moths started to fly. Our mammals knew better than to approach our traps overnight, possibly put off by their shiny metal despite a warm bed and plenty of food for a comfy overnight stay. However, both shrews and voles were recorded the next day so, lesson learned, we are adapting the way we use the traps to enable Knoll's more wary residents to become used to them before our next



A young visitor records her finds watched by Nicky Hoar of Dorset Wildlife Trust

We also provide specific, ongoing support for some animals. In the last few months we have added reptile 'refugia' in the garden and now regularly survey these sites. These are safe, warm spots and we were delighted to find juvenile grass snakes enjoying our hospitality. The garden's many lizards were also expected to make use of the refugia - but seem to prefer our log piles. When you next visit do look out for them basking in the sun just off the Long Walk.



Regular events

Early morning yoga

Our early morning outdoor yoga sessions continue in September on Thursdays from 9 - 10am. They're a great way to start to the day, and also offer an unusual way to experience the tranquillity of the garden before it opens to the public. Places are limited and each session costs £8. To book call Jackie Hayfield on 07955 587772 or email jackie.hayfield@sky.com



Watch the website

Many of our wildlife sightings can be found online together with some stunning photography so do check in regularly. You'll also find results of our regular wildlife surveys, news and links to our social media feeds.

Find out what's happening in the garden at www.knollgardensfoundation.org

Bugs and Buds Toddler Group

Our popular monthly Saturday morning toddler club runs from 10.30am til noon on the last Saturday of each month. To check availability email Tracy Standish at education@knollgardens.co.uk



Community Open Days

As part of our programme of special Community Open Days we welcome photography clubs, art groups, wildlife and horticultural organisations to the garden. More details of these special days can be found online.



Facebook: [@knollgardensfoundation](https://www.facebook.com/knollgardensfoundation)
Instagram: [@knollgardensfoundation](https://www.instagram.com/knollgardensfoundation)
Twitter: [@knollfoundation](https://twitter.com/knollfoundation)

The Knoll Gardens Foundation

Contact us: Email: foundation@knollgardens.co.uk • Telephone: 01202 873931

Garden opening times: The garden is currently open from 10am - 5pm Tuesday to Saturday and Bank Holiday Mondays - just follow the brown signs. More details at www.knollgardens.co.uk



The Knoll Gardens Foundation is dedicated to refining and promoting a wildlife friendly naturalistic gardening style, using the garden at Knoll as a practical example and base for experimentation.

The Foundation relies on donations, legacies, fundraising events and grants to finance its work and welcomes contributions from those who share a passion for gardening and wildlife.

The Knoll Gardens Foundation is registered as a charity in England and Wales: 1159390.

The Knoll Gardens Foundation, Wimborne, Dorset BH21 7ND

www.knollgardensfoundation.org

