

MEANWOOD VALLEY

Wilderness on your Doorstep



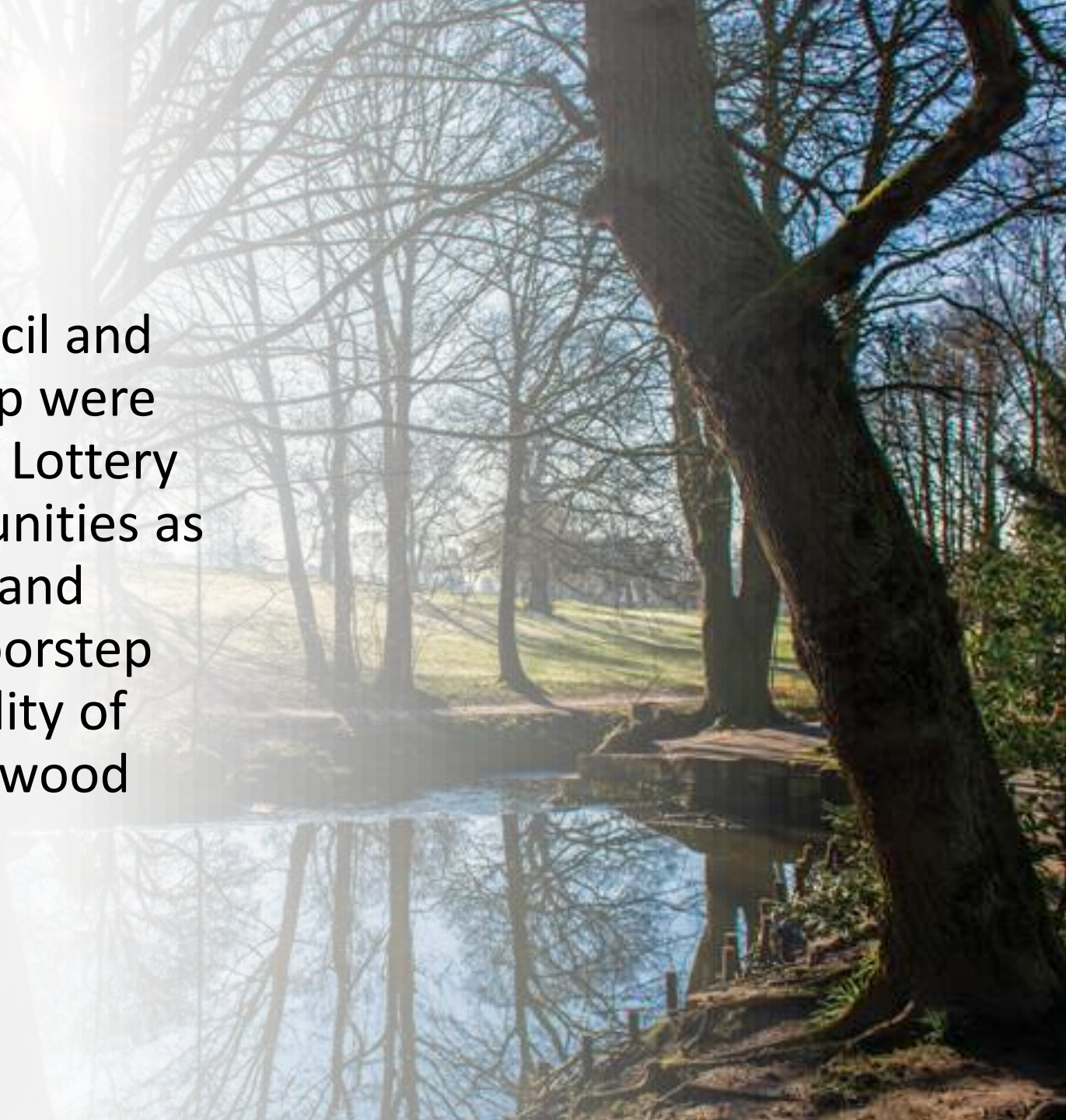
BACKGROUND

- Meanwood Valley stretches from urban Leeds to the rural countryside north of the city
- Rich and diverse mosaic of habitats and a wealth of wildlife, including many protected species
- Several green spaces designated for their biodiversity value
- Strong community support



AIMS

In January 2018, Leeds City Council and the Meanwood Valley Partnership were awarded £65K from the Heritage Lottery Fund to provide as many opportunities as possible to help people discover and celebrate this wildlife on their doorstep in order to ensure the sustainability of the natural heritage of the Meanwood Valley into the future.



THEMES

- Interpret nature
- Experience nature
- Understand nature
- Protect nature

*“No one will protect
what they don’t care
about, and no one will
care about what they
have never
experienced”.*

David Attenborough

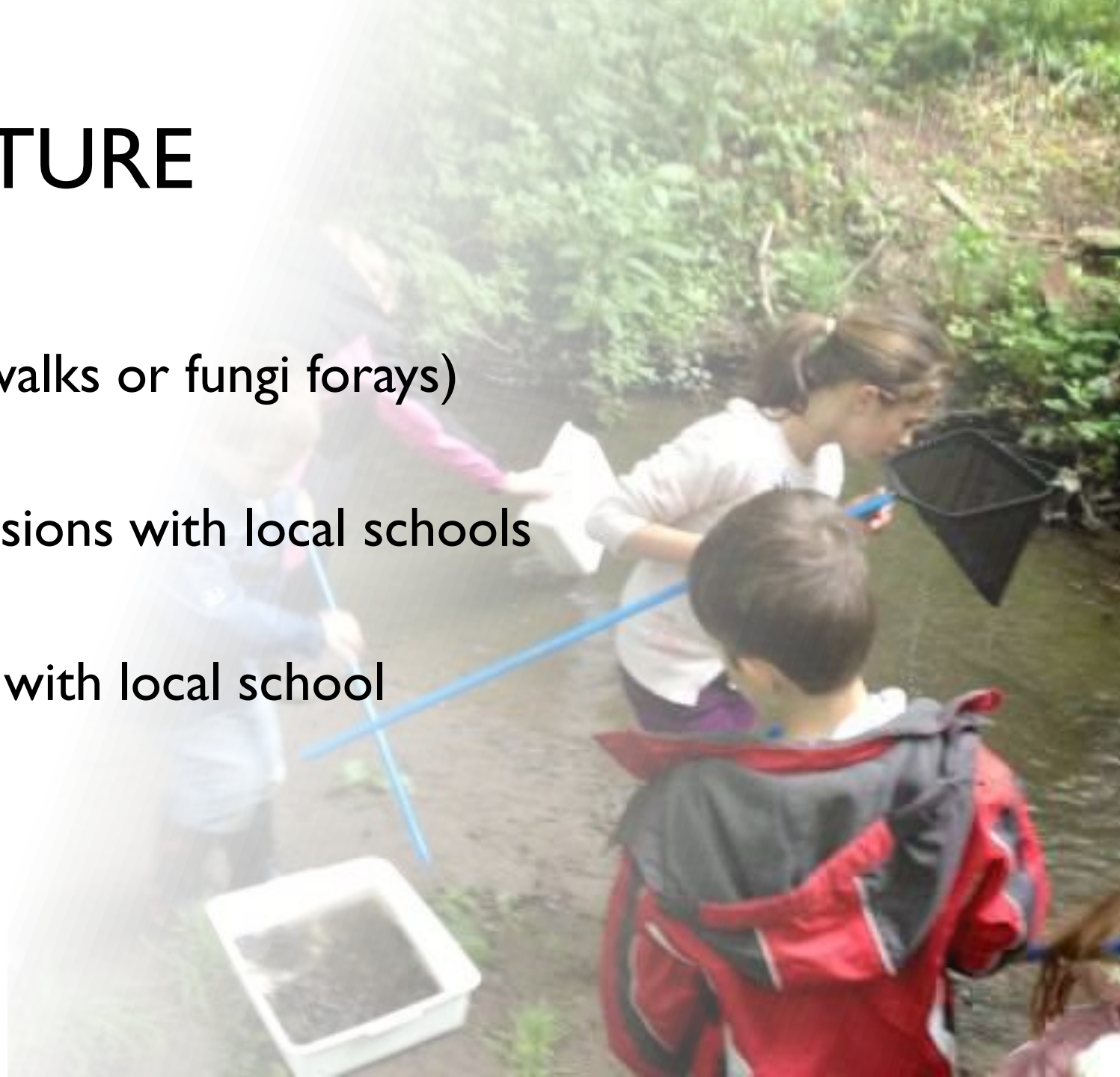
INTERPRET NATURE

- Site leaflets
- Self-guided walk booklet
- Wildlife spotters guide
- Interpretation panels
- Web content



EXPERIENCE NATURE

- Public events (such as bat walks or fungi forays)
- KS1 and KS2 education sessions with local schools
- Wildlife encounter project with local school
- Photography competition



*“The event was very informative and interesting.
Much of the wildlife was difficult to spot until it was
pointed out. I really enjoyed the session”.*

Public Nature Events

Date	Details	Site	CC	Number of Participants
01/08/2018	Small Mammal Morning	Meanwood Park	INE	21
28/08/2018	Guided Bat Walk	Meanwood Park	INE	50
29/08/2018	Moth Identification Morning	Meanwood Park	INE	10
12/09/2018	Guided Bat Walk	Woodhouse Ridge	INW	48
17/09/2018	Nocturnal Safari	Meanwood Park	INE	60
24/09/2018	Guided Bat Walk	Sugarwell Hill	INE	9
07/10/2018	Fungal Foray	Adel Woods	ONE	10
13/10/2018	Fungal Foray	Woodhouse Ridge	INW	12
20/02/2019	BTO National Nest Box Week	Meanwood Park	INE	40
Total				260

Wildfowl Walk in Golden Acre Park	Wednesday 6 March 10:00am to 12:30pm	Help take the pulse of nature by identifying and recording wildfowl species with your Ranger.
Bluebell Walk in Woodhouse Ridge	Sunday 14 April 10:00am to 12:30pm	Enjoy a Spring Guided Walk with Your Ranger to Discover Spring Flowers!
Dawn Chorus in Meanwood Park	Saturday 27th April 7:00am to 9:00am	Join our resident expert, ranger Steve Joul, on an early morning (not quite dawn) walk around Meanwood Park and Woods to learn how to identify our local birds by their song.
Meanwood Valley Trail Loop 1	Saturday 4 May 10:00am to 13:00pm	Join your Ranger on a Guided Walk of the Valley
Meanwood Valley Trail Loop 2	Saturday 11 May 10:00am to 13:00pm	Join your Ranger on a Guided Walk of the Valley
Great British Bee Count— Golden Acre Park	Saturday 22 June 2019 10:00am to 12:30pm	Help us to record bee species on this BioBlitz at Golden Acre Park
Life in the undergrowth Adel Moor	Wednesday 26 June 2019 10:00am to 12:30pm	Help us to record invertebrate species on this BioBlitz at Adel Moor
BioBlitz in Meanwood Park	Sunday 7 July 2019 10:00am to 12:30pm	Help us carry out and record species on this BioBlitz of Meanwood Park
Guided Reptile Walk on Adel Moor	Saturday 20 July 2019 10:00am to 12:30pm	Join your Ranger for a reptile hunt, help record these elusive creatures
Small Mammal Morning in Woodhouse Ridge	Tuesday 23 July 2019 10:00am to 12:30pm	Join us to discover meet some of the small furry creatures we have found in Woodhouse Ridge
Big Butterfly Count— Sugarwell Hill	Saturday 27 July 2019 10:00am to 12:30pm	Help take the pulse of nature by recording butterfly species on this bioblitz
Guided Bat Walk on Woodhouse Ridge	Monday 5 August 2019 20:00pm to 22:00pm	An evening bat walk to discover what bats reside on Woodhouse Ridge.
Freshwater BioBlitz—Pond Dipping in Adel Woods	Wednesday 7 August 2019 10:00am to 12:30pm	Help carry out pond dipping and record species on this Freshwater bioblitz
Guided Bat Detecting Walk with Talk & Setting up Moth Trap - Meanwood Park	Monday 26 August 2019 20:00pm to 22:30pm	An evening bat walk to discover what bats reside in Meanwood Woods. Followed by setting up a moth trap for tomorrow's event.
Marvellous Moths - Meanwood Park	Tuesday 27 August 2019 9:00am to 11:00am	A morning event to see what moths we caught in the trap we set at yesterday's event.



Environmental Education Sessions

“This was a lovely, fun and hands-on learning opportunity for the children.”

Date	Details	Site	CC	Number of Participants
25/09/2018	Adel St John Baptist Primary School, Mini Beast Hunt	Adel Moor and Woods	ONE	27 Pupils and 9 Adults
03/10/2018	Meanwood Church of England Primary School, Autumn Seed Gathering and Tree Educational Nature Games	Meanwood Park	INE	32 Pupils and 1 Adult
28/11/2018	Shire Oak Primary Environmental Education Session: Humans and other animals, classifying, habitats and environments Session.	Woodhouse Ridge	INW	30 Pupils and 4 Adults
25/02/2019	Assembly followed by Science Week indoor session	Shire Oak Primary	INW	200 Pupils and 9 Adults
Total				312



UNDERSTAND NATURE

- Bioblitzes with local groups, schools and members of the public
- Training in wildlife survey techniques provided by Ecological Consultant
- Wildlife surveys



Bioblitzes

Date	Details	Site	CC	Number of Participants
09/06/2018	Great British Bee Count	Golden Acre Park and Breary Marsh	ONW	6
10/07/2018	St Edmunds Cubs from Roundhay Bioblitz and Guided Nature Walk	Breary Marsh and Golden Acre Park	ONW	6 Adult Leaders with 20 Children
22/07/2018	Bioblitz Adel Moor	Adel Moor	ONE	2
04/08/2018	Big Butterfly Count	Adel Moor	ONE	9
09/08/2018	Ralph Thoresby High School – Bioblitz and Balsam pulling, Litter Picking	Adel Woods	ONE	3 Teachers and 9 Pupils
11/08/2018	Big Butterfly Count	Sugarwell Hill	INE	8
26/01/2019	RSPB Big Garden Bird Watch	Golden Acre Park	ONW	3
Total				66

Training in wildlife survey techniques

Date	Details	Site	CC	Number of Participants
18 - 19/06/2018	Phase 1 Habitat surveying training delivered by Gordon Haycock. Ecological Consultancy	Golden Acre Park and Breary Marsh	ONW	13
26/06/2018	Woodland NVC surveying training delivered by Gordon Haycock. Ecological Consultancy	Meanwood Park and Woodland	INE	10
03/07/2018	Grassland NVC surveying training delivered by Gordon Haycock. Ecological Consultancy	Breary Marsh	ONW	5
10/07/2018	Buglife – Urban Buzz, Pollinator species recording training Delivered By Catherine Jones	Golden Acre Park and Breary Marsh	ONW	8
07/08/2018	Heathland NVC surveying training delivered by Gordon Haycock. Ecological Consultancy	Adel Moor and Adel Bog	ONE	7
26/11/2018	Field/Indoor Native Health and Tree Identification Disease Workshop delivered by Dr Charles Lane	Meanwood Park	INE	18
Total				61

“It made a complex, hidden subject accessible”



Wildlife Survey Volunteer Programme

Date	Details	Site	CC	Number of Participants
18/06/2018	Butterfly Transects	Breary Marsh and Pauls Pond	ONW	8
18/06/2018	Wildflower Surveys	Breary Marsh and Pauls Pond	ONW	8
14/01/2019	Field/Indoor Lichen Workshop and Recording Session Delivered by Professor Mark Seaward, British Lichen Society	Meanwood Park	INE	15
Total				31

"It was great! I learnt a lot about the technicalities of surveying and also about the local plant life."



PROTECT NATURE

- Friends of Breary Marsh
- Provide training and support to existing Friends groups to help them protect their green space
- Meanwood Valley Volunteer Rangers
- Meanwood Valley management plans



Friends of Breary Marsh

Date	Details	CC	Number of People
30/06/2018	Guided Nature Walk of Breary Marsh, Balsam and Rhododendron Removal	ONW	4
12/01/2019	Reedmace Removal	ONW	8
02/02/2019	Coppicing and Dead Hedging	ONW	1
Total			13

“It was very interesting and more than what I expected. Much more to look forward to!”



Friends of Breary Marsh - Volunteer Group

Task Programme 2019 – 2020

DATE and TIME	TASK
Saturday 12 January 2019 10:00am to 13:00pm	Fen Management - Reedmace Removal
Saturday 2 February 2019 10:00am to 13:00pm	Fen Management – Coppicing and Dead Hedging
Saturday 8 June 2019 10:00am to 13:00pm	Surveying for Presence of Water Voles and Harvest Mice
Saturday 6 July 2019 10:00am to 13:00pm	Rhododendron Removal - Pauls Pond
Saturday 2 November 2019 10:00am to 13:00pm	Woodland Management - Removal of Atypical Tree Species
Saturday 11 January 2020 10:00am to 13:00pm	Woodland Management – To Benefit Greater Tussock Sedge

HOW CAN YOU BE INVOLVED?

- User surveys and consultations
- Join the Friends of Breary Marsh
- Join our bioblitzes, wildlife surveys, volunteer tasks and other public nature events
- Help us to spread the word
- Ideas on future funding for the Meanwood Valley Ranger



ANY QUESTIONS?