



Newsletter, Winter 2024

Marking a milestone



As 2025 begins, I'm excited to share my first update as Project Lead for the corridor.

Over the past months, our team has been busy visiting, mapping, and registering farms, smallholdings, and community woodlands, working closely with land managers to understand their aims. The collective effort and energy for nature recovery are clear, and we are delighted to share that this week we surpassed our original goal of registering 20,000 hectares of land. This is a significant milestone for the project, but our ambition to create a connected corridor continues.

From Lewes to Climping, our **Scrubland Superheroes** sites are buzzing with activity. From scrub regeneration to fresh planting projects, collaboration with land managers is enhancing cuckoo and nightingale habitats and smoothing the path for the return of lost scrubland species, such as the red-backed shrike and black-veined white butterfly.

Beyond the field, we are collaborating with legal and finance teams to secure new funding and strengthen protections for nature-based solutions. We are proud to support the **Adur River Recovery project**, a flagship initiative under DEFRA's Landscape Recovery programme, bringing additional support to attract investment in natural flood management, carbon sequestration, and biodiversity enhancement.

This winter also marks the launch of our **100-Mile Classroom**: a bold plan for nature and food education across Sussex, which will bring young people out of their schools into wild spaces and onto farms for hands-on learning experiences.

These newsletters are not only an opportunity to share updates and stories but also a reminder that you are part of a broad, growing movement. Whether you are a member of the corridor, living or working across Sussex, or even connected through the far-reaching migratory routes spanning Europe, Africa, Asia, and the Middle East, you are part of this story. Together, we are building a legacy of stewardship and resilience that reaches well beyond our local landscapes.

Gareth Williams

Project Lead, Weald to Waves

Project News



Marking a Milestone

We have passed the remarkable milestone of registering over 20,500 hectares of land. This surpasses our original target and puts us on the map as one of the most significant landscape projects in the UK. Our next goal is to join the dots and fill the gaps so we have a ribbon of largely contiguous natural habitat for nature.

[Read about the next steps for connectivity](#)



**From Field to Lab: joined
up work for Sussex
scrubland**

The Scrubland Superheroes Project has been making fantastic progress in its mission to increase biodiversity along the corridor. [Learn more](#) about the scrubland strides across Sussex.

**Kingston Wildlife
Gardening Forum**



Working together for wildlife

We have **163 parish councils** along the corridor. Each is a valuable connection to our local communities and gateways to our greenspaces. Find out more about how **Kingston parish** is managing collaborative conservation.

[Read more](#)

Boosting biodiversity at Brooklands Park

Parks are community lifelines, providing us with a place to get closer to nature. Find out about how one park is becoming a vital stepping stone for wildlife providing a connection between land and waves.

[Find out more](#)

Stories from the corridor



Winter Birdwatching

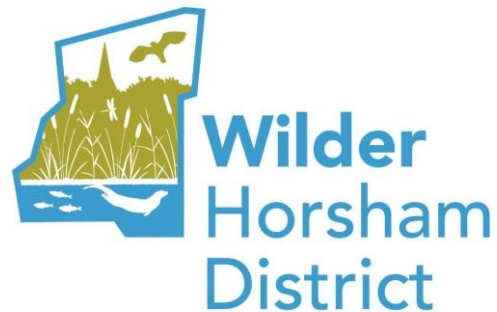
Could it be a Hawfinch Winter? Back in Autumn, ornithologist Matt Phelps told us about 'big years' for many of our bird species. As snow and ice bring our landscapes into sharp relief, grab your binoculars and find out what you might see flying around the corridor this winter.

[Read more](#)



Introducing the Buzz Club!

We have been excited to be chatting with the Buzz Club recently, a fantastic club of citizen scientists focussing on pollinators in our gardens. Read on to



Wilder Horsham District

A key partner of Weald to Waves, Wilder Horsham District, has been doing fantastic work, including supporting Scrubland Superheroes and the Adur River Recovery Project, creating habitat across the district. Find out more in their End of Year Report!

find out more and get involved in their projects.

[Find Out More](#)

[Read More](#)

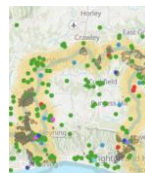
Coming up...

What to look out for in the coming months



BioBox Loan

New citizen science kits will be heading out to communities soon



Digital connections

New online Members Area launching to share training, knowledge and events



Connectivity Modelling

Modelling has begun to inform priority areas for investment in nature



100 Mile Classroom

Watch out for more info on this exciting collaboration for nature education



Winter Events

Catch us at the **Sussex Biological Recorders' Seminar**

Saturday, 15th February 2025 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM

Haywards Heath

Booking essential

Weald to Waves Events Calendar Launches

We are kicking off 2025 with a calendar of talks and events to inform and inspire our members with experts and case studies on nature recovery relevant to them.

Sign up to join corridor to find out more!

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