

Oxford Urban Wildlife Group

OUWG are a local community group of wildlife enthusiasts who manage Boundary Brook Nature Reserve as a vital wildlife oasis and public amenity.

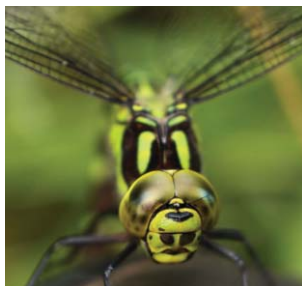
The group works with local partners and groups to fulfill their vision for the reserve as well as promote the creation and value of green spaces and sites of ecological importance. The group is passionate about providing inclusive opportunities for nature study and connection as well as skill sharing in nature conservation.



Get involved

Walks and talks

We hold a variety of events throughout the year from Wildflower Walks to Wildlife Talks, from Botanical Surveys to Art in Nature.



Southern Hawker dragonfly, *Aeshna cyanea*

Conservation volunteer work parties

For those who like to be active and enjoy being outdoors all year round, we hold regular weekly work parties at the reserve. You can learn useful conservation skills in a friendly atmosphere. Duke of Edinburgh volunteering, therapeutic and workplace volunteering can all be arranged.

Surveying

In order to know the value of habitats for wildlife, we carry out systematic surveys of the reserve and hold Species ID sessions. You can join in, no experience necessary.

Conservation skills training courses

We offer a range of seasonal training courses to learn conservation work skills such as hedgelaying and scything.

Schools

We offer Forest School activities on site and welcome school and other young people's groups to visit. Follow our **Connecting in Nature** project supported by the National Lottery Community Fund:



Sparrowhawk, *Accipiter nisus*

How you can join OUWG

Becoming a member is easy via our website.

Visit: www.ouwg.org.uk/membership/

Membership is £5 (individual), £8 (family/ household) per year, concessions are available. Come to one of our regular Thursday morning or weekend work parties, meet some of the team and become a member. We offer a range of seasonal events on site, free to members, as well as a newsletter.

Practical advice and projects

Oxford Urban Wildlife Group have created and maintain a nature reserve with a rich variety of habitats including woodland, pond and meadows. This exciting, award winning project provides opportunities for other groups to visit the site for inspiration and learning. We give advice on practical projects and wildlife queries.



Slow worm, *Anguis fragilis*

Wildlife gardening

We promote wildlife gardening through our demonstration wildlife garden at Boundary Brook and offer practical information and advice, in our newsletter and website, about projects in your gardens or green spaces. Get in touch with your questions.

Wellbeing in nature

As well as conservation work parties, we offer a range of other events to help people receive and understand the wellbeing benefit of nature including mindfulness, art, singing and poetry. If you would like visit as a group informally or book a team-building event please email us.

OUWG is grateful for support from:



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Peacock Butterfly, *Aglais io* on the Cornfield



Introducing Boundary Brook Nature Reserve

A vital wilderness helping East Oxford to discover our wildlife

The three acre reserve is a delicate mosaic of wildlife habitats featuring mixed native woodland, scrubland and hedges, beautiful freshwater habitats, grassland and a demonstration wildlife garden and Forest School.



Fox, *Vulpes vulpes*

Ragged Robin, *Silene flos-cuculi*



Boundary Brook Nature Reserve has been leased by Oxford Urban Wildlife Group from Oxford City Council since 1990.

This passionate group manage the vibrant wildlife haven and community space, once disused allotment land, in the heart of East Oxford.

Email: info@ouwg.org.uk

Twitter: [@bybrookox](https://twitter.com/bybrookox)

Facebook: [ByBrookOx](https://www.facebook.com/ByBrookOx)

Insta: [@boundarybrook](https://www.instagram.com/boundarybrook)

Website: www.ouwg.org.uk



42 Boundary Brook Road, Oxford OX4 4AN
Corner of the cycle track by Larkrise Primary School

Welcome to Boundary Brook Nature Reserve

Oxfordshire's wildlife

With the mounting pressure on our countryside, urban areas are becoming important havens for wildlife. In cities and towns all over the country people are increasingly aware of the wildlife to be found on their doorstep.

Alongside over a million acres of gardens, window boxes and planters in Britain, hundreds of thousands of acres of parks and green spaces exist in urban areas. With thought and sympathetic use, many of these have potential to become havens for all kinds of wildlife and be joined up to create vital green corridors.

Oxford Urban Wildlife Group continues to support biodiversity and to conserve Boundary Brook Nature Reserve as a sanctuary for several endangered species, e.g., the brown hairstreak butterfly *Thecla betulae*, the slow-worm *Anguis fragili*, and more recently the greater water-parsnip *Sium latifolium*.

The reserve won an Oxfordshire Special Conservation Award in 1991 and designation as a Site of Nature Conservation Interest as a haven for once common birds and butterflies in an area where there is little wildlife habitat and food sources have declined. In 2022 the reserve won an Oxford Preservation Trust Award for its Ponds, Glades and Woodlands Project funded by TOE.

Please respect the wildlife

This is their home. Try to be quiet, stay on the paths, keep dogs on a lead, close gates and don't leave litter.

Thanks.

"There is indeed a fire burning over the earth, taking with it plants and animals, cultures, languages, ancient skills and visionary wisdom. Quelling this flame, and re-inventing the poetry of diversity is perhaps the most important challenge of our times." ~ Wade Davis



For more information about the birds, plants, animals, insects and reptiles that live here please visit our website:

www.OUWG.org.uk



Photos overleaf by Helen Edwards
except photo of Dragonfly by Stephen Burch

