

News from Friends of The Hook Nature Reserve



- How did 'The Hook' get its name?
- What did it look like before it became a nature reserve?
- What wildlife can be spotted on the nature reserve?

You can find out the answers to these questions on the excellent new information boards at the Holme Grove, Mona Rd and Melbourne Rd entrance to The Hook. Each board is slightly different. Many thanks to FrOTH volunteer Roger Ibbett who researched, designed and secured funding for the information boards.

Butterfly survey



A team of volunteers has carried out a weekly survey of butterflies on The Hook, walking the same route, or transect. 19 species have been recorded, with over 1000 butterflies observed and identified. Recently we have been seeing large numbers of Gatekeeper, Meadow Brown and Small White. There have also been good numbers of Orange Tip, Holly

Blue, Red Admiral, Speckled Wood, Essex Skipper, Ringlet, Large White and Comma. The other species seen, in smaller numbers are Green Veined White, Small Copper, Small and Large Skipper, Small Tortoiseshell, Common Blue and Brimstone. We are sure that the programme of work to increase the number and species of wildflowers has helped to increase the totals.

Dave Pratt

Conservation Action



***Come and join in caring for the reserve on the first Sunday of the month.
Meet 2pm at the Mona Road entrance.***

- | | |
|---------------------------------|--|
| Sunday November 5 th | Seed sowing, clearing around trees |
| Sunday December 3 rd | Tree planting, clearing around trees, spreading mulch |
| Sunday January 7 th | Looking after orchard, spreading woodchip around trees |

Birds of The Hook

Lady Bay Birdwatchers have continued their excellent programme of weekly walks around The Hook, observing and recording the birds. Over the years they have recorded a total of 87 species on the reserve. The creation of undisturbed areas has really helped the numbers of breeding birds. Read the full report to find out the tremendous list of species.

Newsletter

Friends of The Hook produces a monthly email newsletter with information on what's happening on the reserve. If you'd like to receive a copy contact friendsofthehook@gmail.com

Jane Browne

Secretary Friends of The Hook