

## December Newsletter 2018

### Season's Greetings

We'd like to say thank you to everyone who's supported us over the last year including our partners and volunteers to help look after this amazing landscape.

It's been a busy year and here are some of our highlights.



### Successful launch of mountain biking trails as final route installation gets underway

Two of the three planned mountain biking trails have been launched on the Malvern Hills.

The final 'Long Route' which circumnavigates the northern and central hills from North Quarry car park to Black Hill will be installed early in the New Year.

Signposted routes for cycling visitors have been installed as part of the Malverns by Mountain Bike project.

Used in conjunction with the free walking and cycling maps and guide, the routes provide information on cycling access in this shared landscape.

[Read more](#)



### Access for horse riders improved thanks to habitat works

The winter time is one of the busiest for the Trust staff as the open habitat restoration work takes place.

Field Staff and contractors are clearing trees and scrub in carefully selected areas which includes an area of Castlemorton Common which has improved access for horse riders.

[Read more](#)



## Thank you to our wonderful volunteers

Another year has passed and our volunteers have shown their dedication and determination in helping to care for this landscape.

Teams in the office and out on the Hills have been clearing views in front of benches, coppicing hazel and helping to file our extensive archives.

[Volunteer](#)



## Take a peek into 'The Nature of the Malverns'

A brand new exhibition along Church Walk provides a fantastic insight into 'The Nature of the Malverns' book.

Filled with spectacular images and information, this is the first publication to compile all the natural aspects of this special landscape.

Copies of the book can be purchased from a number of local independent book stores and online from Nature Bureau.

[Read more](#)

THE NATURE OF THE  
**MALVERNS**  
an ancient landscape steeped in wildlife

Images from the first ever book to cover all aspects of the natural history of the Malverns



All three UK species of newt are found on the Malvern Hills and surrounding countryside. The Great Crested Newt is the largest, up to 17cm long and is a European Protected Species. The newts, their eggs, breeding sites and resting places are all protected by law under Schedule 5 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, Section 9 (1).

Available at Malvern Book Co. op, Malvern TIC, Ludbury Works and Maps and Three Counties Book Shop

malvern hills  
Malvern Hills Trust

## Support our work through gifting this Christmas

Following the closure of our memorial bench scheme we have now launched three new projects for those wishing to support our work and remember loved ones.

Projects include tree planting opportunities, benches in the Community Woodland and providing information for visitors who come to explore the Hills.

More information on each of the projects and how you can help can be found on the link below.

[Read more](#)



## Legacy improves access for disabled visitors

Thanks to a legacy to the Malvern Hills Trust, we have carried out path improvements to the Lady Howard DeWalden Drive to open a route that was once impassable on a Trampler.

The opening of this route was celebrated with an outing with the Disabled Ramblers!

[Read more](#)



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## News in brief

- **Office closures** - The offices will be closed from 4pm on Friday 21st December for the Christmas period and will reopen at 9am on Wednesday 2nd January. Wardens will still be available on the office number 01684 892002 in case of emergency.
- **Land Acquisitions** - Three further pieces of the Hills and Commons landscape totalling 3 hectares have been acquired to ensure their protection into the future and includes increased open access land for the public.
- **Charity Commission Scheme** - work is still underway to update our 130 year old Acts to allow our charity to work effectively in the 21st Century. A public consultation on the proposed changes is due to take place in 2019.
- **Livestock return to Northern Hills** - Sheep and cattle will be returning to graze the Northern Hills in the New Year. Check out [Stockwatch](#) each week to find out where they'll be or [sign up](#) to receive updates.
- **Tree safety work** - Following our annual tree safety survey, recommended work to roadside trees and trees near to properties will be undertaken in January and February 2019.
- **Community Woodland Improvements** - We've got plans to improve access in the Community Woodland along Townsend Way which we hope to start in the New Year. More information will follow!

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