



## Roborough Rewilders Newsletter

Registered Charity No. 1203077

[www.roboroughrewilders.org](http://www.roboroughrewilders.org)

**Welcome** to our twelfth newsletter. As it is a bit of a landmark (for reasons you will see below) we thought we would treat you to a “scrapbook page” of highlights from the past four years.



Our kestrels raised 5 chicks in the second year the box went up.



Chick on a stick!



We have large numbers of grass snakes living in the fields, some of them up to around a metre long!



Both Common lizards and stoats took up residence in our brash/woodpiles and produced young.



We have run 3 open days at the fields including for the Devon Wildlife Trust and the Devon Rewilding Network. More are scheduled for later this year.



We were visited by a Hobby in July 2023. This stunning falcon will have been hunting the large numbers of dragonflies breeding in our 16 ponds.



## The Flying Dormouse

Nick and Annie are now safely living on the Somerset/Devon border so no more 600 mile journeys from Edinburgh to look after the project. To celebrate, we have put the Roborough Rewilders logo on our van and The Flying Dormouse can now be seen in the lanes of Somerset and Devon.



## Species Numbers

The species numbers in the the two fields continues to climb. From a baseline of 150 we are now up to **559!**

The success of the project has enabled us to take the message of environmental restoration out to other people via talks and visits to landowners.

## The Future

Roborough Rewilders is now a charity with four trustees, and our plan is to buy more land and spread the environmental word. If we can buy an area of field, we will be able to link up with two other “green” landowners and have over 100 acres managed in a way that is positive for wildlife.

We are now applying for grants in order to raise funds for this and for the running costs of the charity and the work needed on the fields.



## 559 vs 0

One of our fields is shown in the foreground, currently being grazed and browsed by some of local farmer, Neil's, beautiful Red Devon cattle. In the background are two fields which are planted with grass for sheep. You can see the contrast and the potential for biodiversity in our fields as opposed to very little in the sheep fields.



## THE NEWSLETTER

Sadly this will have to be the last “free” newsletter we can send out to our friends and supporters. We have set up a KoFi membership scheme for the charity so that people can carry on supporting us and carry on receiving updates on the project via newsletters.

You can join either as a Goshawk or as an Otter!

Goshawk membership is £60 per year and will mean you continue to receive our newsletter plus regular photo and news updates. There will also be an invite to the annual Roborough Rewilders get-together in the fields.

Otters pay £120 per year and, as well as receiving the newsletter, updates and invitation, can also ask Nick for a personalised tour of the project.

To join, please go to our website at [www.roboroughrewilders.org](http://www.roboroughrewilders.org) You can pay by PayPal or Stripe and if you're a UK taxpayer, please complete the Gift Aid form you'll find there as it will allow us to claim an extra 25% of your subscription **at no cost to you**.

You have all been critical to us managing to make a success of the project. Many of you donated to the project early on, for which we are extremely grateful and helped to get the project off the ground, and we feel bad about having to stop sending out the free newsletter but as the charity grows, we can't keep paying for it all out of our own pockets - they just aren't deep enough!

So do please become a Goshawk or an Otter!

You can also follow the project through the following social media links:

- YouTube: <https://bit.ly/4ejW3Qs>
- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/roboroughrewilders>
- Twitter / X: <https://twitter.com/RewildRoborough>
- Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/roboroughrewilders>

Best regards,

*Nick and Annie*

<http://www.clarksonwoods.co.uk/>

<https://knepp.co.uk/home>

<https://devonartist.co.uk/>

Photos courtesy of Annie Bengé, Jo Everitt and  
Paul Hopkinson aka The Devon Artist <https://devonartist.co.uk/>