



Roborough Rewilders Newsletter

Registered Charity No. 1203077

www.roboroughrewilders.org

summer update

Shows

This summer Nick took the Roborough Rewilders tent to 5 shows where he once again made good contacts and spread the rewilding word.



Further Spreading of the word!

Via the printed word

Nick has also been contributing articles to the Distinctly Winkleigh magazine! "What's that?" you cry. Well, it's a quarterly magazine produced by the Winkleigh Society. (Winkleigh is a lovely little town near Roborough and the publication is distributed widely within the area.) He has written two articles so far, and now has a regular slot. His first article was about the setting up and the work of Roborough Rewilders. His second article is reproduced on p3.

and ...

Via spoken word

He also has a monthly slot on 10 Radio, a local radio station, which takes the form of an interview about the work of Roborough Rewilders and wilding in general. Again, he has done two interviews so far, and now has a regular slot.

and ...

Via Visits

Nick has been to see several landowners at their request to give advice about rewilding part of their land. In some cases the landowners want him to do or organise the work as well, in which case he may have to hire in machinery, labour etc. which is charged to the landowner. Roborough Rewilders charges a fee for Nick's supervision of the job. This way rewilding on the ground gets done, and RR receives a small amount of money to add to its coffers.

And while talking of funds may I take this opportunity to thank our small band of loyal supporters who signed up via our website to contribute £5 per month as a Goshawk or £10 per month as an Otter. This monthly streams of funds has made a tremendous difference to what we can do, including, for example, pay the fees to attend the summer round of shows. Our dream of buying more land to rewild has not come to fruition, but we realised that we don't have to own the land to rewild it. We can just encourage and help other people to rewild theirs!

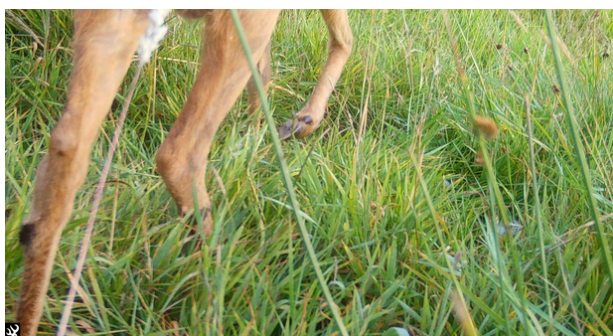
The Cattle are back!

Local farmer, Neil's, beautiful Red Devon cattle are back in the Roborough fields. This time, 12 of them are happily munching, browsing and grazing their way around our rewilded fields which stayed green, unlike most of the pastures in the South-West which became parched and yellow over the long, hot summer. We opened up all of the areas to accommodate 3 more animals. It's good for Neil's cattle and it's good for the fields too as the animals munch up the brambles which otherwise would grow out of control. Win-win!



Caught on Camera

Some visitors caught on the trail camera in Roborough Fields this summer:



An Oak

There is an oak at the bottom of my garden. I am looking at it in between writing these words, It is a deep, dark green. Its toes are dipped into the bed of the stream that still just about trickles past it. Squirrels run along its outstretched arms, which are home to small birds and a myriad of insects. Jays take its acorns in the autumn and a small forest of baby oaks is springing up nearby as a result of the jays pushing them into the long grass. Occasionally a buzzard planes in to sit on a lower branch and survey the ground for voles.

Beneath the canopy the shade is cool. The grass is green, not parched and brown as it is in the sheep pasture on the other side of the valley. If there were cattle in my back garden, they could browse on its branches and loll about in the cool under the big oak. Its dense foliage is diffusing water out into the air. It is cooling its local environment. In windy weather house martins and swallows hunt in the lee of the tree where insects accumulate in the still air. At night a tawny owl sits in it and bats hunt around it. Its fallen branches provide me with fuel for my log burner, and as I look south into the valley, it is billowing block of green and shade in this too bright, hot summer.

We need more oaks like this to help cool our environment; to resist the winds and to shade us and the animals we live with. We need to stop draining our land, flailing our hedgerows and compacting our soils. Plant more oaks and let them bring all these benefits to you, your children and your grandchildren.

Nick, Summer 2026

Article for Distinctly Winkleigh



Best regards,

*Annie - Editor
and the Trusstees*

Cattle photo courtesy of Paul Hopkinson
aka The Devon Artist <https://devonartist.co.uk/>

