




# HEREFORDSHIRE WILDLIFE TRUST: Funding needs


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<b>Project name:</b>	<b>Lugg Wetland Gem</b>
<b>Location:</b>	Bodenham Lake Nature Reserve
<b>Cost:</b>	£4,000 p. a.
<b>Timescales:</b>	Support costs required annually
<b>Description:</b>	<p>Bodenham Lake is at the heart of the local community with nearly 100 volunteers helping to conserve and monitor wildlife at the Lake.</p> <p>Volunteers help with a wide range of tasks from helping toads across the road, recording elusive species using trail cameras, planting reedbeds, surveying grass snakes, engaging with the public and managing vegetation.</p> <p>We seek to raise funds to support this volunteer project not only for the benefits to wildlife but also the significant benefits the project has demonstrated on volunteer health and wellbeing.</p> <p>£4,000 would support the volunteer group for 1 year.</p>
<b>Supporting pictures etc</b>	<p><i>I have thoroughly enjoyed getting involved with many aspects of the project. It was a great excuse to get exercise, meet new people and enjoy our wonderful countryside</i></p> 


<b>Project name:</b>	<b>Conserving the River Lugg: Farm conservation plans</b>
<b>Location:</b>	Any farmland in the River Lugg catchment
<b>Cost:</b>	£1,500 per advisory visit and plan
<b>Timescales:</b>	ongoing
<b>Description:</b>	<p>Herefordshire Wildlife Trust is working closely with farms in the Lugg catchment to improve water quality and wildlife in the River Lugg.</p> <p>The River Lugg is a Site of Special Scientific Interest, and in the lower reaches is also a Special Area of Conservation. These are UK and EU designations acknowledging the special qualities of the river for wildlife. Unfortunately, changing farm practises in the catchment, including ploughing up of floodplain meadows and intensive management of floodplain land has led to soil runoff and elevated levels of phosphate on the river. This has devastating impacts on a range of river wildlife including smothering the beds of water crowfoot, silting up the spawning beds for salmon and trout, reducing oxygen levels for fish and invertebrates and changing the water chemistry.</p> <p>Herefordshire Wildlife Trust now deploys a farm advisor to deliver a programme of one to one farm visits, with grant support to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• promote resource protection;</li> <li>• reduce diffuse water pollution from agriculture;</li> <li>• improve river bank habitats; and</li> <li>• provide guidance and assistance to landowners who want to enter Countryside Stewardship.</li> </ul> <p>In due course, we hope to expand this work into other catchments.</p>
<b>Supporting pictures etc</b>	<p>Farm conservation plans combine measures to limit the impacts of agriculture on water quality, with positive measures for wildlife</p> 

<b>Project name:</b>	<b>Bodenham Lake: Accessible bird hide</b>
<b>Location:</b>	Bodenham Lake Nature Reserve
<b>Funding gap:</b>	£25k
<b>Timescales:</b>	As soon as possible
<b>Description:</b>	<p>Herefordshire Wildlife Trust want to install a hide suitable for use by those with mobility issues, at the eastern end of Bodenham Lake Nature Reserves. HWT has been managing Bodenham Lake to improve the lake margins, spits and islands for wildlife. Our new hide on the southern edge of the lake, and the hide on the north bank, are too far from the car park, over difficult terrain, so this new hide will be close to the carpark with wheelchair accessible paths. The design will include a lowered bay window to enable wheel chair users to look out onto the newly created reedbed at Bodenham lake.</p> <p>The Herefordshire countryside is largely inaccessible for people with limited mobility. Installing a new accessible bird hide at Bodenham Lake will allow people of all ages to enjoy watching wildlife.</p>
<b>Supporting pictures etc</b>	<p>The new hide on the south bank is too difficult for those with limited mobility to access</p> 


<b>Project name:</b>	<b>Greener Generation appeal</b>
<b>Location:</b>	Across the county
<b>Funding gap:</b>	£5k (approx. £300 per session)
<b>Timescales:</b>	As soon as possible
<b>Description:</b>	<p>In the last 4 generations, children have become increasingly disconnected from the outdoors and wildlife.</p> <p>Herefordshire Wildlife Trust is keen to ensure that we grow a new generation of young people interested in conservation and able to pick up the batten when we need to hand it over. We do this by engaging children in interactive environmental education sessions including activities such as bug hunting, pond dipping, bird watching, animal tracking etc.</p> <p>We are seeking funding for environmental sessions for youngsters aged 5-11, 10 on our Reserves and 6 at festivals and events around the county. £5k covers all the costs of trained, professional staff to prepare and deliver sessions and all the equipment needed</p>
<b>Supporting pictures etc</b>	<p>Engaging children in the outdoors helps them connect with and care for nature</p>  <p>The image shows a group of approximately 12 children and one adult standing in a grassy field. They are gathered around a wooden structure labeled 'BUGHotel' which is filled with straw and various nesting materials. Several children are holding small insects, likely as part of a bug-hunting activity. The children are dressed in outdoor clothing, including jackets and boots, suggesting a cool day. The background consists of lush green trees and foliage.</p>


<b>Project name:</b>	<b>'Tree bog' at Queenswood Orchard (and elsewhere)</b>
<b>Location:</b>	Queenswood orchard and possibly on our flagship Nature Reserves
<b>Cost:</b>	£2,500
<b>Timescales:</b>	asap
<b>Description:</b>	<p>The Orchard at Queenswood is a secluded space mainly reserved for quiet contemplation of nature and wildlife. It includes the Reading seat, our Wellbeing Garden and now the Yurt. We would like to provide toilet facilities in the orchard, particularly for people hiring or using the Yurt.</p> <p>There is also a need for composting toilet facilities at other Nature Reserves around the county.</p> <p>We are proposing to install tree bogs – a type of composting toilet on stilts. Most composting toilets involve a drop into a hole, which can become waterlogged and smelly. These work on the principle that the waste drops onto the ground (behind woven or straw based modesty screens) and the through flow of air keeps the toilet dry and allows aerobic breakdown and natural recycling of the waste. The example below has been in use on a community site for over 5 years and has not yet required emptying.</p> <p>The tree bog can be built by volunteers, but funding is required to buy materials and pay for the project co-ordinator on the day.</p>
<b>Supporting pictures etc</b>	<p>Tree Bog at a community allotment and orchard</p> 


<b>Project name:</b>	<b>Nature Reserve signage</b>
<b>Location:</b>	Across the county
<b>Cost:</b>	£1,500 per large sign
<b>Timescales:</b>	ongoing
<b>Description:</b>	<p>Herefordshire Wildlife Trust is refreshing the Nature Reserve signs right across the county, to provide more information about each reserve and its wildlife and help people to get the most out of their visit.</p> <p>We need to prepare the text and art work, design and produce the signs and then install them on site, at a cost of approx. £1,000 each. We also need funds for smaller directional signs etc around the Reserves.</p> <p>Many of our Reserves still have the old Hereford Nature Trust signs, and we are currently part way through upgrading these.</p> <p>Potential funders can nominate a Reserve, or set of Reserves of their choice, but we are currently working on the signs for the Woolhope dome.</p>
<b>Supporting pictures etc</b>	<p>Example of our new signs at White Rocks Nature Reserves</p>  <p>The image shows two new nature reserve signs. The sign on the left is titled 'White Rocks Nature Reserve' and features a map of the reserve, a list of species, and a photograph of a bird. The sign on the right is titled 'The Doward to Coppett Hill - a Living Landscape' and also features a map, a list of species, and a photograph of a butterfly. Both signs are mounted on wooden posts and are set in a natural, wooded environment.</p>


<b>Project name:</b>	<b>Electric tools for our Reserves volunteers</b>
<b>Location:</b>	Across the county
<b>Cost:</b>	New electric chainsaw with rechargeable battery and charger £550 New electric brush cutter with rechargeable battery and charger £650
<b>Timescales:</b>	ongoing
<b>Description:</b>	<p>Herefordshire Wildlife Trust manages 55 Nature Reserves, 2/3 of which are woodlands, whilst most of the rest are grasslands. Much of the work on the reserves is carried out by our volunteer work parties, who enjoy getting out on the reserves making a difference by managing the scrub, clearing woodland glades, coppicing and edging. Hence much of our equipment, such as chainsaws and brushcutters, is in constant use.</p> <p>HWT want to replace our old petrol driven equipment with state-of-the-art electric kit. This has the benefits of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Helping us to meet our sustainability targets, especially as we have solar panels on our workshops to recharge the batteries</li> <li>• Being safer for volunteers to use (due to lower vibration levels)</li> <li>• Being more pleasant for the volunteers (as it is less noisy)</li> <li>• Making our volunteers feel better valued!</li> <li>• Reducing our running costs</li> </ul> <p>We are hoping to buy a full set of new kit in the near future but will be looking to make sure that we replace them regularly as they are in constant use.</p>
<b>Supporting pictures etc</b>	<p>Electric chainsaw with rechargeable battery</p>  <p>The image shows a Husqvarna electric chainsaw with a black and orange body and a silver chain. Next to it is a black Husqvarna battery pack with yellow and red accents, and a black Husqvarna charger with a power cord and a charging cable.</p>




<b>Project name:</b>	<b>Saving Herefordshire's Ice Age Ponds</b>
<b>Location:</b>	North west Herefordshire (in the area previously covered by glaciers in the Ice Age)
<b>Funding gap:</b>	£17,000
<b>Timescales:</b>	ongoing
<b>Description:</b>	<p>Herefordshire Wildlife Trust, working with Herefordshire Amphibian and Reptile Team and Herefordshire and Worcestershire Earth Heritage Trust, are developing a project to save Herefordshire's Ice Age Ponds.</p> <p>Over 20,000 years ago, when mammoths and other large animals roamed the countryside, retreating glaciers left behind huge chunks of ice. As the glaciers melted further, the sand and gravel they released built up around the ice chunks. When the ice chunks finally melted, they left depressions, known as kettle holes, which went on to become ponds. These ponds are home to rare and scarce wildlife which has survived in these sites for over 20,000 years.</p> <p>These ponds were widely scattered across the landscape of North West Herefordshire, but many of them have grown over or been filled in. Our project will relocate the ponds, recruit and train volunteers to find out what wildlife survives in them and work with landowners to manage them better. We will also work with local communities and schools to raise awareness of the importance of these ponds.</p> <p>We scoped the work required with a development grant from Heritage Lottery, which finished in August and are now awaiting the outcome of our Phase 2 bid. We are asking for £250k to deliver the project but need to find match funding of £17k.</p>
<b>Supporting pictures etc</b>	<p>Ice age ponds are vulnerable to being filled in:</p> 


<b>Project name:</b>	<b>Nature Reserve Fencing at Tretawdy and elsewhere</b>
<b>Location:</b>	Across the county
<b>Cost:</b>	Approx. £7.50m
<b>Timescales:</b>	ongoing
<b>Description:</b>	<p>We have an ongoing programme of fencing around our Nature Reserves:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• to keep them stock proof so that we can carry out conservation grazing</li> <li>• to protect recently coppiced plots from deer grazing</li> <li>• to establish our ownership boundaries</li> <li>• to replace any worn out fencing</li> <li>• To make sure the fences are safe for public and wildlife on the reserves</li> </ul> <p>Potential funders can nominate a Reserve, or set of Reserves of their choice, for their donation or support but we are currently working on complete refencing of our recently acquired reserve at Tretawdy. This is likely to cost in the region of £25,000, which gives an idea of the ongoing cost of keeping our fences in good and safe condition.</p>
<b>Supporting pictures etc</b>	<p>Fencing at Quebb Meadow</p> 


<b>Project name:</b>	<b>Fruit tree planting</b>
<b>Location:</b>	Across the county
<b>Cost:</b>	Approx. £70 per tree
<b>Timescales:</b>	ongoing
<b>Description:</b>	<p>Herefordshire Wildlife Trust wants to revive our traditional orchards by planting new generations of fruit trees to succeed the old trees as they collapse.</p> <p>Orchard trees are fabulous for a whole range of wildlife and because they become 'old' at a relatively young age, they are particularly good for creatures that depend on old dead wood. These range from woodpeckers drumming and excavating nest holes, through Mistletoe tortrix moth living in the mistletoe to noble chafer beetles and other invertebrates living in the dead wood.</p> <p>Sadly, many of Herefordshire's traditional orchards are of advanced age, and many of the trees are collapsing and dying. HWT wants to replace these trees with new generations of trees.</p> <p>HWT manages 8 orchards across our Nature Reserves, including the extensive orchards at Bodenham Lake. We also work with approx. 130 owners of private orchards.</p> <p>Orchard trees cost about £70 each with stakes, rabbit guards and ties, or approximately £170 if they require protection from sheep or cattle.</p> <p>Why not fund our new trees as part of your carbon offsetting plan? Potential donors can nominate an orchard or orchards of their choice for their donation.</p>
<b>Supporting pictures etc</b>	<p>Replacement trees in a traditional orchard</p> 

<b>Project name:</b>	<b>Fruit tree pruning</b>
<b>Location:</b>	Across the county
<b>Cost:</b>	Approx. £70 per tree
<b>Timescales:</b>	ongoing
<b>Description:</b>	<p>Herefordshire Wildlife Trust wants to protect our traditional orchards by restorative pruning of old trees to prevent them from collapse.</p> <p>Orchard trees are fabulous for a whole range of wildlife and because they become 'old' at a relatively young age, they are particularly good for creatures that depend on old dead wood. These range from woodpeckers drumming and excavating nest holes, through Mistletoe tortrix moth living in the mistletoe to noble chafer beetles and other invertebrates living in the dead wood.</p> <p>Sadly, many of Herefordshire's traditional orchards are of advanced age, and as they are no longer of commercial value are not being managed effectively. Many of the older trees need restorative pruning to take out heavy loads of mistletoe and rebalance the trees, to prolong their lifespan.</p> <p>HWT manages 8 orchards across our Nature Reserves, including the extensive orchards at Bodenham Lake. We also work with approx. 130 owners of private orchards.</p> <p>Potential donors can nominate an orchard or orchards of their choice for their donation.</p>
<b>Supporting pictures etc</b>	<p>Pruning in traditional orchards</p>  <p>A photograph showing two men in black t-shirts working in an orchard. One man is using a long-handled pruning tool to reach into the branches of a tree. The other man is standing next to him, looking up at the tree. The background is filled with green foliage and tree branches.</p>

<b>Project name:</b>	<b>Hedge laying at the Birches and elsewhere</b>
<b>Location:</b>	Across the county
<b>Cost:</b>	Approx. £10 per metre
<b>Timescales:</b>	ongoing
<b>Description:</b>	<p>Herefordshire Wildlife Trust wants to look after our traditional hedgerows by keeping alive the historic technique of hedge laying on our reserves. This technique creates a thick stock proof boundary, whilst regenerating the hedgerow and creates hedges that are particularly good for a range of wildlife.</p> <p>We have an ongoing programme of hedge laying around our Nature Reserves. We do some of this with our volunteers but need to use contractors for longer sections of hedge. The average cost of this is £10 per metre.</p> <p>Potential funders can nominate a Reserve, or set of Reserves of their choice, for their donation or support, but we are currently working on complete hedge laying at The Birches Nature Reserve. This currently requires 100m of hedge and so will cost approx. £1,000.</p>
<b>Supporting pictures etc</b>	<p>Hedge laying at The Birches</p>  <p>A photograph showing two individuals engaged in hedge laying. They are standing in a field, surrounded by a large pile of cut branches and brush. One person is actively working with the branches, while the other stands nearby. The background shows a line of trees and a clear sky.</p>


<b>Project name:</b>	<b>Furnishing our new building at the Birches</b>
<b>Location:</b>	The Birches Nature Reserve
<b>Cost:</b>	Up to £10,000
<b>Timescales:</b>	asap
<b>Description:</b>	<p>Herefordshire Wildlife Trust has built a lovely new building to replace the derelict Threshing Barn at the Birches. This is now complete and boasts a large meeting room with a kitchen area, a tool store and a toilet. We will be using this for HWT activities and events, but also hiring this out to gain some income for the Trust.</p> <p>At present, we have furnished this rather sparsely using scruffy spares from Queenswood, but we would like to furnish it with nice new furniture including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stacking chairs and folding tables</li> <li>• An overhead projector unit and screen</li> <li>• Kitchen hardware</li> </ul> <p>Any funding towards this will be much appreciated.</p>
<b>Supporting pictures etc</b>	<p>Our brand-new building at The Birches</p> 


<b>Project name:</b>	<b>Vegetation clearance on the Doward (&amp; elsewhere)</b>
<b>Location:</b>	Across the county
<b>Cost:</b>	Approx. £250 per skip
<b>Timescales:</b>	ongoing
<b>Description:</b>	<p>Herefordshire Wildlife Trust looks after a lot of grassland sites which are too small or inaccessible to manage by grazing. These are often mown by our volunteers, who rake the cuttings into piles to prevent the cut vegetation from smothering the meadow.</p> <p>However, these successive piles of cut vegetation are reducing the size of some of our meadows, so ideally, we would like to remove the cuttings from the site. Unfortunately, the nearest recycling site for disposal of green waste is in Pershore, so the best option for HWT is to order a skip to get the cuttings removed off site. Each skip costs £250.</p>
<b>Supporting pictures etc</b>	<p>Hay raking and vegetation piles on a Reserve</p> 


<b>Project name:</b>	<b>Wildflower Meadow enhancements</b>
<b>Location:</b>	Across the county
<b>Cost:</b>	Approx. £650 per hectare (£250 per acre)
<b>Timescales:</b>	ongoing
<b>Description:</b>	<p>Herefordshire Wildlife Trust has some excellent wildflower meadows and are keen to use seed and green hay harvested from these to enhance some sites of lower diversity.</p> <p>We have now repaired our seed harvester and we carried out trials of seeding and green hay strewing over the summer of 2019. We would like to continue this work in future years, using seed and hay from various sites including The Birches, parts of the Lugg Meadows and The Sturts.</p> <p>Potential recipient sites include: Lugg Meadows, Hampton Meadow, parts of the Birches, Bodenham Lake orchards, Stockings Meadow etc.</p>
<b>Supporting pictures etc</b>	<p>Harvesting wildflower seed from a Herefordshire meadow</p>  <p>The photograph shows a man in a light-colored shirt and trousers operating a red tractor in a grassy meadow. The tractor is pulling a red seed harvester attachment. The background features a line of trees under a bright sky.</p>

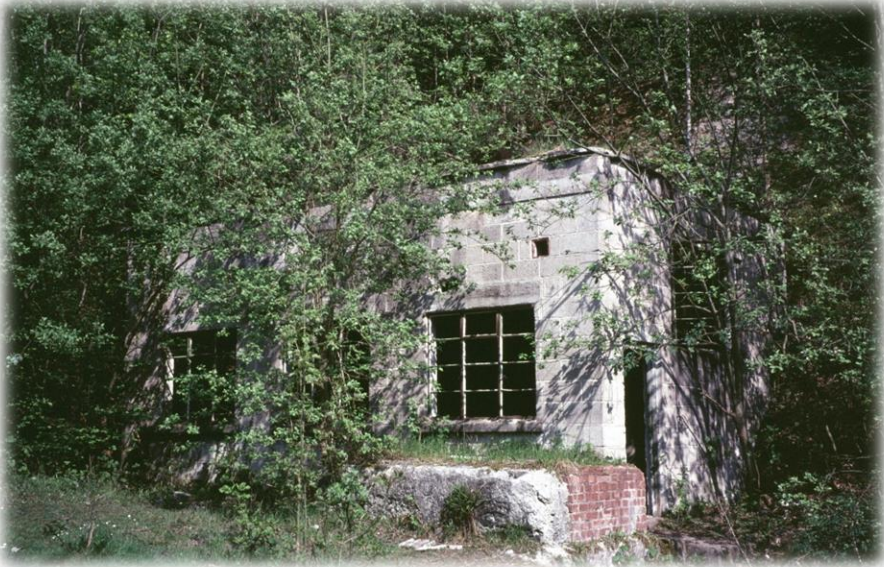





<b>Project name:</b>	<b>Water supply at Parky Meadow</b>
<b>Location:</b>	Parky Meadow Nature Reserve
<b>Cost:</b>	Approx. £3,750
<b>Timescales:</b>	asap
<b>Description:</b>	<p>Herefordshire Wildlife Trust has a beautiful set of water meadows at our Parky Meadow Nature Reserve up near Wigmore. We want to re-introduce conservation grazing to the site but can't do this until we have installed a water supply for the animals.</p> <p>To do this we need to arrange water connection and install water pipework and drinking troughs.</p>
<b>Supporting pictures etc</b>	<p>Parky Meadow Nature Reserve</p> 


<b>Project name:</b>	<b>Dock control</b>
<b>Location:</b>	Lugg and Hampton Meadows
<b>Cost:</b>	Approx. £1,000 pa
<b>Timescales:</b>	Later summer annually
<b>Description:</b>	<p>Herefordshire Wildlife Trust has a beautiful set of Lammas and water meadows in the floodplain of the River Lugg. These Reserves flood annually over the winter, however in 2017 the flood water lay on site until late April and created a lot of bare ground which was subsequently colonised by docks.</p> <p>We will be carrying out remedial work over the next few years to try to reduce the density of docks.</p>
<b>Supporting pictures etc</b>	<p>Flooding on Hampton Meadow</p> 

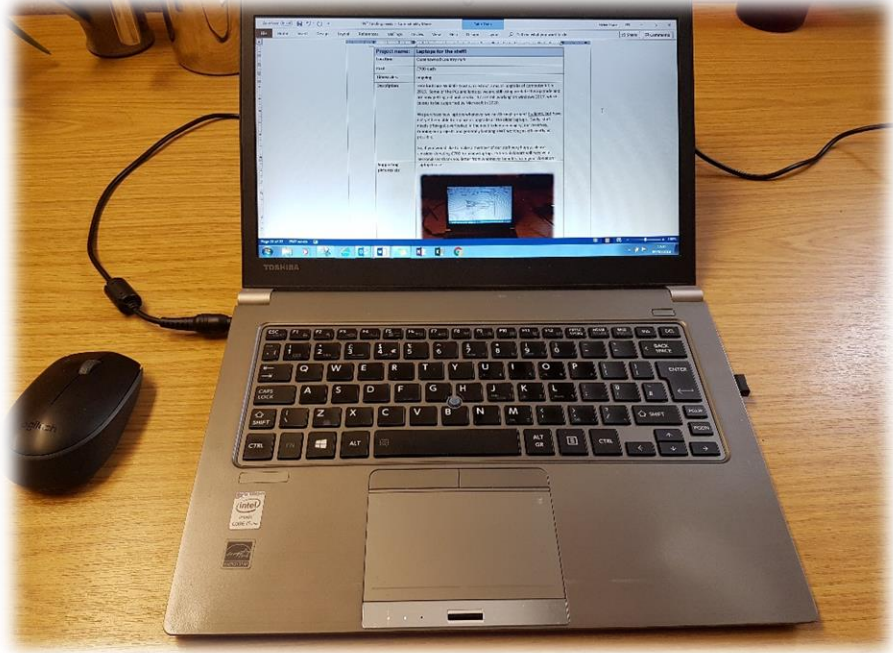
<b>Project name:</b>	<b>Deer fencing around coppice coupes</b>
<b>Location:</b>	Various sites
<b>Cost:</b>	Material costs approx. £300 per 100m
<b>Timescales:</b>	Annually
<b>Description:</b>	<p>Many of Herefordshire Wildlife Trust's reserves are Ancient Semi-Natural Woodlands which were traditionally managed as 'coppice with standards'. The coppice areas, usually stands of hazel and other under shrubs, were cut on a 15-25 year cycle to provide firewood, bark for tanning and a range of coppice products and then allowed to regrow from the coppice stools to keep the cycle going. The standards were grown on to maturity to provide timber for houses and ship building. This created a continuous supply of sunny glades which were great for early spring flowers, butterflies, dormice and other woodland wildlife.</p> <p>HWT is maintaining this cycle of coppicing, wherever possible using volunteers. However, deer number in our woodlands have increased to the extent that in many areas the regrowth from the coppice stools is grazed out by the deer. To prevent this, and keep the coppice going, we need to install deer fencing around newly cut coupes.</p> <p>We aim to cut annual coppice coupes at many of our Reserves including Lea and Paget's Wood, Leeping Stocks, Upper Swingley etc, and need funds every year to purchase and install the deer fencing</p>
<b>Supporting pictures etc</b>	<p>Deer fencing around coppice coupe at Lea and Paget's wood</p> 

<b>Project name:</b>	<b>Benches in Nature Reserves</b>
<b>Location:</b>	Various
<b>Cost:</b>	Approx. £500 each
<b>Timescales:</b>	annually
<b>Description:</b>	<p>Herefordshire Wildlife Trust believes that everyone benefits from experiencing wildlife close at hand, and what better way than to sit quietly on a bench in one of our Nature Reserves?</p> <p>Many reserves have benches already, but some of these are getting old and worn out. Some Reserves need benches in new locations, and we also have some new reserves where we have not yet installed any benches.</p> <p>So, we are always in need of new benches. Potential donors can request plaques or inscriptions to commemorate or dedicate their donation.</p>
<b>Supporting pictures etc</b>	<p>New bench at Queenswood Country Park</p> 

<b>Project name:</b>	<b>Bat roost repair</b>
<b>Location:</b>	King Arthur's Cave
<b>Cost:</b>	Approx. £2,000
<b>Timescales:</b>	As soon as funds are available
<b>Description:</b>	<p>Our King Arthurs Cave Nature Reserve includes an old engine building which is used as a bat roost by Lesser Horseshoe bats. Unfortunately, this building is ageing, and the roof has developed a leak.</p> <p>We would like to repair the roof and carry out some other improvements to make the building more suitable for the bats .</p>
<b>Supporting pictures etc</b>	<p>Bat roost building at King Arthurs cave</p> 

<b>Project name:</b>	<b>Protecting our Curlew</b>
<b>Location:</b>	Lugg and Hampton Meadows
<b>Cost:</b>	Still to be confirmed
<b>Timescales:</b>	From 2020
<b>Description:</b>	<p>The Herefordshire Wildlife Trust Nature Reserves along the Lugg are amongst the last sites in Herefordshire where curlew still arrive every spring to try to nest.</p> <p>Sadly, last year, despite efforts to protect the nesting pairs, only 1 chick successfully fledged from our sites. Problems they face include disturbance from dogs, predation by foxes and birds as well as the British weather.</p> <p>We are currently awaiting the results of a professional survey and evaluation to decide what measures are needed and the costs but intend to take more action in future to protect the birds.</p>
<b>Supporting pictures etc</b>	<p>Protecting curlew nests on the Lugg Meadows</p>   

<b>Project name:</b>	<b>Dealing with Ash dieback</b>
<b>Location:</b>	Around the county
<b>Cost:</b>	At least £5k annually
<b>Timescales:</b>	Annually
<b>Description:</b>	<p>Ash dieback is now affecting many trees across Herefordshire, including trees on Herefordshire Wildlife Trust's Nature Reserves. Experience from Denmark suggest that up to 10% of our trees may be resistant to the disease, but it is likely that 90% will ultimately succumb.</p> <p>HWT needs to address this issue proactively, as affected ash trees can shed limbs or collapse and where this happens alongside roadsides or public footpaths this could have disastrous consequences.</p> <p>We are currently investigating the extent of the problem across the reserves and planning how best to respond. Where trees are clearly dangerous, they will need to be felled, the sooner the better, both for public safety and because they become more dangerous to fell as the disease progresses. Wherever possible we will pollard trees that can be saved, where it is safe to do so. We will also be looking to replace these trees by newly planted or protected maple, oak and other species.</p> <p>We need funding support to carry out this work, particularly when we opt for tree surgery rather than complete felling</p>
<b>Supporting pictures etc</b>	<p>Many ash trees in Herefordshire are likely to succumb to Ash Dieback</p> 

<b>Project name:</b>	<b>Laptops for the staff!</b>
<b>Location:</b>	Queenswood Country Park
<b>Cost:</b>	£700 each
<b>Timescales:</b>	ongoing
<b>Description:</b>	<p>Herefordshire Wildlife Trust carried out a major upgrade of computer kit in 2015. Some of the PCs and laptops we are still using pre-date this upgrade and are now getting old and creaky. 12 are still working on windows 2017, which ceases to be supported by Microsoft in 2020.</p> <p>We purchase new laptops whenever we can through project budgets but have not yet been able to replace or upgrade all the older laptops. Sadly, such upgrades often get overlooked in the need to prioritise managing our reserves, running our projects and generally keeping HWT running.</p> <p>So, if you would like to make a member of our staff very happy, please consider donating £700 for a new laptop. Potential donors will receive a personalised thank you letter from whomsoever benefits from your donation!</p>
<b>Supporting pictures etc</b>	<p>Laptop in use!</p>  <p>The image shows a silver Toshiba laptop on a light-colored wooden desk. The laptop screen displays a document with the title 'Laptops for the staff!' and some text. A black mouse is connected to the laptop. The laptop has a 'TOSHIBA' logo on the bottom bezel and an Intel Core i5 sticker on the palm rest.</p>



<b>Project name:</b>	<b>Training placements</b>
<b>Location:</b>	Queenswood Country Park
<b>Cost:</b>	Up to £9,000 pa per placement
<b>Timescales:</b>	Annual or recurring
<b>Description:</b>	<p>Herefordshire Wildlife Trust is privileged every year to attract keen placement students as Volunteer Assistant Reserves or Conservation Officers. They donate their time, whilst we provide essential experience and training to help them into full employment. Their contribution to our work is invaluable and includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• supporting our Reserve management programme</li> <li>• leading Reserve work parties,</li> <li>• reserve survey and mapping,</li> <li>• preparing risk assessments and other essential health and safety duties</li> <li>• drafting Management Plans</li> </ul> <p>We have been very fortunate to attract VAROs every year and almost all of them have gone on to gain a job in the conservation arena.</p> <p>Currently we have a small budget for this to cover their travel expenses and formal training courses, such as the use of chainsaws. £2,000 would cover travel and training for one placement. However, we would very much like to be able to support these placement students more effectively by offering each of them a bursary of up to £600 per month and are seeking one or more sponsors to support these roles. Your support could be for a seasonal or full year post and for one or more years.</p> <p>We would be happy to recognise potential donors by naming the relevant supported role after them and, for corporate sponsors, by promoting their sponsorship through information on our website, articles in our magazine and e-news and our usual social media outlets.</p>
<b>Supporting pictures etc</b>	<p>One of our Volunteer Assistant Reserves officers gathering reed seed</p> 