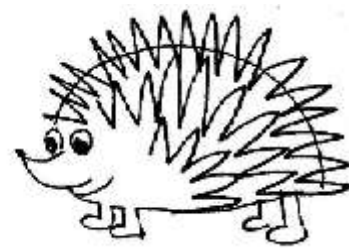


# Knighton Wild



John Crookes

AGM – Chair's Report 16<sup>th</sup> May 2018

# Practical Work

- St Mary Magdalen Churchyard







September 2016/7  
Grass raking



November 2017  
Hedge laying



January 2018  
11 nest boxes



# Practical Work

- Wash Brook Nature Park



# Talks

- Bird Identification
- Wildlife Photography – Getting Closer
- The Secrets of Plant Galls
- From Black to Green: Coalpits to Treetops
- Urban Buzz Leicester
- Moth Breakfast
- Wildlife in Knighton
- Leicestershire's Woodlands – Past, Present and Future (with SKCE)



# Visits, Surveys and Recording Wash Brook Allotments





# Visits, Surveys and Recording

## Moth Breakfast



# Visits, Surveys and Recording Wash Brook Nature Park

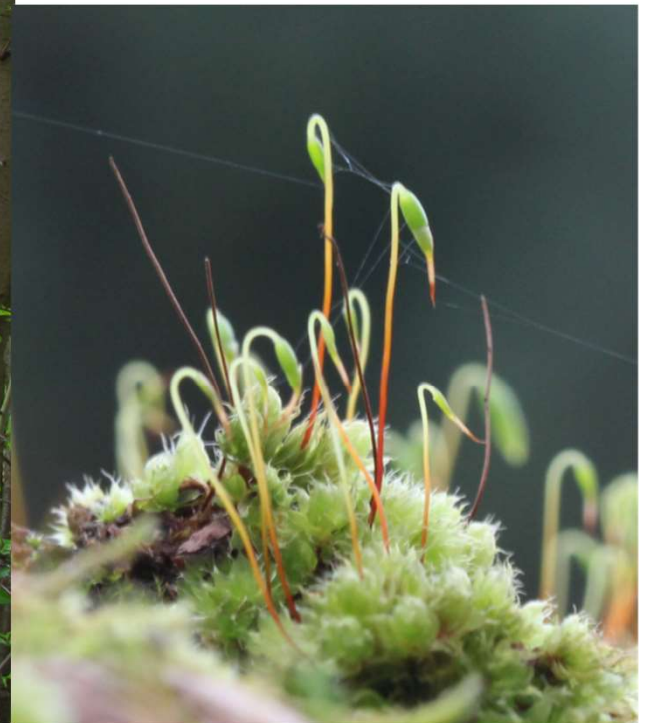




# Visits, Surveys and Recording Knighton Park and Spinney



- Bryophyte Walk
- BioBlitz
- Bird Identification







# NatureSpot

## Knighton Ward


[Details](#)[Latest images](#)[Species list](#)[Statistics](#)



### Moral Dilemmas




[Read more...](#)



Total species seen in this parish: 982

### Latest image




[Learn more about Thickpoint Grimmia Schistidium crassipilum](#)  
AJ Cann

### Thanks

Thanks to NatureSpot, Leicester City Council and Leicestershire and Rutland Wildlife Trust for supporting the work of Knighton Wild in Knighton.

### Tweets by @Nature\_Spot



**Nature Spot**  
@Nature\_Spot

Common Smoothcap, *Atrichum undulatum*  
Photo Annie Smith  
This distinctive species can form extensive patches. [Learn more:](#)

### Wash Brook Nature Reserve Pond Cleared

Members of Knighton Wild and volunteers from Leicester Environment Volunteers have cleared the pond in the Wash Brook Reserve in Knighton, digging out vegetation that was clogging the pond from one third of the area, removing a willow that had become established in the centre of the pond, and clearing scrub round the pond.

### Hedge Laying in St Mary's Churchyard

Eleven members of Knighton Wild spent a busy time on Saturday 25th November laying a hedge in the churchyard at St Mary Magdalen in Knighton. There were a number of small trees along the fence on the north side of the churchyard. We trimmed the smaller trees then cut them using billhooks to create the pleachers, where the tree can be bent over but still retains a connection to the roots, laid them horizontally, and then inserted stakes and binders made from hazel to hold the hedge in place. We also created a dead hedge in the small spinney next to Church Lane from the trimmings.

### Life between the gravestones

On Saturday 16th September 2017 Knighton Wild organised a practical session, raking away grass-



# Publicity

- Radio Leicester
- Uta found a moss not previously recorded in the city: Fox-tail Feather-moss (*Thamnobryum alopecurum*)



# Engaging Residents

- Knighton Park Bioblitz
- Knighton Park Tree Trail
- Explaining the wildlife value of St Mary's churchyard





# Knighton Wild



# Knighton Park Tree Trail Map

On a smartphone or tablet, use the links below the map. In a browser on a desktop or laptop, click on the numbered circles on the map. The links in the map may work on a smartphone in landscape view.



### 3 Handkerchief Tree

Search

- Bird Identification Talk and Walk – 21st and 24th March 2018
- Further Work at Wash Brook Nature Park
- Bird boxes in St Mary's Churchyard
- Newsletter – 30th December 2017
- Kenwood Road Green Space
- Help for Hedgehogs
- Bird Nesting Boxes for St Mary's Churchyard – January 2018

- John Crookes on [Bird boxes in St Mary's Churchyard](#)
- Simon Smart on [CrowdFund Leicester – Kenwood Road Green Space](#)
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- February 2018

# Knighton Park Tree Trail



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## Red Oak



### Red Oak

*Quercus rubra*

Height up to 35 m

Natural range: Eastern Canada and north-eastern America. Introduced into Britain in 1724.

Large shiny leaves turning brilliant red in the autumn. Also planted for high levels of tannin in the bark, which is still used for dying leather.

Compare this with the native British pedunculate oak (*Quercus robur*) next to it, in particular the shape of the leaves. The Pedunculate oak has a number of [oak apples](#) on it.



### Recent Posts

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## Blackcap



[Blackcap](#)  
*Sylvia atricapilla*

You may hear blackcaps singing or calling in the trees and bushes in this part of the park or in the spinney, particularly in the spring.

Blackcaps are a migratory warbler, but more and more they are overwintering in the UK and can be seen all year round, often in gardens.

[Back to Handkerchief Tree](#) [Back to Map](#)

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### Archives

- [February 2018](#)

# Plans for 2018

- Insect habitat in the churchyard
- CrowdFund Leicester project to improve area at end of Kenwood Road (Knighton Green)
- Talk on Ecological Gardening
- Mini-Bioblitz at Queen's Road Allotments
- Work with local Scout groups
- Open gardens with SKCE – wildlife theme
- Identification session on butterflies
- Knighton Spinney Nature Trail
- Urban Buzz Projects