

# Wild Green Spaces in Hartlepool

*Reconnecting people  
and landscapes in the Tees Valley*

*Jo Haskett, Wild Green Spaces Project Officer*

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IN HARTLEPOOL



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# Becky Stanley

Wild Green Spaces Assistant Project Officer

- ❁ Bsc (Hons) Environment and Development
- ❁ Coast and Countryside Ranger for District of Easington Council
- ❁ Audience Development Officer for Durham Heritage Coast
- ❁ Youth Officer for Tees Valley Wildlife Trust
- ❁ Volunteer Coordinator for Natures World



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# What is it all about?

Launched in April 2011, The Wild Green Spaces in Hartlepool project aims to involve local communities in the development and improvement of Hartlepool's green spaces for the benefit of both people and wildlife.

We offer local individuals and group's the opportunity to enhance understanding and enjoyment of the natural environment through:

- ✿ Volunteering
- ✿ Environmental education
- ✿ Events
- ✿ Activities



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# Project Funding

The project is funded by Natural England through its Access to Nature initiative which, in turn, is part of the Big Lottery Fund's Changing Spaces programme.

Therefore, all our events, projects, staff time, materials etc is offered free to groups and individuals.



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# Getting started: April 2011

- ✿ Meeting staff at the council and partnering organisations
- ✿ Partnership working with the Community Development Officers
- ✿ Attending 'Friends of meetings'
- ✿ Setting up a volunteer scheme
- ✿ Promoting volunteer scheme, events, and services to schools and community groups
- ✿ Planning and preparation for the months events
- ✿ Running the program of Easter Events across the Parks

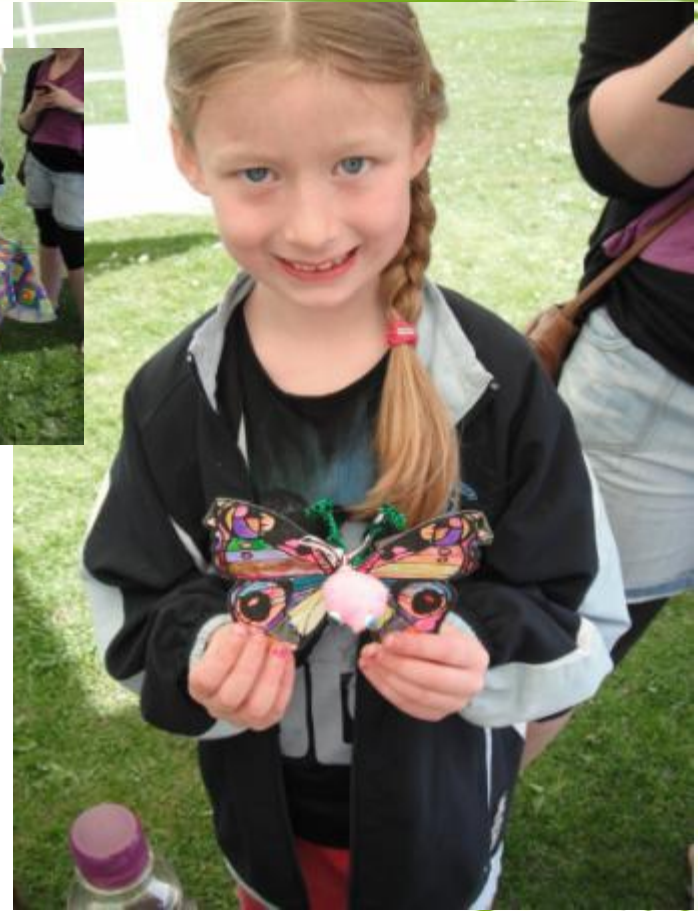


# Diversiionary activity, Seaton

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# Diversiory activity, Seaton Park

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# Springtime Stroll in Burn Valley Gardens and Rossmere Park

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**Family  
Wood  
Spring  
Clean**

**Easter  
Sunday  
Fun day**

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# Butterfly Surveys

## Family Wood

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# Summer Sculptures Family Wood

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# The next steps

- ✿ Promoting and recruiting for the volunteer scheme 'Wild Wednesdays'
- ✿ Radio promotion of the project on Radio Hartlepool, plus continued press releases
- ✿ Attending and supporting community and residents Fun Days across the borough
- ✿ Forging links with Sure Start groups
- ✿ Creating resources for school visits and joint working with Teesmouth Field Centre team on project delivery
- ✿ Setting up a regular Health walk from Ward Jackson Park
- ✿ Baseline plant surveys of all Parks



# Volunteer days

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# The Old Rose Garden



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# Interpretation





**Dawn Chorus**

**Creatures of  
the Night  
Burn Valley  
Gardens**

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# Green Man Masks Family Wood



Wild  
about Ward  
Jackson



# Bird Bash Box & Big Bug Bonanza Ward Jackson Park

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# Good Citizenship Day, Golden Flatts

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# Community beck clearance day



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# Community days and Summer Fairs 'Gardening for Wildlife'



# Nature's World Team Day

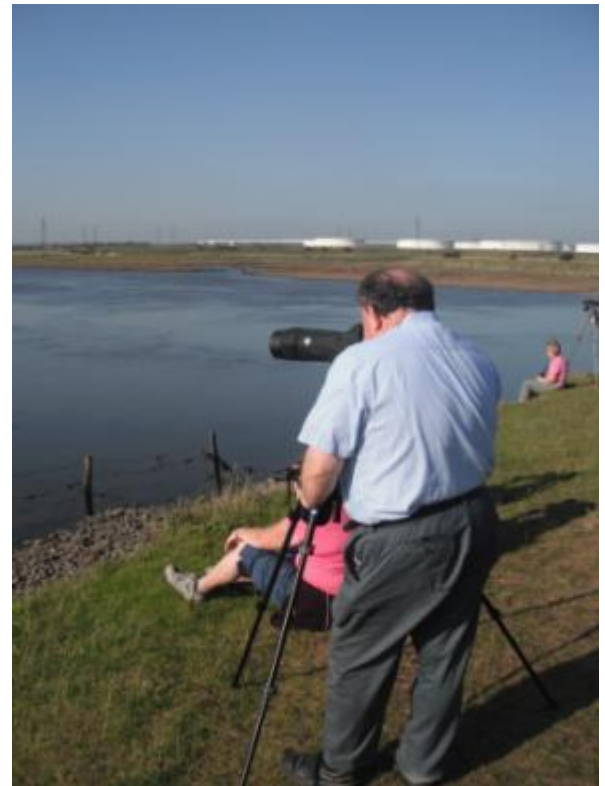


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# Saltholme Team Day



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# Youth Reprobation Service days

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# Teesmouth Field Centre

- ✿ Take a class/classes to the field centre for two trips over a year
- ✿ Study Habitats through the seasons including plants and minibeasts
- ✿ Record seasonal changes with digital cameras
- ✿ Explore climate change
- ✿ FREE transport!



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# Schools so far

- ☼ Summer holiday activity group set up at St John Vianney's
- ☼ Rossmere Summer Holiday club attending Park events
- ☼ Monthly Wildlife Club set up at:  
Golden Flatts  
St John Vianney's  
West Park School
- ☼ Bulb planting events



# Future Projects

- ❁ Consultation Golden Flatts
- ❁ Implementation of capital works throughout the Burn Valley
- ❁ Development of static Wild Green Spaces display
- ❁ Wetland and pond creation works through the additional SITA bid
- ❁ GP referral scheme used for the Health Walks
- ❁ Next years event's programme is well under way
- ❁ Continued development of the sustainability of the project

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# Bulb Planting



- ✿ Bring a class out to plant up the parks for spring
- ✿ Free transport for small groups
- ✿ Excellent activity in design, planning, team work, using tools and Risk Assessment.
- ✿ Brilliant community involvement
- ✿ Results for years to come!
- ✿ Late October - November



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