

# Valley Conservation Society



*doing nothing is not an option*

Members' newsletter No 196

We are a non-political organisation

October 2025

## Join us for Devilled Eggs!

**The society is presenting an evening of theatre this Autumn.**

The Black Liver Theatre Company will give us a night of songs, sketches, verse and comedy as they take us behind the scenes of The Dakota, a seaside B&B, and give us a glimpse into the lives of the unusual characters that reside there.

*"Like the Devilled Eggs that The Dakota serves for breakfast, this show is fresh, cheeky and devilishly spicy!"*

The event is sponsored by the Applause Rural Touring Theatre project, which enables groups like our own to promote professional theatre nights that would otherwise be far beyond our purse-strings.

Tickets are only £15, which includes a complimentary glass of wine or juice during the interval.

### **Devilled Eggs**

**Saturday, November 22**

**at 7.30pm**

**Boughton Monchelsea Village Hall**

**Tickets on sale now from Alan on 07860 909903,  
or email [a128smith@btinternet.com](mailto:a128smith@btinternet.com)**

# Quiz Night

With less than two weeks to go to our quiz night, we are looking to make up the final table with singletons or couples. If you have been unable to enter a full team, now is your chance to join in. We have four seats left.

**Saturday, October 11**

John Robertson will be asking the questions at the King George V Pavilion off Walnut Tree Avenue, Loose, ME15 9RN, and the evening will follow the familiar format with eight rounds of questions, plus a table round, and the opportunity to play a joker for double points.

We start at 7pm. Please bring your own snacks and drinks.

Tickets are £5 per person. Again, they are available from the secretary, Alan Smith, on 07860 909903, or by emailing [a128smith@btinternet.com](mailto:a128smith@btinternet.com)

## Hayle Park Nature Reserve



The Society owns one-third of the Hayle Park Nature Reserve and nominates three of the nine trustees who run the park.

Last month, HPNR held a successful open day and barbecue, with the entertainment including a horse and trailer ride, a rodents and reptiles petting area, a children's puppet show, craft activities with bird-box making, a coconut shy, and the chance to throw a wet sponge at your dad.

# Work Party



The Tuesday work party took full advantage of the recent closure of Cave Hill and the consequent lessening of traffic along Hayle Mill Road, to do some tidying up.

They strimmed back the undergrowth at the foot of the ragstone wall bordering Hayle Park, and cut the overhanging brambles atop the wall.

Although strictly speaking, this is a job for KCC Highways, we all suffer when forced into the brambles by oncoming traffic, and Dennis's team were happy to help.

They have also been busy clearing an area of land above the ragstone wall in Crisbrook Meadow, below Mount Ararat.

This is in preparation for a wildflower project, which we hope to begin in the spring.

For this, we are grateful for the sponsorship of Pennies Day Nursery.

*Join the work party on any Tuesday from 10am. We meet at The Conservation Cabin in Hayle Mill Road.*

## Traffic calming

Our thanks to those who contributed their ideas and suggestions as to what traffic calming measures were needed in the Valley.

Although everyone agreed that something must be done to cut the speed and volume of traffic, sadly, there was no obvious consensus around what the solution might be.

The Society has decided to form a sub-committee of those interested to look in more detail to see what might make feasible measures that we could push for.

Those who contributed before will shortly receive an invitation to join. If you missed responding the first time around, but would be interested in helping, email Alan on [a128smith@btinternet.com](mailto:a128smith@btinternet.com)

# Repair Café

The Society was happy to support the most recent Repair Café event held at the YMCA in Tovil last Saturday, with the loan of our gazebos.

Although Carbon Action Tovil (CAT), the group that runs the café, is separate from VCS, five of our executive committee members are also committee members for CAT.

One of the great things about the Repair Café is the willingness of people to lend a hand. Last Saturday, saw volunteers from the Medway Towns, West Malling, Sittingbourne and even Whitstable coming to help us locals.

The next Repair Cafe will be on **Saturday, November 8**, and if you can help in any way, please contact Eileen Lewis on 07709 031365.

The Café needs people not only with skills at repairing things, but also people willing to help with the admin, to bake cakes for the café, or just to assist with putting out the tables and chairs.

## Litter Picks

There are a surprising number of people regularly giving up their time doing things to help our neighbourhood.

This Saturday, October 4, the Tovil Achievement Group (TAG) is holding a litter pick in Tovil, meeting at the Tovil Footbridge at 10am.



**Left, Sarah Leeson and Christine Marshall of NLL**

While at the same time, North Loose Limited (NLL) is holding a work party to litter-pick and cut back brambles in Mangravet Woods. Meet at the pedestrian gates adjacent to Mangravet Woods, off Pheasant Lane, at 10am.

Both groups would welcome new faces. Just turn up.