

Blackdown Hills

Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty



Annual Review
2008/2009

Introduction



Chairman's report

Welcome to the 2008-09 Annual Review for the Blackdown Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) Partnership. Once again it has been a very busy year, with the review of the AONB's Management Plan being the key focus of the team's work.

This plan guides the decision-making process of all our partners and stakeholders in the Blackdown Hills, as well as the work of AONB team, and it is a statutory requirement that it is reviewed every five years. This time it had to have an accompanying Strategic Environmental Appraisal and Habitat Regulations Assessment to ensure that none of its future policies and objectives would have a damaging effect on the AONB's important environment. The plan was adopted by our six local authority partners and approved by Natural England by the end of the year. I should like to extend a big thank-you to all those involved.

The year certainly had its highlights. Many members of our community joined us at Celebrating the Blackdowns, an event which provided a wonderful showcase for many of the projects supported by our six-year LEADER+ programme which came to an end in 2008. On the day we were also able to announce the successful outcome of our joint bid with East Devon AONB for the Making it Local programme - a £2.4 million fund from the Rural Development Programme for England that will enable us to carrying on supporting the environment and local economy of the Blackdown Hills.

Our Sustainable Development Fund continues to kick-start exciting innovative projects – 20 received funding this year. Initiatives ranged from parish plans and farm carbon audits to an oral history project and a Blackdown Hills Business Association conference, Riding the Storm.

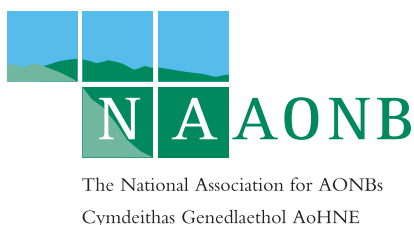
Encouraging people to enjoy our glorious countryside has been a major theme of the year. The new format Countryside Events programme has been extremely popular, with leaflets now distributed in pubs and shops in distinctive, locally-made dispensers. The programme is also listed online as part of our re-designed website. Five new circular riding routes, and the Neroche Scheme's 13-mile Herepath, make the Blackdown Hills a prime destination for horse riding. At the end of the year the first all-ability trail in the AONB was opened at Staple Hill funded as part of the Neroche Scheme.

Visiting the countryside is now recognised as bringing real health benefits, so I would encourage you all to come out into the Blackdown Hills to enjoy the stunning landscape and experience some of the wide range of special local products.

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read 'Paul Diviani'.

Paul Diviani

Chairman, Blackdown Hills AONB



Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty

An Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) is a landscape which is considered so precious that it is protected for the nation. The criteria for designating an AONB include valuable wildlife, habitats, geology and heritage, as well as scenic views.

There are 47 AONBs in England and Wales. AONBs have existed since 1949, although the Blackdown Hills was designated relatively recently, in 1991.

The natural fabric of these important places is fragile, so the primary purpose of all AONBs is to conserve and enhance the landscape.



60 years of protected landscapes in the UK

The National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act was passed in 1949. It established how the countryside could be protected and enjoyed by future generations.

The 1949 Act paved the way for the creation of today's family of 15 UK National Parks, 47 Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONBs), 294 National Nature Reserves and 2,900 miles of National Trails. For more information, including walks, visit www.diamondsinthelandscape.org.uk.



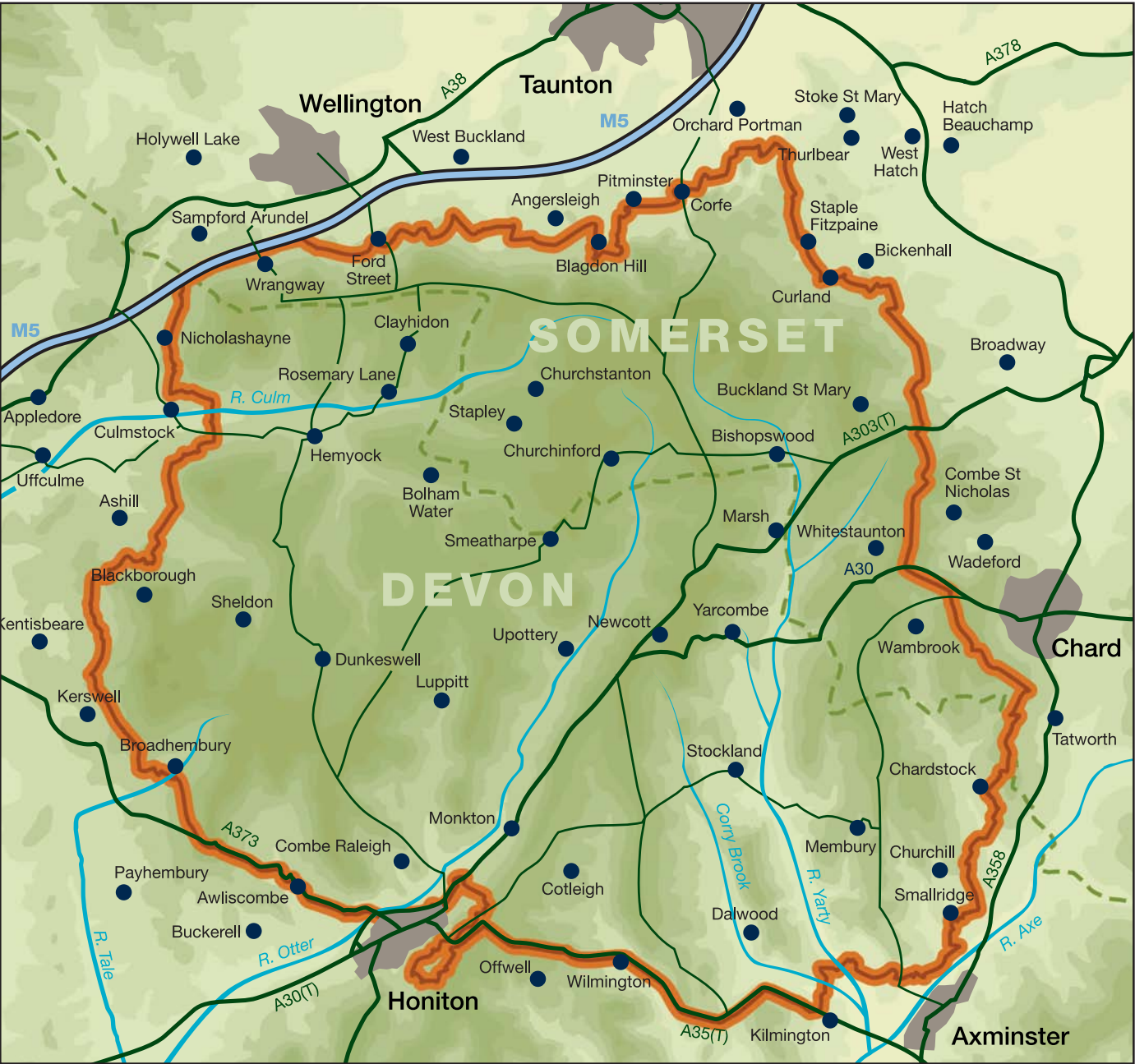
The Blackdown Hills AONB

The Blackdown Hills, which lie on the border of Devon and Somerset, was designated an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) in 1991. The AONB covers 370 square kilometres of varied landscape including steep wooded slopes, high plateau, lush valleys and rolling farmland. The Blackdown Hills AONB Partnership is the body which exists to protect this special place.

This partnership is made up of local authorities, interest groups, national agencies and local communities, all of which are committed to ensuring that the Blackdown Hills remains a healthy, living landscape for future generations.

Blackdown Hills

Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty



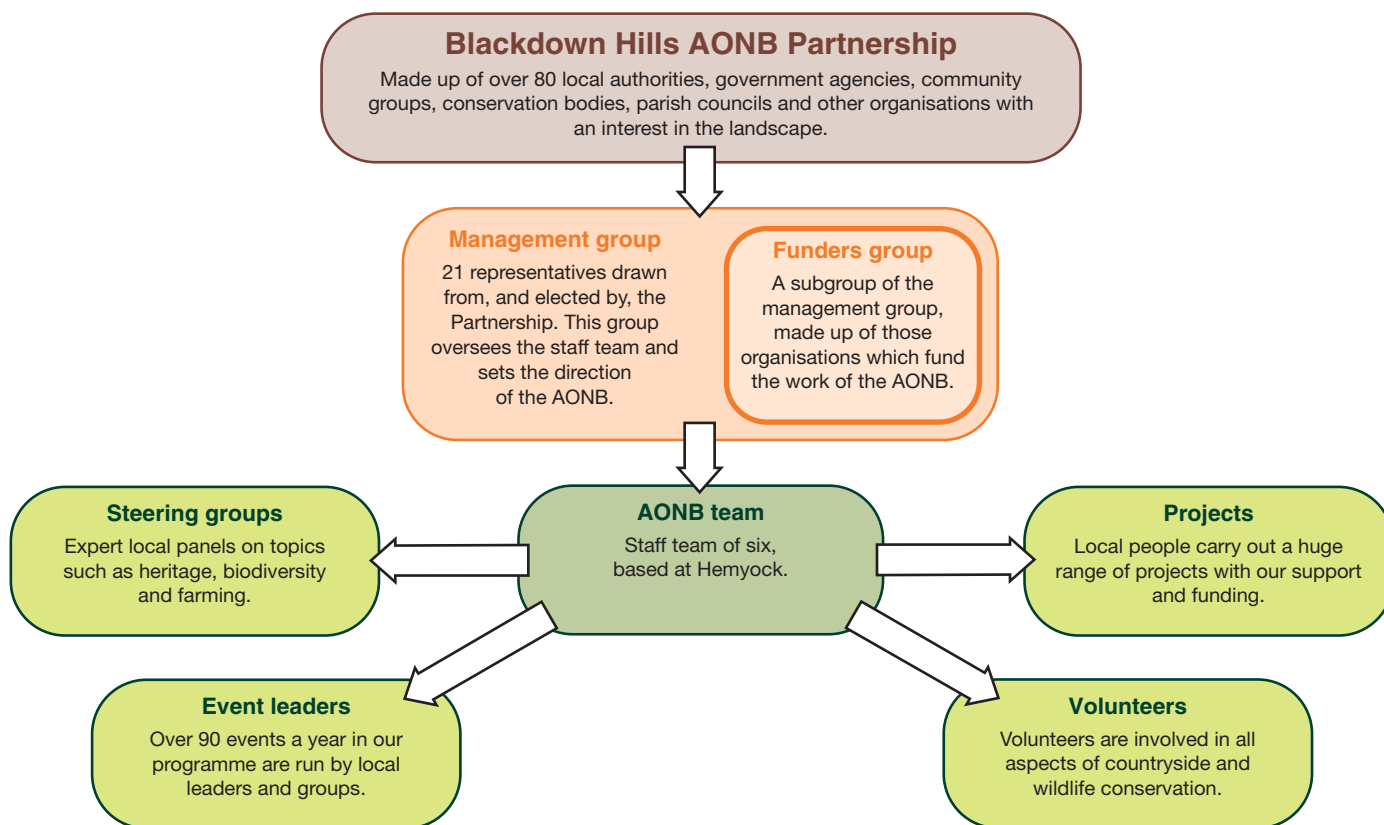
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KEY	
	AONB Boundary
	County Boundary
	Roads
	Rivers

Working together

The Blackdown Hills AONB is managed by a partnership of organisations which all work to protect the area, in addition to the activities of the staff team.



This review deals with the work of the staff team, based in Hemyock. However, members of our partnership also undertake a huge amount of work each year which helps to deliver the overarching management plan for the Blackdown Hills AONB. Just a few examples this year include:

- **East Devon District Council's Water Vole Recovery Project** continues to encourage the natural colonisation of the Axe by water voles which are thriving on the Somerset and Dorset borders.
- **Natural England staff** have targeted the Blackdowns to encourage more farmers into High Level Stewardship

agreements and provide the greatest environmental benefit to the area.

- **Devon Wildlife Trust's grazing project** has introduced ponies to Lickham Common Nature Reserve in an initiative which will act as an example of heathland management for wildlife.
- **Devon County Council's Historic Environment Team** has carried out excavations on pottery production and iron smelting sites in Hemyock.
- **The National Trust** carried out a comprehensive structural survey of the Wellington Monument which will underpin future conservation work.

- **Mid-Devon District Council's Housing Needs Survey** led to the development of nine units of affordable housing for local people in Hemyock.
- **Taunton Deane Borough Council** supported work to restore and manage Otterhead Lakes Local Nature Reserve.
- **Butterfly Conservation** carried out a programme of winter works, preparing several sites to encourage rare butterflies this summer.

This is just a very small selection of the conservation and community efforts carried out by members of the Blackdown Hills AONB Partnership during 2008/09.

Landscape and Environment

The primary purpose of the AONB is to conserve and enhance the landscape. We do this by working with local authorities, conservation bodies, farmers, landowners and local people to protect the distinctive countryside and wildlife of the Blackdown Hills.

Some of our achievements in 2008/09

Landscape Character Assessment

Over recent years a landscape character assessment and accompanying landscape management guidelines have been developed for the Blackdown Hills and East Devon. This year the assessment and guidelines have been made available online and as a published document. The information has been integrated into East Devon District Council's planning system to enable quick and easy landscape referencing by officers.

Noise Position Statement

One of the AONB's special qualities is tranquillity. Noise comes from numerous sources including roads, aeroplanes, agriculture, public events and surrounding towns. Controls on noise pollution are outside the scope of our work, but opportunities to address the issue do exist through consultation with the planning, licensing and environmental health departments of our local authorities. We can also work to raise awareness of the impact of noise on public enjoyment of the AONB. During the year we have developed and adopted a position statement to assist with our response to issues of noise nuisance.

Management Plan

The AONB management plan highlights the special qualities of the area and helps to guide and inform the decisions of all those with an interest in the AONB. This year we have completed our review of the management plan for 2004 - 2009 and produced a new plan for the next five years. This process included environmental assessment and a period of consultation with partners and the public before the plan was adopted by each of our local authorities.

Large Marsh Grasshopper

In September 2006 the rare large marsh grasshopper (*Stethophyma grossum*), the UK's largest grasshopper, was recorded at Ringdown Nature Reserve, Churchstanton. It was last seen in Somerset in 1989 and it was believed to be extinct in the county. This species requires open wet heath to breed and thrive, and the nearby Somerset Wildlife Trust reserves of Yarty Moor and Brimley Hill Mire may well have large marsh grasshoppers present. A grant from the AONB's Sustainable Development Fund (SDF) has enabled the Trust to survey three sites, and work with the Devonshire Association to informally survey sites on the Devon side. They will

confirm the grasshopper's status, and clear scrub to improve the habitat. There is a strong possibility that this rare insect can be brought back from the brink of extinction in the Blackdown Hills.

Winter Works

This Devon Wildlife Trust project received SDF funding to conserve and improve wet heathland and neutral unimproved grassland at Ashculm Turbary, Lickham Common and The Rough. Reserve officers worked with contractors and local people to remove scrub and construct a new boardwalk over boggy ground at Lickham Common. An invertebrate survey will also be carried out. The Trust intends to encourage farmers to visit the sites and replicate some of the wildlife friendly management techniques on their own land.

Hillmoor Common

A small SDF grant enabled Culmstock Parish Council to bring local people together, including children and teachers from the local primary school, to plant traditional orchard trees and to help manage a woodland site. The work has provided various outdoor education opportunities and has inspired the parish council to develop further environmental projects.



Neroche Scheme

The AONB has continued to work closely with the Forestry Commission and other partners in the delivery of the Neroche Landscape Partnership Scheme, which shares office space with the AONB team in Hemyock. The Scheme is funded until 2010 by the Heritage Lottery Fund and a partnership of local authorities and agencies, and is helping to achieve the objectives of the AONB in the northern part of the Blackdown Hills.

The AONB team provided specific support to the Neroche Scheme during 2008/09 through:

Strategic guidance and advice to the Neroche steering group from the AONB manager.

Grant support from the Sustainable Development Fund for the All-Ability Loop Trail on Staple Hill.

Support from the AONB information officer for shared promotional work, through the AONB website and via local media.

Joint discussion over potential future project activity in the Neroche area.

Overall, between October 2006 and March 2009, the Neroche Scheme achieved:

A forest fit for the future

- **300** hectares (740 acres) of conifer plantation harvested to restore pasture, heath and broad-leaved woodland habitats
- **80** English longhorn cattle acquired as the Neroche herd, to graze new forest habitats and to establish a new beef business

Better access to the countryside for everyone

- **13.5** miles of new off-road multi-user circular trail established in the form of the Staple Fitzpaine Herepath, now a popular amenity
- **1,000** metres of new all-ability trail and viewpoint suitable for wheelchair users on Staple Hill
- **50** health walks in the forest, catering for over 500 people who do not normally come to the countryside, including adults with learning disabilities, young working mothers from Chard and Taunton, and older people from residential homes

Hands-on heritage

- **115** volunteer days from children to retired people spent on a community excavation on the lost medieval village at Playstreet, attended by TV archaeologist Mick Aston
- **32** days given by the 11 members of the Local Stakeholders Group to support and shape the direction of the scheme

- **1,250** people have attended Neroche events during 2007 and 2008

Revealing the landscape through sculpture and story

- **300** children and adults celebrated Punkie Night, a revived Blackdowns tradition, with hundreds of hand-made lanterns in the forest after dark
- **8** local artists involved in interpreting the landscape through natural sculpture, multi-media techniques, story, music and photography

A classroom made of trees

- **25** staff from 17 primary and secondary schools in Somerset and Devon undertook training to qualify as Forest School practitioners
- **205** adults and children taken part in Family Bushcraft days in the forest

Fostering skills for the future

- **3** local young people successfully completed NVQ Level 2 qualifications through an apprenticeship scheme
- **30** local landowners and tenants provided with advice on managing important wildlife habitats and heritage features

Awareness and enjoyment

The AONB team encourages everyone to experience and understand the countryside. We provide a year-round programme of enjoyable activities, which includes opportunities to get fitter, take part in conservation and learn about the natural world at first hand.

Some of our achievements in 2008/09

Celebrating the Blackdowns

Over 300 people enjoyed a day of celebration at a special event to showcase produce, crafts, business and community life of the Blackdown Hills in September.

The event, held at Churchinford Pavilion was the final celebration of the LEADER+ scheme, which funded 94 local projects over six years.

The day long event showed a number of successful projects and the public had a chance to try out everything from apple pressing to a hog roast, and view all kinds of local

produce from cheese to alpaca socks, baskets, soaps, meats and wines.

Adults and children also learnt skills from making wooden whistles to lanterns, and browsed local arts and crafts.

Otterhead

Otterhead is an almost forgotten Victorian landscaped estate and mile-long chain of lakes near Churchinford. It has been a busy year for the Otterhead Estate Company Trust Ltd, the voluntary organisation which manages the site with support from AONB staff.

Taunton Deane Borough Council designated the site a Local Nature Reserve, and produced two visitor leaflets. The Friends of Otterhead have grown in strength, and Taunton Conservation Volunteers and Churchinford Youth Volunteers have helped to carry out a variety of conservation tasks. Forest Schools have made good use of the Coach House for their education groups, while Trust events have continued to be well attended.

Events programme

Our new format 'Countryside Events' programme operated all





year round for the first time in 2008/09. The two editions, spring/summer and autumn/winter, together contained over 90 free or low-cost events. Some of these were run by the AONB and Neroche teams, and many by partner organisations such as the Wildlife Trusts and Butterfly Conservation. Events ranged from children's bushcraft to wild food feasts, and included a host of walks, workshops and family activities.

Through the Countryside Events booklet and our online events diary, the AONB is able to promote a range of local organisations which provide outdoor activities. These include small volunteer groups such as the Blackdown Hills Hedge Association and the Blackdown Hills Walking Group.

Website

Our redesigned website was launched at the start of 2008/09 and has proved to be very popular. The site features an events diary, downloadable walking and riding routes, funding applications, volunteering opportunities and educational material, as well as information about how the AONB is governed. Over the year, there has been an average of 305 separate visits per day to the site.

New horse riding routes

In September a new series of five circular horse riding routes was launched to download from our website, and as a limited edition brochure. A local resident, John Presgrave, devised the series with the support of the AONB, and Devon and Somerset Public Rights of Way teams. Work was carried out along the bridleways and green lanes to make sure they were at a high standard prior to the launch. The routes cover the areas around Membury, All Saints, Dunkeswell, Luppitt, Stockland, Dalwood, Upottery and Chardstock.

Circular walks

In January, a series of three walks leaflets covering the Blackdown Hills was re-issued by the AONB. The free leaflets, each containing six circular walks, had originally been developed by volunteers from local villages, but as the first editions of each one ran out, the communities had no funds to reprint them. The AONB stepped in to reissue them as a set, and they have proved to be very popular with residents and visitors. The three leaflets cover the Hemyock area, the south western Blackdown Hills and the Stockland area. Work has begun on a fourth title in the series, covering the Neroche area.

Information dispensers

The AONB, with funding from SDF and LEADER+, commissioned 21 new information points to be sited across the Blackdown Hills and the surrounding towns. These were crafted from English oak by local craftsman David Lloyd of Dunkeswell. Host venues include pubs, Tourist Information Centres and meeting places. The information points provide literature to visitors and residents about countryside activities and events, small businesses and local services, walks in the area and more.



David Lloyd presents an information dispenser to Debbie Lush and Tom Warren of the Farmers Inn, West Hatch.

Economy and community

The beauty of these hills has been shaped by the people who live and work here, and a viable local economy is essential to the continued care of the landscape. The AONB Partnership is committed to supporting the economy and community life of the area's villages, hamlets and farms.

Some of our achievements in 2008/09

LEADER+

2008 saw the end of the LEADER+ programme which has been hosted by the AONB for the last six years. During this time, the programme has funded 94 local projects with a budget of £1.2m of European money. This funding also secured a further £700,000 of investment from public and private sources.

LEADER+ funding helped small businesses, producers and communities to support the local economy and improve quality of life. The fund concentrated on four main areas:

- food and drink
- tourism and recreation
- arts and crafts
- woodland and forestry.

A list of projects funded over the life of LEADER+ can be found on our website.

Projects funding during 2008/09 included improving access at the Barn Gallery at Bishopswood near Chard. This will mean that more people with disabilities will be able to visit and enjoy the work on display, and that more exhibitions can be held to promote local artists and makers.

Riding the Storm

The Blackdown Hills Business Association (BHBA) identified significant anxieties among its members about surviving the current economic difficulties. In response BHBA held its first business conference in March, entitled Riding the Storm, with support from the AONB's Sustainable Development Fund (SDF).

The conference attracted over 50 businesses and individuals. Delegates benefited from talks and top tips from a range of business





experts, including Geoff Harding, the Bank of England's Deputy Agent for the SW Region.

Woolly Waste

Woolly Waste, led by Val Grainger and the Blackdown Hills Natural Fibre Group, is an innovative project that processes waste and recycled fibres in the heart of the AONB.

Before wool can be made into felt or spun into yarn, it must be scoured, carded and picked. This SDF-funded project helped the Natural Fibre Group to purchase two pieces of equipment, a scourer and picker, to complement their carder, and provide a complete service for local producers.

This project has received a huge amount of interest and publicity and Val is now pursuing funding to install a grey-water recycling system.

Voices from the Hills

This SDF-funded project led by Judy Simmonds is recording the recollections of local, often elderly, people across the AONB, thereby capturing the social history of each small and distinct area of the Blackdowns. This project will result in up to 100 oral history recordings, plus film and photo footage. Judy

has also been training students from local secondary schools in interviewing and location filming.

Ultimately, the recordings and film footage will be returned to their communities online and possibly with the production of a book and CD. A youth group has even expressed an interest in creating drama based on these memories. It is hoped that through these recordings local people will gain a greater sense of stewardship and collective belonging.

Entry-Level Stewardship (ELS) Project

Entry Level Stewardship (ELS) is a national voluntary scheme to encourage farmers to deliver simple yet effective environmental management. In 2007, the Blackdown Hills AONB and Natural England took on consultants Carver Knowles to run a project encouraging farmers to sign up to ELS agreements. This was prompted by concern over the low numbers of farmers in the AONB taking up ELS at the time. The project resulted in 50 new agreements.

Following this success, a second project was launched in November 2009, this time led by Agricultural

Business Information Point (Agri-Bip). This project has involved promotional work, the provision of one-to-one advice and support to farmers and a telephone survey.

This successful formula has resulted in 41 more farmers signing up to ELS within the AONB, with nine more agreements in the pipeline.

Singing for Fun

A small amount of money from the AONB's Sustainable Development Fund (SDF) has helped to set up a new singing group, the Wambrook Glees, led by Libby Lister. This was to fill a void in the village's community life, as there were no other social groups or clubs.

The group has brought together local people, young and old, to sing, perform sketches and read monologues. These activities give people the chance to explore local history, poetry and music.

The project has culminated in three events: a nativity play for the village children; a social evening of songs and monologues; and an evening of local memories, verse and song where the natural and cultural landscape of the Blackdown Hills were celebrated.

Grants at a glance

Through the Sustainable Development Fund (SDF), the AONB supported projects with environmental, economic and social benefits throughout the year. The LEADER+ fund ended in 2008 after six years of support to local communities.

Grant funding awards 2008/09:

Sustainable Development Fund

Project	Grant received
Large Marsh Grasshopper	£4,100.00
Kittow Chiller Trailer	£2,342.00
Woolly Waste	£9,000.00
Winter Works	£3,900.00
Voices from the Hills	£9,785.00
Sing for Fun	£535.00
Dalwood Community Shop	£80.00
Combe Raleigh Parish Plan	£500.00
Broadhembury Parish Plan	£1,444.00
Farm Carbon Audit	£1,225.00
First Aid for Trainers	£550.00
Staple Hill All Ability Loop Trail	£2,763.92
Archiving & Indexing of Historical Documents	£2,814.19
Woodland Management Evidence Gathering	£855.00
Dunkeswell Parish Plan	£1,500.00
Hillmoor Common	£460.45
Visitor Information Pack	£3,749.00
Riding the Storm Conference	£1,200.00
Blackdown Hills Leaflet Dispensers	£2,000.00
Dunkeswell Eco Park Signage	£400.00

Making
it
local



This year we have been heavily involved in supporting the development of Making it Local, the new £2.4m fund for the Blackdown Hills and East Devon AONBs.

The area covered by the fund is made up of the two AONBs, plus the towns of Wellington, Axminster, Chard, Honiton, Seaton, Sidmouth and Ottery St Mary. The aim of programme is to 'use the outstanding environmental quality and local human potential of the area as a springboard for sustainable economic growth'. The Making it Local team is based at St Ivel House, and over the coming year the fund will begin supporting projects across the AONB.



LEADER+

Project	Grant received
Barn Gallery	£3,800
Local Information Dispensers	£1,990

Management and staff

Management group (as at 31 March 2009)

Paul Diviani

East Devon District Council (Chairman)

John Berry

Devon County Council

Paul Buchanan

Somerset County Council

Ros Roderigo

South Somerset District Council

John Thorne

Taunton Deane Borough Council

Frank Rosamond

Mid Devon District Council

Allison Wallis

Natural England

Emma-Rose Herrera

Environment Agency

Gavin Saunders

Forestry Commission

Heather Stallard

Blackdown Hills Business Association

Hilary Shove

Women's Institutes

Bob Buxton

Honiton Development Trust

Frank Edwards

Blackdown Hills Hedge Association

Richard Kallaway

National Farmers Union

Roland Stonex

Devon Farming and Wildlife Advisory Group

Geoffrey Swarder

Campaign to Protect Rural England/
Community Council of Devon (Vice Chairman)

David Jenkins

National Trust

Mike Hudson

Culm and North Parishes

David Allen

Yarty and East Parishes

Brian Phelps

Culm and North Parishes

John Cathcart

Otter and West Parishes

Members who retired during the year 2008/09:

Andrew Tucker

Otter and West Parishes

Ian Panton

Devon Farming and Wildlife Advisory Group

Staff

AONB manager (from June)

Linda Bennett

Planning officer

Lisa Turner

Temporary planning officer (from August)

Paul Bryan

Temporary planning officer (from August)

Sue Mitchinson

Temporary assistant planning officer (until June)

Lesley Kerry

Project co-ordinator (until May)

Carmel Wilkinson

Project co-ordinator (from June)

Nickie Moore

Information officer

Katherine Morgan

Office manager

Jackie Vaughan

Local Products Strategy co-ordinator

(until January)

Jenny Archard

Local Products Strategy and Sustainable

Development Fund assistant

Caroline Newcombe



Funding and finance

The Blackdown Hills AONB is publicly financed by government and local authorities. We also bid to attract project funding.

The core work of the Blackdown Hills AONB is funded by Devon County Council, Somerset County Council, East Devon District Council, Mid Devon District Council, South Somerset District Council, Taunton Deane Borough Council and Natural England.

Our funders are signatories to a six-year Memorandum of Agreement, and are key members of our management group.

Separately to our own budget, this year we also administered Natural England's Sustainable Development Fund, and the EU LEADER+ fund locally.

Making it Local

This year we were successful with our joint application with East Devon AONB for £4.2 million of Local Action funding, part of the Rural Development Programme for England. This will be channelled through Making it Local, a locally managed grant programme.

Mapping the landscape

We were one of 19 partners in a trans-international project involving the South West Protected Landscapes and Parcs Naturels Régionaux in North West France. The £8.2 million SULIS (Sustainable Landscapes: Integrated Solutions) application was submitted at the end of the year. The project will develop a common methodology to map the distinctive qualities of the

protected landscapes, and identify sustainable management solutions for responding to threats.

If successful, our part of the project will be a four-year community landscape project. This will provide £226,000 to enable us to employ a part-time community landscape officer, who will work with local people to investigate and map the countryside. This will help them to understand its history and the changes that have occurred over the last century. The information can then be used to inform the management of the area for the future and adapt to the inevitable changes that will occur over the next 100 years.

We will know the outcome of our application in October 2009.

A future for fritillaries

To help our declining butterfly populations, we supported two applications to Grantscape for some £300,000 each; one from the Neroche Scheme and one from East Devon AONB and the Devon Farming and Wildlife Advisory Group (FWAG). Grantscape is a grant-giving charity which supports biodiversity projects. If successful, the three-year projects will establish grazing regimes across the Blackdown Hills and East Devon AONBs to help the marsh fritillary and small pearl-bordered fritillary butterflies respectively. We will hear if the bids have been successful in late July 2009.



Financial information 2008/2009

Core Income

2007/8 Income brought forward	£19,810
Natural England	£151,815
Devon County Council	£12,100
Somerset County Council	£11,000
Mid Devon District Council	£11,000
East Devon District Council	£11,000
South Somerset District Council	£11,000
Taunton Deane Borough Council	£11,000
Rental Income	£10,000
Other Income	£4,944
Income carried forward	- £30,987

Total Income **£222,682**

Core Expenditure

Staffing	£154,806
Office Costs	£25,534
Partnership Costs	£42,342

Total Expenditure **£222,682**

Project Income

2007/8 Income brought forward	£3,255
Somerset County Council	£1,000
Mid Devon District Council	£1,000
East Devon District Council	£1,000
South Somerset District Council	£1,000
Taunton Deane Borough Council	£1,000
Countryside Events	£2,048
Local Action Bid	£20,500
Heathland Booklet	£287
Income carried forward to 2009/10	- £2,124

Total Income **£28,966**

Project Expenditure

Countryside Events	£6,016
Local Action Bid	£22,950

Total Expenditure **£28,966**

To order a large print version of this review, call 01823 680681

www.blackdown-hills.net

Blackdown Hills AONB

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**Blackdown
Hills AONB**

Photo credits: Dan Bryan, Chris Goodman, Linda Findlay and Justin Owen.

Blackdown Hills AONB Partnership

**Axe Vale & District
Conservation Society**

BTCV

**Blackdown Hills
Business Association**

**Blackdown Hills
Hedge Association**

Blackdown Hills Walking Group

**Blackdown Hills
Woodland Association**

Blackdown Support Group

British Horse Society

Butterfly Conservation

Community Council for Somerset

Community Council of Devon

**Campaign to Protect
Rural England**

**Council for Voluntary Service
(Mid Devon)**

Culm Valley Young Farmers

Devon County Council

**Devon Farming & Wildlife
Advisory Group**

Devon Rural Women's Network

Devon Wildlife Trust

Devon Youth Association

**East Devon Council for
Voluntary Service**

East Devon District Council

English Heritage

Environment Agency (Devon)

Forest Enterprise

Forestry Commission

Highways Agency

Honiton Development Trust

Mid Devon District Council

National Farmers Union

National Trust

Natural England

Parish councils

Ramblers Association

Silvanus Trust

Somerset County Council

Somerset Rural Youth Project

Somerset Wildlife Trust

Somerset Young Farmers Club

**Somerset Farming &
Wildlife Advisory Group**

South Somerset District Council

**South West Regional
Development Agency**

Taunton Deane Borough Council

Wessex Water

Women's Institutes