



Get stuck in for owls and other birds of prey

Volunteers are vital to the Hawk and Owl Trust's work – be it getting involved with conservation, research or education, or simply helping to keep the wheels running smoothly

Without the active support of volunteers, much of the Trust's work and achievements would be impossible.

New volunteers are most welcome. There are plenty of opportunities to help, and at the same time make friends with like-minded people, learn new skills or use existing expertise and experience.

In this leaflet we give a glimpse of some of the ways in which volunteers make a real difference.

For further details email the contacts listed or get in touch with the Trust at the address on the back. Information is also available at www.hawkandowl.org.

As a volunteer, you can make a difference:

■ **As part of a local group.** Several Hawk and Owl Trust local members' groups carry out practical conservation work. This can range from putting up nest boxes and platforms and monitoring vulnerable nest sites to advising local farmers on habitat management. Groups also organise events and attend local shows to spread the word about birds of prey and the Trust's work.

See the website for the growing list of local members' groups and their contact details.

■ **Through conservation and research.** As well as conservation initiatives by individual local groups, the Trust's national Kestrel Highways project, for example, depends on volunteers. Others are supporting our conservation team with a variety of projects, ranging from siting and monitoring nesting platforms for peregrines to surveying long-eared owl distribution and taking measures to increase numbers.

Email enquiries@hawkandowl.org to find out about the opportunities.

■ **At shows and other events.**

Volunteers help to greet visitors to the Trust's stand at national shows such as the annual British Birdwatching Fair in Rutland and local events, introducing them to the Trust's work

E: roger.moses@btinternet.com

Anyone who would like to spread the word about the Hawk and Owl Trust at a local show, or organise a fundraising event can obtain leaflets from enquiries@hawkandowl.org

■ **In the main office.** Large mailings to Members and those who Adopt a Box and the despatch of Christmas card orders rely on volunteers' help in the main office in Somerset.

E: enquiries@hawkandowl.org

■ **As a trustee.** The Trust is always interested to hear from Members, in any part of the UK, who could bring skills, expertise, experience and enthusiasm to the board.



Volunteering on reserves

■ **Fylingdales Moor, North Yorkshire.** The Hoots is a group of volunteers, set up by the North York Moors National Park Authority specifically to help the Hawk and Owl Trust with its habitat and estate management and conservation work on Fylingdales Moor.

E: cathansell85@hotmail.co.uk

Volunteers also carry out more formal surveys of the birds and other wildlife, and students are encouraged to undertake scientific studies on the biodiversity and ecology of the moor.

E: john.edwards@wildfylingdales.co.uk

In addition, the outreach and education officer is looking for volunteers to help with events or schools.

E: tanya.fylingdales@btinternet.com

■ **Sculthorpe Moor Community Nature Reserve, North Norfolk.** The wide range of volunteering opportunities at this reserve near Fakenham include:

- practical outdoor work, helping with habitat management
- welcoming people to the visitor centre or the reserve itself
- helping with school visits, guided walks and other events
- surveying wildlife, from butterflies to birds and plants (experts are available to train potential volunteers).

E: leanne.thomas@hawkandowl.org

■ **Shapwick Moor Reserve, Somerset.** Volunteers play a key role in the development of this reserve on the Somerset Levels, including meeting for regular workdays to help with habitat creation and management. Trained volunteers are also surveying birds, water voles and otters.

E: gill@brownfamilymail.co.uk

Working for wild birds of prey and their habitats

Find out more at www.hawkandowl.org