

## **Keston Common, Ravensbourne Open space and Padmall Wood Site Report**

### **FoKC Open Meeting October 2019**

Six months has passed since I last made a report on the site so hopefully this will serve as an update on what has happened over the summer and what to expect over the coming months.

As always it has not been quiet at Keston with lots of different work and projects going on both on workdays and behind the scenes. Workdays have continued to grow with most now being in double figures for attendance, we have undertaken a range of tasks over the last year including post and rail repairs, bog management, gorse control along with signing and re-way marking some of the trails on the site and finally installed the interpretation board by the roundabout.

Survey days are proving popular and hopefully more of you will now be willing to help out Bob and Tudor with their great work recording the sites butterfly and reptiles. Southern March Orchid have been discovered onsite for the first time this year along with Adders. We have also seen an influx of Painted Lady butterfly and the bats on site are still abundant.

Looking to the next few months it is going to be very busy! Winter season is back upon us and there is lots to be done in a short time frame. Our Friends at London Wildlife Trusts, water for wildlife project, will be joining us again this season to help get the bog up to scratch as well as expand our restoration efforts:

If you are free on any of the following dates we will be meeting at Fishponds Road between 10am and 10.30am or come and find us in the bog/mire areas.

- Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> October
- Friday 18<sup>th</sup> October
- Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> October
- Friday 1<sup>st</sup> November

As well as the bog there is plenty of rotational scrub management to be done along with heathland restoration works cutting and burning gorse. On top of all of that there will be some coppicing and felling operations which are currently being finalised.

As always these reports are good time for me to thank all of you for the hard work you do at Keston, the efforts you put in are greatly appreciated and I am looking forward to working with you all over the coming winter season.

**Steven Lofting**

**Biodiversity Advisor, RSPB**

**Site Manager**