

Hurst Water Meadow News October 2011

Family afternoon

The Trust and the Abbey are jointly holding a family afternoon on Sunday 27 November: **Festive Foliage**. We shall be collecting natural materials from the Hurst (2.00–3.00 pm) and returning with them to the Abbey (3.00–4.00) to make nature-inspired festive decorations. Please also see posters on village notice boards; for further information, please e-mail jmillin@uwclub.net. Free, but donations will be gratefully received.

Education

Six groups of secondary students, from schools as far afield as Reading, have visited this autumn doing practical river studies on the Thame and Mill Stream on the Hurst, facilitated by the Earth Trust. The schools were very happy with the activities, and we are grateful to the Earth Trust for their expertise and resources.

New web site

Do have a look at our redesigned web site. We are still fine-tuning the contents, but we hope you will like the more modern look.

Fishing on the Hurst

You are welcome to fish on the Hurst – our new team of bailiffs will be checking tickets, so please have your season ticket with you (available from Dorchester Post Office; free to Dorchester residents, £30 for non-residents), or buy a day ticket (£4), also available from the bailiff.

Hurst Meadow

The hay was cut at the end of September and baled and collected in early October. Strips were left uncut along the paths in order to give more variety for wildlife. We look forward to having the horses back to graze later, when the grass has grown a little. Grazing is an important part of the management of the meadow.

Volunteering to help on the meadows

If you'd like to help by taking part in future working parties, please contact Graham Beland at workingparty@hurst-water-meadow.co.uk. It is a relaxing way to spend a Saturday morning, with work suitable for all ages and abilities. We hope to have further working parties during the winter.

Mike Southon, hon. secretary 341544

