



Your land, your heritage, your future

For more news visit – [www.boxmoortrust.org.uk](http://www.boxmoortrust.org.uk)

The  
Box Moor  
Trust

## Bringing back the Bulbourne

Photo: Sheila Dady

The next phase of the Bulbourne restoration project got underway early in the New Year. The purpose of the project is to restore a 1000 metre stretch of the river between Fishery Road and Two Waters Road. The river in this location contributes significantly to the character of the area, and is well-visited and appreciated by the community. However, it has been heavily modified in the past. It is over-wide and lacking in features characteristic of a chalk stream. Under the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006, the Bulbourne is listed as a priority habitat for restoration.

### The work comprises:

- Re-grading the banks to narrow the channel, create more sinuosity and create a shallower bank profile;
- Installation of woody habitat features to help improve habitat and flow diversity;
- Stabilisation and narrowing of river crossing points;
- Bed raising where the channel has been over-deepened;
- Installation of fencing;
- Reconnecting the floodplain and creation of floodplain scrapes or seasonal ponds (currently scheduled for August).



This map, together with a comprehensive key explaining the work being carried out, is available to view in large scale on our website at [www.boxmoortrust.org.uk](http://www.boxmoortrust.org.uk). It also features on several prominent signs located on the moor in the area where the project is taking place.

The work will be carried out by Five Rivers Environmental Management. This project is jointly funded and managed by the Environment Agency, The Box Moor Trust and the Chilterns Chalk Stream Project. For further information, please feel free to get in contact with us: [admin@boxmoortrust.org.uk](mailto:admin@boxmoortrust.org.uk)

Did you  
know?

The Box Moor Trust is now on and @BoxMoorTrust @boxmoortrust

## Farewell to Claire



**In October the Trust reluctantly said goodbye to one of its longest-serving Trustees, Claire Hughes. Claire, who was elected as a Trustee in 1995, has lived in Boxmoor all her life and raised her family here.**

Serving for many years on the Education, Publicity & Events committee, she has been instrumental in raising the Trust's profile within the local community, in particular helping to develop the now familiar horse chestnut leaf logo. She has been an enthusiastic supporter of the Trust's community events and festivals and took a key role in developing the Trust's now thriving education programme, which offers environmental education opportunities for all local schools. In recent years, she has also served as Chairman of the Grants committee, which offers funding for community projects within the Trust's area of benefit. Claire has decided that the time is right to stand down as a Trustee and spend more time travelling and with family. She will be greatly missed! Our photo shows Trust Chairman David Kirk presenting Claire with a framed copy of Stuart Scott's lovely winning image from the 2016 Box Moor Trust calendar.

**If you have any comments or questions relating to the work of the Box Moor Trust, please feel free to contact us at: [admin@boxmoortrust.org.uk](mailto:admin@boxmoortrust.org.uk)**



*First Place: Christine Robertson'*

## Art competition winners

**Our inaugural art competition, launched in the autumn, has uncovered a rich seam of artistic talent in our community. Entrants have interpreted the Box Moor Trust theme in a range of imaginative ways, giving the judges a challenging task in selecting the winners. The competition was judged by Rod Bugg (Emeritus Professor of Sculpture at University of the Arts London) and Box Moor Trustee Dan Forder, who is a graphic designer.**

In first place was Christine Robertson's painting of the horse chestnut tree avenue on Station Moor, an iconic local image and immediately recognisable as being Box Moor Trust land. The judges liked the fact that it showed people engaged with, and enjoying, the moor and not just passing through it.

Liz Warriner came second with her drawing of a Belted Galloway, an animal synonymous with the Trust. The judges felt that the drawing was technically very adept and that the use of tone, shading and contrast made the image stand out, giving it an almost 3D effect.

Third place was awarded to Georgia Evans for her painting of a fox. The judges liked the structure of the branches and the coldness of the background, in stark contrast to the warm hues of the fox. The image gives the impression of being "in the moment", as though the fox has just emerged from the woods in front of the viewer.

The prizes are vouchers to be redeemed at Berkhamsted Arts & Crafts, who generously sponsored the competition with supplementary prizes of sketch books for all the winners. We plan to run further art competitions in the future so watch this space!



*Second Place: Liz Warriner*



*Third Place: Georgia Evans*



*The flock on Fishery Moor*

## Sheep Invasion!

**We received lots of questions and positive feedback from local residents about the sudden influx of sheep onto Fishery Moor in September, so we thought readers would like to know the reasons behind introducing them.**

Fishery Moor has an abundance of wild and scarce flowers. Long grass tends to smother them and discourages their establishment, so we graze lightly during the flowering season so that the flowers don't get swamped by faster-growing species. The 345 Highlander crosses, belonging to local sheep farmer John Pratt, were introduced onto the moor at the end of the summer in order to graze more heavily and reduce the sward height still further.

After a few weeks of grazing Fishery Moor the grass was short enough and the sheep were moved to Bovingdon Reach at Westbrook Hay, another valuable wild flower site. The exercise has been very successful from the Trust's point of view, and the grazing of Fishery Moor will be repeated in 2017.

## Grants

The Box Moor Trust makes available annually a small grant fund for local not-for-profit organisations. These are one-off grants and should be used for purchase of equipment or for other capital projects. To qualify, organisations must be operating in the Box Moor Trust area of benefit, which broadly covers Hemel Hempstead and Bovingdon. Grants will be up to a maximum sum of £2,500. Organisations may only apply at intervals of 5 years since their last successful application.

The closing date for the current round is 30th June 2017. Final decisions on allocation of grants will be made in September 2017 and distribution will be during the year ending 30th September 2018. Application forms and guidance notes can be downloaded at [www.boxmoortrust.org.uk](http://www.boxmoortrust.org.uk). Alternatively, give us a ring on 01442 253300 and we will put an application pack in the post to you.



*Two of last year's new arrivals*

## Spring Lambs!

Always a popular feature in the Trust's calendar, our annual "Spring Lambs" walk will take place on Sunday 12th March at 11am. We will be visiting the pastures of Westbrook Hay as well as the livestock barn, where the ewes waiting to give birth are kept under close observation by the estate staff. There may even be an opportunity to bottle-feed some of the youngest lambs. There is a small charge of £5 per adult or £10 per family. To reserve your place, email [elainerushton@boxmoortrust.org.uk](mailto:elainerushton@boxmoortrust.org.uk)

## Christmas in Hay Wood

Santa came to join us for our family activity morning at Westbrook Hay on 10th December. Attendance was high, with children taking part in craft activities at the Old Barn or listening to stories in our woodland log circle.

*Santa meets a young man named Riley*

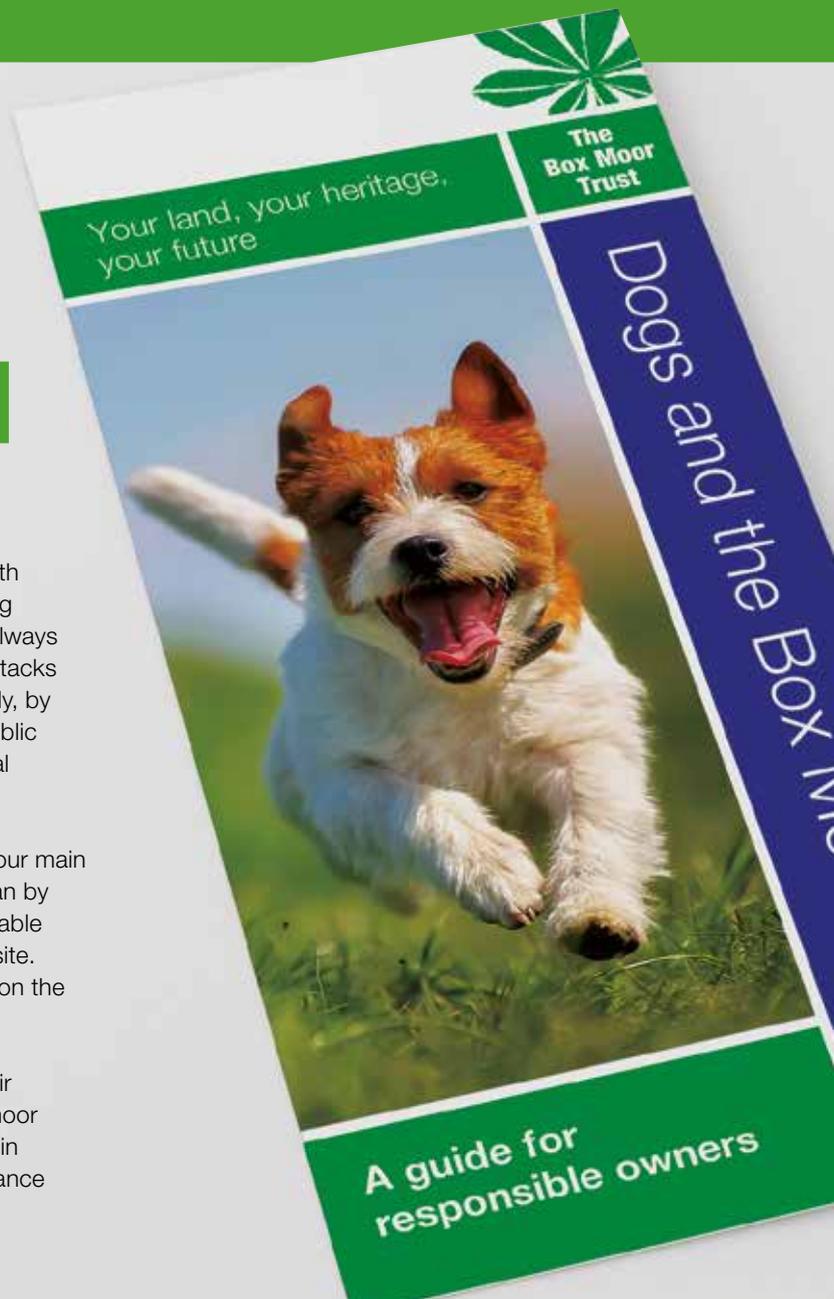


# Dog walking on Trust land

The Trust estate is a popular and valued resource for the local community, but we should never forget that we share the land with wildlife, livestock and other visitors. Whilst the vast majority of dog walkers are respectful and responsible, unfortunately this is not always the case. 2016 was particularly notable for the increase in dog attacks on our livestock. Sheep have been injured, on one occasion fatally, by dogs that have not been adequately controlled. Dog fouling in public areas is also an ongoing problem, causing mess and the potential spread of disease.

With this in mind, the Trust has published a guide that sets out your main responsibilities when walking a dog and advises on what we mean by effective control. Called 'Dogs and the Box Moor Trust', it is available free of charge from the Trust office or can be viewed on the website. We would really encourage you to have a read, and please pass on the leaflet to anyone that you feel would benefit from seeing it.

Professional dog walkers must apply for a licence to exercise their charges on Trust land. The only current licence holders are Boxmoor K9, Pro-Dogs and Paws Up Pet Services. Companies interested in taking up a licence should contact the Trust office in the first instance at: [admin@boxmoortrust.org.uk](mailto:admin@boxmoortrust.org.uk)



## Easyfundraising and the Box Moor Trust

**We have set up the Trust as a cause on the Easy Fundraising scheme, and would invite you to register as a supporter. Then, every time you shop online, you could be helping to raise donations for the Trust (most major online retailers are signed up to the scheme).**

To enrol, visit [www.easyfundraising.org.uk/](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/) registration and search for The Box Moor Trust under 'Find a cause to support'. Follow the instructions to create an account and download a donation reminder for your toolbar. Whenever you buy anything online from a retailer registered with the

scheme, access the retailer's website via the Easy Fundraising icon on your toolbar. A percentage of the cost of your online order will then be automatically credited to the Box Moor Trust. It will not cost you any extra – the donation is made by the retailer. A quick and easy way to fundraise for the Trust!

Contact Us

The Box Moor Trust Centre, London Road, Hemel Hempstead, HP1 2RE  
Tel: 01442 253300, Reg. Charity No. 206142

