Adderbury Lakes Working Party Newsletter

No 1 – Summer 2020

Welcome to the first Lakes Working Party newsletter. I am hoping to send around 3 a year to ensure that our volunteers are kept up with any news from the Lakes Management Group.

Work completed during the lockdown



With the Lockdown and the closure of the Lakes for around 3 months, we all missed the last working parties. But the Management Group have not been idle during the lock down and made good use of the lack of public to achieve some maintenance. Rick and Nigel completed some work on the bridges and also to try and keep the Water lilies clear of weed.

We also had a mini working party at the start of July to prepare for re-opening, including adding signage for the one way system.

Managing the Lakes Working Parties and Volunteers

We would like to say a big thank you to Phil Mansell for managing the volunteers and their tasks each monthly session. I (Rachel Moffat) have now taken over this task with the help of the Management Group to help with the task list preparation.

Planned work for the rest of the summer and autumn

We have decided to have a waterproof membrane added to the Ice House, to protect the wooden door and its fixings, as well as give the Bats a warmer habitat. A large tree has also fallen and will need to be removed (not by the volunteers you will be pleased to know). We are also reviewing the state of the weed covering the Lakes currently. The remaining work will be keeping areas tidy and getting some of the nettles and other areas under control.

Wildlife review



We were pleased to see a pair of swans starting to nest at the start of the lockdown, and we were ever so hopeful for cygnets this summer. Sadly, Rick and Nigel found the female swan floating dead, in the lake on a visit. No obvious cause of death and due to lock down Rick could not find anyone to come out and inspect the body. Fingers crossed for the male

returning with a new female next year. Rick also discovered this very long grass snakeskin which had been shed.



And finally For a bit of fun, thanks to Rick for this captioned image.

We hope you have stayed well during the lockdown and got on with your own gardens and homes. We hope to see you all in September for the first working party of the season and we will be in contact nearer the time.