



# Oliver's Battery Countryside Group

## Newsletter 3/2014

### AUGUST

[www.oliversbatterycountysidegroup.org.uk](http://www.oliversbatterycountysidegroup.org.uk)

What a glorious sunny day we had for the village fete! Liz, Alison, Bogdan, Helen and Martin set up the stall and enjoyed talking to lots of people including the Mayor of Winchester. Thank you for joining our group as it is wonderful to get the support of appreciative locals, even if you cannot help with the work parties. We like suggestions, one of which is to erect an Owl box and we shall investigate this. Donations were also collected!

### OB Wildlife Area

Now we have had a splash of rain there may be more colourful flowers opening in the grassy meadow. The smaller flower meadow is a riot of colour. The paths have been cut by Chris Sparkes, who the Parish Council have contracted to cut the grass in the Rec and WA. We are grateful for this as it frees our volunteers to concentrate on other activities. Friends and relatives with children might enjoy a picnic here, and explore the hazel tunnel and enjoy the wildlife. Hogweed, for some unknown reason, has grown much more vigorously than usual so the committee have been chopping it down by hand so that you can sit on the benches and see the distant view of Yew Hill. Soon the blackberries will be ripe enough to pick.

### ACTIVITIES:

What a fantastic summer we are experiencing with insects fluttering, buzzing and chirping all around us outside.



**Big Butterfly Count 19<sup>th</sup> July to 10<sup>th</sup> August.** If you are beginning to look at butterflies then there are eight days left to join in the Big Butterfly Count. Spend 15 minutes in a sunny spot. Use the Butterfly ID charts to note how many of each species you see. Then submit your sightings, date and location at [www.bigbutterflycount.org](http://www.bigbutterflycount.org). The ID charts are displayed at both gates of the OBWA. Do the count anywhere - in your garden or in a park. IF you would like help with identifying butterflies then phone Clare (852136) and we can arrange to meet in OBWA on a sunny day soon.

Apologies for the postponement of the Moth Evening. Look out on the blackboard, email and web site for the new date later in August.