

The Moseley Bog & Joy's Wood Project

Moseley Bog & Joy's Wood is a valuable wildlife site that has long played an important role in the lives of local people. In 2010 The Wildlife Trust launched an ambitious and exciting partnership project with the Heritage Lottery Fund, Natural England, Birmingham City Council and the volunteers and friends of Moseley Bog. Together we're working for wildlife and people.

Get Involved

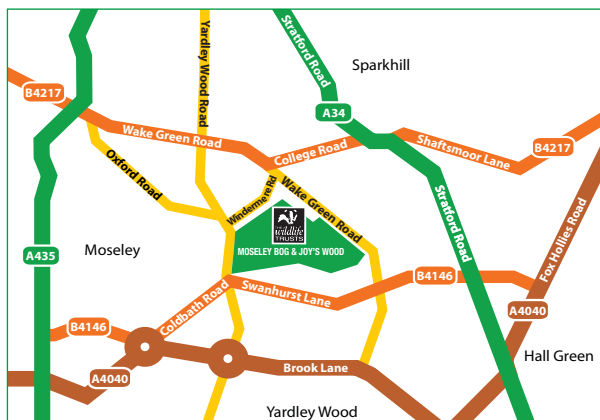
There are many ways you can get involved with Moseley Bog & Joy's Wood:

- Join us on our regular volunteer days and learn wildlife management skills
- Come on one of our walks and find out more about the area's wildlife and history
- Bring your school or community group along to a tailored activity day
- Make use of our free education packs
- Come and use our outdoor classroom
- Take part in a corporate volunteering day with your colleagues

For more information visit our website or contact the Moseley Bog reserve officer at info@moseleybog.org.uk 0121 454 1199.

Where to find us

Moseley Bog & Joy's Wood is located in the Springfield area of Birmingham approximately 5.1 km (3.2 miles) south of the city centre. The main entrance is on Yardley Wood Road (the closest postcode is B13 9JX). The Ordnance Survey grid reference is SP092821.



PLEASE NOTE that there are no toilets on the reserve

Creating a Living Landscape

Birmingham & Black Country



The Wildlife Trust for Birmingham & The Black Country is one of 47 Wildlife Trusts that cover the whole of the UK. Locally we work to make Birmingham & the Black Country a better place for wildlife and people.

Please support the Wildlife Trust by becoming a member

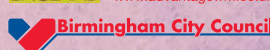
If local wildlife and green spaces are important to you, then by becoming a member of the Birmingham & Black Country Wildlife Trust you can help to make a real difference. Our members' subscriptions provide the foundation for all our wildlife activities, and by joining you can help us to create a Living Landscape in which you and your family can enjoy wildlife, now and in the future.

Our members receive our **Wildlife Focus** magazine three times a year, where you'll find the latest news and information about our work with wildlife. Children will become members of Wildlife Watch, our children's club, and enjoy their own mailings. Other benefits of membership include:

- Your membership card - a passport to over 1,600 Wildlife Trust nature reserves across the UK
- Year round wildlife events and activities across Birmingham & the Black Country
- Volunteering opportunities with the chance to gain new skills and work 'hands on' with wildlife
- Advice and guidance on local wildlife issues by phone or e-mail
- National wildlife magazine **Natural World** (three times a year)

To join the Wildlife Trust please visit our website at www.bbcwildlife.org.uk or call us on 0121 454 1199

The Wildlife Trust for Birmingham and the Black Country
28 Harborne Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham B15 3AA.
Tel: 0121 454 1199 Fax: 0121 454 6556
Email: info@bbcwildlife.org.uk Web: www.bbcwildlife.org.uk



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Birmingham & Black Country



Moseley Bog & Joy's Wood Nature Reserve



Supported by
The National Lottery
through the Heritage Lottery Fund



Creating a Living Landscape

Moseley Bog & Joy's Wood Nature Reserve

Part of The Shire Country Park



Safeguarding the Reserve for the Future

The area that we call Moseley Bog & Joy's Wood Nature Reserve was subjected to many abuses in the 20th century, but today the site is a haven for wildlife, enjoyed and cared for by local people.

- Local volunteers and Wildlife Trust staff are working to ensure that, although the valley's character has been changed by human activity, it survives and prospers for the benefit of nature and people into the future.
- If you care about the reserve, come and join us – details are shown overleaf. You'll make new friends and learn new skills along the way!
- It seems unthinkable now, but in 1980 plans were announced to build 22 houses in the reserve. This sparked a 'Save Our Bog' campaign led by local resident Joy Fifer, which culminated in 1986 with the City Council putting a stop to the development by purchasing a section of the land.
- The campaign included news reports, street demonstrations, petitions and lots of public support. It inspired local conservationists to found the Urban Wildlife Group, which in turn went on to become the Wildlife Trust for Birmingham and the Black Country – the first Wildlife Trust in the country to serve a wholly urban area. In 2010 Moseley Bog & Joy's Wood became a Wildlife Trust Reserve.



Moseley Bog & Joy's Wood is a special place rich in wildlife and history. Highlighted on the map are some of the things that you can discover. As you explore the reserve look out for the information panels which highlight many others.

Meadows – Meadows are grass-dominated areas of land that are traditionally cut for hay and sometimes grazed by livestock over the winter months. Once awash with wildflowers and alive with insects, our meadows have been drained, damaged and destroyed as a result of modern agricultural practices: more than 95% of our wildflower meadows have been lost in recent years. Without care, those meadows that are left can quickly become overgrown, shading out delicate wildflowers.

The Wildlife Trust is using traditional methods to manage the open spaces of Joy's Wood as meadow. This will encourage wildlife and a greater diversity of wildflowers.

● ● ● ● All Access Path
● ● ● Other Main Path

Around the reserve you will see yellow waymarkers for the 'all access' path. This route has gentler slopes and no steps.

Fen – Moseley Bog contains an area of rare fen vegetation which is known locally as 'The Bog'. Fens are areas of waterlogged ground which support a wide variety of plants and animals adapted to live in damp conditions. Whereas bogs, swamps and marshes are fed by rainwater, or water draining from the land (known as 'run-off'), fens are usually fed by water rising from below ground.

To prevent the fen and its special wildlife being lost to woodland the Wildlife Trust regularly remove colonising trees.



Woodland – The Wildlife Trusts manage many woodland nature reserves sympathetically for a range of spring flowers, from showy bluebells to delicate yellow pimpernel, interesting ferns to pretty primroses. A mix of coppicing, scrub-cutting and ride maintenance open up the woodland floor to the sun, helping many flowers and plants to thrive. You can help too: volunteer at Moseley Bog & Joy's Wood Nature Reserve and you could be involved in everything from traditional forest crafts to raising awareness about woodland wildlife.



Community and volunteers

The local community and volunteers are crucial to our work in safeguarding natural areas. As a trust we invest in our volunteers so they are well equipped to help support sites through practical management, community events, fundraising and membership.



Look out for Wood sorrel and Bluebells

Wood-sorrel has distinctive trefoil leaves – at night, the three heart-shaped lobes are folded back into a tent; during the day they flatten out. The white flowers have five petals and tiny purple veins; they also close as the light fades, reopening in the dappled sun. The plant forms distinctive clumps in woodlands and shady hedgerows, often growing from the moss on fallen logs.

Bluebells are one of our most famous and unmistakable woodland flowers. They spend most of the year as bulbs underground, only emerging to flower from April onwards. This early spring flowering allows them to make the most of the sunlight that is still able to make it to their woodland floor habitat and attracts the attention of plenty of pollinating insects.

This leaflet is part of a comprehensive package of interpretation and educational materials that are available for Moseley Bog & Joy's Wood. If you would like to find out more then please visit our website or contact us.