



# E.P.I.C.H.

## ECO PEOPLE IN CROFT and HURWORTH

<http://www.epich.org.uk>

EPICH would like to thank John Martin who has had to resign from his role as Secretary and Treasurer as he and Adele, have moved to Ripon. We wish them both well for the future.

Luckily we have managed to persuade our Vice Chair, Judith Redfern to take on the role of Secretary and Peter Allan to resume his role as Treasurer.

### **In the local community**

Our general maintenance work around the grounds of the Grange has continued weather permitted.

During the Easter holidays, EPICH held a free Nature Trail activity at the Grange. The activity included finding and solving nature based puzzles as well as making a bird feeder to take home. As you can see from the pictures everyone enjoyed the event and EPICH are hoping to organise similar events in the future.



## **Beekeeping**

Our **EPICH** beekeepers have been very busy over the last few months. With the warmer weather, the Queens have started laying and the numbers of bees in each colony have significantly increased. Weekly inspections are now necessary to ensure the bees have enough stores and space in each hive. Hopefully we will be able to harvest some spring honey before too long.



## **Our next project - A wildflower meadow.**



### **Hurworth Spring Bulbs**

Last autumn EPICH volunteers planted 4000 bulbs in sites around Hurworth and Hurworth Place and many of you will have seen and enjoyed the spring show of snowdrops, crocus, daffodils and bluebells.

This autumn we are intending to plant more bulbs for an even better display next spring and in years to come. We would like you to let us know of areas around the village where you would like to see spring bulbs planted. Please tell us of any locations you think would benefit from spring colour and give us an address or brief description of the area so we can find it!

We will supply the bulbs and the planting volunteers - although we are always happy for anyone to come along and help.

Suggestions to -  
[www.epich.org.uk](http://www.epich.org.uk)  
[www.epich.org.uk/facebook.asp](http://www.epich.org.uk/facebook.asp)

Judith Redfern  
EPICH Vice chair & Secretary



### **Wildflower meadow.**

Our wildflower meadow project at the Grange, which was delayed due to inclement weather in the Spring, has finally started to blossom. It is still in its early stages of



development and will continue to mature next year. The wildlife are already enjoying the benefits.



## Wildlife Map

One of our members, Jaime Westwood, has created a child friendly wildlife map, which describes the flora and fauna to be spotted whilst enjoying walking along Hurworth public footpaths.



Thanks to a donation from HPC this leaflet will be printed and made available to the community through schools, playgroups etc. for all to access.

## **Beekeeping**

Judith, Tony and myself have been making weekly visits to the apiary not only to ensure the bees stay healthy and harvest honey, but also to prepare the colonies for the winter months.

We have had very positive feedback from those of you that have tasted our local honey. The last few jars are available to buy from Rockliffe pharmacy and View hairdressers (above Spar).



## **Ideas for the future.**

We are always looking for opportunities to help the local community get closer to nature. One idea is to convert part of the pathway around the Community Centre grounds into a more user friendly surface, making it more accessible to all. As part of our research **EPICH** would welcome and appreciate your comments and suggestions.

## **PLEASE HELP**

For **EPICH** to continue our work in the local community we need more volunteers. This involves a monthly meeting to discuss projects (with drinks and nibbles) and for those of us who can make it, a weekly two hour work party meeting at the Grange. All ages and abilities are most welcome.

If you are at all interested in learning more about our work or helping in any way, please contact our secretary Judith Redfern on [info@epich.org.uk](mailto:info@epich.org.uk)

**We have reached a critical stage for **EPICH** in that without your help we may not be able to continue these local projects.**

**PLEASE SUPPORT OUR WORK BY VOLUNTEERING TO HELP**

**EPICH would like to thank HPC and HCA for their continued support.**

**Wilma Campbell  
EPICH Chair**