

Meadows Buzz

MILLBRIDGE BROOK MEADOWS, GAMLINGAY

SUNDAY MAY 5 2024

WE ARE TEN!

BIRDS OF PREY FLYING, EXHIBITION OPENS, TIME CAPSULE BURIED

Gamlingay is today celebrating the 10th birthday of Millbridge Brook Meadows, a decade to the day after the community green space opened in 2014.

Birds of prey from the English School of Falconry at Herrings Green Activity Farm are the star attraction, flying at 2pm and 3.30pm. Falconer Laura and her birds will be on the main Millbridge Brook Field from 12-4 to talk to, answer questions and for photographs. If you have a pet dog, please ensure it is on a lead when the birds are in the air.

Pupils from Gamlingay Village Primary will bury a time capsule under the main meadow, and there is a competition for all the family to enter. See the other side of this programme for the questions and the prizes to be won.

In the Eco Hub, visit our exhibition of photos, maps and art about the Millbridge Brook Meadows, past and present. This includes an 1880s map of Gamlingay, photos showing development since 2014, and striking new photos of the village by local photographer Gareth Squence.



Our logo and new map of the meadows were created by local graphic designer Sarah Callis. Her map (scan the QR code) brings us right up-to-date, adding the post-2014 Saxon Memorial and Pocket Forest, and adds benches, bins and historic features.

TODAY'S TIMINGS

- 12pm-4pm** Birds of prey (Herrings Green) on site, competition running, exhibition at Eco Hub opens
- 1pm** Time capsule buried by GVP pupils
- 2pm** Flying display by birds of prey
- 3.30pm** Flying display by birds of prey

REST OF THIS MONTH

- Activities run by the Wildlife Trust for Beds, Cambs and Northants.
- Nature trail, from May 20-31, with more prizes to be won.
- Free visits to Gamlingay's community turbine on May 18
- Exhibition runs until May 30.

WITH THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS, GIGACLEAR (BIRDS OF PREY) AND BROGAN GROUP (COMPETITION PRIZES)

Gigaclear
Faster broadband for rural Britain

Win a prize in our competition for all ages

10 questions about today and the Meadows. Answers can be found in the meadows, in our exhibition, or on our website or elsewhere online



Question 1: The remains of eight Saxon residents of Gamlingay were re-buried on the meadows in 2019. They died here between **which year** and 930 AD?



Question 2: What is the name of the very common **vegetable** with a connection to an historic feature on the meadows, shown on our new map?



Question 3: Which **bird** gives its name to a butterfly which has been observed on the meadows, and which feeds on stinging nettles and lays its young on them?



Question 4: Which famous and legendary **wizard** shares his name with the UK's smallest bird of prey, whose numbers are boosted by migration from Iceland?



Question 5: The railway line serving Gamlingay crossed what are now the meadows. But in **which year** did the station in our village shut?



Question 6: What is the name of the **manor farm** shown on the Gamlingay map from the 1880s on the site where Gamlingay Village Primary is now situated?



Question 7: The Millbridge Brook flows towards Biggleswade before joining the Ivel and Great Ouse and ending at The Wash. But near **which wood** does it begin?



Question 8: What semi-aquatic **rodent** was seen in the Brook during lockdown, but has been absent since, with flooding and water quality maybe to blame?



Question 9: What is the less common name of the **green woodpecker**, which has often been seen in trees along the brook? It comes from the bird's laughing call.



Question 10: Many trees in the meadows now have new name tags on them, linking to information online. Name **three of the types of trees** we have here?

Your answers

- | | | |
|-----|----|----|
| 1. | 2. | 3. |
| 4. | 5. | 6. |
| 7. | 8. | 9. |
| 10. | | |

Your name:

Phone/email:



1st prize: A year's family membership of the RSPB or the Wildlife Trust for Beds, Cambs & Northants - your choice.
Second prize: A bundle of books (left) about the great outdoors, worth £35.
Third prize (5): Weatherproof copies of Ordnance Survey map 208 (Sandy & Biggleswade), with mobile download.



Hand your entry to our volunteer near the Saxon Memorial or put it in the post-box in the Eco Hub reception. Closing date: Thursday 9 May