

One Horse Field and Turvills Field

Annual Report

2024 – 2025



Produced for Totland Parish Council



Introduction

We are pleased to provide our Gift to Nature One Horse Field and Turvills Field Annual Report 2024/25.

Our priorities remain to keep the Gift to Nature sites open and safe to use, allowing everyone to have free access to the Island's fantastic countryside.

This is only possible because of the support we receive from our funders, partners and volunteers, for which we are grateful. We also value the feedback we receive about the sites, so please continue to share your views and observations with us.

Ranger Activity

Gift to Nature sites:

Turvills and One Horse Field

The Ranger team visit these sites once a fortnight. A visit includes a litter pick, site check and a visual tree inspection.

Turvills has responded well to being managed with a wonderful array of Orchids and Wildflowers. On both Gift to Nature sites we only cut the paths out during the growing season as this gives the areas the best chance of providing habitat for wildlife and allow the wildflowers to seed. The end-of-season cut is collected and removed by hand to make habitat areas and Hibernaculums, undertaken with the help of volunteers.

We have been asked on occasion about planting more trees on the sites; however, in our opinion, this would be a mistake, as they are both wonderful wildflower meadows, and any planting would have a negative impact.

There is Dutch Elm, Willow, and Ash Dieback on both sites, which we will continue to manage as appropriately as possible. We still try to keep as much standing dead wood on the sites as possible, as this creates wonderful habitat. Therefore, as a rule, we tend to concentrate on paths used by the public. The Rangers have removed all of the above from the sites this year, as well as Bamboo at Turvills.

Litter has been better this year; however, the top of One Horse Field, near the viewpoint, is a popular area that tends to attract litter.

The Rangers have repaired benches and the picnic table at Turvills, and a new sign was vandalised at One Horse Field, which will be repaired this year.

Work to be undertaken during the coming year 2025/26 will include:

- Fortnightly Site visits and Litter Pick

- Removal of diseased trees where necessary

- Clear more Scrub at One Horse Field in the Autumn

- Mow and Stirm paths in the growing season

Maintain balance between wildlife and public access

Repair gate post at Turvills Field

Engagement Activities

The Gift to Nature engagement programme has been designed to encourage more people from diverse backgrounds to visit our sites and connect with nature. It is delivered through a mix of events, activities and presentations.

To broaden the reach of Gift to Nature, we have worked in partnership with other organisations focused on areas such as mental health, cultural diversity, young people, care homes, people with disabilities, and those from harder-to-reach communities.

Site Materials

We have produced Site Postcards, I Spy sheets and Colouring-In sheets for each of our sites. These are available on our website.

We have now installed Information Pillars at all of our sites. This provides a single point of access to information and support materials, which we hope will inform and enhance site visits.

In addition, all the Gift to Nature sites have now been filmed, and a short clip of sights and sounds of each site has been uploaded to the Gift to Nature website (www.gifttonature.org.uk).



