

One Horse Field and Turvills Field

Annual Report 2025 – 2026



Produced for Totland Parish Council



Introduction

We are pleased to provide our Gift to Nature One Horse Field and Turvills Field Annual Report 2025/26.

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

The Ranger team continue to visit these sites at least once a fortnight or where action is required. A visit includes a litter pick, site check and a visual tree inspection.

Turvills Field

Turvills being tucked away is a site used mostly by the local community who enjoy walking the site. Turvills has a wonderful mix of small woodland and open grassland which in the spring has a lovely show of wildflowers especial Orchids. This makes it important that the end of season grass cut is removed from the ground to control the nutrient content in the soil. We can do this because of Green Gym, a volunteer group, who help with larger projects on Gift to Nature sites. The grass is raked, collected by hand and mixed with wood and brush to create a Hibernaculum. An over winter habitat for wildlife.

The Rangers have taken down a large dangerous Willow by the picnic bench and several dead Elms.

The Rangers do a fortnightly site check which includes a litter pick. The site however is generally well respected and the litter on site has been much better. During the growing season we cut back the paths and around the benches but leave as much as possible for the wildlife.

One Horse Field

This site is more widely used by dog walkers and people just out for a pleasant walk. With its mix of Trees and small open areas again make for wonderful habitat with lots of Butterflies, Reptiles, voles, and field mice to name just a few. The flora makes for a pleasant show in the spring and summer once again making important for the grass to be collected and removed this was again done with help from Green Gym. The Rangers have removed both dead Elms and Ash trees from the site this year.

Jon the Gift to Nature Ranger had a number of sessions with local volunteers learning how to lay a hedge. This is the old way to reduce a hedge but create more habitat in the base for wildlife. These popular sessions whilst very time consuming are valuable from a conservation point of view and are a good way to engage with local people. It helps us to explain the work being undertaken on the site.

Bracken is becoming a problem which we started to tackle last year, and this will continue through the next growing season by cutting it several times. This approach makes it difficult for the bracken to recover.

Litter is still a problem on the site, but we have seen less this year which is encouraging.

Trees will still need to be closely monitored again this year with Ash die back and Dutch Elm disease present.

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.

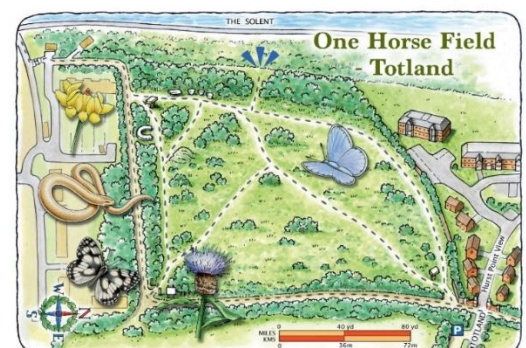
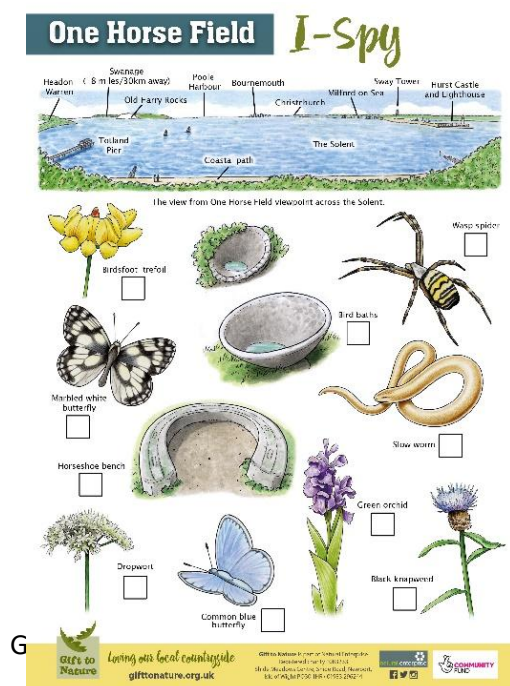
To broaden the reach of Gift to Nature, we have worked in partnership with other organisations focused on areas such as mental health, cultural diversity, young people, care homes, people with disabilities, and those from harder-to-reach communities.

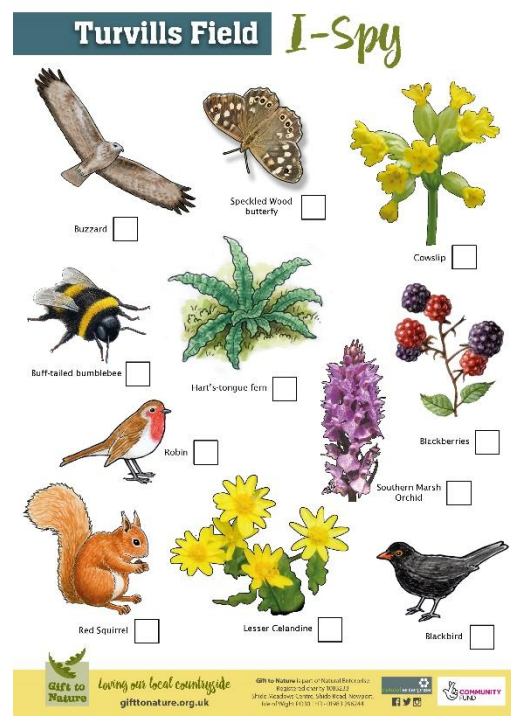
Site Materials

We have 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 both Turvills and One Horse Field. 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).





Ongoing engagement with Totland Parish Council

We are grateful for your ongoing support for our work, and please continue to provide us with your feedback on how we can continue to enhance the role Totland Reserves plays within the local community.

We continue to look for opportunities to increase the portfolio of Gift to Nature sites and we would be happy to discuss any possible new site.