



Little Annexe, Estate Office,
Escrick, York YO19 6EA
m: 07976 821903
e: rosalind@woodmeadowtrust.org.uk

Woodmeadow Voices

What follows is a selection of the responses of senior politicians, policy makers, foresters, conservation practitioners and the wider public to our mission to create and promote woodmeadows, with special reference to Three Hagges Woodmeadow. We hope you enjoy the read!

George Peterken's recent article in *Plantlife* (June 2019) declares that woodmeadow is **“one of the stars to follow”** in linking habitats on a landscape scale.

This view is echoed by **Michael Gove's** (Minister of State for the Environment) reference to Three Hagges Woodmeadow, our flagship site, as **“an exemplar of what might be achieved in the future”**.

Guy Thompson, who has overseen the planting of 1.5million trees since 2000 and is helping to create the Northern Forest, **“Three Hagges Woodmeadow is unique amongst the woods created in the White Rose Forest on my watch (since Jan 23rd 2000): it is the only project to include woodland ground flora as a key constituent of the woodland and also to pay attention to a substantial area of meadow ‘shoreline’, creating a highly biodiverse habitat.”**

And from the wider community.....

“It's fantastic - I wish this had been here when my kids were young” (Local resident and Volunteer photographer).

“My 25 acres of hope”, (Three Hagges Butterfly Transect Walker).

“So informative and encouraging. You have given us a multitude of ideas to connect two patches of housing estate into something beautiful” (Visitor to 2019 York Festival of Ideas ‘Wonder of Woodmeadow’ Day).

“Inspirational. Starting from scratch it will be lovely to see it develop and evolve”.

“This is absolutely excellent as a resource, a source of education and for its benefits to biodiversity”.

“This is one of the best things that has happened round here!”

Our education work has been appreciated by many.....

“Hi Amber, Thank you again for today! It really was the best day and definitely one of the best trips I've been on as a teacher. The children absolutely loved every bit and the activities were so perfect...I will definitely be recommending this visit to other teachers”.

“Hi Amber, I would just like to thank you for providing a super day...The children thoroughly enjoyed the day ...and all had smiles on their faces. They enjoyed all the activities and many hope to return with friends and family.” Teacher, Hensall Primary School

“It was a great pleasure to visit and Emma and Ann had organised the days so well. The teaching venue is excellent, particularly its proximity to the meadow.” John Handley, Botanist and Tutor, 21.05.19

Volunteers and Contractors have shared life changing results...

Butterfly Transect Recorder Nick Hall's life is transformed by his volunteer role, his wife remarked how happy her husband had become and no longer talks of moving down south.

Rosie Bruce, Volunteer Treasurer and full-time accountant said, "I always wanted to volunteer for an organisation but could never find the right role or organisation...This role will enable me to learn a new financial system and will enhance my CV."

Emma Daniels, Administration and Marketing Manager, said, "Working and volunteering with Woodmeadow Trust has enriched my life in many ways...I have gained numerous new skills, for example accounting, teaching, public speaking as well as gaining a greater knowledge of biodiversity and ecology...Three Haggas Woodmeadow is the most beautiful place to work and I can not think of a better job than running an event in the woodmeadow educating and inspiring others about nature and wildlife."

From our recent Northern Forest workshop.....

Matthew Rivers of Drax Group plc wrote, "Seeing what you have achieved was great. Only hope others get the tree bug and we can impact the environment locally and to the benefit of the wider planet!".

Crispin Thorn FICFor, Area Director, Yorkshire and North East Forestry Commission England said, "Many thanks for hosting such a great discussion on the woodland creation opportunities across the Selby District."

From our recent Woodmeadow Trust/Natural England Supper...

Comments included, "a very informative evening for Sarah and I, we met up with some old friends and made some new ones...very helpful in highlighting the pitfalls and problems...For us, the evening was a complete success," and, "A really heartening evening last week - great to see so many people motivated!"

Congrats with everything you are doing with the Woodmeadow Trust. It is so impressive that it is not only a remarkable achievement in its own right but a model for other such projects throughout the country. And the change of name (and much improved website) was a huge improvement – smart. Andrew Franklin, MD- Profile Books 4.6.19

From the Geocachers' community...

"Never knew about this amazing place", "How did we ever miss this area", "Wow what a place, never knew about this", "What a little gem of a find this is...we really enjoyed the walk around here."

From Visiting Naturalists...

Allan Rodda posted the following on the Facebook Group "Butterflies and Moths, North and East Yorkshire" with photos of butterflies. "Today was the open day at Three Haggas Woodmeadow. I have been to a lot of sites all over the UK but this takes some beating - it is truly stunning. The meadow is massive and completely covered in wild flowers and teeming with insect life. It was great to see the kids with sweep nets in hand gathering insect for ID. Well done."

"Wood meadows are rare and important habitats...A wonderful and unique environment for nature and nature lovers to enjoy." Gill Perkins BBCT 11.07.2019

"It is an amazing project and very inspiring!" – Katy Merrington, Gardener, Hepworth Wakefield – 3.10.2019

"If you're not part of the [Woodmeadow Trust] gang, you should be!" Simon King OBE, Spring Lecture 19.3.19