



CORONATION
MEADOWS

WORK continues at Tadpole Farm. To create a new Coronation Meadow for Swindon Borough

“The sixtieth anniversary of The Queen’s Coronation; what better excuse for a concerted effort to begin the creation of at least one meadow in each county?”

His Royal Highness The Prince of Wales

In June 2013, HRH The Prince of Wales launched the Coronation Meadows project at his home in Highgrove. His vision was to see a flagship ancient wildflower meadow identified in every county to mark the anniversary of The Queen’s Coronation. Over the last 3 years, this remarkable project has done just that and there are now 88 Coronation Meadows across the UK. These jewels in the crown are places where people can enjoy a riot of colour and an abundance of wildlife in a setting that has remained largely unchanged since the Coronation.

But this incredible conservation effort doesn’t stop here. In order to realise Prince Charles’ vision to create new wildflower meadows, seed is now being collected from these special Coronation Meadows and used to create meadows across the UK, leaving a legacy for the next 60 years. So far, 66 new meadows (totalling 575 acres) have been created since the project began. The new Swindon Borough meadow being created now is an exciting step towards the goal of 90 meadows to be created by the end of 2016.

What is a Coronation Meadow?

Once the colourful mantle of our green and pleasant land, over 97% of wildflower meadows have been lost in the last 75 years. Coronation Meadows are rare, surviving fragments of these flower-rich grasslands. Over 80% of the meadows can trace an undisturbed history back to before the 2nd World War and many boast quite astonishing displays of wild flowers – orchids, cowslips, buttercups and oxeye daisies in their thousands – as well as all the other wildlife they support. Wiltshire’s Coronation Meadow – Clattinger farm - is owned by Wiltshire Wildlife Trust and is special because it contains many rare plants including the county flower of Wiltshire the Burnt Tipped Orchid





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Tadpole Farm's new meadow

The Coronation Meadow partnership has begun work, alongside work being undertaken by Crest Nicholson to create a series of wildflower meadows along the side of the River Ray in Swindon. Tadpole Primary school children will be planting, plugs, bulbs and scattering seed into an area of meadow that the children will be able to return to year after year to see the meadow and wildlife they created. Local people are encouraged to attend on November 5th between 10:00 and 13:00 to help plant plants bulbs and seed into other areas of the site. Neil Pullen Reserves manager for Wiltshire Wildlife Trust says *"this is an opportunity for local people to come along and create a lasting legacy for Swindon Borough, Wiltshire and Tadpole Garden Village. The meadows will be open for all to come and explore and enjoy the wildlife they attract. So please come along on the 5th help plant some of the meadow and enjoy a warming cup of soup for your troubles."*

Coronation Meadows www.coronationmeadows.org.uk

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The Coronation Meadows Partnership comprises [Plantlife](#), [The Wildlife Trusts](#) and the [Rare Breeds Survival Trust](#). HRH The Prince of Wales is Patron of all three charities. This project is supported by a grant of £1 million from [Biffa Award](#) as part of the Landfill Communities Fund, and a grant from [Natural Resources Wales](#) for work in Wales.

Plantlife plantlife.org.uk

The Wildlife Trusts (TWT) wildlifetrusts.org

Rare Breeds Survival Trust rbst.org.uk

Biffa Award biffa-award.org

Natural Resources Wales naturalresources.wales

