



NORTH COTSWOLD DISTRICT
Secretary: Ali Clifton Barnard
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**VISIT TO GREYSTONES FARM RESERVE, BOURTON-ON-THE-WATER
COTSWOLD RIVERS LIVING LANDSCAPE
Thursday September 29th 4.00pm**

Dear Member,

I'm sure you all remember 'Ratty' from The Wind in the Willows but when was the last time you saw a water vole? Once a common sight along our waterways, water voles are now Britain's fastest declining mammal. Here in the Cotswolds we are fortunate to have several small, isolated populations of water voles but they are clinging to a precarious existence. When populations of water voles and other species are cut off from one another by habitat loss they become extremely vulnerable, unable to disperse or adapt when conditions change.

The creation of a 'living landscape' by Britain's Wildlife Trusts is one of the most ambitious and exciting conservation plans in UK history. Working in partnership with local communities, farmers and landowners, the approach aims to restore, recreate and reconnect wildlife-rich spaces in urban and rural areas.

Experience the Cotswold Rivers Living Landscape Project in action through a guided walk around the Greystones Farm Reserve led by Will Masefield, Community Wildlife Officer for the Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust. We can't guarantee that you will see water voles but you will learn more about ways to 'stand up for your countryside'.

Directions: Park in the Station Road public car park (pay + display) behind the petrol station in Bourton-on-the-Water. Greystones Farm is a 5-minute walk. Cross Station Road and turn left along the pavement. Turn right shortly onto the narrow lane between two houses (marked with a 'no through road' sign). Turn immediately left on to Greystones Lane (signposted private road). **NB: There is no parking at the Farm but there are toilets!**

Please use appropriate footwear, as the paths may be muddy in places. The walk (approx 2 miles) will take about an hour and a half.

There is no charge for this event but donations to the Wildlife Trust would be valued.

Ali Clifton Barnard

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Please could those coming preferably email me at the above email address or return this slip to my postal address by Weds 21st September

I/we (Names)

Would like to attend the event at Greystones Farm and would like to bring (no.)...friends