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RSVP  
VOLUNTEER  
CASE STUDIES  
AROUND  
SHROPSHIRE

Janet Cobb





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# SMALL BEGINNINGS

Started in 2016 in the villages of Norbury and Edgton.

With small grants from the Shropshire Hills Conservation Fund, wildflower plugs and seeds were bought to improve damaged verges and to extend verge restoration.

Verges were surveyed to establish what plants existed

Alongside this practical work, RSVP, began discussions with Shropshire Council Highway Department about verge management and cutting regime to enhance the verges for Wildlife by creating long linear flower rich meadows.

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## ON THE VERGE OF DESTRUCTION:

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Roadside verges represent an important wildlife habitat, especially in the UK which is one of the most nature-depleted countries in the world.

They are particularly critical now, during an escalating biodiversity crisis

Thousands of miles of road verges need to become a key part of an essential national Nature Recovery Network, connecting town and countryside, and joining up vital places for wildlife.



# EDGTON VILLAGE



# ST MARTINS PARISH

Local resident Sue decided to restore small patch of neglected grass with a litter problem on a corner next to her home.  
Contacted RSVP for a bit of advice and encouragement .



# ST MARTINS - RESULT





# ST GEORGE'S CE PRIMARY ACADEMY, CLUN

RSVP & CLUN Climate and Environment Group approached the school to initiate a project

As a result, the school front lawn has been managed as a wildflower verge since May 2021. There

is explanatory signage and funding was found for 2 wooden benches overlooking the site. Anyone

passing the school sees the information and site.

This has been used as evidence for an Eco School Green Flag award received in June 2022

following a range of initiatives in the 2021-22 school year. The school has an Eco committee (the

Green Dragons) who drive the green agenda.

# ST GEORGE'S CE PRIMARY ACADEMY, CLUN



# TELFORD & WREKIN COUNCIL

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Urban Telford as a new town is in quite a different position to the rest of Shropshire as it was designed as a “modern forest city” with new roads and good traffic links connecting the traditional old towns of the area with new housing, retail and industrial areas.

The verges alongside these routes are generally wide and flat and many have poor quality soil lending them to greater botanical diversity than some of our rural highway verges.

The scoping, surveying and the revising of cutting regimes on suitable verges has been done gently for over 20yrs but in 2022, we were allocated specific funding to identify more locations that could be seeded and managed more sustainably for biodiversity and reduce unnecessary mowing.

Meadow areas receive a cut and collect of the arisings and we start this process around the third week in August. Contractors spend over 2 months completing this work which equates to 739,249m<sup>2</sup> – or the equivalent of 65 football pitches.

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# TELFORD & WREKIN

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## ENVIRONMENT & NEIGHBOURHOOD TEAM





# HEDGES AND VERGES

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## A PLEA



# HEDGES

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