



It's been a busy year for us at the Wild Flower Conservation Society (WFCS).



We specialise in chalk grassland wild flowers and our aim is to increase the biodiversity of our green spaces, bring people closer to nature and to support the wildlife that depends on the wild flowers that we nurture and grow.



Our open day, on a very hot day in July, was a great success. It was difficult to gauge but we reckon that upwards of 350 people came along and we sold over 800 plants.

Most popular was Sarah Mayfield's moth-reveal from the light trap she had set up the night before, and we were able to see, close up, many of the moths and hear her talk about them.



Chris Cockel from the Millennium Seed Bank Kew, gave a talk about what they do and the importance of supporting our wild flowers.

Michael Blencowe, the Sussex Naturalist spoke about the meadow butterflies and led a walk to Gapper's Meadow which now has a

splendid new sign to acknowledge the work of our founder John Gapper. The sign was gifted by the WFCS. On the way we identified 17 species of butterfly.



We sold lots of plants, and we had other stall holders including Special Branch and their lovely trees; we sold Stanmer Permaculture's apple juice, Jos's pots, honey and we had some great, positive feedback.

This year we took on a new plot of land that is near to us. We call this "the Top Garden". It's about an acre and needs to be cleared and sorted out but the aim is to get it so we can grow wild flowers in raised beds and expand our operation to be able to share even more wild flowers to Brighton and beyond! In the autumn work will start in earnest.

This year we were privileged to be given a donation by CSA Environmental who are environmental consultants and we hope their team will be coming along to help in clearing the site. Thanks guys!



We are working towards setting up our HQ with an irrigation system. Its quite a job keeping all the plants watered especially in the heat of the summer. The team would often have had to water three times a day which can get pretty arduous. Now winter is creeping on we only need to water every other day but still the wild flowers need out care. Plans are afoot to set up a watering system that hopefully will take some of the strain off needing to visit the poly tunnel so often. A rota system is in place so the work is shared out as best we can.

This year we upgraded our plant racking so that our wild flowers now sit on lovely level benching. This is also going to help with the irrigation plans.

We've been lucky to have provided plants to RHS winners over the years and this year it was the turn of Seb Stall to work his magic at RHS



Wentworth near Leeds. He chose some of our wild flowers and he managed to win Gold medal, People's Choice and Best Long Border. We are very proud of him.

Seed collecting and sorting has begun in earnest and the volunteers have been hard at it. Much work has been done but much more needs to be done keeping many hands busy. **We have some Yellow Rattle seed at £2 for a packet of about 1000 seeds so come and buy some to help make your meadow.**



We continue to sow seed, and pot-on to make up our wild flower collection, ready for sale. We are putting together orders for the Wild flower Guardians to plant out over the city; in parks, in B-banks, in cemeteries, on bunds and lots of other places.



We had a great day at the National Trust's Saddlescombe Farm which we attend every year and which we really enjoy. Lots more plants sold! We also were at the Apple Blossom Day in Stanmer Village ...another fun day!

We went to Wakehurst for a day out and a look around which was great fun. What an amazing garden and of course the Millennium Seed Bank. Also over the year we have run corporate days and had a visit from Hearts and Flowers.

We have many visitors seeking us out and this year was no different.

We are open to the public on Tuesdays 10am to midday and many people wend their way to us. We are hidden away up the hill behind Stanmer Village and if you don't arrive having been a little-bit-lost first then we know where you been trying to get to! We are also aiming to add another day a month for plant sales and we hope to sort this in 2026. Our recent plant sale Sunday in October was a really good day and we had loads more visitors and sold over 700 plants!



Over the year we supplied Brighton and Hove City Council with 2806 plants. We also supplied the Cliff Gardens in Seaford with 248 plants and sold up to 1000 wild flowers to our plant-loving visitors.

Please follow us on Instagram and Facebook because it all helps in the socially linked world and again **please come and see us for all your chalk grassland wild flower needs. Only £2.00 a pot.**

Lets hope 2026 gives us many more happy wild flower sharing days.



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