

MESSAGE FROM YVONNE

Where is our summer? I have to confess that I love the warmer season and this really has been a long, dreary, grey, cold, wet and miserable nine months!

What has this meant for Hedgehog Rescue? In the colder spells hedgehogs arrived with hypothermia; being found out in the day, lying on lawns, paths and borders. Generally at this time of year we are battling flystrike, but this year we have seen very few cases of the dreaded maggots.

What else has been happening here? We have had a few births, some have been successful and some sadly have not. This is a common problem when female hedgehogs come to Hedgehog Rescue. Giving birth here is so stressful for them, so many abandon their babies; or in some instances they even eat their young.

We had a mum give birth, but sadly pass away a few days later so we had to put her babies in with another female who had babies of a similar size (see Hog of the Month). Thankfully she has taken to them and they are thriving. This is always risky but probably more successful than

trying to rear them ourselves. In these scenarios, it is very important that the babies are not handled and we put them in a separate box with the hoglets from the mother we are going to introduce them to.

We also pop some hay and lavender in the microwave for a few seconds which brings out the smell which we find relaxes stressed hedgehogs and hopefully helps to disguise the smell of the new ones being introduced as well. (This is a tip I picked up from a lady at Hartpury College). We then add this to the nest box.



cont.d....



A safe haven for our over-wintering hogs

Ready for a Springtime release

Freeing up valuable space at HR hospital

Come along to Hedgehog Rescue's 25th Anniversary Allotment Open Day

July 6th 2024 ~ 11am to 4pm

Plot 24, Goldcrest Road ('Birds') Allotments, Robin Way entrance, BS37 6JR



Entrance to the HR allotment

WHAT TO DO IF YOU FIND AN INJURED OR ORPHANED HEDGEHOG

- 1 Place the hog in a secure box or cat carrier, and place in a shed, garage or porch.
- 2 In the first instance please contact your nearest hedgehog rescue.
- 3 If you don't know who that is, check out this useful database for information www.helpwildlife.co.uk
- 4 If you still don't know who it is, ring the **British Hedgehog Preservation Society (BHPS)** on **01584 890 801** for further advice and local contact information.



Hedgehog Rescue NEWSLETTER

Summer 2024

Of course, we have our **OPEN DAY** coming up very soon, on the **6th July**, so we are keeping busy getting everything ready, organising volunteers, prizes, games, crafts. I would like to thank everyone who has contributed, including Waitrose in Chipping Sodbury, Morrisons of Yate, Opulence Beauty Retreat, Iron Acton Garden Centre, Michelle from Keynsham, Merediths of Yate, A Nichols, and the volunteers who are continually adding to the pile of gifts for the tombola. Thanks also to Yate and Sodbury bowls club for the £200 donation (see photo p4).

I also want to thank Julie for making up the beauty hampers and Lynne who is storing all the items as they get donated.

A big shout out too, for Debs, Lynne, Anne, John and Alan who are trying to battle the mountain of weeds at the allotment to make it presentable for the open day; to Liz for all the fabulous posters, newsletters etc. (If you need a graphic designer I can highly recommend her!); and to Ami, Karen, Anne, and Victoria who make the newsletter such a fascinating read. And of course all the other volunteers who keep us ticking along on a daily basis and help me keep my head above water!

Yvonne

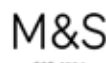
Find us on [easyfundraising.org.uk](https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk)

www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/hedgehogrescue

or download the App



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OTHER WAYS TO DONATE

AMAZON: www.amazon.co.uk/registry/wishlist/1667YMU5IY05P

PAYPAL: www.paypal.com/paypalme/HedgehogRescueYate

WEBSITE: www.hedgehogrescue.info/support-us

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

We are attending several community events throughout 2024. Please contact Yvonne at Hedgehog Rescue if you have an event that you would like us to attend, would like to book in one of her talks, or can offer to help with the fundraising stall.

17th July 2024 • 11am-2pm

Yate Ageing Better Festival, Yate Shopping Centre
Stalls, performers, demonstrations

20th July 2024 • 11am-3pm

Community Event, Christchurch Parish Hall, Downend
www.downendfolkhouse.org.uk

And it's a long way off, but...

16th November 2024 • 10am-4pm

Brimsham Christmas Fayre, Details tbc.

6th July 2024

11am-4pm

**Hedgehog Rescue
25th
Anniversary
OPEN DAY**

**Plot 24, Goldcrest
Allotments,
Robin Way, Yate
See front page for details.**



CELEBRATING 25 YEARS OF HELPING HEDGEHOGS

Hedgehog Rescue was started in 1999, when Yvonne finished her National Diploma in Animal Care. It was at a work placement at Secret World that she first witnessed wildlife coming through the door. Animals arrived because of illness, or with injuries that could be attributed to human actions, ignorance, and the behaviour of pet cats and dogs.

Yvonne was a volunteer at Bristol Zoo when they started a *Millennium Award*, which she applied for and won a grant for £3,100 which kickstarted the project. Hedgehogs were small enough to house in her back garden and, although she loves almost all animals, hedgehogs are particularly endearing to her, so she made it her mission to help them.

The Bristol Zoo funded project lasted for two years. After that it had to become self-funded, so Yvonne began to raise awareness of the plight of hedgehogs by giving educational talks which helped raise much needed funds.

Since HR opened its doors 25 years ago it has grown from treating around 12 hedgehogs a year, originally housing them in plastic indoor 'guinea pig' cages and wooden hutches, to treating over 500 every year in a purpose-built cabin with 25 veterinary grade pens and a dedicated treatment area. The rescue also has a separate annexe, which houses 15 hutches, and is lucky to have several dedicated volunteers who operate as 'foster carers' - caring for between 10 and 20 hedgehogs at their own homes.

For the first 16 years Yvonne admirably ran the rescue single-handed. However, in 2015, with an increasing workload and limited free time, she recognised it was time to find help. This began when the new hospital was built and Yvonne had to rebuild the interior from scratch. Yvonne had some valuable help from kind people, including a student from New Zealand who was doing their PhD. The new building and facilities led to new volunteers, enabling the rescue centre to grow and help even more hedgehogs. Since then Yvonne has been sharing her wealth of knowledge of how to care for hedgehogs, and training up new volunteers. This allows her a well-earned break and time with her precious family. It also frees her up to give more educational talks, spread awareness of this red list endangered species, and, equally importantly, to bring in vital funding.

Currently Hedgehog Rescue has around 80 dedicated volunteers who carry out a variety of roles such as hands on caring and treatment, hedgehog-courier, shredding papers for pens and bedding, doing accounts, organising fundraising activities, looking after our website, posting on social media and creating this newsletter. The rescue centre is also an asset to the community, providing much needed hands-on work experience for local college and university students.



Yvonne says:

"I've met some fascinating people over the years, some are now my very good friends. It's been a long journey, sometimes painful, sometimes tiring, sometimes fraught. There are days I want to cry and others when we laugh, but it's all been worth it!"

Seeing a hedgehog recover from illness or infection, like losing their spines to ringworm and re-growing them so they are able to return to the wild, is always rewarding. We are lucky to have a network of dedicated volunteers and

generous supporters who are all essential in enabling us to do this work, and we are so grateful to them.

We have had a lot to celebrate too, over the years, like winning the *Millennium Award*, *The Bristol Prestige Award for Wildlife Care Service of the Year* in 2020 and the positive response we got from the public after the *Points West Team* came to film in 2023.

The most challenging side is that injuries as a result of human action (strimmers, bonfires, netting, discarded litter) and cat and dog bites remain a regular source of unnecessary injury, and something we continue to strive to raise awareness of.

However, we are starting to see many positive changes. Projects like our local council's 'Common Connections' and Hedgehog Street's 'Hedgehog Champions' have been rolled out and demonstrate that awareness is growing.



Hedgehog Rescue NEWSLETTER

Summer 2024

Of course, everything we have done at Hedgehog Rescue in campaigning for hedgehog welfare over the last 25 years has contributed to that, and we'd love for you to come and celebrate with us at our **Open Day on July 6th** (see page 1 for details).

Common Connections

Common Connections is a partnership project between South Gloucestershire Council and the West of England Combined Authority. The partnership works with local town and parish councils to join up local green spaces, through improving paths and grass verges to enable wildlife to move freely between different areas.

More information can be found at

<https://beta.southglos.gov.uk/common-connections/>

Hedgehog Heroes

A project launched at the start of 2023 by South Gloucestershire Council and 15 local town and parish councils aims to encourage people to create 'hedgehog holes' in their boundary fences to allow hedgehogs, and other wildlife, greater freedom to roam between gardens and surrounding green spaces.

This project picks up on the 'hedgehog highway' work originally started by Hedgehog Street. Hedgehog heroes are invited to log their hedgehog holes on their website at <https://bighedgehogmap.org/>

To read more about the Hedgehog Street campaigns and how to become a hedgehog hero/champion visit: www.hedgehogstreet.org/about-our-hedgehog-street-campaign/

Anne D.

TRACKING HEDGEHOGS WITH AI - HEDGEHOG SPOTTERS NEEDED!

In an effort to understand the reasons behind the population decline of hedgehogs, a new project, the **National Hedgehog Monitoring Programme (NHMP)** has been launched, and hedgehog spotters are needed.

In this, artificial intelligence will be used to monitor hedgehog populations, determine the number of hedgehogs in the UK and investigate the causes of their decline. It aims to estimate populations in different habitats across the country, track changes over the years, and provide a national estimate of the UK's hedgehog population. Cameras will capture images of hedgehogs in various environments, such as parks, gardens, woodlands and farmland. AI will filter these images, which will then be sent to human "spotters" who will pick out those featuring hedgehogs and send them to analysts, who will record numbers and locations.

The British Hedgehog Preservation Society and the People's Trust for Endangered Species hope that this will yield insights into factors contributing to hedgehog population decline, and that this knowledge will help conservationists implement effective measures to try to reverse the trend.

To get involved as a hedgehog spotter, visit: <https://ptes.org/campaigns/hedgehogs/nhmp/>



DONATION FROM THE BOWLING CLUB

Many thanks to the Yate & District Bowling Club who, on 5th May, very kindly presented Hedgehog Rescue with a wonderful cheque for £200.



Holding the cheque, from left to right:
Sue Tubey, Chairperson, B J Smith Club Captain,
and Anne Dyke on behalf of Hedgehog Rescue



www.hedgehogrescue.info



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Hedgehog Rescue Bristol and South Gloucestershire



Hedgehog rescue_

Hedgehogs and the Law

What is it about this little creature which has existed for over 15 million years, from before the era of the dinosaurs, that has excited such extremes of passion?

Feelings have swung from the blood lust of the Tudor Vermin Acts and the gamekeepers of the 17th, 18th and 19th centuries, through our children's love affair with Beatrix Potter's Mrs. Tiggywinkle, Alison Uttley's Milkman Hedgehog and Fuzzypeg, and Lewis Carroll's curled up hedgehogs used as croquet balls, to Hedgehog Protection Societies and protective legislation of today.

Urchins Prickly pig Hedgepigs
Hoghogs Highoggs
Fuzzipeggs Hedgy boar Furzepig

During the period when the persecution of witches was at its height, hedgehogs were even suspected of being witches, witches' familiars, elves or goblins in disguise. Shakespeare was no help to their plight and fanned this fear in several of his plays, perhaps most notably in Macbeth. Here, when the three witches are plotting mischief around their boiling cauldron, they name three familiars - a cat, a hedge pig and Harpier, a Greek monster - who are urging that the time for evil action has come

First Witch

Thrice the brinded cat hath mewed.

Second witch

Thrice and once the hedge-pig whined.

Third Witch

Harpier cries, "Tis time, 'tis time".



1532 saw the passing of the first "Preservation of Grain Act" in the reign of Henry VIII. It listed "*noxious birds and vermin*" which were seen as a threat to grain harvests and, sadly, the hedgehog was named among them. In 1566 an Act of Elizabeth I expanded this. The bounty payment was specified as 2d per head and later rose to 3d or 4d. People were encouraged to hunt and kill the vermin and were rewarded with money raised by the local parish vestry and distributed by the churchwardens. The hedgehog was included, even though their diet was grubs, worms and insects - not grain.

They were also unfairly accused of sucking milk from sleeping cows, even though their mouths were physically too small for this. With slightly more justification they were accused of taking eggs, although not on the scale of which they were accused. This was the argument for their intense persecution by estate owners and gamekeepers, who were oblivious of the irony that they were rearing game chicks to shoot later. Overall, at a time when poverty and hunger were rife, head bounties made a welcome addition to family income and the unfortunate scheme went on for centuries.

In the 19th century James Knapp recorded "*Every village boy with his cur detects the haunt of the poor hedgehog and as assuredly worries and kills it.*"

Inadvertently, vestry records sometimes reflected other distressing contemporary values:

In 1711 the churchwardens in Oxted in Surrey paid "*to 2 maymd soldiers 2d, for 2 hedgehogs heads 8d*".

By the latter part of the 20th century people began to fear that hedgehogs were in danger of extinction and protective legislation was gradually introduced. By the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, the Wildlife Protection Act 1996 and Appendix III of the Bern Convention the story of the hedgehog went full circle. It is now an offence to capture or trap a hedgehog; to treat it cruelly, injure or kill it or destroy its nest. They even warrant their own road sign to warn traffic of their presence.

Of course, today organisations like Hedgehog Rescue and The British Hedgehog Preservation Society fiercely protect hedgehogs' interests and provide sanctuary and rehabilitation for injured animals. People put out food or make "hedgehog highways" so that they can get from garden to garden in safety. Nowadays their biggest enemies are road traffic, garden machinery, netting and dogs. Happily, mankind is now more intent on saving than exterminating them.



Anne P.



HOG OF THE MONTH - TWINKLE

Twinkle was found in the road in Horfield with blood by her mouth and was taken to Zetland vets and put on painkillers and antibiotics. She gave birth on 28th May to three hoglets, but one died.

Twinkle is hog of the month as she has been a supermum, taking on three hoglets who were born to Iris a week before. Sadly Iris died so her hoglets were put in with Twinkle. Although they were born a week apart they were roughly the same size as Iris was unwell and probably wasn't producing as much milk.

Not all nursing mums will accept orphaned hoglets from a different litter, but Twinkle readily accepted them and has done a wonderful job of rearing them.

A five day old hoglet was put in with Twinkle a few weeks later in the hope she would accept it. But sadly she rejected it. It was constantly out of the box crying out for food so it is now being hand-reared.

The five hoglets (Vivaldi, Velvet, Vesper, Vanilla and Vale) are all doing well and gaining weight daily. Twinkle really is a star.



Twinkle and her family

WHO'S IN, WHO'S OUT...

Ringo

Ringo was admitted to HR on 9th April with bad ringworm. She had to start a ringworm regime and surprised us on 9th May by giving birth to 7 hoglets. Ringo was the first hog to give birth at HR this year. The ringworm regime was stopped and mum and babies weren't disturbed.

A couple of days later most of the hoglets were found at the front of the pen two days running and we were worried mum had rejected them. They were put

back in with her. The two smallest hoglets died, but Mum did a wonderful job of rearing the remaining five (Sausage, Samosa, Strudel, Spinach and Shrimp).

At six weeks old they have all gone to Julie's for fostering. Ringo still has a tiny amount of ringworm but it has improved dramatically and miraculously none of the hoglets contracted it. They are growing fast and hopefully all will be released soon.

Monster

Monster was found on his own on June 10th; his finders took him to Zetland Road vets. They thought he was about 5 days old and weighed 45g. He was put in with Twinkle, in the hope she would take him on, as she had adopted Iris's hoglets, but he was found outside the box, following her about, crying for food 2 days in a row and his weight had dropped to 38g so he was taken for hand-rearing. Hoglets that age have to be fed and toileted every 3-4

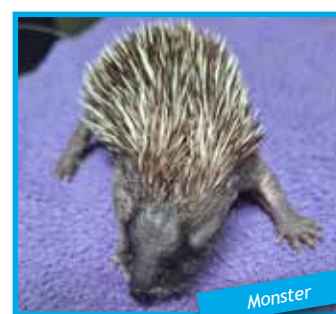
hours throughout the night. Worryingly, the first five days his weight fluctuated but he is now 63g. His eyes are still closed so not yet two weeks old. He was called 'The Monster' as we didn't want to name him in case he didn't make it, but will probably get changed to 'Rocky' if he does survive, as he's a little fighter. A few people ask if the hard work is worth it for one hoglet and the answer is definitely "Yes!", every hedgehog is worth saving!



Found outside the box



Shrimp was the smallest!



Monster



Teaching him to lap food



CREATE A WILDLIFE POND IN YOUR GARDEN

Digging a pond is relatively simple and will simply bring wildlife into your garden! A wildlife-friendly pond, no matter how big or small, is one of the most important features you can add to your garden, as a huge number of species rely on them. There are many articles on the internet with plenty of advice, but here are some simple steps!

- Plan and start in the early spring so the ground is soft.
- Choose a light area, with shade for some of the day that is also relatively sheltered.
- Dig out an area that is about 25 – 30cm deep in places, with gentle sloping edges.
- Line with a pond liner and add washed gravel, with larger stones dotted around for hiding places. Use natural rainwater from a garden water butt to fill.
- Buy or source from friends native pond plants.
- Get lots of native grasses and plants to create habitats and safe spaces for lots of species, include floating plants such as Water Lilies. Plants also oxygenate your pond!
- If you already have a pond, add wooden steps or ramp, or an old piece of solid plastic netting to aid creatures that may struggle to get out of a pond.
- Add large flattish stones in the shallows for wildlife that may want to enjoy the sunshine or have a rest!
- Sit back and enjoy seeing the wildlife using your pond!

As this article is in the Hedgehog Rescue Newsletter, we must mention hedgehogs and ponds! Ponds can be a death trap for hedgehogs, even though they are good swimmers. They ideally need escape routes such as a shallow side or a ramp to get out. Ideally leave shallow bowls of water around your garden too so that hedgehogs don't need to go into the pond for a drink.

Victoria



SUMMER REMEDIES AND NATURE'S LEAD

At 9.51pm BST on Thursday 20th June, the wheel of the year turns once again, this time to welcome the official start of Summer in the Northern Hemisphere. A reflective point in which we are invited to celebrate the Solstice and in turn the longest day and shortest night of the year.

This occasion, in a rare conjunction, is highly-charged in 2024 as we see a full moon in Capricorn the very next day, which is the first of two just a month apart in this earthly-grounded sign of the goat, affectionately known as the Strawberry Moon, for the time in which strawberries are said to be at their sweetest in June.

Hedgehogs at this time are all about the babies! In spite of being the busiest season for Hedgehog Rescue, it's a time that reminds us of joy, celebration, fertility and creation. The placement of this full moon aligning with the Solstice energy is no coincidence when we draw inspiration from our prickly crew, as it is on an axis of Cancer and Capricorn, signs known to represent family, intimacy, connection and legacy.

Our hedgehog friends are quite literally creating families at this time, building intimate relationships as they learn how to be both lovers and parents, and are leaving behind an inquisitive next generation as they carve a seasonal legacy.

So, as always, I invite you to look at where you may like to create joyful connections yourself this season. How might you enjoy the abundance of Summer and celebrate your inner illumination, cultivated over the last six months? What legacy would you like to leave behind as we begin our descent towards the darker half of the year?

Nature invites us to have fun this quarter, to move with a lightness and playful curiosity, anchor deep into self-care practices and the warming presence of those that we love.

Three Bach flowers for Summer:

Cerato

– an assured remedy to shake those comparisons and self-doubts, allowing us to fully enjoy the seasonal offerings with a gentle and confident sense of self

Wild Oat

– a guiding remedy for those seeking path, purpose and a sense of direction or legacy

Clematis

– a grounding remedy useful for plugging into those Capricorn full moons and the abundance of the earth in full bloom. Limits the daydreaming and encourages the day seizing!

Why not whip up a strawberry daiquiri or a berry iced tea with a few drops of Bach flowers to honour the Strawberry full moon? Until the Autumn, when we meet for the final time in this series.

Ami

(Ami is a Bach Centre certified and fully qualified Bach flower practitioner)





A LIVING CARPET - a wildlife-friendly alternative to grass lawns

The benefit of a living carpet is that you don't have to mow it! The reason I planted a living lawn is the benefit it brings to our wildlife; allowing hedgehogs to dig it to find insects and it also provides those insects with somewhere to find nectar. The different scents are delightful to smell, it is tactile and can be soft and spongy depending on what you plant. These plants feel great under your bare feet and it releases the fragrances of the plants.

So, what can you plant?

Scleranthus Biflorus (Irish Moss , Pine Green)

This is a hardy, mat-forming, evergreen, moss-like perennial, sometimes known as 'Irish moss' for the way its bright emerald green foliage covers the ground. It has tiny white flowers in June. Very decorative, it can be used as an alternative for a small lawn growing in areas where lawn turf can sometimes struggle as well as being an excellent choice for an alpine or rock garden, or filling between the cracks of flagstone paving,

Blue Star Creeper (Laurentia fluvialis)

This pretty little ground-hugger develops masses of pale blue, star-shaped flowers in spring and early summer. Use it to brighten shady corners, or as an alternative in locations too shady to support turf grass. It spreads quickly by underground runners and is rampant in cool, moist areas. It's tough enough to tolerate light foot traffic as long as it receives regular water.

Corsican mint (Mentha requienii)

This lovely little mint grows to only one inch tall, forming thick mats of aromatic foliage. In warm climates it appreciates some afternoon shade during the hottest part of the summer, but otherwise does well in full-sun locations. Good to use between stepping stones so you can enjoy its fragrance every time you brush past. In late summer it produces lilac flowers that are so tiny they are easily overlooked.

Ajuga (Bugleweed)

Growing just a few inches tall, it adds lots of early colour. You can walk on this easy-care groundcover; it's prized for its ability to slowly carpet your yard with lovely foliage. In spring it sends up spikes of blue, purple or white flowers over a base of bronze, chocolate, green or bicolour foliage and is great to have at the front of a border.



Phlox

Phlox adds a splash of colour to your lawn and suppresses weeds. These tough plants are smothered in flowers for weeks. They spread quickly, and their dark green needle-like foliage looks good when not in bloom. Creeping Phlox works well on small slopes that drain quickly after rain.

Mound-forming Thyme

Thymus citriodorus 'Archers Gold' is a low-growing, mat-forming thyme. It has golden leaves that you can eat and the scent is irresistible. The flowers can be white or lilac and are great for honey bees.

Chamomile

The Treneague cultivar is the traditional variety used and does not flower. Lawn Chamomile grows in a mat-like form of apple scented perennial foliage which is finely divided and remains evergreen.

Baby Tears (Soleirolia soleirolii)

Most people think of this as a house or terrarium plant, but in warm, humid regions it makes a lovely bright green shade groundcover. It works well in vertical gardens and containers. When happy, it can spread rapidly, forming a moss-like cushion. You shouldn't walk on this too much.

Portulaca (Moss Rose)

A groundcover you can walk on, it's a tough, sun-loving plant that frequently self-sows, popping up in unexpected places. The crepe paper-like blooms come in various colours, including yellow, white, salmon, red and orange. Portulaca also has bright green needle-like foliage that pops back into place if you happen to step on it. This drought-tolerant groundcover is perennial in frost-free regions, but it's usually grown as an annual elsewhere.



Scotch Moss (*Sagina subulata*)

Surprisingly, this golden moss bounces right back if you step on it. Use it in garden paths, rock gardens, or as a lawn substitute in small backyards. Scotch moss is also frosted with a pretty layer of tiny white flowers in the spring. The key with this walkable groundcover plant is to keep it well hydrated, particularly during the summer heat.

Dwarf Mondo Grass (*Ophiopogon japonicus*)

Forming small clumps of bright green foliage, it is simply spectacular when planted in masses along a path or patio. Plus, you don't have to fuss over it to keep it looking good; a quick shearing back in spring will encourage fresh new growth after the winter. And this plant grows slowly so there's no worry about it getting out of control.

Snow-in-summer(*Cerastium tomentosum*)

This perennial produces large drifts of tiny white blooms in late May and June atop a mound of spreading silver-grey foliage. It may self-sow but doesn't generally become invasive. To keep plants looking good, shear them back after flowering. Snow-in-summer prefers cooler climates and may suffer during hot, humid summers.

Creeping Jenny (*Lysimachia nummularia*, Moneywort)

A low-growing plant with coin-like golden leaves on long stems that spread outwards. It works well growing between stepping stones, where it will tolerate some foot traffic. It also will happily cascade over stone walls or the sides of mixed planters and window boxes.

Soapwort (*Saponaria Officinalis*)

Many favorite perennials were once grown for more utilitarian purposes than looking good in a garden. For example, Soapwort leaves were once used to make a cleansing lather, but is prized today for its compact, rough-and-tumble nature and pretty pink, red, or white flowers. Use this groundcover you can walk on along your garden path or tuck it into rock gardens or walls. Soapwort is drought- and deer-tolerant.

Mazus (*Cup Flower*)

Mazus forms a dense mass of bright green foliage highlighted with lavender-coloured, orchidlike flowers in late spring. It grows just 3 inches tall but packs a big impact when it spreads across the ground. It's a perfect groundcover you can walk on for pathways or the edge of a flower border. This compact beauty grows quickly and tolerates light foot traffic.

Yvonne



Yvonne's living carpet lawn

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WOULD YOU LIKE HELP CUTTING A HOLE IN YOUR FENCE TO ENABLE HEDGEHOGS TO ACCESS YOUR GARDEN?

If you live in Emersons Green, Lyde Green, Warmley, Cadbury Heath, Longwell Green or Willsbridge the 'Common Connections' project is offering to help create a **hedgehog highway** in your street.

Hedgehogs often struggle to travel safely between green spaces so they need wildlife corridors to navigate. Think of all the extra habitat they could enjoy if everyone in your street had a way for them to explore their garden!

If you would like a hole cut in your fence for hedgehogs you can [register your information HERE](#) and the team will be in touch to arrange this. If you think your neighbours might also be interested we would be really keen to hear from you.



Get help to put a hole in your fence!