

EPSOM COMMON ASSOCIATION



Epsom Common needs your help

History

The Epsom Common Association was formed in 1974 in order 'to create and foster a general interest in Epsom Common' and to 'maintain the character of the Common especially as a natural habitat for its flora and fauna'.

The Common has a long history that can be traced back to medieval times and earlier. A group of founder members of the Association researched the history and published a booklet covering the history of the Common from the earliest known records to the present day, including the heyday of the spa period from 1620 to 1750.

Epsom Common is an exceptionally large and valuable open space so close to the centre of Epsom, and the Association plays a vital role in protecting our ancient common and preserving it for future generations. One of the earliest achievements of the Association was the restoration of the medieval Great Pond which had been lying drained and neglected for over a hundred years. The Great Pond is now a beautiful stretch of water covering about six acres and attracts a variety of wildfowl with attractive wildflowers in and around the water edge. Shortly after being formed some original members of the Association also campaigned successfully against a proposed Epsom bypass option that would have cut through the Common.

Membership

Please support your Local Nature Reserve (LNR) and Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) by joining the Epsom Common Association.

Each member receives a free booklet, Four Seasons of Birds on Epsom Common, and will receive regular copies of our newsletter. In addition the Association has two meetings a year with guest speakers and hosts various guided walks on the common, all of which are advertised in our newsletter, on our website and on the four notice boards around Epsom Common.

We would particularly like to hear from anyone with archive material or photographs relating to the history of Epsom Common.

If you would like to help with conservation tasks on Epsom Common, please visit our website <http://www.epsomcommon.org.uk>, or e-mail ecovols@epsomcommon.org.uk for further details. There are regular task days on the third Sunday and following Monday from January to May and from September to November. In June, July and August there is weekly bracken pulling on Tuesday evenings

The cattle grazing on the Common is now a regular feature in summer and helps to maintain diversity of habitat. The area being grazed is now the largest it has been during the life of the project and the Association seeks more volunteers to check the health of the animals on Thursdays and Fridays and some weekend days. Those already involved find the task thoroughly rewarding. To find out more or to arrange a taster experience with a checker please contact Bruce Critchley. His email address is bruce_critchley@yahoo.co.uk and telephone 01372 742520.



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Application Form

To join the Epsom Common Association please fill in your details below and return the form to: Martin Gandy, Chair of Epsom Common Association, 2 Kingsdown Road, Epsom KT17 3PU. Tel: 01372 723149; mobile: 07796 362923; e-mail: chairperson@epsomcommon.org.uk

I/we would like to join the Epsom Common Association

Name(s) (please print)	
Address	
Telephone	
e-mail	

Please tick one box below for your subscription type – see below for details

	Local Member (road rep)	Email member	Postal member
Annual Membership	£3	£3	£5

Donation – Any money received will be used for our conservation work	£ _____
Date	
Signature	

Local Members: Members living in the Wells, Stamford Green, Woodcote, West Ewell and College Ward areas are supported by a team of experienced members ('road reps'), who keep up personal contact with members through delivery of the newsletter and collection of subscriptions.

Email members: Members who live outside these areas who opt to receive the newsletter by email. Non local members are encouraged to join as email members.

Postal members: Members who live outside these areas and wish to receive newsletters by post, for an additional £2 annual subscription.

Subscriptions in cash or cheques for local members are collected by the road reps annually in spring, prior to the AGM which is usually held in April. If paying by cheque, please make payable to 'Epsom Common Association'

New members are requested to pay by standing order to reduce overheads. Could you please set up the standing order for payment in March so that payment details are known before the AGM. The Epsom Common Association Account details are:

Sort Code:	30-93-08
Account Number:	00276113

Data Protection Policy. Any members personal details held electronically will be held on secure personal computers with internet security and anti-virus software. Members personal details will not be shared or sold to third parties.