

Scoring Guide (points)

Each must be a good, established & ongoing example (only include those features suited to your churchyard)

Grasslands & Meadow Plants

- ♦ Wildflower areas (meadow or equivalent)
 - ♦ Spring areas (cut in late spring/early summer) (2)
 - ♦ Summer meadows (cut in late autumn) (2)
 - ♦ Uncut areas (cover for small mammals) (2)
 - ♦ Mown and strimmed grass picked up (2)
 - ♦ Paths through and around meadows (1)
- ♦ Efforts to improve/develop flowers & reduce coarse grasses (2)
- ♦ Nettles retained and managed in sunny areas (2)
- ♦ Other areas of short mown grassland (1)
- ♦ Only sensitive use of chemicals or herbicides (1)

Trees, Shrubs & herbs

- ♦ Old trees well maintained (1) & new plantings well cared for (1)
- ♦ Providing berries/fruit (1), seeds/nuts (1) and nectar (1)
- ♦ Mainly native species (1), providing potential nest sites (1)
- ♦ Area of planted herbs for wildlife (2)

Management, Education & Public Relations

- ♦ A plan of the churchyard (1), displayed (1)
- ♦ A management plan (1), displayed (1) & being implemented (1)
- ♦ Attempts to involve others (1) & evidence of effort/enthusiasm (1)
- ♦ Surveys have been carried out (1) & monitoring of species continues (1)
- ♦ Up to date information about the churchyard available (1) & other conservation information provided (1)
- ♦ A seat provided for visitors to enjoy the churchyard & its wildlife (2)

Variety of Habitats

- ♦ Mix of vegetation heights (incl. grass, shrubs and trees) (2)
- ♦ Log or brushwood piles (1) & compost heap (1)
- ♦ Pond or any water feature (i.e. bird bath) (2)
- ♦ Bird boxes or good supply of natural nesting sites (1)
- ♦ Bat boxes or evidence of bats using buildings (1)
- ♦ Seed bearing plants for finches left over winter (1)
- ♦ Insect tubes/bug hotels (1) & no unsympathetic pointing /repairs of stonework that block up insect holes (1)
- ♦ Leave lichens on stones & walls (1) and sensitive management of ivy (1)

Northamptonshire Churchyard Conservation Award Scheme

Once you have registered as part of the scheme you can work towards the Bronze, Silver or Gold award. Each award lasts for 3 years after which you can re-apply or go for a higher award. Alternately you can request a free advisory visit any year to help you on your way. To request a visit or apply for an award please contact the Wildlife Trust for an application form;

The Wildlife Trust BCN, Lings House, Lings Way, Billing Lings, Northampton, NN3 8BE. Telephone (01604) 405285
Email; northamptonshire@wildlifebcn.org

Applying for an award costs £5 and information on the criteria for each award can be found overleaf.



BRONZE AWARD INFORMATION

The Bronze award is aimed at churchyards who are starting out managing their churchyard for wildlife. You need some form of management plan and to have made a start on some conservation work.

Requirements

- ♦ A Management Plan
- ♦ 5 further points made up from any of the sections

SILVER AWARD INFORMATION

The Silver award is aimed at churchyards whose conservation management is up and running and starting to benefit a range of wildlife.

Requirements

- ♦ 25 points from across any of the scoring sections, but **must** include;
 - ⇒ An on-going management plan that is being implemented
 - ⇒ A wildflower area (where grass cuttings are removed)
 - ⇒ A leaflet, noticeboard or other way of informing people what work is going on and why
 - ⇒ A compost heap or log pile
 - ⇒ Bat, bird or insect boxes

GOLD AWARD INFORMATION

The Gold award is aimed at the best churchyards for wildlife, where conservation management is well established across a range of habitats and species and benefiting a range of wildlife.

Requirements

- ♦ Meet all requirements from the Silver award
- ♦ Plus score 40 points including at least 5 from each section and including;
 - ⇒ A programme of monitoring & recording of wildlife



Bedfordshire
Cambridgeshire
Northamptonshire



Bedfordshire
Cambridgeshire
Northamptonshire