



# Wildlife Garden Survey 2020

## Upper Beeding, Bramber & Steyning RESULTS

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# Brief Outline of the Online Survey



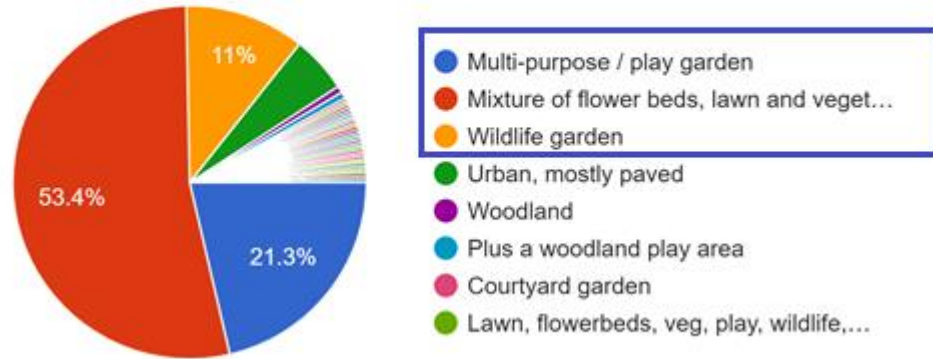
- It ran online from Nov 20 – Jan 21, we promoted online, via flyers, word of mouth, local sources.
- 301 people completed it, 260 signed up to the Wildlife Garden e-newsletter.
- This is approx. 7% of the households in U. Beeding, Bramber and Steyning
- We collected data on:
  1. Garden Type, Size, Boundaries and features
  2. Wildlife features and what wildlife people see
  3. Gardening habits and what people knew about wildlife gardening
  4. What people would like help with & interested in doing next.



# What types of gardens did we find?

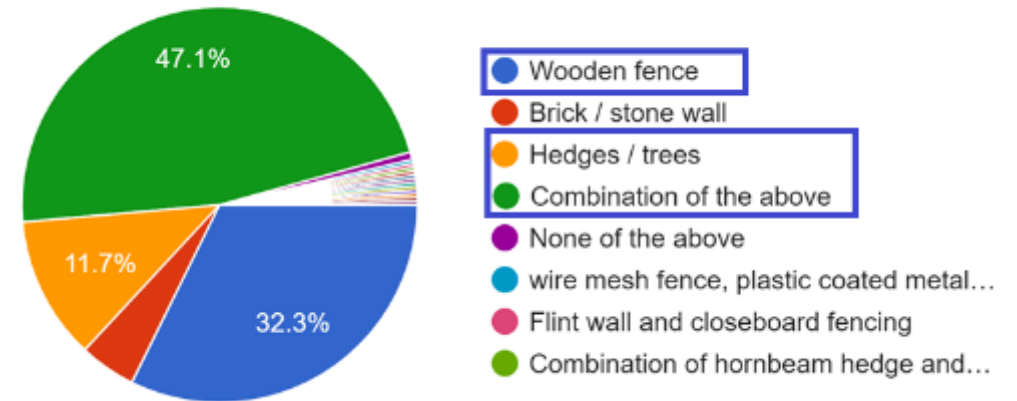


How would you describe your garden?



- Good news!
- 11% have a Wildlife Garden already
- Over 50% have a mixture of flower beds, veggie patch and lawn – a good starting point.
- Only 5% said their garden was 'urban' mostly paved.
- Over 75% of gardens were classed medium, large or very large (10m square to tennis court)

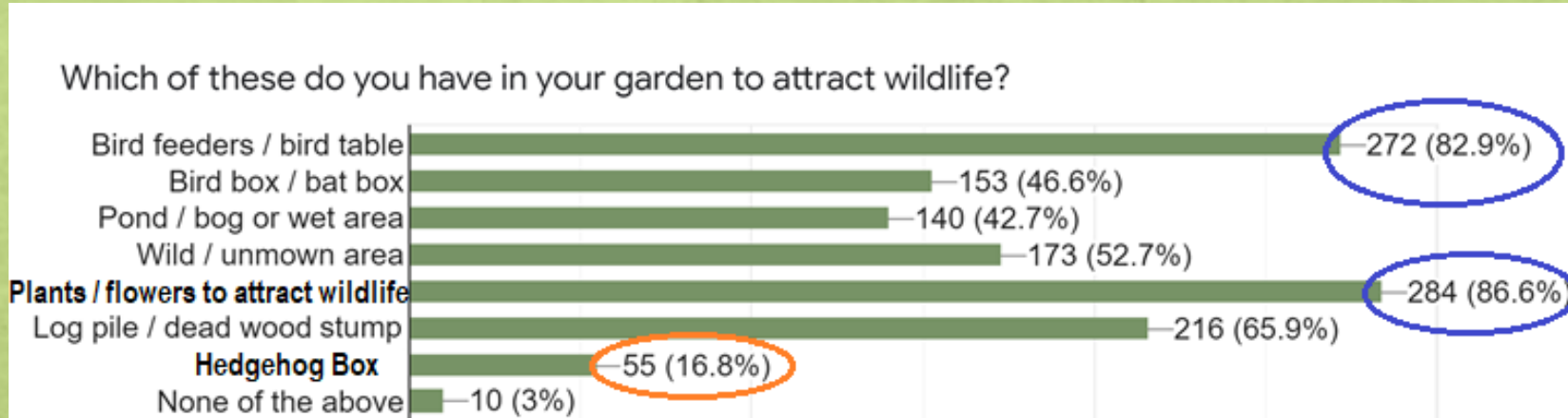
What surrounds your garden boundary?



- Trees and hedges make up a 50% of the garden boundaries (potential for planting small hedgerows / shrubs along fences)
- Most people listed shrubs and perennials as the most ubiquitous with fruiting trees and hedges lower on the list. Wildflowers scored a medium.



# What wildlife features do people have?



- Again good news - people had 3+ wildlife features in their gardens
- Bird feeders, plants to attract wildlife and log piles were the most common
- Interesting nearly 17% of people had a hedgehog box
- Adding in more ponds, and bird boxes is an area to focus on & have workshops / activities around in future.

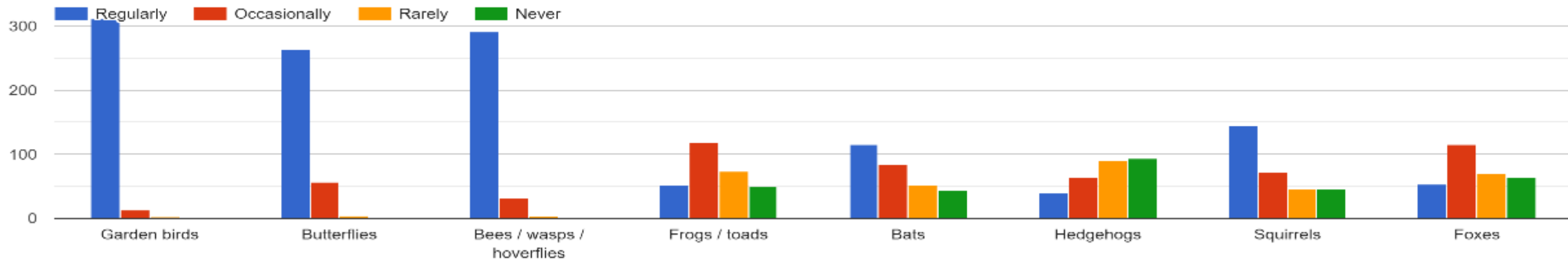




# What wildlife do people see in their gardens?



How often do you see the following in your garden / near your house?



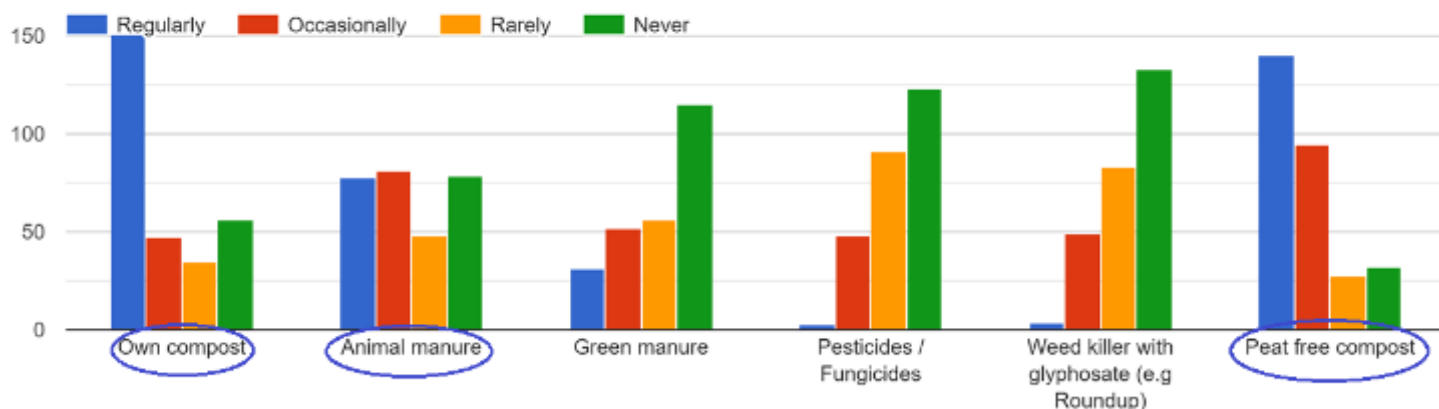
- Encouraging that the 3 B's – Birds, Butterflies and Bees are seen regularly
- Bats and squirrels also seen in some areas, with frogs and toads more occasional visitors (need more ponds!)
- Hedgehogs are not seen as much – BUT in some key areas are seen regularly in gardens: Pepperscombe Rd, Roman Rd, Saltings Way, Newlands Road - mainly where gardens back onto countryside / wild areas.
- Other wildlife reported included – badgers, voles, mice, slow worms, newts, stoats, weasels, mink, dragonflies, deer, stag beetles, owls, buzzards, red kites . . it was a good diverse list.



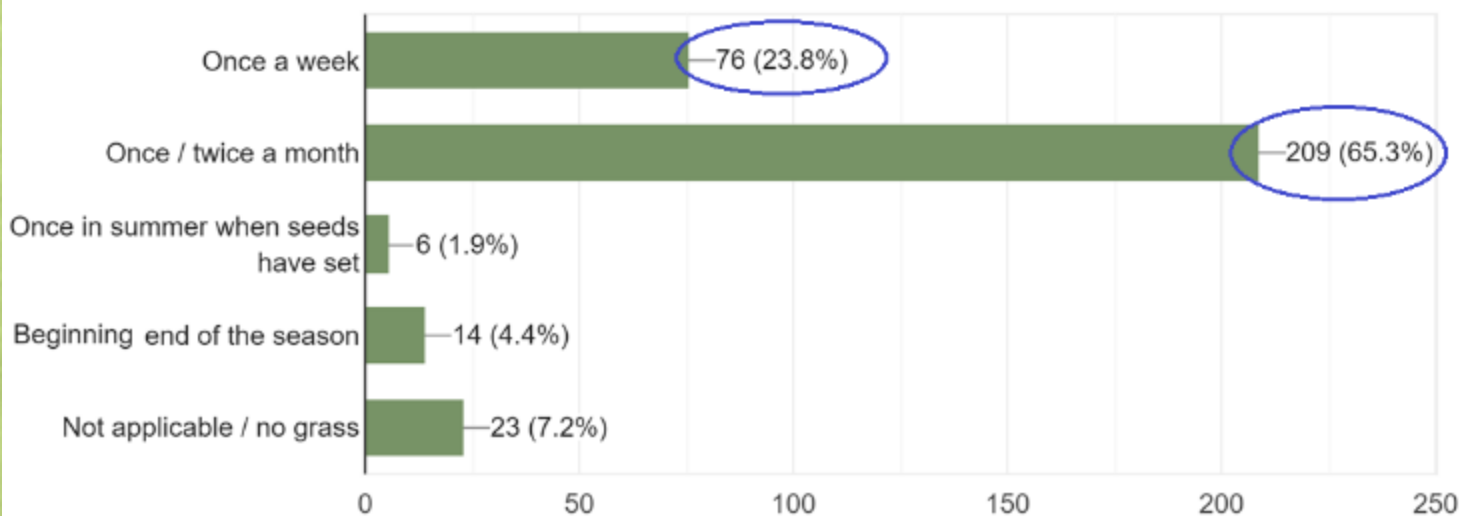
# What are people's gardening habits?



Do you use any of the following in your garden?



How often do you cut your lawn / grass in the summer?



- Encouraging that lots of people use their own compost or peat free compost – potential for them to persuade family and friends to do the same.
- Using green manure is an area to promote also – good carbon capture method.
- Great to see that pesticides and weed killer are not used regularly and 40% of people never use them.
- Lots of lawn mowing going on – so going forward we can ask people to leave unmown section of their lawn for wildlife?

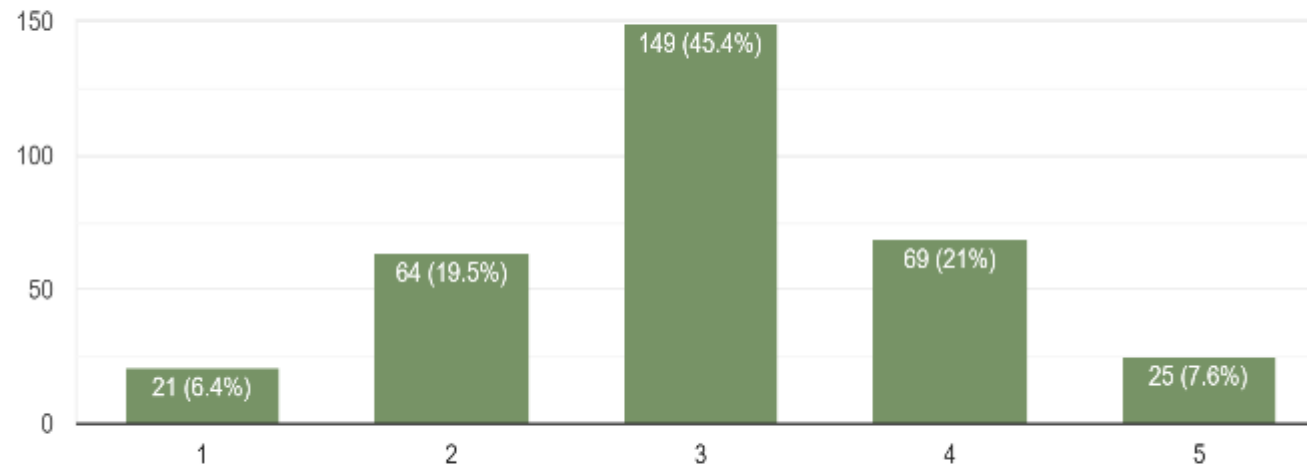


# How much do people know & what skills do they have?



How much do you know about wildlife gardening?

328 responses



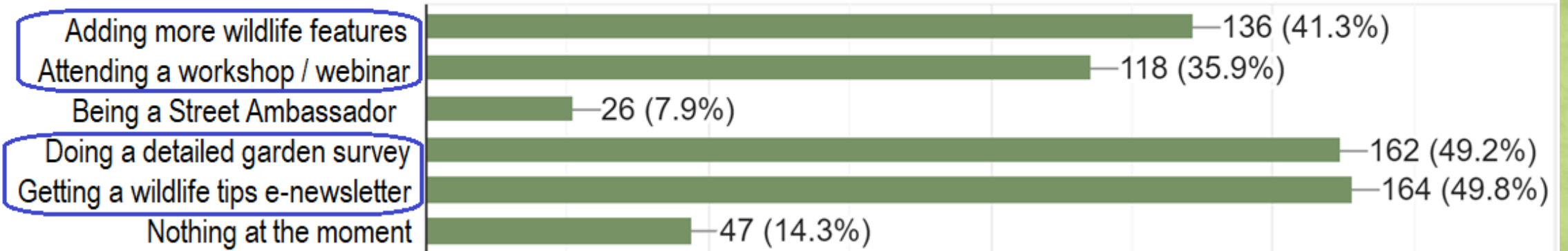
- Over 70 % of those who completed it said they knew a fair to good amount about wildlife gardening.
- About 15 people said they would be happy to help make nest boxes / were handy with tools
- 4 people said they had horticultural experience / could advise people.
- Lots of people said they were happy to help with spreading the word.



# What are people interested in doing next?



Wildlife gardening - which of these would you be interested in?



## Other suggestions:

- Promote hedgehog highways in Steyning
- Approach 2 gardening clubs ie U3A garden club - chair Mary McFarlane and Horticulture soc. - Charles Ashby
- Use old pallets for bug and nesting boxes
- Put up more Owl boxes along River Adur – around Bramber.
- Creating nature corridors for wildlife between gardens
- Promote 'untidy' gardens as great wildlife gardens – and get gardening societies onboard with this idea.





# Summary & Next Steps



Set up a monthly Wildlife Gardening e-newsletter to encourage people to

- Do One Thing
- Change One Thing
- Celebrate One Thing

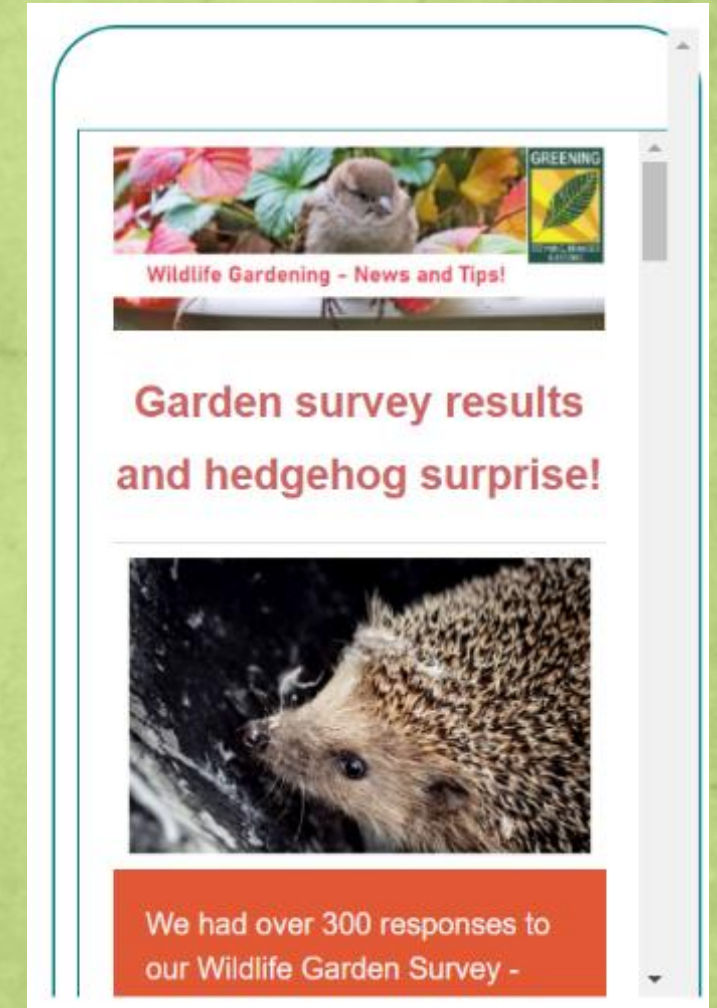
Contact those with skills to ask them about helping to set up activities e.g

- Nestbox building
- Webinars on building a pond / adding wildlife features
- Plant swaps and seed swaps
- Street Ambassadors

Focus on areas that survey showed need improving

- Hedgerows / Fruiting trees
- More Ponds
- Less grass cutting / more wild areas
- More nestboxes for birds / more log piles& bug hotels

Contact Gardening Groups and others local groups to get help and support





Thank you 😊



Please check out

<https://greeningsteypning.org/2030project/biodiversity/>

to find out more about our local plans and to get involved with the local Biodiversity Action Group.

No skills needed just enthusiasm and time!