

**GLOUCESTERSHIRE'S GOLDEN TRIANGLE – A SPRING CELEBRATION OF
WILD DAFFODILS**



~~Press Release – Golden Triangle 2019~~

Wild Daffodils remain at the centre of Golden Triangle villages' events – more than 8,000 visitors raised nearly £10,000, much needed finance for the remaining local community assets of churches and village halls.

Last year snow - this year, glorious sunshine! 2019 events in the Golden Triangle have been a huge success as both the weather and the native daffodils combined to put on an epic display. Run by volunteers this event is made possible by the community support of dozens of people – wardening, hosting venues, supervising the car parks, making and serving food and leading walks.

This year people flocked to the area, with visitors arriving from as far away as Latvia, the Netherlands and New Zealand. For the first time we offered an integrated Programme highlighting all the major events underway during March and early April in the villages of Kempley, Oxenhall, Dymock and Much Marcle. Sponsorship continued to grow with, Three Choirs Vineyard, Weston's Cider and John Shaw (Kitchens and Bathrooms) taking on major sponsorship roles. Many more local firms took advertising space in the Programme or offered goods on sale or return. We would like to thank them all.

The celebrations in the Golden Triangle are bringing much needed income to these isolated villages, on the county boundary of Herefordshire and Gloucestershire. As visitor numbers grow these Spring events have become the prime focus for local businesses, and establish the profile for the year's tourism potential. They open up new opportunities and *later this year we will see our first EcoAgr - Tourism scheme opening on a local farm, offering accommodation in Kempley for visitors who would like to stay longer.*

The first weekend at Oxenhall, visitors experienced a chilly start on the Saturday but by Sunday warm dry weather returned and the long

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distance walks, illustrating the fascinating local history, were full. The Open Day at the Countryside Restoration Trust near Much Marcle saw visitor numbers rise. Visitors were able to see how farming and wildlife can comfortably co-exist. Many have offered to come back later in the year and support the Trust in their work to map the breeding distribution of local dormice.

The next weekend at Kempley, was a roaring success as visitors poured into the area to enjoy three major walks each day and/or join the now famous Daff & Ride bus. This year a special walk was on offer to see the ancient woodland *Centenary Glade* undergoing renovation in Queens Wood in collaboration with the Forestry Commission.

More than *50 people* took the opportunity to join each of the guided walks, expertly led by volunteers from our communities. Many, more took advantage of the Daffodil Way maps sold, and self-directed across the wider Leadon Vale.

Throughout the month Dymock hosted lunchtime music concerts, and teas and cakes were offered in the Church. The Friends of Dymock Poets hosted a walk from Redmarley to the home of the recently deceased Barbara Davis at the Garland Hut, Ryton. Here a new panel 'In Remembrance of Barbara' displayed an important new poem "*Map Reading*" by Emeritus Professor Sean Street

For more information about the Golden Triangle or next year's events please E Mail:

kempley.daffodil.teas@gmail.com

Or access our website at <https://www.daffs.org.uk>

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Notes to Editors

Please contact the Hon Publicity Officer, Martin Brocklehurst, for further information on this year's events at:

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if you require photographs or more information about each of the individual events in Oxenhall, Kempley, Awnells Farm or Dymock the contacts are:

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