



B2Z
TOWARDS A CARBON-FREE BRAMPTON

News

Autumn 2024

Newsletter of Brampton 2 Zero www.brampton2zero.org.uk

28 September- Moot Hall

Brampton, 9.30-1pm. Coffee, raffle, chance to see the Brampton Fell Moss project plans and how to get involved. If you can provide biscuits or cakes contact: enquiries@brampton2zero.org.uk

Hallbankgate Primary School delves into nature



During the summer term B2Z's Kathy Arthur collaborated with teachers and local nature experts on a BioBlitz – a period of exploring to record living species in the school grounds. All the children, from Nursery to Year 6, took part and Kathy, inspired by the work of painter Kurt Jackson, asked them to draw and write about what they found to create a permanent record. The five sessions included spotting the “mysterious creatures in our pond”; collecting, identifying and making gelli prints of leaves; listening to birds; capturing and identifying moths and learning about the biodiversity triangle. Volunteers Lisa and Jill, Ian Ryding of RSPB Geltsdale and Guy Broome, a moth

specialist, helped deliver the activities. Kathy commented; “It was a pleasure to work with such a lovely school community, noticing and drawing wildlife”.

The children wrote: “With fascination, we’ve been finding dozens of species of plants and animals...After each investigation we have drawn, or printed everything we have discovered”. Other comments, on display as part of the finished artwork, include: “We had to persevere when drawing because it was challenging to make it accurate” and “I liked learning how to do a lapwing call”. The fabulous artwork has 40 individual drawings and prints, one contributed by each student, framed around a map of the school grounds. As Kathy says:

“It illustrates how powerful it can be to really observe and explore the biodiversity around us that so often goes unnoticed”.

The BioBlitz project work was on display at Hallbankgate Hub during the summer holidays and will be part of the Community Bioblitz exhibition at RSPB Geltsdale in October and November.

Plant a tree at Talkin Tarn

Our scheme to [dedicate a living tree](#) to remember a loved one or celebrate a life milestone has raised £700 in donations. Between November 2023 and April 2024

donors planted ten celebratory trees and seven groups of trees for future generations.



Many thanks to all those who took part; the funds support B2Z administration and project expenses. We begin planting again in November 2024 so if you are interested contact us enquiries@brampton2zero.org.uk

Links with Lancaster University 'Climate Action'



In **April** 2024 we analysed a [survey](#), conducted in partnership with the University, to understand local people's responses to what nature means to them and how they connect locally with nature. The majority of those who took part nominated recycling as much as possible as their greatest personal contribution to reducing impact.

Other popular ways of making a difference included shopping for clothes second hand and reducing meat or dairy consumption. In **June** the Climate Action Group worked with us on a hedgerow survey at Brampton Fell Farm.

Unity Farm Hedge Plant

Earlier this year B2Z volunteers, staff from the Eden River Trust, Fellfoot Forward volunteers

and the Lancaster University Climate Action group collaborated to plant 1300 saplings in



five hours! The weather was kind and the activity completed gaps in the hedge between the Black Path and Tarn Road.

Bracken growth, encouraged by our wet summer, began to smother the new planting so the **Brampton Bracken Bashers** have been at work. This group of volunteers has been out most Tuesday evenings during the summer and made a massive difference not just to the Unity Farm hedge (as our picture below shows) but to other areas around Brampton.



Unity Farm bog: Information Board

B2Z volunteer Michael Fox has unveiled an information board funded by the Fellfoot Forward project at Unity Bog.

Phil Furneaux of B2Z thanked the Laird Family who own the site and Natural England for allowing B2Z volunteers to restore the bog by removing beech trees. The design for the board was drawn by Irene Sanderson and Mike Polebaker used recycled wood to build the frame. The information was compiled by

researcher Lucy Ingham, dragon-fly expert David Clarke and historian Iain Parsons.

Unity Farm bog : a bumper catch of moths



The Puss Moth, photographed by Rob Pickett, was one of many he trapped at Unity Farm raised bog during regular visits this summer. His July catch was 116 species, one of the highest recorded in a single trap in Cumbria! For the full story and more pictures of the moths he examined see the Facebook article.

No Mow May at Brampton Farmer's Market



We collaborated with **Brampton Green and Wild** to promote No Mow May which recognises how even the smallest patch of grass can help deliver gains for nature. Leaving all or part of your lawn with long grass and wildflowers not only helps wildlife and tackles pollution but can even lock away carbon below ground. B2Z volunteer Lisa Bennington wrote a leaflet to accompany the project which was circulated at the time and we gave out No Mow May weatherproof posters and wildflower seeds supplied by Cumbria Wildlife Trust at Brampton Farmer's Market.

Brampton Fell Moss Project



As reported earlier this year we have been allocated funds by the Environment Agency to undertake a natural flood management scheme at Brampton Fell Moss. This exciting three-year project offers multiple benefits for biodiversity by creating a wetland meadow and regenerating a peat moss. Brampton Fell Farm is a project stakeholder and they have endorsed a permissive footpath onto the Moss so the community and local schools can become involved. Meanwhile B2Z has appointed the Eden Rivers Trust to manage the project and we are submitting a business plan on 6 September. Do come to our coffee morning at the Moot Hall on 28 September to find out more about volunteering opportunities and view maps and plans.

New Brampton Thermal Imaging Service for Households

Brampton 2 Zero is excited to announce a new thermal imaging service designed to help local households' cold spots and areas where they might be losing heat that could benefit from improved draughtproofing and insulation thereby saving money on heating bills to create a warmer, healthier home and reduce their carbon footprint.

Last year Cumbria Action for Sustainability (CafS) collaborated with six communities to train volunteers and conduct 154 thermal imaging surveys for households across Cumbria. Feedback was overwhelmingly positive, with many residents implementing

quick fixes and a few planning larger retrofit projects. Every household surveyed was also directed to additional free and paid-for support services provide by CafS. This year B2Z has purchased its own thermal imaging camera and is now offering the same service to local residents. To support this initiative, we are looking for a few volunteers to join our team and help make a real difference for households in the area.

Training will be provided by CafS, with a 90-minute online session followed by two hours of practical, in-person guidance on using the camera. Each survey typically takes around an hour (depending on the size of the property), with additional time needed to download and organise the images before sending them to the homeowner. Last year volunteers found the experience both rewarding and impactful. Training will start early October. If you're interested in volunteering or learning more, contact Philip S. at philip.s@brampton2zero.org.uk who is acting as Lead Coordinator for the project.

Keep up to date with us on Facebook



Our newsletter retrospectively covers activities but new stories, longer articles and forthcoming events are posted on our [Facebook page](#).

Would you like to volunteer with B2Z?



We need volunteers to help with a range of activities to achieve a net carbon zero community. For more information email:

enquiries@brampton2zero.org.uk

Our current funders



Our partners

[Brampton and Beyond Community Trust](#)

Brampton Fell Farm

Brampton Green and Wild

[Brampton Parish Council](#)

Brampton Primary School

[Brampton Walkers are Welcome](#)

[Cumbria Wildlife Trust](#)

[Eden Rivers Trust](#)

[Energy 4 All](#)

[Lancaster University](#)

[Natural England](#)

[Sustainable Brampton](#)

Unity Farm

William Howard School

[Woodland Trust](#)