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*Hampshire Countryside Service*

# ***Community Special***



The Access Team welcome you to

THE ACCESS TEAM WELCOME YOU TO

## The Community Special Newsletter

Hi Everyone, we are back with another community special. Including more of our favourite photos and introducing you to the Central East Access Rangers.

Plus more links to inspire you...



## Photos Of The Month

Here is a close up look at some wonderful fungi...

### SCARLET ELF CUP

Is one of several fungi whose fruit bodies have been noted to make a "puffing" sound, which is an audible spore-discharge where thousands of asci simultaneously explode to release in a cloud of spores.





## JELLY EAR

This fungus is commonly known as Jews Ear and is associated with Judas Iscariot because of the belief that he hanged himself on an elder tree after his betrayal of Jesus. Folklore suggests that the ears are Judas's returned spirit. Common names for the fungus which refer to Judas can be traced back to at least the end of the 16th century.



## SHAGGY MANE

## STAGG MANTLE

A common fungus often seen growing on lawns, along gravel roads and waste areas. It is an edible fungus for the knowledgeable foragers out there, as it can also be confused with the [magpie fungus](#) which is poisonous!



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## Meet the Rangers

This time round we wanted to introduce you to our Central East Ranger Team. Team ACE as they like to call themselves (Access Central East!) have over 30 years experience combined and they love what they do.

Lets hear from Steve Maxwell (Max Power!) and Simon Marriott...



Hi I'm Max and I work for the Central East Access team aka **Team ACE** along with Simon.

I've worked for the Hampshire Countryside Service for the last 20 years at Queen Elizabeth Country Park and Staunton Country Park where my roles mainly concentrated on trails so it was quite appropriate that I made the leap to become a Countryside Access Ranger last year.

I'm really enjoying my new role and seeing loads more of Hampshire and it's places and countryside that I never knew existed.

The job is varied and everyday is different, from tree work to bridges, surfacing to signposts.

Occasionally we work with the South and the North teams which is always a giggle.

I have survived the winter in the job so I very much looking forward to what summer will bring.

Cheers

Max



Hello there,

My name is Simon and I am the assistant ranger for the Central East Access team. I have a great job and I am privileged along with the access ranger Max, to see some of the nicest places in Hampshire. We are lucky in that the South Downs National park encompasses a large part of our area.

Every day can be a different job or place, from putting a fingerpost in on a foot path leading to one Hampshire's many chalk streams, to helping one of our many awesome volunteer groups installing new gates to make Hampshire's countryside that little bit more accessible.

As well as the day to day jobs, we also have to plan larger tasks like using diggers to resurface paths, or installing bridges constructed of modern recycled glass reinforced plastic

recycled glass reinforced plastic.

So if you see us on a the Downs, come say hello!

Simon

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Inspired, Challenged and Connected



"Mycelium connects different individuals in the forest, individuals not only of the same species but between species, like birch and fir, and it works kind of like the Internet."

How trees talk to each other. Suzanne Simard. TED

What are Ted Talks?

- 'TED (Technology, Entertainment and Design) is a nonprofit devoted to spreading ideas, usually in the form of short, powerful talks'

(Please be aware there is an advert at the start of this clip - you can skip the advert after a few seconds).

## INSPIRATION

The North, South and Central Access Teams put together this selection of links for things to occupy, challenge and inspire.... we hope you enjoy

Hampshire Countryside Service BLOG:

<http://lookingafternature.co.uk/>

Find out more from Hampshire Countryside service's

[Biodiversity Information Centre](#)

[How about building a Hedgehog House](#)

[Learn more about Marine Conservation](#)

[Download the Houseparty App and start playing games with family and friends](#)

[Plan your summer garden with pollinators in mind](#)

[Have a look at this cute video on Robins Courtship dance](#)

[And if you're really bored, maybe try recreating this....](#)

<https://www.southdowns.gov.uk/helping-young-people-connect-nature-taking-outdoors-inside-classroom/>

<https://www.kew.org/read-and-watch/how-to-make-terrarium>

<https://www.discoverwildlife.com/people/nature-activities-for-children/>

<https://www.linnean.org/learning/at-home>

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### Meet The Community Engagement Rangers.



Gemma (North)



Adam (Central/East)



Ria (South West)

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Find your local paths

Report an issue on the network

## Apply for the Rural Communities Fund



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