

Wednesday 3rd April, 2019

From little seeds, great flowers grow. As a young girl Sarah-Jane needed to do an environmental project. She was walking on Hengistbury Head with her parents. They suggested the Head was an area to research. She surveyed stones on the beach, and the flora. At university, Sarah-Jane passed her degree and later went on to work using her knowledge of eco-diversity. Thank you to her parents, who visited the garden today and told us the story. Sarah-Jane now lives and works in Australia.

Marram Grass that we planted five years ago was an immediate and attractive rockery feature. Marram Grass keeps sand dunes whole by having tenacious roots. Those same roots may be affecting our pond so we are starting to control the grass.



What a joy to see and hear the sparrows who are visiting new bird boxes around the Centre, and in the garden. Like us, they seem to be most vocal in the sunshine.

So 'Spring has Sprung, the grass has riss, and we all know where the birdies is.' The light is changing, young shoots are opening and there is promise in the air.

Spring Starflowers, *Ipheion*, have been seen on the Southbourne Overcliffe. A local botanist would be interested to know of any sightings of these pretty star-like flowers growing wild. The white flowers smell lovely. The foliage is more 'oniony' - well, they are part of the onion family. Perhaps you could let us know if you see them in the Christchurch area.



We look forward to seeing you at Hengistbury Head Garden very soon. And thank you to those who come back and chat to us about how it changes.

The Hengistbury Head Wildlife Gardeners