

Shavington Estate

A regenerative estate in north Shropshire bringing back wood-pasture, wet woodland and species-rich meadow, connected to the ancient woodland at Big Wood.

ABOUT THE SCHEME

Shavington Estate is a working dairy farm near Market Drayton, Shropshire, run on regenerative principles by William and Johanna Heywood-Lonsdale. The estate holds ancient and veteran trees, pockets of ancient semi-natural woodland, and the remains of a historic parkland landscape.

Rather than manage the land intensively, the estate lets natural processes do more of the work: herbivore browsing holds back scrub in some areas and lets it develop in others, land drains are broken to re-wet parts of the site dried out by decades of farming, and traditional management continues where it earns its place, coppicing the existing woodland and managing the lowland meadow.

Thirteen hectares of new wood-pasture and parkland bring back the scattered trees and open grazing that once shaped the estate, alongside 10 hectares of mixed scrub, five of wet woodland, and a hectare of new ponds and broadleaved woodland. Nearly 85 hectares of existing habitat are enhanced too, including 45 hectares of grassland, 23 of lowland mixed deciduous woodland, and 16 of lowland meadow, plus a veteran oak protected as irreplaceable habitat.

The enhancement work connects directly into Big Wood, an area of ancient and replanted woodland on the site boundary, and into the wider network of old woodland beyond it.

A Conservation Covenant with Fera Science Limited secures the scheme for 30 years.

SCHEME BNG / NN

Status:

Taking Allocations
Shropshire Council
Shropshire, Cheshire and Staffordshire Plain
Secured via Conservation Covenant
(Fera Science, Responsible Body)

CONTACT

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HABITATS AVAILABLE

Broad Habitat	Metric Habitat	Distinctiveness
Wood-pasture and parkland	Creation	Medium
Mixed scrub	Creation	Medium
Wet woodland	Creation	Medium
Ponds	Creation	Medium
Other woodland, broadleaved	Creation	Medium
Modified grassland	Enhancement	Low
Lowland mixed deciduous woodland	Enhancement	High
Lowland meadows	Enhancement	Very High
Ponds	Enhancement	Medium
Other woodland/mixed scrub	Enhancement	Medium

TOWNS & CITIES

- Market Drayton
- Whitchurch
- Wem
- Newport
- Shrewsbury
- Telford
- Nantwich
- Wider NCA coverage:
- Crewe
- Chester
- Stoke-on-Trent
- Stafford
- Macclesfield

NCAS

- Shropshire, Cheshire and Staffordshire Plain.

LPAS

- Shropshire Council



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