**GREEN REDGRAVE GROUP’s Report 2023**

It has been an eventful year for the Green Redgrave Group. In that time, we have already clicked up quite a few successes. We have planted now more than 4,000 trees during the period, including a Queen’s Jubilee tree (a Sorbus Aucuparia or Mountain Ash or Rowan for those of us non-Latin speakers). We have planted 1,000 snowdrops and 300 daffodils on the Knoll in front of the Cross Keys pub. We have installed 12 bat boxes and 21 Swift boxes around the village. We have sown a patch of ground with seed designed to feed turtle doves, one of our most endangered birds (many thanks to our RSPB representative Eliza Leat, and friendly landowner, John Davie-Thornhill, for making this possible). We have put in place a regular litter picking programme and taken on the responsibility for footpaths around the village. We have also put in place a series of talks on wildlife which have been greatly enjoyed by those attending. And we have also released three hedgehogs which we hope will be the start of a thriving colony here in the village and purchased 6 hedgehog boxes to help this become so. We have built a wildlife friendly environment around the new children’s playground and are currently engaged in creating a wildflower meadow patch in the area.

We will continue our work into the coming year and have already sourced another 900 trees for our planting activities in the Autumn. We also hope to restore one of the ponds around the village later this year. But an important additional activity this coming year will be survey work so that we have a solid baseline against which to measure our ambition to make Redgrave a more Wildlife Friendly Village. And in a new development we have agreed that we should extend our work into the wider but related environmental crisis and net-zero support activities.

One final significant recent development. We have made an initial agreement with other local groups with similar aims to create a Green cluster so that we can help each other and jointly press for support and funding from county council, government and other agencies. This is an exciting development which could reap rich rewards.

Andy Warnes

Chairman