

# Rother Woods Project



Woodland butterfly populations in the Rother area and across the Southeast are in serious decline. Butterfly Conservation's Rother Woods Project aims to help woodland owners and local people to reverse this trend and to enjoy and treasure the wonderful Rother landscape and its wildlife.

## Background

Woodland butterflies and moths are among the most threatened groups of insects in the UK, and their decline has often been fastest in the South East. After hundreds of years of woodland management many woods are now being neglected or under-managed. To tackle this, Butterfly Conservation is launching its biggest conservation project so far.



The Pearl-bordered Fritillary was once common in Southeast woodlands. Its population and range is declining rapidly.

## The Project

This exciting and ambitious project aims to reinvigorate long-term sustainable woodland management and halt the decline of some of our rarest species. It will use butterflies and moths as indicators of successfully managed woodlands, rich in biodiversity.

The project will...

- Help to conserve and enhance the South East's woodland heritage and the wildlife it supports.
- Support the woodland economy and promote sustainable woodland management.
- Help people to increase their enjoyment and their knowledge of woodlands and wildlife.

Over the next few months, I would like to make contact with local landowners, organisations, communities and interested and enthusiastic individuals who can help to make this project a success. From Spring 2008, Butterfly Conservation will also be holding free training workshops, guided walks and other events for people to get involved and increase their enjoyment of this wonderful landscape. I would also like to get areas surveyed to find out how butterflies and moths are faring in the Rother Woods area.

## I'm looking for:

- Woodland owners/managers in the Rother Woods area
- Volunteers and Community Groups willing to carry out practical conservation work in the Rother Woods area.
- People with wood burners or people interested in installing wood burners at home or work.
- Buyers or sellers of timber or other woodland produce.
- People with specific skills, including woodland workers and crafts people.
- Existing contractors and woodland workers.
- People of all ages and abilities who want to increase their enjoyment of woodlands & wildlife.

If you are one of these people or if you can help in any way please contact me...



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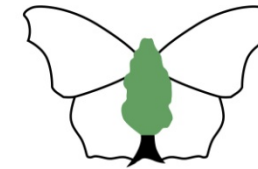
Based at: High Weald AONB Unit  
Woodland Enterprise Centre  
Hastings Road  
Flimwell  
East Sussex, TN5 7PR

# The Rother Woods Project Area

The Rother Woods, lying between Rye and Robertsbridge in East Sussex, retains one of the highest proportions of ancient woodland in the country and was home to some of the richest woodland biodiversity.

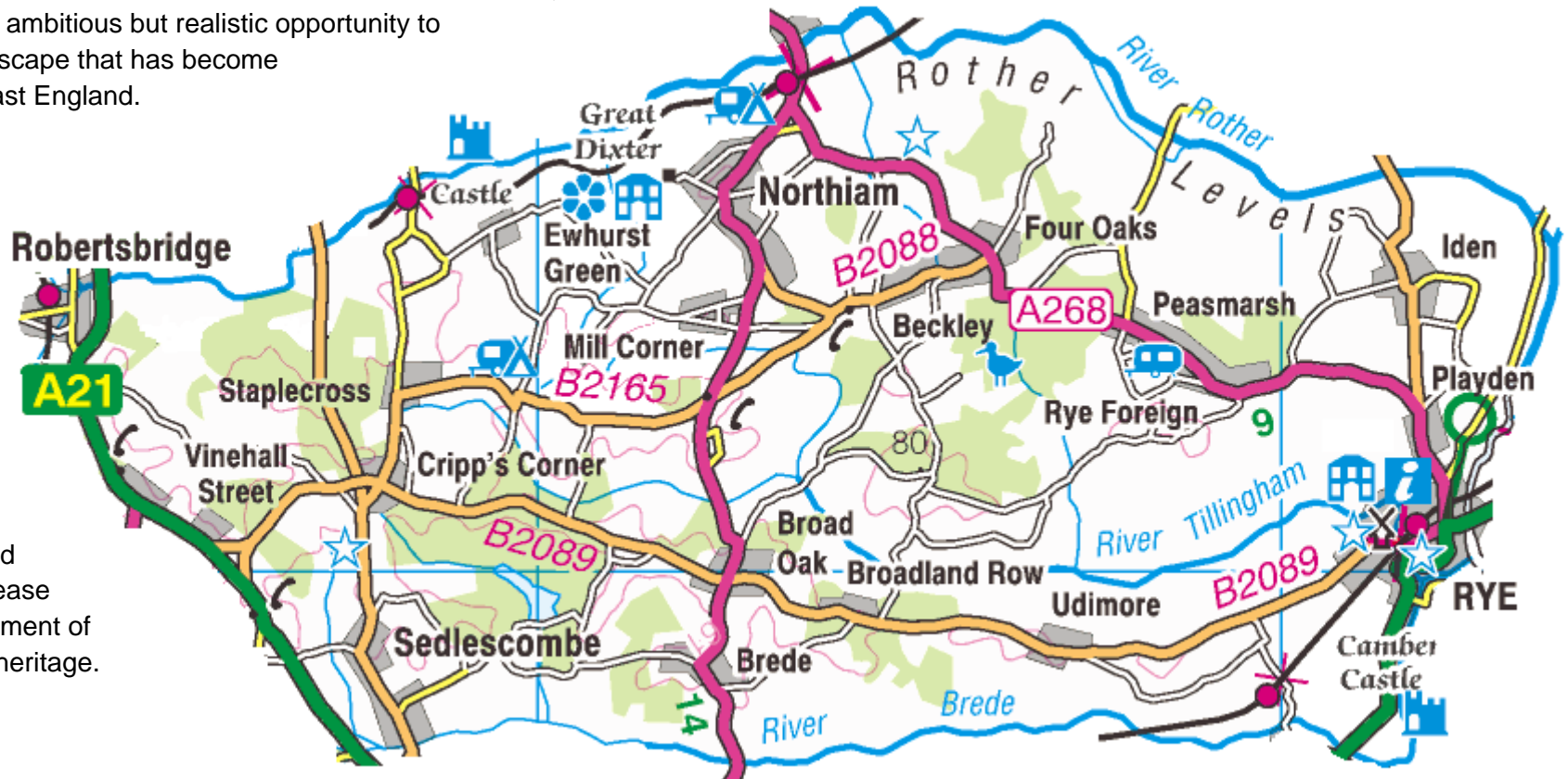
Bounded by the River Rother in the north and the River Brede to the south, this project area provides an ambitious but realistic opportunity to restore a richly wooded landscape that has become increasingly rare in South East England.

The successes and lessons learned within project area can be promoted widely across the South East region to further help save our rare and threatened species and increase the understanding and enjoyment of our rich and diverse natural heritage.



## Butterfly Conservation

Saving butterflies, moths and their habitats



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