

Newsletter: November 2025

December 2025

Dear Neighbours,

Welcome to News from the Commons, sharing news about our ecology, volunteering and other adventures.

- Somehow we are now in December and our winter work programme is well underway with lots of hard work by our volunteers and contractors to get scrub cleared, grass and meadows cut, verges trimmed back, ponds cleared, problematic trees tackled and areas of woodland thinned.
- Just yesterday we received the annual fungus report from Martin Allison. Along with 75 new species, there was a new West Kent record, a new County record and a potential new UK record. The report makes for a great read and is available here: <https://twcommons.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/12/Tunbridge-Wells-and-Rusthall-Commons-Mycological-Surveys-Year-Two-Summary-Report-2025.pdf>
- Our alien-like Devil's Fingers fungus has been our most photographed and talked about fungus of the year. While they look like something from another planet, we do need to warn you...approach with caution, they absolutely stink!
- Can we tempt you with a mince pie? After the volunteering session on Tunbridge Wells Common this Saturday there will be hot drinks and mince pies for all volunteers as a thank you from the Friends...please do pop along and join us: <https://twcommons.org/events/tunbridge-wells-common-volunteering-session-6/>
- Have you spotted the kingfisher at Brighton Lake? Even better if you've spotted it AND you're a good photographer as we'd love to see your pics!
- Talking of pics, we have been really enjoying your fabulous photographs of frosty mornings, super sunsets and vibrant views of the Commons, please keep posting them to our Facebook group (www.facebook.com/groups/TWRCommons)