

From: Knepp Wildland marketing@knepp.co.uk
Subject: News from Knepp: The Jay's Busy Autumn
Date: October 23, 2026 at 11:04 am
To: maryannsteggles@icloud.com



[View in browser](#)



In this edition

In this edition of News from Knepp: our **jays are busy planting oaks**; we celebrate **World Earthworm Day**; the latest Knepp Wilding podcast on our **hopes for ospreys**; last chance to book **Kate Raworth's Author Supper**; **Nessie Ramm's art exhibition** at Knepp Wilding Shop; **nature-inspired Christmas hampers and gifts** now online; and enjoy **20% off cabins this winter**.

STORIES FROM THE WILDLAND





The Jay's Busy Autumn

As acorns start to fall from oak trees, jays are busy ferrying back and forth between the trees, transporting acorns in their throats and burying them as a larder in preparation for winter. It's tireless work; a single jay can cache some 5,000 acorns in a season.

Jays are generous planters, tucking acorns into open grassland, scrub and woodland edges. But it's often those pushed into the fringes of thorny scrub that fare best. Here, the young saplings grow up in the protective embrace of bramble and thorn, safely out of reach of browsing deer and grazing animals. As the old forester's saying goes, 'the thorn is the mother of the oak'.

Read our latest blog on the remarkable partnership between the jay and the oak.

[READ THE FULL STORY](#)

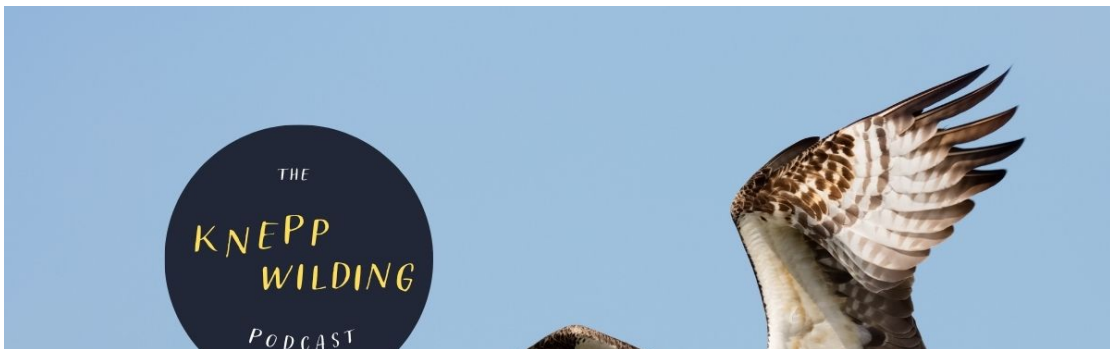


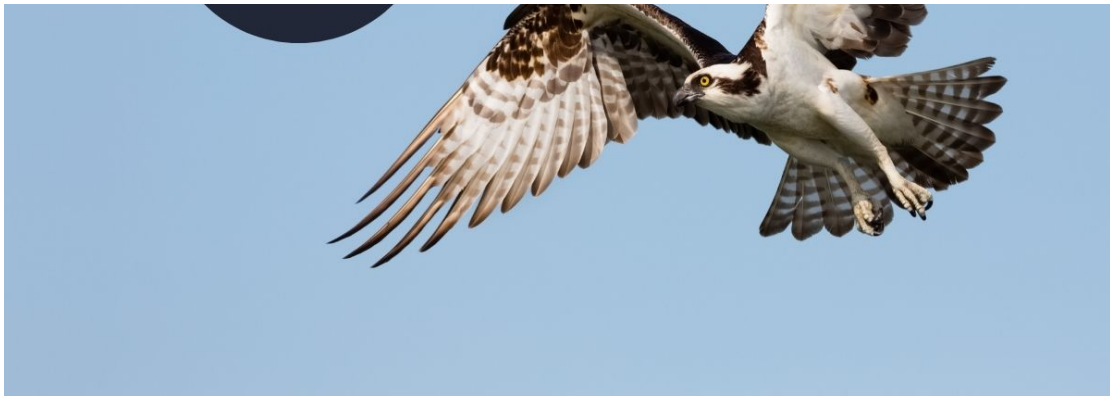


World Earthworm Day

To mark World Earthworm Day on 21 October, we've been celebrating these remarkable invertebrates. It's hard to overstate their importance. Charles Darwin spent much of his later life studying them, concluding that few other animals 'have played so important a part in the history of the world'.

When we first began rewilding at Knepp we were told that anecic worms (those that burrow vertically, deep into the soil) would be vital for our soil's recovery. But we were also warned that they move only about a metre a year. Their colonisation out into the open fields from hedgerows and margins where they'd survived the onslaughts of chemical farming would be slow. To our surprise, within ten years they'd moved out more than 100 metres into our fields, bringing life back to the soil ten times faster than predicted. Knepp is now home to an astonishing 19 of the UK's 30 earthworm species.





An Osprey Nest for Knepp

In this month's episode of the Knepp Wilding Podcast, Isabella Tree grabbed the opportunity to join raptor reintroduction specialist Tim Mackrill and his team as they set about building an osprey nest at Knepp. Osprey numbers are recovering in the UK thanks to reintroductions carried out by Tim and the Roy Dennis Wildlife Foundation over the last two decades. We spot one or two most years at Knepp, including a young male which spent a couple of months here in 2025. The artificial nest is an attempt to attract a breeding pair to Knepp.

Tim takes us into his world of 'thinking like an osprey' and explains why these pioneering birds sometimes need a helping hand.

[LISTEN TO THE PODCAST](#)

WHAT'S ON



**Thursday 5 November | 6-9pm | Knepp Wilding
Kitchen & Shop, £65pp**

Author Supper with Kate Raworth

Kate Raworth reveals latest efforts around the globe to establish economies that can meet everyone's needs within the planet's limits.

[BOOK HERE](#)



Saturday 28 November, £75pp | Friday 4 December with lunch, £100pp

Winter Wreath Workshops

Make your own wreath from dried flowers, seedheads and winter foliage to take home for the festive season.

[BOOK HERE](#)



28 October - 29 November | Knepp Wilding Shop

New Art Exhibition: Life on the Verge

Paintings and prints by Nessie Ramm, celebrating the wildflowers thriving on Sussex and Kent's roadside verges.

[FIND OUT MORE](#)

EXPLORE MORE



Wild Hampers & Gift Sets



Wild Winter Stays

This Christmas, share a little of the wild. Choose from six gift sets and hampers filled with sustainable, nature-inspired treats, each presented in a Knepp-branded box or wicker basket.

From £38

ORDER HERE

Stay in one of our rustic cabins this winter and enjoy 20% off stays between 1 November 2026 and 28 February 2027.

Book by 31 December with code 'CABINS2026'.

BOOK HERE

Join the Community



Discover More

EAT

SHOP

STAY

SAFARI

GARDENS

Copyright © 2026 Knepp. All rights reserved.

The Jay's Busy Autumn photograph © Steve Bains

You're receiving this because you signed up to News from Knepp.

[update your preferences](#) | [unsubscribe](#)

