

# LINK THE SINCS\*

We have created several butterfly banks along the ridge of the North Downs in Sutton, to make it easier for scarce species to move between Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (\*SINCS). These butterfly banks act as "Stepping Stones" across the landscape, helping butterflies and other pollinators reconnect with habitats, expanding and strengthening their populations. This project is funded by Rewild London Fund and adds to the 5 butterfly banks created through the Brilliant Butterflies project in 2021.



CAN YOU HELP THE BUTTERFLIES BY ADDING ANOTHER 'STEPPING STONE'?

This could be simply through planting the key species in your garden, especially if you're on the chalk.

Small Blue, Chalkhill Blue and Dark Green Fritillary butterflies are restricted to high quality chalk grasslands, where their caterpillar food plants of Kidney Vetch, Horseshoe Vetch and Hairy Violet occur. These chalk banks are planted with these key species and are like miniature versions of their natural habitats!



**Horseshoe Vetch**  
A small creeping plant, Horseshoe Vetch may get its name from the shape of the seed pods, which look like tiny horseshoes. It was also believed that it could un-shoe horses that trod on the seeds!



**Dark Green Fritillary**  
Linking high-quality habitats on and between SINCS is really important to reverse population declines in these and other pollinator species, as their habitats have been destroyed and fragmented by human activities, such as housing and roads.



**Hairy Violet**  
This species has a much paler blue/violet petal than the closely related and more widespread sweet violet, which is a species of woodland edges.



**Kidney Vetch**  
This member of the pea family was traditionally used in the treatment of kidney and stomach complaints.

- Small Blue presence
- Chalkhill Blue presence
- Dark Green Fritillary presence
- Desired direction of travel for butterflies
- ReWild London banks
- Brilliant Butterflies banks
- Site of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC)
- Other green areas
- Houses and gardens
- Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)

Want to know more? contact us [biodiversity@sutton.gov.uk](mailto:biodiversity@sutton.gov.uk)

SUPPORTED BY

**MAYOR OF LONDON**

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