

## **OPERATION HEDGEHOG surveys in partnership with Cornwall Wildlife Trust & Cornwall Mammal Group supported by Prickles & Paws rescue.**

Nine LAPWG folk volunteered to assist with this survey using footprint tunnels during Hedgehog Awareness week at the beginning of May. Under Dave's leadership, we set off on the Sunday to find the two reserves allocated at Greena Moor and Trebarwith.



Greena Moor, on the culm measures is a quietly lovely reserve but a fair walk across two other fields to reach the wooded area along the far side. On the other hand, Trebarwith proved quite a challenge, first to find and then to negotiate where to place the tunnels on very steep and brambly ground...

Gill, Katy & Sue looked after Trebarwith; Dave & Mary, Ian & Irene plus Jen & Pete did Greena.

As for the hedgehogs, all we can say is that small rodents feasted royally that week~ the paper sheets were covered in tiny paw prints. No signs of hedgehog...

BUT, on the Friday, some of the tunnels went off to pastures new and it wasn't long before the hogs at Trekenner provided the first prints, clear and indisputable.



Then the following week, Gill was sitting having a mid morning cuppa in her garden and heard a noise; and yep, a large hedgehog was seen disappearing into the pampas grass. Renewed efforts with a footprint tunnel produced perfect prints for the first time after several attempts in previous years.

These footprint tunnels will be working hard around St. Gennys & Trekenner this summer as neighbours get to hear about the project.

Except, of course, this survey is designed to find evidence of hedgehog activity away from human habitation... But at least we now have some LAPWG prints!

*If anyone in LAPWG is inspired and would like to try out a footprint tunnel please contact us on : [info@launcestonparishwildlife.org.uk](mailto:info@launcestonparishwildlife.org.uk)*

