

Glossary

Analogue	a continuously variable electrical signal that cannot be read by a computer
Ancient woodland	woodland over 400 years old
Arable land	land used for growing crops
Archaeology	study of the past, often discovered by excavation (digging)
Carrion	the dead flesh of any animal
Conservation	making sure our natural <i>environment</i> survives, recovers, and is used responsibly
Coppicing	regularly cutting trees down to ground level, from which they re-sprout and produce lots of poles of an even size
Cultivate	to prepare ground for crops
Digitise	change the signal into a form that can be read and processed by a computer
Diversity	variety
Environment	the surrounding area which influences the development or growth of people, animals or plants
Escarpment	a steep hill caused by rocks wearing away
Game bird	a bird hunted for sport eg pheasant, partridge
Habitat	the place where an animal or plant lives
Hectare	10,000 square metres; approximately the size of two football pitches
Indicator	a species that is quick to show changes that may be affecting many species
Invertebrate	animal without a backbone
Kitnor	the old English word for a slope or hill where kites are seen
Medieval	the Middle Ages – this can mean any time between about 500 AD and the beginning of the Tudor period in 1485
Milvus milvus	the scientific name for the red kite
Origin	the beginning, the source
Pasture	land used for the grazing of animals such as sheep and cattle
Persecute	to hunt down, or put to death
Plumage	the feathers and colouring of birds
Population	the number of plants, animals or people in a given area
Scrub	stunted trees and shrubs
Scavenge	to search for dead animals or things that have been thrown away
Server	allows many different computer users access to centrally stored information
Understorey	shrubby vegetation growing under the trees in woodlands
Verge	border eg between road and land
Vermin	troublesome animals and insects, eg fleas, lice, mice, rats
Wingspan	measurement from the tip of one wing to the tip of the other
Yield	the amount produced or obtained