

Nest box week gives birds helping hand

A SPECIAL event at Stanley Mills yesterday offered people the chance to give garden birds a helping hand.

Countryside rangers held the event to coincide with National Nest Box Week. It began on Valentine's Day, traditionally the day when birds pair up to breed.

The rangers ran activities for all the family ranging from a bird watching for beginners' walk, to nest box building and bird feeder making. There were also various games and trails to enjoy, advice on how to attract birds to your garden

and information on where to position a nest box.

National Nest Box Week is held annually to highlight the shortage of natural nest sites for birds in the UK. The loss of traditional holes in trees and buildings means many birds now rely on nest boxes to raise their broods.

Also putting up a host of nest boxes is Mains of Taymouth Country Estate. "As we are building buy-to-let apartments on the estate we felt the nest boxes would give birds a safe and quiet home while the work progresses," said a spokesman.