

Mark Webster writes:

Happy New (Financial) Year, for those who have to worry about such things! People can leave their worries behind when they come out on one of our conservation activities, as we provide all the necessary tools and equipment, and all the training/guidance they will need to do the job. This month we are getting quite constructive, with 6 (yes, 6, count them!) days building a stretch of new boardwalk at Broadland Country Park which will form part of a great new nature trail. Also a couple of days building steps at Drayton. Again, no experience is necessary here, nor for the nettle cutting at Bungay nor the work at Charter Wood: if you are wondering what a coppice stool is, you'll have to come along and find out.\* For our regular volunteers, it's also the time of year we thank them by taking some trips out to a variety of interesting places: PLEASE MAKE SURE THEY CONTACT ME TO BOOK PLACES FOR THESE TRIPS. There are limited spaces available for each one, and priority will be given to people who have already volunteered with us. Please also make sure new potential volunteers book for the workday tasks where it says **BM** on the listings below, it would be a real shame for them to turn up and find that there is no space available on the minibus.

Best wishes,  
Mark.

\* Oh all right, it's a multi-stemmed tree stump that we intend to allow to regrow

*Join in Feel Good! A programme of Conservation Volunteering to improve local green spaces.*

# Norfolk Environmental Action Team

## April 2024

**FREE Minibus leaves at 10am** from the Corner of Queens Road & Brazen Gate, by the traffic lights next to the big Sainsbury's car park, near Norwich bus station [what3words: single.affair.robe]. If you would like to get a lift from near UEA, please ask. **Booking is NOT usually needed** - just turn up on the day, unless you want to be sure of a place on the minibus for days marked **BM** below (book via [mark.webster@tcv.org.uk](mailto:mark.webster@tcv.org.uk) / 07740 899 691). See last page of this document for more information about joining these activities, including details about who can attend (most people). Sessions run from arrival on site (depends on traffic and travel distance) to 3.15pm on site, returning to central Norwich by 4.15pm.

**Mobile number to contact us on the day: 07740 899 691.**

Date	Site	Activity	Site Meeting Point (if coming by car or bike) at 10.15am unless otherwise stated
Mon 1 <sup>st</sup>	<b>NO TASK</b>	Pruning spaghetti trees. In order to ensure a good harvest, we need to prune the	*** NO TASK TODAY ***

		spaghetti trees on this specific day.	
Tues 2 <sup>nd</sup>	East <b>BM</b> Ruston Poors Land	Will it be willow, will it be gorse, you'll have to wait and see (we hope it's gorse, it's gorse). Clearing scrub.	Car park at Butchers Arms, at junction of Oak Lane with School Road, East Ruston, NR12 9JQ (OS grid ref: TG 345 282). [ what3words: inflates.square.victory ] <b>Arriving approx 10.45am.</b>
Wed 3 <sup>rd</sup>	East <b>BM</b> Ruston Poors Land	The mystery deepens...we still don't know whether we will be clearing willow (welly boots permitting) or small gorse.	Car park at Butchers Arms, at junction of Oak Lane with School Road, East Ruston, NR12 9JQ (OS grid ref: TG 345 282). [ what3words: inflates.square.victory ] <b>Arriving approx 10.45am.</b>
Thurs 4 <sup>th</sup>	East <b>BM</b> Ruston Poors Land	Curiouser and curiouser, said Alice (and all the other volunteers curious as to whether it will be willow or gorse today).	Car park at Butchers Arms, at junction of Oak Lane with School Road, East Ruston, NR12 9JQ (OS grid ref: TG 345 282). [what3words: inflates.square.victory] <b>Arriving approx 10.45am.</b>
Fri 5 <sup>th</sup>	Drayton Green Lanes	To Sleeper, perchance to dream? The dream of a new set of steps for this lovely little site will soon be fulfilled...	Small car park on Low Road, Drayton (near Norwich) (OS grid ref TG 189 126) [ what3words: riper.customers.shatters ] <b>Arriving approx 10.20am.</b>
Mon 8 <sup>th</sup>	Jolly trip 1 <b>BM (8 SPACES)</b>	The first of our treats for regular volunteers: chips all round and a little boat trip from Oulton Broad.	Booking essential, priority will go to our longest-serving volunteers. Please contact Mark Webster 07740 899 691 <a href="mailto:mark.webster@tcv.org.uk">mark.webster@tcv.org.uk</a> if you wish to join us on site.
Tues 9 <sup>th</sup>	<b>NO TASK</b>	Sorry, no task today.	*** NO TASK TODAY ***
Wed 10 <sup>th</sup>	Jolly trip 2 <b>BM (8 SPACES)</b>	On The National (Trust) Express. Just our usual minibus, a trip to Oxburgh Hall	Booking essential, priority will go to our longest-serving volunteers. Please contact Mark Webster 07740 899 691 <a href="mailto:mark.webster@tcv.org.uk">mark.webster@tcv.org.uk</a>

		(crisps and tea etc included).	<a href="#">k</a> if you wish to join us on site.
Thurs 11 <sup>th</sup>	<b>NO TASK</b>	Sorry, no task today.	*** NO TASK TODAY ***
Fri 12 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Bungay Falcon Meadow</b>	Bridge of Scythes. Cutting nettles and dredging ditches.	Entrance to Falcon Meadow, Falcon Lane, just off Bridge Street / Ditchingham Dam, Bungay, NR35 2JQ. [ what3words: estimated.upgrading.rapid ] <b>Arriving at approx. 11am on site.</b>
Mon 15 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Mulbarton Meadows BM</b>	Green Grow the Grasses-O...I'll sing you One-O, as we cut back the rank grasses around the newly planted trees here.	Co-op shop car park, Cuckoofield Lane (near junction with Birchfield Lane), Mulbarton, NR14 8BA. [ what3words: playful.victory.trombone ] <b>Arriving approx 10.25am.</b>
Tues 16 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Jolly trip 3 BM (11 SPACES)</b>	Let's all Muckleburgh in. Visit to the Military Museum: the nearest thing we have to a long-service medal for our regular volunteers.	Booking essential, priority will go to our longest-serving volunteers. Please contact Mark Webster 07740 899 691 <a href="mailto:mark.webster@tcv.org.uk">mark.webster@tcv.org.uk</a> if you wish to join us on site.
Wed 17 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Mousehold Heath</b>	As easy as walking off a log. Making steps from very locally harvested tree trunks.	Car park in front of Zak's Mousehold Diner halfway up Gurney Road opposite the bandstand, Norwich, NR1 4HW. [ what3words: sobs.deeply.charm ]
Thurs 18 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Mousehold Heath</b>	Here comes the Hotstepper. Lyric al or not, all volunteers welcome to help finish building a set of steps.	Car park in front of Zak's Mousehold Diner halfway up Gurney Road opposite the bandstand, Norwich, NR1 4HW. [ what3words: sobs.deeply.charm ]
Fri 19 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Drayton Green Lanes</b>	The buck stobs here. Adding stobs to hold our	Small car park on Low Road, Drayton (near Norwich) (OS grid ref TG 189 126) [ what3words:

		new steps in place.	riper.customers.shatters ] <b>Arriving approx 10.20am.</b>
Sat 20 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Queen's Hills Community Park</b>	Spring cleaning time? Tidying up our raggedy piles of brushings to give this lovely site that "looked after" feeling.	Car park by small waterworks on Alfred Munnings Road, between the Longwater Shopping Centre and Queen's Hills housing estate, Costessey, Norwich: nearest postcode NR8 5EY. [ what3words: lows.science.remarking ] <b>Meet at 10am on site, sorry no minibus from central Norwich today.</b>
Mon 22 <sup>nd</sup>	<b>Broadland Country Park</b>	Under the boardwalk, down by the stream...building the first steps towards a new nature trail.	Village Hall car park, B1149 Holt Road, Horsford, NR10 3DN. [what3words: credible.pave.entrust] <b>Arriving approx 10.25am.</b>
Tues 23 <sup>rd</sup>	<b>Broadland Country Park</b>	A board walk for a broad land: boardwalk construction.	Village Hall car park, B1149 Holt Road, Horsford, NR10 3DN. [what3words: credible.pave.entrust] <b>Arriving approx 10.25am.</b>
Wed 24 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Broadland Country Park</b>	Are you getting board yet? A third chance to help build this boardwalk through the woods.	Village Hall car park, B1149 Holt Road, Horsford, NR10 3DN. [what3words: credible.pave.entrust] <b>Arriving approx 10.25am.</b>
Thurs 25 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Broadland Country Park</b>	Let the drain take the strain. Building a boardwalk and culverts to keep walkers' feet dry.	Village Hall car park, B1149 Holt Road, Horsford, NR10 3DN. [what3words: credible.pave.entrust] <b>Arriving approx 10.25am.</b>
Fri 26 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Broadland Country Park</b>	All hands on decking: boardwalk construction continues.	Village Hall car park, B1149 Holt Road, Horsford, NR10 3DN. [what3words: credible.pave.entrust] <b>Arriving approx 10.25am.</b>
Mon 29 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Charter Wood</b>	Give us the stools and we will do the job. Fitting mini-fences to protect	Draper Way near Craske Mews, Chapel Break, Bowthorpe, Norwich, NR5 9NG [what3words: amber.rebounder.cracker ]

		coppice 'stools' from nibbling deer.	
Tues 30th	<b>Charter Wood</b>	Stool pigeons (ha-cha-cha-cha). No need to turn the joint upside down, we are just protecting coppice stools with mesh.	Draper Way near Craske Mews, Chapel Break, Bowthorpe, Norwich, NR5 9NG [what3words: amber.rebounder.cracker ]
Wed 1 <sup>st</sup> May	<b>Broadland Country Park</b>	If you are bored, you can walk! Boardwalk construction - the finishing touches.	Village Hall car park, B1149 Holt Road, Horsford, NR10 3DN. [what3words: credible.pave.entrust] <b>Arriving approx 10.25am.</b>
Thurs 2 <sup>nd</sup> May	<b>Jolly trip 4 BM (11 SPACES)</b>	Full steam ahead for a blooming marvellous trip for regular volunteers to Bressingham for trains, plants and a museum.	Booking essential, priority will go to our longest-serving volunteers. Please contact Mark Webster 07740 899 691 <a href="mailto:mark.webster@tcv.org.uk">mark.webster@tcv.org.uk</a> if you wish to join us on site.
Fri 3 <sup>rd</sup> May	<b>Jolly trip 5 BM (11 SPACES)</b>	A Breckland Mystery Tour for our regular volunteers. In and around Thetford, perhaps both overground and underground...	Booking essential, priority will go to our longest-serving volunteers. Please contact Mark Webster 07740 899 691 <a href="mailto:mark.webster@tcv.org.uk">mark.webster@tcv.org.uk</a> if you wish to join us on site.

**BOOKING** There is usually enough space for everyone on the minibus if we are working in or near Norwich, but for some longer trips the minibus might get full, please email or text Mark (details below) to be sure of a place on the bus. If you would find it helpful to ask us anything before coming on a project for the first time, please do contact us - see below. Otherwise, if you are over 18 and don't have any unspent convictions for serious crimes, you can just turn up and join in. **If you are 16 or 17** you will need a parent or guardian to sign our permission form before you can get started - please contact us if you need one. **If you have unspent convictions** for sexual or violent offences, you will not be able to volunteer with TCV (please contact us for a confidential chat if you need to check if this applies to you).

**MEETING POINTS** If you would like a map, or directions to the site, please contact us. FREE Minibus transport is available from outside stated pick-up points only, returning to the same place at the end of the session. We do our best to keep to time, but due to traffic etc, all timings are approximate.

**WE PROVIDE** All tools and protective equipment are provided, please bring your own refreshments (drinks and a packed lunch) for the day. If a site has toilets this is indicated on the programme by 'WC' in the 'Site Meeting Point' column.

**PLEASE WEAR** Old work clothes, suitable for the weather. If you have them, please bring reasonably sturdy shoes or boots, and rainwear. We provide work gloves and everything else necessary for the task. You are advised to check if your tetanus inoculation is up to date.