

Conservation Volunteers June 2024 Programme

Flaming or Raining? I don't know, but it is June soon...as the seasons (twist and) turn in unpredictable ways, our construction work (boardwalks, steps, etc) gives way to tackling invasive species such as bracken - and Himalayan Balsam. Yes, it's here again! We get to see some beautiful hidden stretches of the lovely Wensum Valley, with iridescent banded demoiselles flitting around our heads as we wander the riverbanks hunting for this invasive weed, before it sets seed (3rd rhyme of this paragraph?)

We will also be looking after some new wildflower meadows trees including a Miyawaki Forest.

We have also got a couple of events to attend this month, celebrating volunteering and biodiversity – exactly what we do. People can come and help with our stall if they can, or just attend the events and stroll round to see what else is going on.

These Happy Days are yours and mine, so let's get out there and enjoy them!

Best wishes,
Mark.

A programme of Conservation Volunteering to improve local green spaces – and your health. Join in whenever suits you.

Norfolk Environmental Action Team

June 2024

Join us whenever you can, we do not require any regular

commitment to attend. FREE Minibus leaves at 10am from the Corner of Queens Road & Brazen Gate, by the traffic lights and glass canopy next to the big Sainsbury's near Norwich bus station [what3words: single.affair.robe]. If you would like a lift from near UEA, please ask. **Booking is NOT usually needed** - just turn up any day, but to book a place on the minibus for days marked **BM** below, contact mark.webster@tcv.org.uk / 07740 899 691. See end of this document for more info, 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. If you do not need to get the minibus back, you can leave whenever you need to (just let the leader know). Minibus returns 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 3 rd	Hellesdon old Station	Through Hell(esdon) and Low Water. Looking after the old station platform and surrounding area.	Hellesdon abandoned train station, on Marriotts Way path, just west of Hellesdon Road, Norwich, nearest postcode NR5 8XN, OS grid ref TG 197 100 [what3words: plans.larger.bars]

Tues 4 th	Rowan Wood BM	Rowan by name, Rowan by nature. Bracken control at a hidden woodland not open to the public.	Craymere Road, Briston, Norfolk (near Melton Constable) NR24 2LS. [what3words: speedily.fire.scrapping] (OS Grid reference TG 060 311) There are no obvious landmarks here, please look out for the TCV minibus arriving at approximately 10.45am. WC
Wed 5 th	Lyng Riverside	Lyng, Lyng, why don't you give me a call? Calling all Balsam pullers for another mission.	Car park by Sparham Pools nature reserve (marked only by footpath fingerpost), Lyng Road, near Lyng Village, NR9 5QY (OS grid ref TG 073 179). [what3 words: hood.relegate.renewals] Arriving at approx 10.35am.
Thurs 6 th	Bunkers Hill Woods	Junkers in the Bunkers. No WW2 bombers (we hope!) but plenty of other dumped junk to clear, plus tree aftercare and path work.	Entrance to the woodland, near the junction of Runcton Close and Earlham Green Lane, West Earlham, Norwich, NR5 8RD. [what3words: funds.cried.energetic]
Fri 7 th	The Forum (Central Norwich)	Stall with activities at the 'Give it a Go' Voluntary Norfolk event. Please come along and help us out!	The Forum, Millennium Plain, Norwich, Norfolk, NR2 1TF. Stall setting up from approx. 9.45am, event runs 10.30am until 4.30pm. WC. *** Meet from 10am on site, sorry no minibus today ***
Mon 10 th	Horsford	The Way Through The Woods. No mystery here, just making woodland pathways at two locations in this village.	Horseback Way (by the junction with Beckside), Horsford, NR10 3SG (OS grid ref: TG 189 159). Arriving approx 10.25am [what3words: spellings.thirsty.meaty] WC at village hall.
Tues 11 th	Marlpit Riverside	Mardling along Marlpit. Searching and destroying invasive Himalayan Balsam, but plenty of time for a chat as we go along.	Hellesdon abandoned train station, on Marriotts Way path, just west of Hellesdon Road, Norwich, nearest postcode NR5 8XN, OS grid ref TG 197 100 [what3words: plans.larger.bars]

Wed 12 th	Lenwade Riverside	Great Balsam of Fire!	Outside Kelly's Bakery / Butchers / Fish and Chip shop, A1067 Fakenham Road, Lenwade / Great Witchingham, NR9 5AE. [what3words: flight.bonfires.ignoring] Arriving at approx 10.30am.
Thurs 13 th	Longham Claypits	Claymation? Time to get animated Gromit, we'll need to move down into the pits to clear the paths.	Longham Village Hall car park, Chapel Road, Longham, NR19 2AJ. (OS Grid Ref TF 942 160) [what3words: chapels.litigate.send] Arriving at approx 10.40am.
Fri 14 th	Wensum Park	Where have all the wildflowers gone? Cutting back nettles and thistles etc to give our wildflowers a chance.	Wensum Park north-west entrance, A1067 Drayton Road, Norwich, NR3 2DG. [what3words: budget.sticky.walks]
Sat 15 th	Queen's Hills Community Park	Brack in a minute? Bracken keeps coming back, and therefore so do we!	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] Meet at 10am on site, sorry no minibus from central Norwich today.
Mon 17 th	Drayton Green Lanes	It's The Final Stepsdown. No need to go to Europe, you can finish off step- building here. Some Balsam bashing too!	Small car park on Low Road, Drayton (near Norwich) (OS grid ref TG 189 126) [what3words: riper.customers.shatters] Arriving approx 10.20am.
Tues 18 th	Ketts Cave	With a rebel yell? No need to start a rebellion, I'm sure Robert Kett would approve of us weeding the old orchard area here.	Allotment gates, by Ketts Cave park sign and play area, corner of Balfour Street (near Old Allotment Court), Norwich, NR3 1NH. [what3words: merit.animal.puzzle]

Wed 19 th	Lyng Riverside	My ding-a-Lyng. No need to ring us up, you can just turn up for a day's Balsam pulling.	Car park by Sparham Pools nature reserve (marked only by footpath fingerpost), Lyng Road, near Lyng Village, NR9 5QY (OS grid ref TG 073 179). [what3 words: hood.relegate.renewals] Arriving at approx 10.35am.
Thurs 20 th	Mousehold Heath	Brack in the day...I remember when bracken WAS bracken. It still is, unfortunately!	Car park in front of Zak's Mousehold Diner halfway up Gurney Road opposite the bandstand, Norwich, NR1 4HW. [what3words: sobs.deeply.charm]
Fri 21 st	Heartsease Sale Road	Parks and Recreation. Adding woodchip to mulch the Miyawaki forest.	Outside Premier Store / Grecco Takeaway, near junction of Watling Road and Munnings Road, Heartsease, Norwich, NR7 9TL. [what3words: critic.organs.poems]
Sun 23 rd	The Forum (Central Norwich)	Stall with activities at the Community Biodiversity Awards event.	The Forum, Millennium Plain, Norwich, Norfolk, NR2 1TF. Stall setting up from approx. 9.30am, event runs 10.00am until 4.30pm. WC. *** Meet from 10am on site, sorry no minibus today ***
Mon 24 th	East Ruston Poors Land	We're All Going On A Bracken Hunt. Beautiful day or not, we're not scared! We're going to catch a big load of invasive bracken and remove it from the heath.	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] Arriving approx 10.45am.
Tues 25 th	Drayton Green Lanes	It's The Final Balsam! Well, at this site for this year anyway...removing an invasive species.	Small car park on Low Road, Drayton (near Norwich) (OS grid ref TG 189 126) [what3words: riper.customers.shatters] Arriving approx 10.20am.
Wed 26 th	Lenwade Riverside	It's some more Balsam!	Outside Kelly's Bakery / Butchers / Fish and Chip shop, A1067 Fakenham Road, Lenwade / Great Witchingham, NR9 5AE. [what3words:

			flight.bonfires.ignoring] Arriving at approx 10.30am.
Thurs 27 th	Marlpit Riverside	Er, it's another Balsam! There's surely no place left to hide for this damaging invasive species.	Hellesdon abandoned train station, on Marriotts Way path, just west of Hellesdon Road, Norwich, nearest postcode NR5 8XN, OS grid ref TG 197 100 [what3words: plans.larger.bars]
Fri 28 th	Netherwood Green	Nether Ever Have I Ever Felt So Low? Feel good instead at Netherwood, by making a path through the lovely new meadow and helping to look after the newly planted trees.	At the entrance to the woods near Webster Court, Lakenfields (take Stratford Drive off Long John Hill), NR1 2HB. [what3words: effort.left.pills]. Or minibus from Brazen Gate at 10am as usual.

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.

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