

FAO Yare Valley Society

Welcome to September's activity programme, packed with a variety of interesting things to do and places to discover (as always).

Cutting and raking season is in full swing, as we carry out the crucial task of removing excess nutrients to keep wildflower meadows herb-rich and diverse, rather than covered in just nettles and thistles. However there's also clearing weed from a pond (before it is lost completely), pruning around some sculptures, making a winding woodland path, protecting some architectural heritage, and cutting back invasive scrub.

Yet another new site this month - I've been working in conservation in Norwich for over 20 years now and I am STILL finding green spaces I didn't know about! So please do encourage the people you work with to come with us and enjoy finding a new beautiful natural area near where they live, somewhere where they can make a positive difference for wildlife and people, and even go back and show their friends what they have done!

Best wishes,

Mark.

*A programme of Conservation Volunteering to improve local green spaces. Join in whenever suits you.*

**Norfolk Environmental Action Team**

September 2025

**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 be sure of a place on the minibus for days marked **BM** below, contact [mark.webster@tcv.org.uk](mailto: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 3.00pm 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 4.00pm. **Mobile number to contact us on the day: 07740 899 691.**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Site</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Site Meeting Point (if coming by car or bike) at 10.15am unless otherwise stated</b>
Mon 1 <sup>st</sup>	<b>Horsford Horsebeck Way</b>	Woodn't it be nice...to have a path through the woods. Re-establishing a path, plus hedge work and more.	Horsebeck Way (by the junction with Beckside), Horsford, NR10 3SY (OS grid ref: TG 189 159). [ what3words: spellings.thirsty.meaty ] <b>Arriving approx 10.25am. WC at village hall. PT</b>

Tues 2 <sup>nd</sup>	<b>Earlham Cemetery</b>	Earl Be Back. Back at the Cemetery after last year's Termination, cutting and raking the best meadow areas.	Meet within the cemetery, on the access road from Earlham Road to the chapel, NR2 3RG. [ what3words: noses.storm.swaps ] <b>WC in café behind Co-op opposite. PT</b>
Wed 3 <sup>rd</sup>	<b>Mousehold Heath</b>	I remember when this was all (Spital)fields. Actually it used to be houses, now it's a wildflower meadow we are looking after.	Car park in front of Zak's Mousehold Diner halfway up Gurney Road opposite the bandstand, Norwich, NR1 4HW. [ what3words: sobs.deeply.charm ] <b>WC next to Zak's PT</b>
Thurs 4 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Earlham Cemetery</b>	Dukes of Earlham. Concentrating on the best bits this year, cutting and raking wildflower areas.	Meet within the cemetery, on the access road from Earlham Road to the chapel, NR2 3RG. [ what3words: noses.storm.swaps ] <b>WC in café behind Co-op opposite. PT</b>
Fri 5 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Hellesdon old Station</b>	You're My Wonder, Wall. Weeding the old station platform and managing the nearby wildflower meadow.	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 ] <b>WC at Baseline Centre, Knowland Grove (10 mins walk).</b>
Mon 8 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Mousehold Heath</b>	Fair play to you. Wildflower meadow work, probably on the old football pitches.	Car park in front of Zak's Mousehold Diner halfway up Gurney Road opposite the bandstand, Norwich, NR1 4HW. [ what3words: sobs.deeply.charm ] <b>WC next to Zak's PT</b>
Tues 9 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Queen's Hills Community Park</b>	Up hill and down drain. Cutting and raking to maintain the grassland habitat above the car park (uphill) and over where the underground storm drains run.	By small waterworks on Alfred Munnings Road, between Longwater Shopping Centre and Queen's Hills housing estate, Costessey, Norwich: nearest postcode NR8 5EY. (OS grid reference TG 153 117) [ what3words: lows.science.remarking ] <b>Arriving ~ 10.25am. WC at Sainsburys (15 minutes walk) PT</b>
Wed 10 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Alpington Meadow</b>	A breath of fresh air. Managing this lovely flower-rich woodland glade.	Burgate Lane, Alpington. Please contact Mark Webster 07740 899 691 <a href="mailto:mark.webster@tcv.org.uk">mark.webster@tcv.org.uk</a> for exact site location details.
Thurs 11 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Mousehold Heath</b>	Some people are on the pitch...they think	Car park in front of Zak's Mousehold Diner halfway up Gurney Road opposite the

		it's all over, but there are still lots of areas of wildflower meadow to mow.	bandstand, Norwich, NR1 4HW. [ what3words: sobs.deeply.charm ] <b>WC next to Zak's PT</b>
Fri 12 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Blue Boar Lane</b>	Thunder and lightning, very very frightening: but in any other weather, a nice task clearing the waterway.	Junction of Hall Wood Lane (off A11551 Wroxham Road) and Jobie Wood Close, Sprowston, NR7 8UL. [ what3words: lake.erase.link ] <b>Arriving approx 10.20am. WC at nearby large Tesco. PT</b>
Mon 15 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Earlham Cemetery</b>	To Earlham is human. There may be divine forgiveness if you miss this task, please come anyway!	Meet within the cemetery, on the access road from Earlham Road to the chapel, NR2 3RG. [ what3words: noses.storm.swaps ] <b>L (Green Grocers café) and WC in café behind Co-op opposite. PT</b>
Tues 16 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Roughton Churchyard</b>	Let us pray for a good team to cut and rake. I'll forgive you if you go to the wrong place, but it's the Church not the School this time!	Roughton Churchyard, on Church Loke (turn off A140 at 30mph sign 200 yards south of the village centre) in Roughton, NR11 8SZ  [ what3words: poodle.hotspots.sprawls ] <b>Arriving at approx 10.35am. WC in church. PT</b>
Wed 17 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Dunston Common</b>	Common or Garden? Definitely the former. Avoiding straying into gardens, there's still invasive plants to control.	Dunston Common car park, Stoke Road, Dunston, Stoke Holy Cross, just south of Norwich, NR14 8PF. (OS grid ref TG 227 025) [ what3words: rationing.plunger.petulant ] <b>WC (portable) on site. PT</b>
Thurs 18 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Queen's Hills Community Park</b>	Where the longhorns roam. Cutting and raking to maintain open areas where nationally rare longhorn beetles and solitary bees live.	By small waterworks on Alfred Munnings Road, between Longwater Shopping Centre and Queen's Hills housing estate, Costessey, Norwich: nearest postcode NR8 5EY. (OS grid reference TG 153 117) [ what3words: lows.science.remarking ] <b>Arriving ~ 10.25am. WC at Sainsburys (15 minutes walk) PT</b>
Fri 19 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Earlham Cemetery</b>	My Name is Earlham. Good karma comes to those who join us to help the grassland wildlife here.	Meet within the cemetery, on the access road from Earlham Road to the chapel, NR2 3RG. [ what3words: noses.storm.swaps ] <b>WC in café behind Co-op opposite. PT</b>

Mon 22 <sup>nd</sup>	<b>Repton Avenue</b>  <b>NEW SITE</b>	Giving the area a bad Rep? Clearing a neglected overgrown corner to let light in, and managing meadows.	Repton Avenue junction with Money Road, Catton, Norwich, NR6 7FF [ what3words: zones.reds.organs ] <b>PT</b>
Tues 23 <sup>rd</sup>	<b>Alpington Pond</b>	Creatures from the Green Lagoon. Saving minibeasts whilst clearing pondweed.	Burgate Lane, Alpington. Please contact Mark Webster 07740 899 691 <a href="mailto:mark.webster@tcv.org.uk">mark.webster@tcv.org.uk</a> for exact site location details. <b>WC</b>
Wed 24 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Repton Avenue</b>	What's happened to this landscape, Humphrey? Enhancing a green space for both people and wildlife.	Repton Avenue junction with Money Road, Catton, Norwich, NR6 7FF [ what3words: zones.reds.organs ] <b>PT</b>
Thurs 25 <sup>th</sup>	<b>East Hills Costessey</b>	The Hills are Alive, with the sound of brushcutters, but there's also some careful hand cutting around sculptures.	Play area car park, Grove Avenue (between Farmland Road and Oak Close), Costessey, Norwich, NR5 0HZ. [ what3words: reader.kind.diner ] <b>WC at Town Council offices (10 mins walk) PT</b>
Fri 26 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Repton Avenue</b>	Repton, Rept-off: cutting off excessive scrub to allow wildflowers to thrive.	Repton Avenue junction with Money Road, Catton, Norwich, NR6 7FF [ what3words: zones.reds.organs ] <b>PT</b>
Mon 29 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Carrowbreck Meadow</b>	Back on the Train Gang. Cutting and raking the wildflower areas at the training centre.	Meadow behind Carrowbreck House, Carrowbreck Road, Hellesdon, Norwich, NR6 5FA. [ what3words: flash.less.herbs ] <b>WC on site. PT</b>
Tues 30 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Poringland Woods</b>	I Don't Give A Darn About My Bad Rhododendron. Jett-ing off to Poringland to tackle invasive species and keep the paths open.	Poringland Woods car park, B1332 Norwich Road (near Caistor Lane junction), Poringland / Framingham Earl, Norwich, NR14 7QP. (OS grid Ref TG 261 035) [ what3words: mount.inspected.transmit ] <b>WC at pub (5 mins walk) / community centre (via minibus at lunch). PT</b>

**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, if you wish you can email or text Mark (details below) to be sure of a place on the bus – this is especially advised on days marked **BM** above. 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, 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, unless a task is marked **L** above, when lunch is provided from a nearby shop or takeaway. If a site has toilets available nearby this is indicated on the programme by '**WC**' in the 'Site Meeting Point' column (if this toilet is more than 5 minutes walk away we will go there by minibus at lunchtime).

**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. **PT** means petrol-powered tools likely to be in use for at least some of the day: there is usually plenty of space so you can keep well away from them, but extra ear defenders are available for you if you want them. All other tasks are expected to be done with hand tools so should generally be quite quiet.

**\*\* FREE bus travel for ALL days this month - tickets refunded for all volunteers for any bus journeys to and from either of our meeting points on the day \*\***

**Mark Webster 07740 899 691 [mark.webster@tcv.org.uk](mailto:mark.webster@tcv.org.uk) [www.tcv.org.uk/norfolk](http://www.tcv.org.uk/norfolk)** TCV, Centrum, Norwich Research Park, NR4 7G