

FAO Yare Valley Society

Another month rolls into view, and we are getting a good mix of students, retired people, and both employed and unemployed people. But we always want more! So, black or white, rich or poor, we'll offer a wide variety of cut-price (well, completely free actually) activities that people you work with* can join this October. **Participants should make a point of booking if they want to use the minibus for those days where BM appears below** as there are a few days coming up when we may have more people wanting to join us than will fit in a minibus, and a second vehicle is not going to be available - we don't want to have to turn people away. It's not just fastest finger first, **priority will be given to** volunteers with brushcutter experience when this is required, but also for **any brand new volunteers joining us**.

The tasks this month include a mix of cutting and raking to maintain wildflower meadows (that would otherwise be covered with nettles, brambles and scrub) and heathland management, (where we hold back the gorse and birch invasion to protect the heathers and rare insects that depend on open ground). This month sees us working at two sites categorised of national importance, several habitats of international importance (the UK has about 1/5 of all the heathland *in the world*) but also many small green spaces of great importance to the people who live near them. One example of that is the start of an exciting new scheme to transform an ordinary patch of mown grass in Wymondham into a biodiverse and stimulating area for wildlife and people to enjoy visiting.

Whether you are in the village or in the heart of the city, I'll be seeing you...

Best wishes,

Mark.

* Fools welcome anytime, horses must be accompanied by an adult!

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

Norfolk Environmental Action Team October 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 / 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.**

Date	Site	Activity	Site Meeting Point (if coming by car or bike) at 10.15am unless otherwise stated
Wed 1 st	Sloughbottom Meadow	Slough, Slough, quick-quick Slough. Work at your own pace as we step around managing the meadows.	Far (southern) end of Burnet Road, Sweet Briar Road Industrial Estate, Mile Cross, Norwich, NR3 2BD. [what3words: candle.racing.ranked] WC at Shell Garage (15 mins walk) PT
Thurs 2 nd	Smockmill Common BM	I Want to Live Like Smockmill Common People. Keeping paths open and tackling invasive species.	Smockmill Common small car park, Cargate Lane, Saxlingham Thorpe, Newton Flotman, NR15 1TU. (OS grid ref: TM 218 980) [what3words: jump.intruding.adopters] Arriving ~ 10.25am. PT
Fri 3 rd	Sloughbottom Meadow	Take the Slough Boat to China? No ships required, keep your feet dry as we cut and rake the wildflower area.	Far (southern) end of Burnet Road, Sweet Briar Road Industrial Estate, Mile Cross, Norwich, NR3 2BD. [what3words: candle.racing.ranked] WC at Shell Garage (15 mins walk) PT
Mon 6 th	Alderford Common	Alder(ford) Young Dudes. You don't need to be young or a dude, all welcome to help us cut the meadow.	Small car park on Reepham Road (between Hall Road and Broad Lane), Alderford, NR9 5NG (OS grid ref: TG 128 184). [what3words: spoils.urban.collected] Arriving approx 10.25am. PT
Tues 7 th	Mousehold Heath	How Green Was My Valley Drive? Cutting and raking up along this popular pathway.	Car park in front of Zak's Mousehold Diner halfway up Gurney Road opposite the bandstand, Norwich, NR1 4HW. [what3words: sobs.deeply.charm] WC next to Zak's PT

Wed 8 th	Ketts Cave	You Ketter, You Ketter, You Kett. You know 'Who' this place is named after, so let's look after the rebel's (alleged) stronghold.	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] PT
Thurs 9 th	Alderford Common	Ah, But I Was So Much Alder(ford) Then, I'm Younger than That Now. However old you feel, join us for cutting and raking this SSSI meadow.	Small car park on Reepham Road (between Hall Road and Broad Lane), Alderford, NR9 5NG (OS grid ref: TG 128 184). [what3words: spoils.urban.collected] Arriving approx 10.25am. PT
Fri 10 th	Cringleford Community Woods	Take the Tube. Removing old plastic tree guards and meadow raking.	Willow Centre car park, junction of Dragonfly Lane and Willowcraft Way, Cringleford, Norwich, NR4 7JG. [what3words: glaze.again.edges] WC on site at Willow Centre.
Mon 13 th	Sloughbottom Meadow	Slough(bottom) Motion. Move at a comfortable pace to clear invasive scrub and keep the path open.	Far (southern) end of Burnet Road, Sweet Briar Road Industrial Estate, Mile Cross, Norwich, NR3 2BD. [what3words: candle.racing.ranked] WC at Shell Garage (15 mins walk) PT
Tues 14 th	Eaton Burial Ground	I'm all Eaton up inside. Trimming the hedge to ensure a nice dense nesting habitat for the birds.	Eaton Burial Ground Church Lane Eaton, NR4 6NY. The site is hard to spot, but there is a small sign above a low embankment wall. [what3words: driven.slower.apple] WC at Waitrose (5 mins walk)
Wed 15 th	Wensum Park	You Wensum, you lose some weeds. Cutting back around the trees we planted.	Wensum Park north-west entrance, A1067 Drayton Road, Norwich, NR3 2DF. [what3words: budget.sticky.walks] WC within the park. PT
Thurs 16 th	Carrowbreck Meadow BM	A Carrow Escape? Get away from it all on the very edge of the city, looking after the wildflower meadow areas.	Meadow behind Carrowbreck House, Carrowbreck Road, Hellesdon, Norwich, NR6 5FA. [what3words: scar.dash.defend] WC in building on site PT
Fri 17 th	Carrowbreck Meadow	Carrow-minded? Open your mind to the idea of looking after the grassland habitat.	Meadow behind Carrowbreck House, Carrowbreck Road, Hellesdon, Norwich, NR6 5FA. [what3words: scar.dash.defend] WC in building on site PT

Mon 20 th	Marriotts Way Drayton BM	Left, right, left, right, left...marching down the zig-zag path to cut and rake around the new orchard trees.	Where Marriott's Way long-distance path (old railway line) crosses Taverham Road, Drayton, NR8 6RF. (OS Grid Ref TG 177 135) [what3words: divorcing.disprove.talker] WC in Tesco (5 mins walk) PT
Tues 21 st	Mousehold Heath	A Mouse divided cannot stand. Let us move forward together to tackle the meadow and/or gorse.	Car park in front of Zak's Mousehold Diner halfway up Gurney Road opposite the bandstand, Norwich, NR1 4HW. [what3words: sobs.deeply.charm] WC next to Zak's PT
Wed 22 nd	Upgate Common	Creating a (Up)gated community? Removing invasive birch to save the heathland habitat.	By notice boards at the far western end of the Common, Upgate (south of Swannington), Norfolk, NR9 5AH. (O.S. Grid Ref: TG 142 182) [what3words: messaging.mermaids.hooks] Arriving approx 10.25am
Thurs 23 rd	East Ruston Poors Land BM	Birds of a feather. Please flock together to save the birds and butterflies that depend on this 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. PT
Fri 24 th	Wensum Park	Wensum people see this site, they don't realise how much work goes into looking after it – so please help us.	Wensum Park north-west entrance, A1067 Drayton Road, Norwich, NR3 2DF. [what3words: budget.sticky.walks] WC within the park. PT
Mon 27 th	Wymondham Rothbury Park NEW SITE	Starting from scratch. Scraping back the turf for new planting as part of an exciting new design for the park.	Outside Rothbury Community Hall, 18 Rothbury Rd, Wymondham NR18 0LD. [what3words: mankind.cushy.archive] WC on site in community centre. PT
Tues 28 th	Upgate Common	Enemy At The (Up)Gates. Removing invasive birch that threatens this Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI).	By notice boards at the far western end of the Common, Upgate (south of Swannington), Norfolk, NR9 5AH. (O.S. Grid Ref: TG 142 182) [what3words: messaging.mermaids.hooks] Arriving~10.25am
Wed 29 th	Mousehold Heath	Cat and Mouse(hold). Hunting down the invasive gorse, wherever it hides.	Car park in front of Zak's Mousehold Diner halfway up Gurney Road opposite the bandstand, Norwich, NR1 4HW. [what3words: sobs.deeply.charm] WC next to Zak's PT

Thurs 30 th	Horsford Horsebeck Way	You can take a Hors to water. Finishing off our riverside paths and keeping the banks clear.	Horsebeck Way (by the junction with Beckside), Horsford, NR10 3SY (OS grid ref: TG 189 159). [what3words: spellings.thirsty.meaty] Arriving approx 10.25am. WC at village hall (15 mins walk). PT
Fri 31 st	Netherwood Green Woods	The Nether lands. No need to go Dutch, we will pay for all the tools to cut and rake the wildflower area.	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. PT

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.

Mark Webster 07740 899 691 mark.webster@tcv.org.uk www.tcv.org.uk/norfolk TCV, Centrum, Norwich Research Park, NR4 7G