

From Mark Webster:

I won't mention the C-word just yet, but it will very soon be time to open the first door on the advent calendars and start getting festive in any way you choose. In the run-up to Xmas (oh no, I mentioned it) there are **2 DAYS THAT PEOPLE SHOULD BOOK FOR**. It's easy, just reply to this email or text 07740 899 691. Please see below for details.

But before I talk about anything else, I do need to deal with something serious. Our group is proud of be welcoming to everyone, and I will not let any one person sour the fine and friendly atmosphere that I believe almost always exists on a TCV task. Recently we have had a couple of situations where someone who had joined us felt uncomfortable with another volunteer's closeness, and with an undercurrent of tension between some of our volunteers. I have now investigated this situation, and one volunteer has been suspended until further notice. Another volunteer will also be spoken to about their behaviour. I hope that this reassures everyone that any perceived aggression or intimidation will not be tolerated, and there will be consequences for those who are found to be involved. If anyone that you are working with sees or hears anything that upsets them on a TCV task, I do not want them to just put up with it, they should talk to the leader on the day, or they (or you on their behalf) can contact me, or my manager Ben (07740 899631 / b.hammond@tcv.org.uk). We do have a very wide range of people join us, and occasionally there are bound to be personality clashes, but I do expect everyone who comes out on a task day to put that aside and work together for the common good.

So, on to happy times ahead! We have done SOOOO well at Flordon Common that we are running out of alder seedlings to remove, a situation that seemed inconceivable when we first started. So as well as rooting out the last of those pesky alders, we are also tackling bramble and cutting around tussock sedges in a halo pattern, somewhat less muscular work! We are also going to be cracking on with the plan to link up open spaces at Queen's Hills, and there are two projects planting mini-forests using the Miyawaki method (if you want to find out more about this, see [The Miyawaki Method - an introduction](#))

And then there's our traditional **Xmas meal at Mousehold**, as usual at Zak's after a morning's practical work, on **Thursday 18th December**. **All are welcome** to this, but for those wanting a free lunch we need to know numbers, so they need to **please book** by replying to this email or text 07740 899 691

And then the last Friday before Xmas, **19th Dec**, we will be going to the **City Of Norwich Aviation Museum** for a day-trip, to celebrate Nigel and Andy both passing the 1,000 tasks milestone! **All existing volunteers are eligible** to join us for this jolly trip, but **spaces are limited** so anyone wanting to go on this trip should not just turn up for this day, but **please book** by replying to this email or text 07740 899 691.

And then it's Xmas and New Year. Hooray! Everyone can take a break for a couple of weeks, then come back stronger (?) for our first task of next year on Monday 5th January (and probably all weekdays in January).

Season's Greetings,

Mark.

**** 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 ****

Norfolk Environmental Action Team [December 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
Mon 1 st	Eaton Burial Ground	Levelling up. Getting the hedges on a level to finish off this job for another year.	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)
Tues 2 nd	East Hills Costessey	Dead-hedging our bets. Bringing life to an old dead hedge.	Play area car park, Grove Avenue (between Farmland Road and Oak Close), Costessey, Norwich, NR5 0HZ. [what3words: reader.kind.diner] WC at Town Council offices (10 mins walk)
Wed 3 rd	Queen's Hills Costessey	You Must Never Break The Chain of open heathland habitats up, so we need to tackle invasive scrub and nettles here.	By small waterworks on Alfred Munnings Road, between Longwater shops and Queen's Hills housing area, Costessey, Norwich: nearest postcode NR8 5EY. [what3words: lows.science.remarking] (OS grid reference TG 153 117) Arriving ~ 10.25am. WC at Sainsburys (15 mins walk) PT
Thurs 4 th	Flordon Common	NOT ALDERS!!! Moving on to tackle invasive bramble patches. Of course, if you happen to see an alder in passing...	Opposite gate marked "Harvey House", Norwich Road (north of Marsh Lane), Flordon, NR15 1RZ. (O.S. Grid Ref TM 181 974) [what3words: sheep.apart.winter] Arriving approx 10.30am PT
Fri 5 th	East Hills Costessey	The dead centre of Costessey. Repairing a dead hedge to attract wildlife.	Play area car park, Grove Avenue (between Farmland Road and Oak Close), Costessey, Norwich, NR5 0HZ. [what3words: reader.kind.diner] WC at Town Council offices (10 mins walk)
Mon 8 th	Queen's Hills Costessey	Break on through to the other side. Opening out the links between open habitats for rare insects.	By small waterworks on Alfred Munnings Road, between Longwater shops and Queen's Hills housing area, Costessey, Norwich: nearest postcode NR8 5EY. [what3words: lows.science.remarking] (OS grid reference TG 153 117) Arriving ~ 10.25am. WC at Sainsburys (15 mins walk) PT

Tues 9 th	Flordon Common	She has a halo. No need to go to Texas, we really do adore cutting around the tussocks here in Norfolk.	Opposite gate marked “Harvey House”, Norwich Road (north of Marsh Lane), Flordon, NR15 1RZ. (O.S. Grid Ref TM 181 974) [what3words: sheep.apart.winter] Arriving approx 10.30am
Wed 10 th	Harleston Rushall Road BM (8 SPACES)	Don't all Rush-all at once. Tree planting Miyawaki style for form a new mini-forest.	Glamis Court junction with Elizabeth Walk, Harleston, Norfolk, IP20 9JP. [what3words address: crumb.evoke.hostels] Arriving approx. 10.45am. WC within the park opposite (3 mins walk)
Thurs 11 th	Queen's Hills Costessey	You are the weakest link – hello volunteers for linking up the open habitats here by removing sections of scrub.	By small waterworks on Alfred Munnings Road, between Longwater shops and Queen's Hills housing area, Costessey, Norwich: nearest postcode NR8 5EY. [what3words: lows.science.remarking] (OS grid reference TG 153 117) Arriving ~ 10.25am. WC at Sainsburys (15 mins walk) PT
Fri 12 th	Cringleford Willow Centre	It's Kris Cringleford! Ho, ho, ho, lets festively plant up some Miyawaki forests.	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 15 th	Harleston Rushall Road	You Got Me In The Rush(all) Hour. Spend a few hours with us planting trees and wildflowers.	Glamis Court junction with Elizabeth Walk, Harleston, Norfolk, IP20 9JP. [what3words address: crumb.evoke.hostels] Arriving approx. 10.45am. WC within the park opposite (3 mins walk)
Tues 16 th	Cringleford Willow Centre	Cringle All the Way. Cringle Bells are ringing (two puns for the price of one here) for tree planting here.	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.
Wed 17 th	Flordon Common	I can feel your halo (halo) halo. Cutting around the tussock sedges to encourage wildflowers.	Opposite gate marked “Harvey House”, Norwich Road (north of Marsh Lane), Flordon, NR15 1RZ. (O.S. Grid Ref TM 181 974) [what3words: sheep.apart.winter] Arriving approx 10.30am

Thurs 18 th	Mousehold Heath	Xmas meal. A morning task followed by a slap-up meal at Zaks, courtesy of Ranger Will. All welcome but PLEASE BOOK for the meal.	Car park in front of Zak's Mousehold Diner halfway up Gurney Road opposite the bandstand, Norwich, NR1 4HW. [what3words: sobs.deeply.charm] L WC next to Zak's Please contact Mark Webster 07740 899 691 mark.webster@tcv.org.uk if you wish to join us for lunch.
Fri 20 th	Jolly trip BM (8 SPACES)	A trip to Norwich Air Museum to celebrate to of our most special volunteers!	Booking essential, if not enough spaces priority goes to longest-serving volunteers. Please contact Mark Webster 07740 899 691 mark.webster@tcv.org.uk if you wish to join us on site. L WC
Mon 22 nd Dec to Fri 2 nd Jan inc.	NO TASKS	So here it is, Merry Xmas, everybody's having fun...	*** NO TASKS OVER THE HOLIDAY PERIOD *** Merry Xmas!
Mon 5 th January	1st TASK OF 2026!	...look to the future now, it's only just begun!	Time to get out of the house and get moving again! Task location to be confirmed...

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.

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