

FAO Yare Valley Society

Not sure if it's Spring or not yet? The weather is variable but we will be staying out all month, although we do have our semi-indoor Jolly Trips this month too: these are our much-loved and much-anticipated 'works outings' where we go to places chosen by some of our regular volunteers for a work-free day out. These 'thank you' days are open to all existing volunteers (including Easton students) although if any day is oversubscribed then preference will be given to those who have done the most task days with us already. Please do ask any eligible people to book for these days as soon as you can by contacting me (07740 899 691 / mark.webster@tcv.org.uk) or telling their leader during a task day.

There are still some actual practical tasks to do as well though, including wildflower planting at two new Broadland sites, removing invasive species (no, not balsam yet!) and various jobs to keep pathways open across Norfolk so that people can get into their local green spaces even when the weeds start to grow up!

Whether volunteers are joining us at Sainsburys in Norwich or on-site, please can I suggest that you ask them to leave enough time to get to the meeting point BEFORE the minibus arrives. We usually have to get on to the work area as soon as we do arrive, and we don't want them to miss their chance to join us. At some sites it can be difficult to find us once we have left the meeting point, but if they are lost or running late they can call or text (or whatsapp) 07740 899 691. I will see if I can direct them on to where the team are - or get someone to come and find them (if we can do this without disrupting the rest of the team too much). It is also worth noting that parking can sometimes be extremely limited near to where we are actually working, hence the need for a meeting point with spaces, but perhaps some distance from where we are working.

Best wishes everyone,

Mark.



A programme of Conservation Volunteering to improve local green spaces. [Join in whenever suits you.](#)

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.

Please try to make sure you arrive at the meeting points (Sainsburys or on-site) BEFORE the published times as the minibus usually has to get going on time. However, if you are lost or running late, please use **mobile number 07740 899 691 to contact us on the day.**

**** 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 ****

Meanings of WC PT BM L can be found at the end of this document.

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Date	Site	Activity	Site Meeting Point (if coming by car or bike) at 10.15am unless otherwise stated
Wed 1 st	Queens Hills Community Parkland	No fooling about, it really is our first task of April, tidying up some of the areas we have 'blitzed' over the winter to make insect flyways.	By the 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] Arriving approx 10.25am. WC at Sainsburys (15 mins walk)
Thurs 2 nd	East Ruston Poors Land	Mighty Gorse from tiny seedlings grow...but we can stop them early by forking them out to save the heather.	Car park at the Butchers Arms, at the junction of Oak Lane with School Road, East Ruston, NR12 9JG (OS grid ref: TG 345 282) [what3words: cove.relies.fonts] Arriving at approx 10.45am.

Fri 3 rd	* NO TASK *	Good Friday, NO TASK today.	*** BANK HOLIDAY - NO TASK TODAY ***
Mon 6 th	* NO TASK *	Easter Monday, NO TASK today.	*** BANK HOLIDAY - NO TASK TODAY ***
Tues 7 th	Wymondham Rothbury Park	Shallow, not grave! Not as deep as the root barriers, thank goodness: just turning over the top soil for new flowerbeds.	Outside Rothbury Community Hall, 18 Rothbury Rd, Wymondham NR18 0LD. [what3words: mankind.cushy.archive] Arriving at approx 10.30am. WC on site in community centre.
Wed 8 th	Reedham Woodland Walk	What's yellow and dangerous? Removing invasive Variegated Yellow Archangel.	Reedham Village Hall car park, 5 Pottle's Ln, Reedham, Norwich NR13 3HL. [what3words: marathons.stove.landed] (OS grid ref: TG 415 024). Arriving approx 10.40am WC in Ship Inn (5 mins walk)

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Thurs 9 th	Lenwade Common Lane	(Len)Wading through the trees. Tree aftercare and fence removal.	Common Lane (off A1067 Fakenham Road), Lenwade, NR9 5QH. [what3words: selection.nozzles.piper] (OS Grid ref: TG 096 182) Arriving at approx 10.25am. WC at Bridge Inn (10 mins walk from site). PT
Fri 10 th	Rouen Road	Sowing The Seeds Of Love. Local People have absolutely adored having wildflowers here, so let's sow so more!	Rouen Road at junction with Argyle Street, central Norwich, NR1 1QS. [what3words: union.builds.detail] WC at café (5 mins walk).
Mon 13 th	Forngett St Peter (Tas Valley)	Build A Wall. Making a revetment from coppiced hazel to protect the tree roots from erosion.	Car park for Norfolk Tank Museum, Station Road, Forngett St Peter, near Long Stratton, Norfolk, NR16 1HZ. [what3words address; notch.keys.inserting] (OS grid ref: TM 171 933). Arriving approx 10.35am. WC at Tank Museum (via minibus at breaks). Please donate, or use their café/shop!
Tues 14 th	Longham Claypits	It's been A Long Time Coming. Back to Longham after months away to sort out the pathways etc.	Longham Village Hall car park, Chapel Road, Longham, NR19 2RN. (OS Grid Ref TF 942 160) [what3words: chapels.litigate.send] Arriving at approx 10.40am.

Wed 15 th	Flordon Common	Leaf It Out, Rodney! Fools and/or Horses needed to Work removing alders – now in leaf, we hope.	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 16 th	Cantley Pond NEW SITE	The Cantley Tales. Knights, Millers, Wives Of Bath and anyone else welcome to help plant wildflowers.	Strumpshaw Fen RSPB car park, Low Road, NR13 4HS. (OS Grid Ref TG 341 066) [what3words address: sounding.motive.lifeboats] Arriving approx 10.30am.
Fri 17 th	Cringleford Willow Centre	I Think The Answer Lies In The Soil. Mulching to Improve the prospects for our planted trees.	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 20 th	Freethorpe NEW SITE	Everybody’s Freethorpe To Feel Good! Recovering ravers can enjoy planting wildflower bulbs.	Outside St Andrew’s Church, Church Road, Wickhampton, NR13 3PB. (O.S. Grid Ref TG 426 054) [what3words address: magnum.blotches.latter] Arriving approx 10.40am.
Tues 21 st	Reedham Woodland Walk	Watch out for the Weeping Angels! Keep your eyes on those invasive Yellow Archangel plants.	Reedham Village Hall car park, 5 Pottle’s Ln, Reedham, Norwich NR13 3HL. [what3words: marathons.stove.landed] (OS grid ref: TG 415 024). Arriving approx 10.40am WC in Ship Inn (5 mins walk)
Wed 22 nd	Oulton Broad Orchard Walks	Twice Round The Daffodils? Cutting the pathways (avoiding any Spring Bulbs) to allow people to enjoy visiting this site.	Near the turning for Nursery Drive on Monckton Avenue (off Normanstone Drive near roundabout with Peto Way), Oulton Broad, NR32 3EG. [what3words: brush.filed.sparks] Arriving at approx 10.55am. PT WC in Normanstone Park (opposite).
Thurs 23 rd	Cantley Pond	Setting the benchmark for future projects. Installing a bench for people to relax and enjoy contact with nature.	Strumpshaw Fen RSPB car park, Low Road, NR13 4HS. (OS Grid Ref TG 341 066) [what3words address: sounding.motive.lifeboats] Arriving approx 10.30am.

Fri 24 th	Lion Wood	Step up to the challenge. Re-profiling the steps and clearing encroaching vegetation.	Pilling Park community centre car park, Pilling Park Road, Norwich, NR1 4PA. [what3words: second.reform.spits] WC at Town House pub (5 mins walk)
Mon 27 th	Jolly trip 1 BM (8 SPACES)	The first of our treats for our volunteers this year: full steam ahead for the Thursford Collection.	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
Tues 28 th	Jolly trip 2 BM (8 SPACES)	The second of our volunteer treats for this year: down to the Suffolk seaside at Minsmere bird reserve.	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
Wed 29 th	Jolly trip 3 BM (8 SPACES)	The third of our treats for our volunteers this year: boats galore at the Museum of the Broads.	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
Thurs 30 th	Jolly trip 4 BM (8 SPACES)	The fourth of our treats for our volunteers this year: historic Ely & the Denney Abbey Farm Museum.	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
Fri 1 st May	Jolly trip 5 BM (8 SPACES)	The final one of our treats for our volunteers this year: Norwich Air Museum had better be open this time!	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

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

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Mark Webster

Team Leader

07740 899691

The Conservation Volunteers

TCV Centrum Norwich Research Park Colney Lane, Norwich, NR4 7UG

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