



## Summer 2026

When	Where	Event	Meeting Point	Time
<b>May</b>				
Thurs 7 <sup>th</sup>	New Ferry Butterfly Park	Tool maintenance	New Ferry Butterfly Park	7.30pm
Thurs 14 <sup>th</sup>	Thornton Common	Cutting the centre of the ride & hedge weeding	Wirral Rugby Club Car Park	7.30pm
Sat 16 <sup>th</sup>	Hill House Gardens	WCV Stall at 5 <sup>th</sup> Cool Heswall Environmental Fayre	Hill House Gardens, next to Heswall Hall	9.30am
<b>June</b>				
Thurs 4 <sup>th</sup> , 11 <sup>th</sup> , 18 <sup>th</sup> , 25 <sup>th</sup>	Thornton Wood	Balsam pulling	Bridge over M53 Thornton Common Rd	7.30pm
Mon 29 <sup>th</sup>	New Ferry Butterfly Park	Group meeting	New Ferry Butterfly Park	7.30pm
<b>July</b>				
Sat 4 <sup>th</sup>	Poulton Hall Walled Garden event	WCV stall, woven willow hurdle making, mock up hedge laying, & tool sharpening	Poulton Hall	10.30am
Thurs 16 <sup>th</sup>	New Ferry Butterfly Park	Tool maintenance	New Ferry Butterfly Park	7.30pm
Sun 19 <sup>th</sup>	New Ferry Butterfly Park	Scything pondside and BBQ grassland am, Charlie's Feld pm	New Ferry Butterfly Park	9.30am
<b>August</b>				
Sat 15 <sup>th</sup>	Thornton Common	Scything the woodland ride and glade, plus hedge weeding	Wirral Rugby Club Car Park	9.30am
<b>Sept</b>				
Sat 5 <sup>th</sup>	Thornton Wood	Lamperloons Coppice Completion	Bridge over M53 Thornton Common Rd	9.30am
Sun 13 <sup>th</sup>	New Ferry Butterfly Park	Scything and BBQ 4pm	New Ferry Butterfly Park	9.30am

Please bring enthusiasm, friends, stout footwear, work gloves, waterproofs & lunch.

*Want to know more...?* Visit Wirral Countryside Volunteers' website.

([www.wcv.today](http://www.wcv.today)) or the Wirral Countryside Volunteer's Facebook page

e: [admin@wcv.today](mailto:admin@wcv.today)

or . Phone: Philippa 01516458937 or email [lindseyemail@yahoo.com](mailto:lindseyemail@yahoo.com).

**All Welcome**

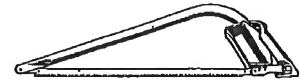
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**No experience necessary**



# Billhook & Bowsaw

Newsletter of Wirral Countryside Volunteers



## Forthcoming Events Summer 2026

Summer starts with a tool sort-out and tool maintenance, mainly scythe blades, for the forthcoming mowing season and touching up the billhook and axe blades to be used in the winter season. We will have new sharpening kits and vices to secure tools so that edge blades can be sharpened in a more efficient and safer manner. These kits have been sponsored by the National Hedge Laying Society to support the volunteers' hedge laying training programme.

At Thornton Common the centre of the woodland ride will be cut, and the recently laid hedges weeded. A recent biological survey of the common picked upon the increasing extent of common heather and marsh orchids present at this Local Wildlife Site.



At The cool Heswall event the volunteers will have a WCV stall and display with our own branded gazebo showcasing the group. Volunteers will be sowing seeds in newspaper pots.

June is balsam removal month when we have four evening sessions removing the balsam. Our endeavours will be supported by Cheshire Wildlife Trust mid-week work parties and Wirral Wildlife will sponsor a contractor to help too. Cover up well and bring some insect repellent.

Outdoor group meeting will be held at New Ferry Butterfly Park, tea and cake provided.

At Poulton Hall there is a charity event for Wirral Wildlife and New Ferry Butterfly Park. The distinctive gardens will be open for viewing and cream teas served. The Volunteers will carry out a hedge laying demonstration with a mock-up willow hedge, woven hurdle making, tool sharpening and afternoon tea making. There will be a WCV stall and display. Last year we gained a hedge laying job in Willaston from our demonstration.

In July at New Ferry Butterfly Park, the volunteers have a tool maintenance evening and on the following Sunday with keen scythe blades will start the mowing regime beginning around the pond and near part of the BBQ grassland in the morning and Charlie's Field in the afternoon. Please note as the park is open to the public that day, so there will be no volunteer parking at the park that day.

In August at Thornton Common, the woodland ride and glade will be cut. Over the last three decades there has been a change of flora from ear-high stinging nettles to orchids. Other jobs will involve continued willow removal and weeding of the recently laid hedgerow and revamping the site sign exposed by the hedge laying at Christmas.

In September, the volunteers will complete the cutting of the top of Lamperloons Coppice which has already provided 568 hedging stakes and reduce some shade of the coppice.



September sees the continuation of the scything regime at New Ferry Butterfly Park. Please note as the park is open to the public that day so there will be no volunteer parking at the park that day.

At 4pm there will be a Community BBQ at NFBP to celebrate and enjoy the progress the park has made in the last year. Bring along a contribution to share.

Paul Loughnane BEM  
Hon. Secretary,  
Wirral Countryside Volunteers  
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