

## Summer 2024: Events Programme

|                      | Where                         | Event                                                                                                | Meeting point                               | Time             |
|----------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|------------------|
| <b>May</b>           |                               |                                                                                                      |                                             |                  |
| Sat 18 <sup>th</sup> | Behind Heswall Hall & Library | WCV stall at Cool Heswall, a fair raising environmental awareness                                    | Contact Steve for details                   | 9:30am           |
| Thu 23 <sup>rd</sup> | Landican Thingwall Corner     | Weeding the saplings planted in 2002 at Rough Shoots Wood & assisting developing hedgerow standards. | Landican Road Thingwall Corner              | 7:30pm           |
| Thu 30 <sup>th</sup> | Wood Park Farm Leahurst       | Hedge weeding, followed by group meeting at the Hinderton Arms                                       | Gorstons Lane(,W3W "handle.headliner.seat") | 7:30pm<br>9.00pm |
| <b>June</b>          |                               |                                                                                                      |                                             |                  |
| Thu 6 <sup>th</sup>  | Thornton Wood                 | Balsam removal and removing pendulous sedge flowers to prevent further spread.                       | Thornton Common Road                        | 7:30pm           |
| Thu 13 <sup>th</sup> | " "                           |                                                                                                      | Where it crosses the M53                    |                  |
| Thu 20 <sup>th</sup> | " "                           |                                                                                                      |                                             |                  |
| Thu 27 <sup>th</sup> | " "                           |                                                                                                      |                                             |                  |
| Sat 29 <sup>th</sup> | Poulton Hall Bebington        | Hedge laying demonstration at the garden party and other roles                                       | Poulton Hall, Bebington                     | <b>12 noon</b>   |
| <b>July</b>          |                               |                                                                                                      |                                             |                  |
| Sat 6 <sup>th</sup>  | Cycle ride towards Farndon    | Annual WCV circular leisurely cycle ride & tea shop excursion, approximately 35 miles                | Outside Hooton Station ticket office        | 9:30am           |
| Thu 11 <sup>th</sup> | Landican                      | Hedge weeding by the gasworks                                                                        | Landican Lane, ASDA end                     | 7:30pm           |
| Thu 18 <sup>th</sup> | New Ferry Butterfly Park      | Tool maintenance, tree nursery nurturing & cultivating cuttings                                      | New Ferry Butterfly Park                    | 7:30pm           |
| Sun 21 <sup>st</sup> | New Ferry Butterfly Park      | Start of the mowing regime at the park.                                                              | 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 Facebook page e: [Lindseys@gmx.co.uk](mailto:Lindseys@gmx.co.uk). Phone: Lindsey 07872 953653 or Steve 01928 725265**

**All Welcome**

*(newsletter overleaf)*

**No experience Necessary**

# Billhook & Bowsaw

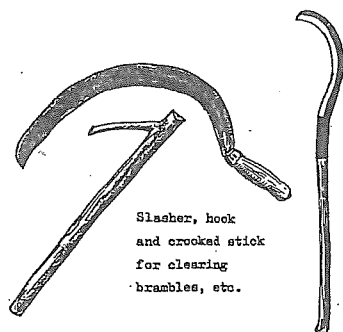


Newsletter of Wirral Countryside Volunteers



## Forthcoming Events Summer 2024

The first event in our programme will be the Cool Heswall event to increase community understanding of climate change. Here the volunteers will have a WCV display and shall be sowing seeds in newspaper pots.



Slasher, hook  
and crooked stick  
for clearing  
brambles, etc.

The next event will be an evening event at Rough Shoots Wood, Thingwall Corner weeding the 500 whips the WCV planted two years ago. This essential follow up work will ensure the success of this tree planting project. Hedgerow trees can be highlighted again to prevent their inadvertent trimming. Bring along some tree weeding tools if you have them.

More follow up work will continue at Wood Park Farm Landican weeding the hedge we had recently laid. Volunteers can meet up at Gorston Lane (W3W "handle.headliner.seat") which is much closer to the hedge. Bring along to hedge weeding tools. This will be followed by a group meeting at the nearby Hinderton Arms. Do come along and contribute to the group.

June is balsam pulling season. Cover up well and bring some insect repellent. We will also remove the flowering heads of the pendulous sedge which is becoming invasive in the wood. Entrance Coppice can be checked and bramble removed from the coppice area if necessary.

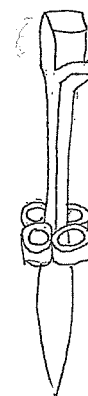
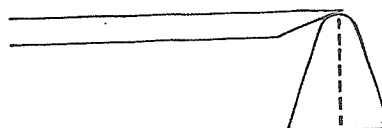
At Poulton Hall Walled Gardens and Parkland there is a charity event. The quirky gardens will be open for viewing and cream teas served. The Volunteers will have a stall and carry out a hedge laying demonstration with a mocked-up willow hedge and tools sharpening. Plenty of other roles are required to make the event happen, contact Paul for details.

There will be a second evening trip to Landican. This time to weed the hedges that we have been laid along the gas works lane.

There is a circular cycle ride to Farndon. This event is a 35 miles at a leisurely pace starting at Hooton Station. Bring some refreshments along. We're taking in a tea shop too!

The next evening event will be sharpening scythe blades for the forthcoming scything season to get off to a good start, along with cultivating some plant cuttings. There is a new mobile peening jig that can be used in the field to try out. Peening is when the blade edge is thinned and hardened by cold hammering the blade thin. Once you have done this you will feel the scythe blade gripping the grass prior to cutting the grass with ease.

Starting position of blade  
on anvil for third hammering.



With keen edge blades we will start the mowing regime at New Ferry Butterfly Park around the pond in the morning and Charlie's Field in the afternoon. Path edges will require some attention too. The park being open to the public there will be no parking at the park that day but plenty of free parking nearby.



Paul Loughnane BEM  
Hon. Secretary,  
Wirral Countryside Volunteers  
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