



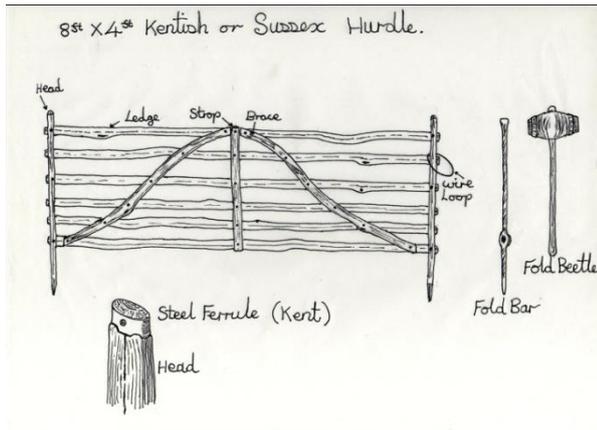
Billhook & Bowsaw

Newsletter of Wirral Countryside Volunteers

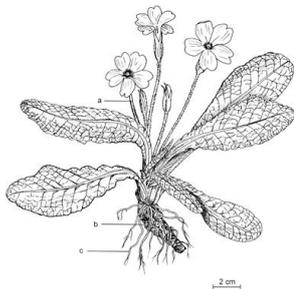


Forthcoming Events Summer 2022

The first event in our programme will be tidying up the butterfly park clearing the road and paths and re-oiling the WCV Silver Jubilee bench. The gate hurdle project for the Brick Pit Coppice will continue, as will the further development of the mobile allotment trolley, currently a store for plant pots.



There will be a spring walk in upper Dibbinsdale looking at the spring flowers in Foxes and Thornton Wood especially in the coppice areas where wood anemone and primroses are expanding under the coppicing regime. We can assess the potential coppice growth/hedge stake harvest at Quarter Bank Coppice and admire the newly laid hedge at Heavy Oak Coppice which will allow much more light to the woodland floor. Bring along a tool to trim the vegetation as we walk around the woods to help keep the rudimentary paths open.



At the Opening day at New Ferry Butterfly Park the Silver Jubilee gate will be officially opened by the Lord Lieutenant of Merseyside. There will be a broad range of roles to get involved in eg sowing seeds, BBQ, tea making, tombola, cake sales, etc. Contact Paul for details. It is a great chance to showcase this reserve and the work of the volunteers.

There is a free environmental awareness event called Cool Heswall - to increase community understanding of climate change. Here the volunteers will have a WCV display and shall be sowing seeds in newspaper pots.

The next event is one of a series of nine evening events. The first will be tool maintenance at the butterfly park honing scythe blades and sharpening billhooks. The herb garden and tree nursery can receive attention.

There will be an evening trip to Thornton Common to cut the centre of the woodland ride and weed some of the hedgerows. This will be followed by a group meeting at the Seven Stars.

June is balsam pulling season. Despite last year's restrictions and late start a good area of the wood was cleared of balsam. 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.

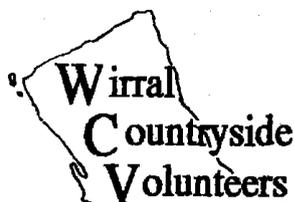
At Poulton Hall there is a charity event. The quirky gardens will be open for viewing and cream teas served. The Volunteers will carry out a hedge laying demonstration with a mocked up willow hedge. Plenty of other roles are required to make the event happen, contact Paul for details.

In July there will be an evening of tree weeding or watering at Rough Shoots Woods and helping the hedgerow saplings in the hedgerow at Woodchurch Road. Bring a pair of work gloves and secateurs if you have them. They will be useful for dealing with any errant vegetation we come across. Markers will be put on the hedgerow saplings in an effort to prevent them getting flailed.

The next event is a circular cycle ride. This event is an ambitious 35 miles starting at Hooton Station. Bring some refreshments along. We're taking in a tea shop too!

The final event will be sharpening scythe blades for the forthcoming scything season to get us off to a good start, along with cultivating some plant cuttings

Paul Loughnane BEM
Hon. Secretary,
Wirral Countryside Volunteers
0151 645 8937 jpl@liv.ac.uk



Summer 2022: Events Programme

	Where	Event	Meeting point	Time
April				
Sun 10 th	New Ferry Butterfly Park	Site tidy up road and path clearance	New Ferry Butterfly Park	9:30am
Sat 23 rd	Tom's Paddock, Foxes Wood and Thornton Wood	Morning spring walk around the woods, enjoying the spring flowers.	Bridge over M53 on Thornton Common Rd (GR SJ 328813)	9:30am
May				
Sun 1 st	New Ferry Butterfly Park	Opening Day & Grand opening of the Silver Jubilee gates, bbq & stalls	New Ferry Butterfly Park	9:30am
Sat 14 th	Behind Heswall Hall & Library	WCV stall at Cool Heswall, a fayre raising environmental awareness	Contact Steve for details	9:30am
Thur 19 th	New Ferry Butterfly Park	Tool maintenance & tree nursery nurturing	New Ferry Butterfly Park	7:30pm
Thu 26 th	Thornton Common	Cutting the centre of the ride & hedge weeding, group meeting at the Seven Stars, Thornton Hough	Wirral Rugby Club Car Park	7:30pm 9:00pm
June				
Thur 2 nd	Thornton Wood	Balsam removal and removing pendulous sedge flowers to prevent further spread.	Thornton Common Road	7:30pm
Thur 9 th	" "		Where it cross the M53	
Thur 16 th	" "			
Thur 23 th	" "			
Thur 30 th	" "			
July				
Sat 2 nd	Poulton Hall, Bebington	Hedge laying demonstration at the garden party and other roles	Poulton Hall	12.00noon
Thur 7 th	Rough Shoots Wood	Tree weeding & assisting developing hedgerow standards	Landican Road, Thingwall Corner	7:30pm
Sat 9 th	Cycle ride towards Frodsham/Helsby	Annual WCV circular cycle ride & tea shop excursion, 35 miles	Outside Hooton Station ticket office	10:00am
Thur 14 th	New Ferry Butterfly Park	Tool maintenance & tree nursery nurturing & cultivating cuttings	New Ferry Butterfly Park	7:30pm

Please bring: enthusiasm, friends, stout footwear, work gloves, waterproofs, hand santiser & lunch. *Want to know more...?* Visit Wirral Countryside Volunteers' website (www.wcv.today) or Facebook page e: Lindseys@gmx.co.uk. Phone: Lindsey 07872 953653 Steve 01928 725265

ALL EVENTS SUBJECT TO COVID CANCELLATION

All Welcome

(newsletter overleaf)

No experience Necessary