

**APRIL 11th HICKLING BROAD (18 miles NE Norwich), O.S. map 134, grid ref. TG 428 222**

Hickling Broad is the largest expanse of open water in the Broads system. The National Nature Reserve contains 600 ha of open water, reedbed, fen, grazing marsh and woodland. It is home to marsh harriers, bitterns, swallowtail butterflies and Norfolk hawker dragonflies. We will be removing a fence.

NB. The map reference is for the visitor centre, but we will be working on another part of the reserve where parking is limited, so please phone the task leader for directions.

**APRIL 18th BRYANT'S HEATH, FELMINGHAM (1.5 miles SW North Walsham)**

**O.S. map 133, grid ref. TG 259294**

Bryant's Heath is a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), and is unusual in that it encompasses within a relatively small area a mix of dry heath, wet heath, and fen communities. The different soil types have led to a wide range of plants, including several that are now uncommon in East Anglia. A number of uncommon mosses and lichens have been recorded from the wetter parts of the site. We will be clearing birch scrub from the wet heath.

**APRIL 25th WINTERTON DUNES (8 miles N Gt. Yarmouth), O.S. map 134, grid ref. TG 495 197**

Meet at Peter Cawley's house (phone for address)

This is a National Nature Reserve that is well known for migrant birds, rare plants and Natterjack toads. We will be pulling up some rhododendron seedlings which are threatening to smother the heather. If we are lucky, Peter might treat us to some of his famed soup and fruit cake after the task.

**MAY 2nd SUTTON FEN (16 miles NE Norwich), O.S. map 134, grid ref. TG 372 229**

This RSPB reserve is a large area of nationally rare and internationally important fen habitat. It contains breeding bitterns, marsh harriers, rare swallowtail butterflies and Norfolk hawker dragonflies, rare plants and much more. It is not open to the public, so this is a rare opportunity to see this important site. We will be doing some construction work involving fences and/or bridges.

**MAY 9th CALTHORPE BROAD (16 miles NE Norwich), O.S. map 134, grid ref. TG 412 258**

The main interest of this site is the broad and its plant life. The broad is surrounded by carr woodland, small areas of open fen, and an area of unimproved grazing marsh. We will be clearing rhododendron, removing an old fence, or building bridges. The site is a National Nature Reserve used for research, and is not open to the public. So this is a rare opportunity to see an interesting corner of Broadland. The map reference is for the middle of the broad, so it is essential you contact the task leader for directions and parking details.

**MAY 16th SUTTON FEN (16 miles NE Norwich), O.S. map 134, grid ref. TG 372 229**

Another chance to visit this interesting site. The task will be similar to that of May 2nd.

**MAY 23rd THURSFORD WOOD (3 miles NE of Fakenham), O.S. map 132, grid ref. TF 979 333**

This reserve is 10 ha of ancient pollarded wood pasture and ponds. The oaks are some of the oldest in the county and could be over 500 years old. We will be burning up some prefelled rhododendron. This is a non native invasive species, which will dominate the wood if not controlled.

**MAY 30th FOXLEY WOOD (7 miles NE Dereham), O.S. map 133, grid ref. TG 050 229**

At 180 ha, this is the largest remaining area of ancient woodland in Norfolk. The rides have a rich flora which supports a great number of woodland insects. Much of the wood is managed by coppicing areas in rotation. The freshly coppiced areas have to be fenced to stop deer eating the regrowth. We will be maintaining or dismantling some of the electric fences.