

**APRIL 3rd LOLLY MOOR (2 miles S Dereham), O.S. map 132, grid ref. TF 992 103**

This is a small reserve, but one which clearly shows the effect of our conservation work. When we began working here in 1979, the site was dominated by just a few species of tall plants such as willowherb. The regular mowing has resulted in a large increase in the number of wild flower species, including orchids. We will be clearing up and repairing some damaged paths.

**APRIL 10th PENSTHORPE (2 miles SE Fakenham), O.S. map 132, grid ref. TF 947 291**

Pensthorpe is advertised as “The Natural Centre of Norfolk”, and was host to the 2010 Springwatch series on BBC TV. It is 500 acres of ancient fen meadows, woodlands and lakes in the Wensum valley. As well as the Conservation Centre (where rare UK birds such as cranes and corncrakes are bred) and a collection of water and other birds, there is a large area of nature reserve. We will be removing a fence and trimming back trees and scrub from path edges.

**APRIL 17th WINTERTON DUNES (8 miles N Gt Yarmouth), O.S. map 134, grid ref. TG 495 197**

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.

**APRIL 24th 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 removing a fence.

**MAY 1st BOOTON COMMON (1 mile E Reepham), O.S. map 133, grid ref. TG 110 228**

The common contains an interesting variety of plant communities including dry heath, mixed scrub, grassland, alder carr, wet mixed coppice and fen. We will be clearing small scrub (too small to support nesting birds).

**MAY 8th 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, reed bed, fen, grazing marsh and woodland. It is home to marsh harriers, bitterns, swallowtail butterflies and Norfolk hawker dragonflies. We will be constructing a reptile hibernaculum, which will be a nice cosy place for adders to hibernate during the winter.

**MAY 15th 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 re-growth. We will be maintaining the electric fence by clearing encroaching vegetation.

**MAY 22nd SURLINGHAM CHURCH MARSH (5 miles E Norwich),**

**O.S. map 134, grid ref. TG 305 065**

This is part of the RSPB Mid Yare National Nature Reserve which is a complex wetland site of 803 hectares. We will be clearing litter.

**MAY 29th ASHWELLTHORPE LOWER WOOD, (4 miles SE Wymondham)**

**O.S. map 144, grid ref. TM 134 977**

This Norfolk Wildlife Trust reserve is one of Norfolk’s few remaining ancient woodlands, and is very attractive in the spring when the wild flowers are in full bloom. Coppiced areas have to be fenced for a few years after cutting to prevent deer eating the re-growth. We will be maintaining the electric fence by clearing encroaching vegetation.