

## NORFOLK CONSERVATION CORPS

### TASK PROGRAMME FOR JUNE AND JULY 2017

*N.B. Please read the section on task booking overleaf and note that bookings should be made with the task leader.*

#### JUNE 4<sup>th</sup> BOOTON COMMON (1 mile E Reepham)

O.S. map 133, grid ref. TG 110 228

Sat nav coords for parking: lat 52.761207 long 1.1258049 but please confirm parking details with the task leader. 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 Himalayan balsam, which is an alien species and very invasive.

Task leader: Sookie Boosey

Telephone: 01362 694071, Mobile: 07460 849472

#### JUNE 11<sup>th</sup> CALTHORPE BROAD (16 miles NE Norwich)

O.S. map 134, grid ref. TG 410 257

Sat nav coords for parking: lat 52.774274 long 1.5711656

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. 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. We will be clearing some of the dyke edges.

Task leader: David Max Telephone: 01328 838602, mobile 07512 773267 (for use at tasks only)

#### JUNE 18<sup>th</sup> CALTHORPE BROAD (16 miles NE Norwich)

O.S. map 134, grid ref. TG 410 257

Sat nav coords for parking: lat 52.774274 long 1.5711656

We return to Calthorpe Broad to continue removing some now-redundant fencing.

Task leader: Peter Cawley.

Telephone: 01493 393876, Mobile: 07768 566116

#### JUNE 25<sup>th</sup> CAWSTON HEATH (10 miles N Norwich)

O.S. map 133, grid ref. TG 166 235

Sat nav coords for parking: lat 52.766255 long 1.2093665

In 1698 this was the site of the last duel fought in Norfolk. However, we will not need swords or pistols to clear ragwort from the heathland. This site is one of the few places in Norfolk where Silver-studded Blue butterflies are found, and open heathland is essential for their survival.

Task leader: Ian Braid

Mobile: 07900 967022

JULY 2<sup>nd</sup> SWANNINGTON UPGATE COMMON (8 miles NW Norwich)

O.S. map 133, grid ref. TG 142 182

Sat nav coords for parking: lat 52.719290 long 1.1706407

This is an interesting and varied site, with a range of habitats. The variation in soils and wetness has caused a wide range of vegetation including dry acidic heathland, wet heathland, fen, birch and alder woodland, scrub, bracken, rough grassland and ponds. We will be clearing bracken from the grassland/heath.

Task leader: Ian Braid

Mobile: 07900 967022

JULY 9<sup>th</sup> Stop Press: Today's task has been changed to Booton Common (1 mile E Reepham)

O.S. map 133, grid ref. TG 110 228

Sat nav coords for parking: lat 52.761207 long 1.1258049 but please confirm parking details with the task leader. 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 trying a new approach to controlling Himalayan Balsam on this site.

Task leader: Ian Braid

Mobile: 07900 967022

JULY 16<sup>th</sup> ALDERFORD COMMON (9 miles NW Norwich)

O.S. map 133, grid ref. TG 127 186

Sat nav coords for parking: lat 52.722209 long 1.1506972

This is an important site because it has a large area of chalk grassland, which is fairly rare in Norfolk. Chalk grassland is usually the most species rich habitat for plants. We will be clearing bracken and Himalayan balsam.

Task leader: Sookie Boosey

Telephone: 01362 694071, Mobile: 07460 849472

JULY 23<sup>rd</sup> PENSTHORPE (2 miles SE Fakenham)

O.S. map 132, grid ref. TF 947 291

Sat nav coords for parking: lat 52.824623 long 0.88872448

Pensthorpe Natural Park 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. Today's task is likely to be pulling ragwort and Himalayan balsam.

NB. Today's task leader will now be Sookie Boosey. Please phone her on 01362 694071, Mobile: 07460 849472

JULY 30<sup>th</sup> WOODBASTWICK MARSHES (8 miles NE Norwich)

O.S. map 134, grid ref. TG 338 161

Please contact the task leader for parking details.

This site is part of the Bure Marshes National Nature Reserve. Like many sites in Broadland, it has to be managed to prevent it becoming dominated by alder and willow carr (wet woodland). Although the carr is an important habitat, a lot of wildlife (including the rare Swallowtail butterfly) needs open fen and marshes. We will be either clearing scrub or managing a meadow.

NB. Wellington boots are usually essential for this site.

Task leader: Peter Cawley.

Telephone: 01493 393876, Mobile: 07768 566116

Task Booking Please phone the TASK LEADER to book any of the above tasks, preferably on the FRIDAY evening before the task, or by 6.30 p.m. at the latest on Saturday. It is essential that you do book for a task, as tasks sometimes have to be changed or cancelled at short notice, and you may, otherwise, find yourself alone at the site. We meet at 10 a.m. at the map reference given. If you do not have the relevant O.S. map, please phone to ask for directions. If you need transport, this can usually be provided if you phone to ask for it. If you book for a task, but then cannot come, please let us know beforehand.

Task Timing We aim to start work at 10.00, and stop for lunch at 12.30. This is usually followed by a walk before we start work in the afternoon, and we finish at 4.30 (or earlier in the winter). Working for half a day does not usually present a problem, but please check with task leader before the task.

Footwear This will depend on the weather and ground conditions, but as many of the sites can be wet underfoot (especially in winter), it is a good idea to bring wellington boots if you have some.

Tetanus To keep safe, please ensure that you are up to date with your tetanus protection.