

NORFOLK CONSERVATION CORPS

TASK PROGRAMME FOR DECEMBER 2018 AND JANUARY 2019

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

DECEMBER 2nd HOLT LOWES (*1 mile SE Holt*) O.S. map 133, grid ref. TG 088 382

NB We meet at the Hempstead Road car park, not at the visitor centre.

Sat Nav coords for parking: lat 52.900697 long 1.1037049.

This reserve is an attractive mixture of dry sandy heath and valley bog close to the River Glaven. The small tributary valley that bisects the heath contains a fine example of a mixed bog community, as the alkaline water of the feeder stream contrasts with the acidic areas on the valley sides. We will be clearing scrub.

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

DECEMBER 9th 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 maintaining the dyke edges.

Task leader: Ian Braid

Mobile: 07900 967022

CHRISTMAS TASK

DECEMBER 16th WAYLAND WOOD (*1 mile S Watton*) O.S. map 144, grid ref. TL 923 996

Sat nav coords for parking: lat 52.560096 long 0.83478257

This ancient and historic woodland is managed in the traditional way as coppice with oak standards, and has a varied and attractive ground flora. The wood was mentioned in the 11th century Domesday Book, and the medieval boundary banks can still be seen. We will be coppicing some of the hazel and other bushes/trees to encourage the ground flora.

As this is the Christmas task, we will be following Corps tradition by sharing goodies round the fire at lunchtime and at the end of the task. There should be baked potatoes, soup, and anything else you care to bring along.

Task leader: Sookie Boosey

Telephone: 01362 694071, Mobile: 07460 849472

DECEMBER 23rd no task.

DECEMBER 30th HOUGHEN PLANTATION (*7 miles NW Norwich*) O.S. map 134, grid ref TG 181 175

Access is from the carpark at TG181175 on edge of St. Faith's Common at the bend along Haveringland Road, lat 52.711659 long 1.2282868.

Houghen Plantation, located 7 miles NW of Norwich between Horsford and Felthorpe, is a privately owned site which is part of a County Wildlife Site. The area includes a species-rich valley fen and mire, wet woodland, chestnut coppice and conifer plantations, parts of which have been cleared and re-instated to open heathland. We will be continuing the maintenance of the habits at the site.

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

JANUARY 6th FOXLEY WOOD (7 miles NE Dereham)

O.S. map 133, grid ref. TG 050 229

Sat nav coords: lat 52.765219 long 1.0359094 (site entrance)

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. We will be coppicing some of the hazel and other bushes/trees to encourage the ground flora.

Task leader: Sookie Boosey

Telephone: 01362 694071, Mobile: 07460 849472

JANUARY 13th HILLSIDE HOUSE (5 miles SW Fakenham)

O.S. map 132, grid ref. TF882 238

Sat nav coords for parking: lat 52.779434 long 0.78759044

Hillside House is a small wildlife refuge owned by one of our members, located near South Raynham.

The habitats include a small pond and about 2 acres of reed bed; details can be found at

<http://hillside.acrocephalus.com/index.html>. We will be cutting and raking a meadow.

Task leader: David Max

Telephone: 01328 838602, no mobile signal on site

JANUARY 20th 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. We will be helping maintain the wildlife areas of the site.

Task leader: Sookie Boosey

Telephone: 01362 694071, Mobile: 07460 849472

JANUARY 27th 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 SSSI includes an area of chalk grassland, a fairly rare habit in Norfolk. It provides a species-rich habit for plants and insects but requires maintenance to prevent it scrubbing up. There is also an area of woodland and several ponds. We will be continuing with the management of the reserve.

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

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.