

VOLUNTEER WORKDAYS : JANUARY – APRIL 2012

Organised by the Lincoln Conservation Group

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IN MID/LATE WINTER: On lakes rafts of winter wildfowl include pochard, tufted ducks, mallard and wigeon. The first bumblebees emerge on sunny days getting nectar from garden plants such as crocuses.

<p>SUNDAY 8 JANUARY</p> <p>THURLBY WOOD*</p> <p><i>Private Nature Reserve</i></p>	<p>Carrying on with the work started on our 16th of October task, helping with the coppicing regime in this ancient woodland. This will benefit woodland plants such as Wood Anemone, Bluebells and Stitchwort.</p>	<p>Meet at the wood entrance</p> <p>Grid ref: SK 848 862</p> <p>Contact Jude (01522) 879158 / 07770 742471</p>
<p>SUNDAY 22 JANUARY</p> <p>GOSLINGS CORNER WOOD</p> <p><i>Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust</i></p>	<p>Layering Lime coppice. Carrying on with the work started last winter and which will assist the spread of Small Leaved Lime in this ancient woodland. It entails cutting part way through regrowing Lime coppice stems then pegging them to the ground where they will root and form new trees. Meet in the reserve car park on Hoop Lane.</p>	<p>Meet in the Reserve car park on Hoop Lane</p> <p>Grid ref: TF 144 749</p> <p>Contact: Julian (01522) 535899</p>
<p>SUNDAY 5 FEBRUARY</p> <p>RICHMOND LAKES, NORTH HYKEHAM</p> <p><i>North Kesteven District Council</i></p>	<p>Planting a new section of hawthorn hedge alongside the footpath around Richmond Lakes in North Hykeham and also filling in gaps in existing sections. The work will improve the hedge as a corridor for wildlife. There is also some rubble to remove from the footpath surface to improve its appearance and make it safer for walkers to use.</p>	<p>Meet at the car parking area at the end of St Marks Close (LN6 8RG).</p> <p>Grid ref: SK 942 671</p> <p>Contact: Jonathan (01522) 682223 or 07708 016019)</p>
<p>SUNDAY 19 FEBRUARY</p> <p>CHAMBERS FARM WOOD</p> <p><i>Forestry Commission</i></p>	<p>Re-cutting overgrown hazel coppice at the Greater Butterfly Orchid site that we have worked on over the last two winters. This has improved the light level resulting in more of the orchids flowering, an increase from 4 to over 100 in just 2 years.</p>	<p>Meet at the car park by the Education Centre</p> <p>Grid ref: TF147 739</p> <p>Contact: Julian (01522) 535899</p>
<p>SPRING IS IN THE AIR: many animals are coming out of hibernation; you may see young rabbits above ground for the first time in fields and roadside verges; it's a busy time for voles too, with families to feed; the first bats are emerging from hibernation; look out for the smallest, the pipistrelle, and the largest, the noctule. In woods, bluebells are a magnificent sight.</p>		
<p>SUNDAY 4 MARCH</p> <p>WHISBY NATURE PARK*</p> <p><i>Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust</i></p>	<p>The next phase of the hedge planting project we have been working on over the last few years alongside the Pike Drain. This time we will be planting new sections alongside Grebe Lake and West Lake and also planting some more blackthorn thickets. We hope these will be used in the future by nesting nightingales.</p>	<p>Meet at the warden's office, Whisby nature park</p> <p>Grid ref: SK 911 633.</p> <p>Contact: Nick (07812522418)</p>
<p>SAT/SUN 17/18th MARCH</p> <p>NORTH YORKSHIRE</p> <p><i>Butterfly Conservation</i></p>	<p>An away weekend, once again working for Butterfly Conservation on the North York Moors, assisting them with their recovery programme for Duke of Burgundy and Pearl Bordered Fritillary butterflies. Accommodation is in a cosy hostel in the lovely coastal town of Whitby, home to Dracula and the best fish and chips in Britain. There will be a small charge towards accommodation. We also share transport and food costs.</p>	<p>We travel on Friday evening, 16 March. Arrangements to be confirmed nearer the time.</p> <p>Contact: Richard (01522) 525725</p>
<p>SUNDAY 1 APRIL</p> <p>SCOTGROVE WOOD</p> <p><i>Forestry Commission</i></p>	<p>Continuing with our programme of rideside coppicing and glade creation, to keep the centre of the wood sunny and open and improve it as a habitat for woodland plants and insects. Our work over the last few years has resulted in the wood being colonised by Brown Hairstreak butterflies.</p>	<p>Meet at the wood entrance next to Scotgrove Farm (Henry Lane)</p> <p>Grid ref: TF 130 698</p> <p>Contact: Julian (01522) 535899</p>
<p>SUNDAY 15 APRIL</p> <p>KIRKSTEAD OLD MILL COTTAGE</p> <p><i>Private nature reserve</i></p>	<p>Working for owner Barbara Hodgkinson, helping her to manage her wildlife garden and private nature reserve near Woodhall Spa. She will provide refreshments and baked potatoes (bring your own fillings) in return for your help.</p>	<p>Meet at the house. (www.woodhallspa.com)</p> <p>Grid ref: TF 189 603</p> <p>Contact: Niamh (07789834150)</p>

* These tasks raise funds for the Group