

Summer 2021 Events Programme

	Where	Event	Meeting point	Time
April				
Sat 24 th	Tom's Paddock, Foxes Wood and Thornton Wood	Morning spring walk around the woods enjoying the spring flowers	Bridge over M53 on Thornton Common Rd (GR SJ 328813)	9:30am
May				
Thur 13 th	New Ferry Butterfly Park	Tool maintenance	Butterfly Park	7:30pm
Thur 20 th	New Ferry Butterfly Park	35th Annual General Meeting followed by a socially distanced social	Butterfly Park	7:30pm
Thur 27 th	Thornton Common	Cutting the centre of the ride & hedge weeding.	Wirral Rugby Club Car Park	7:30pm
June				
Thur 3 rd Thur 10 th Thur 17 th Thur 24 th	Thornton Wood	Himalayan Balsam removal events	Bridge over M53 Thornton Common Road	7.30pm
Sat 26 th	Cycle Ride to Plemstall, Mickle Trafford	Afternoon cycle ride to Plemstall Well, Plemstall Coppice and Mickle Trafford.	Starting off from NFBP & pick-ups along the way.	2.00pm
July				
Thur 8 th	Landican	Evening walk around Landican Thingwall Corner hedges looking at our recent hedge laying projects Followed by a group meeting & social @ the pub	Cherry Orchard Pub car park, Arrowe Park	7.30pm

Please bring: enthusiasm, friends, stout footwear, work gloves, waterproofs, hand sanitiser & lunch. *Want to know more...?* Visit Wirral Countryside Volunteers' website (www.wcv.today) or Facebook page e: Lindseys@gmx.co.uk. Phone: Lindsey 07872 953653 Steve 01928 725265

ALL EVENTS SUBJECT TO COVID CANCELLATION

All Welcome

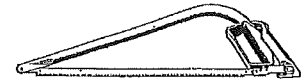
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No experience Necessary



Billhook & Bowsaw

Newsletter of Wirral Countryside Volunteers

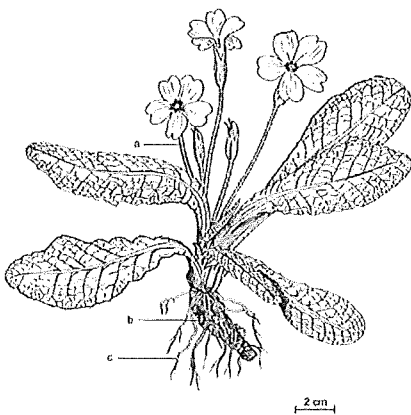


Forthcoming Events Summer 2021

Welcome to Summer 2021 as the group responds to the Covid pandemic and is looking for a road map to restarting our activities. Please bring hand sanitiser with you to tasks and be aware of touching shared items and tools. Please use the disinfectant provided when you have finished with a tool. Try and keep the same tools throughout the event and stay socially distanced. It is quite natural with a scythe or billhook!



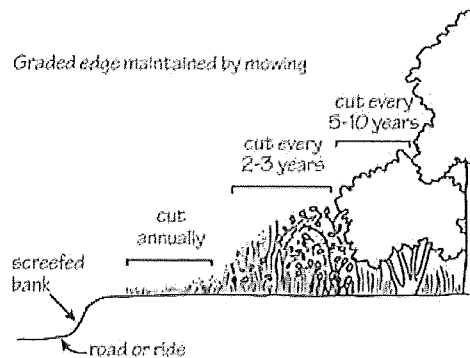
The first event of the year will be at upper Dibbinsdale looking at the spring flowers in Foxes and Thornton Wood especially in the coppice areas where wood anemone and primroses are expanding their populations under the coppicing regime. We can assess the potential coppice growth/hedge stake harvest in Heavy Oak Coppice which is to be coppiced later in the year. Bring along a tool to trim the vegetation as we walk around the woods to help keep the paths open.



The next event one of a series of eight evening events. The first will be tool maintenance at the butterfly park honing scythe blades and sharpening billhooks. The herb garden and tree nursery can receive attention.

As Covid restrictions lift and the number of attendees at our events is allowed to increase we will host the postponed 35th AGM which will be held outside at New Ferry Butterfly Park, followed by tea and homemade cake. This will give us a chance to meet up in larger numbers and reflect on last year's activities and successes as well as an opportunity to discuss and develop a new programme of activities.

There will be an evening trip to Thornton Common to cut the centre of the woodland ride and weed some of the hedgerows.



June is balsam pulling season. Despite last year's restrictions and late start last season a good area of the wood was cleared of balsam. Cover up well and bring some insect repellent.

The next event is a more ambitious cycle ride, circa 35 miles starting at 2pm in the Bebington area and cycle down to St Plegmund's Well, Plemstall Coppice, and to look at the Mickle Trafford hedge recently laid by the group. Bring some refreshments along.

In July there will be an evening walk starting from the Cherry Orchard Pub, Arrowe Park walking along the hedgerows the volunteers recently restored at Woodchurch Road and back round to Thingwall Corner. Bring a pair of work gloves and a pair of secateurs if you have some. They will be useful for dealing with any errant vegetation we come across. Markers will be put on the hedgerow saplings in an effort to prevent them getting flailed. This will be followed by a group meeting to discuss the autumn events in light of the ongoing Covid situation.

Paul Loughnane BEM
Hon. Secretary,
Wirral Countryside Volunteers
0151 645 8937 jpl@liv.ac.uk