

North Wales Wildlife Trust Nature Reserve Work Parties in NE Wales (Denbighshire, Flintshire & Wrexham) January 2021

Thank you for your interest in volunteering with North Wales Wildlife Trust. Although Wales is currently under Coronavirus Alert Level 4 restrictions, we are able to continue to run a programme of conservation tasks that volunteers are allowed to attend, given that travelling to provide "voluntary or charitable services" is permitted by Welsh Government. However, we completely understand that some people may not wish to travel or volunteer under the current conditions and we look forward to seeing you again when you feel able to join us.

We have re-assessed all of our planned work and where necessary amended our plans to ensure that they can be delivered safely. If you wish to attend any of the work days, you <u>must book ahead directly with the task organiser</u> (his contact details are listed below). Please <u>do not</u> travel to attend a work day without the task organiser having expressly acknowledged that it is OK for you to attend. Please note, unfortunately we are unable to provide lifts to anyone at the present time.

This programme lists the volunteering opportunities that are available throughout January 2021 on our nature reserves in Denbighshire, Flintshire & Wrexham. Winter is a busy time of year as there are always lots of jobs to be done. Don't be put off by the colder weather – it's a great time of year to work on our nature reserves and discover why they are such special places.

Our work parties provide an interesting and lively mix of practical work and informal training. Each work day will consist of a brief introduction to the nature reserve and its management. There will also be some training in tool use and appropriate health and safety issues. **Details of the locations of our nature reserves can be found on our website** www.northwaleswildlifetrust.org.uk You will need to wear work clothes and stout boots/wellingtons and bring along waterproofs and a packed lunch and a drink. We will supply work gloves, tools and hand washing facilities. Social distancing will be observed.

All of these January work days are being organised by Mike Klymko, our Assistant Reserves Officer. If you would like to attend a particular work party, you must contact Mike in advance. You can phone or e-mail him on 07880 033562 or Mike.Klymko@northwaleswildlifetrust.org.uk Thank you!

Friday 22nd January

Maes Hiraddug, Dyserth. Meet at the nature reserve. 10 a.m. until 3.30 p.m. Today we will be continuing with the restoration of this magnificent meadow. Join us to help cut back regenerating scrub and to carry out coppicing of over-shading boundary trees. It's a good opportunity to check on the Belted Galloway cattle which are grazing the site. Please contact Mike Klymko if you would like to attend.

Tuesday 26th January

Coed y Felin, Hendre, near Mold. Meet in the eastern car park. 10 a.m. until 3.30 p.m.

Deptford pink (*Dianthus armeria*) with its delicate neon-pink flowers is only found growing wild on 15 sites in the UK and our Coed y Felin nature reserve is one of those sites. We will be cutting back regenerating scrub to benefit this scarce plant. This work will involve working close to, or on, a steep slope and so sturdy footwear with good tread is essential! Please contact Mike Klymko is you would like to attend.

Friday 29th January

Coed Cilygroeslwyd, Pwll-glas, near Ruthin. Meet in the Siop Pwllglas car park. 10 a.m. until 3.30 p.m.

We will be imitating the habits of wild boar as we disturb the ground with mattocks! We will also be dragging & winching fallen trees with the aim of stimulating the germination of dormant seeds of *Stachys alpina* (Limestone woundwort). This is Denbighshire's county flower and was once more abundant within this woodland. Please contact Mike Klymko if you would like to attend.

Tuesday 2nd February

Ddôl Uchaf, near Afonwen, Flintshire. 10 a.m. until 3.30 p.m.

Maintenance work today - a large willow has blown down across the meadow and needs to be cleared. The river has been backing up, threatening to breach its bank. Subject to water levels, we'll be aiming to clear its natural flow – wellies or waders required! Please contact Mike Klymko if you would like to attend.

Friday 5th February

Coed Cilygroeslwyd, Pwll-glas, near Ruthin. Meet in the Siop Pwllglas car park. 10 a.m. until 3.30 p.m.

Another opportunity to imitate wild boar as we disturb the ground with mattocks! We will also be dragging & winching fallen trees with the aim of stimulating the germination of dormant seeds of *Stachys alpina* (Limestone woundwort). This is Denbighshire's county flower and was once more abundant within this woodland. Please contact Mike Klymko if you would like to attend.

We would like to thank Natural Resources Wales for supporting our conservation management work.

