



North Wales Wildlife Trust Nature Reserve Work Parties in NE Wales (Denbighshire, Flintshire & Wrexham) February 2024

Thank you for your interest in volunteering with North Wales Wildlife Trust. With 35 nature reserves to manage across North Wales, there is always lots of work to be done and we would love you to come along and join us. Winter is a great time of year to visit our nature reserves and discover why they are such special places.

This programme lists the volunteering opportunities that are available throughout **February 2024** on our nature reserves in Denbighshire, Flintshire & Wrexham. You can also volunteer with our NE Wales Living Landscapes Project – see below for more information. **If you wish to attend any of the volunteer work days, you must book ahead directly with the task organiser (their contact details are listed below).**

Our work parties provide an interesting and lively mix of practical work and informal training. **Details of the locations of our nature reserves can be found on our website www.northwaleswildlifetrust.org.uk** Please wear work clothes and stout boots/wellies and bring waterproofs and a packed lunch. We will supply work gloves & tools. We ask that you make sure your work boots or wellies are clean; biosecurity is an important part of our work - you can find out more on our website.

In summary, there is usually:

- A volunteer work day every Tuesday & Friday on one of our nature reserves in NE Wales. **Contact Jordan Vigus-Hurst on 07764 897416 or Jordan.Vigus-Hurst@northwaleswildlifetrust.org.uk or Paul Furnborough on 07880 033562 or Paul.furnborough@northwaleswildlifetrust.org.uk**
- A volunteer work day at Minera or Marford Quarry (Wrexham area) on the 2nd & 4th Wednesday of each month. **Contact Jordan Vigus-Hurst on 07764 897416 or Jordan.Vigus-Hurst@northwaleswildlifetrust.org.uk**
- Opportunities to volunteer with our NE Wales Living Landscape projects, near Mold. **Please contact Sarah Ellis on 07494 962909 or sarah.ellis@northwaleswildlifetrust.org.uk for more information about the project.**

Please remember, if you are interested in attending a particular work party, you must contact the relevant task leader in advance. Thank you!

Wildlife surveys at our Aberduna nature reserve, near Mold.

Our survey programme is taking a break over winter, but please contact Paul if you would like to join us in the spring. In spring, the season will start with first frog - and then toad - spawn surveys, before cranking up a gear with night-time newt surveys. We will then build on this year's work and survey for reptiles, dragonflies and butterflies. We may also include bat walks and bat surveys and specialist surveys, e.g. Deptford pink and Black grouse. We will also repeat this year's Small Pearl Bordered Fritillary surveys. Most surveys will be organised and co-ordinated via WhatsApp. Surveys will be focussed on our Aberduna Nature reserve, near Mold, before spreading out to other sites and nature reserves.

If you are interested in helping with this survey work, please contact Paul Furnborough paul.furnborough@northwaleswildlifetrust.org.uk

Work programme for February:

Tuesday 6th February

Big Pool Wood, 2.5 miles east of Prestatyn. 10 a.m. until 3.30 p.m. Parking off the road, close to the reserve entrance. Meet at the entrance to the nature reserve. A wonderful reed bed and woodland site filled with wildflowers, birdsong and facilities that allow you to get closer to wildlife. Today our winter work continues. We will prepare the ground for our new container; continue tree safety works; cut back some of the young trees encroaching into the lake; make repairs to the boardwalk and do some final cuts to the reedbed. A busy day ahead! Please contact Paul Furnborough if you would like to attend.

Friday 9th February

Coed y Felin, Hendre, near Mold. 10 a.m. until 3.30 p.m. Meet in the large car park: <https://maps.app.goo.gl/sMwyyTmA4iZJvzSg9>

Coed y Felin is an ancient oak/ash woodland planted with sycamore, beech and sweet chestnut. The woodland has a long post-industrial heritage and its timber has been used to support the local mining village for centuries. This peaceful woodland with sunny grassland glades is filled with colour & life, including the nationally rare Deptford pink and dozens of other wildflowers. Today we will continue coppicing along our new butterfly transect, letting more light into the woodland floor and encouraging a variety of scrubby structures to develop alongside the footpath. Please contact Paul Furnborough if you would like to attend.

Tuesday 13th February

Gors Maen Llwyd, near Llyn Brenig. 10 a.m. until 3.30 p.m. Meet at the main car park.

Today we are heading back on to the moors, pulling and felling self-seeded Sitka saplings and trees. This work is important as it will help to restore precious heathland habitat. Please contact Paul Furnborough if you would like to attend.

Wednesday 14th February

Minera Quarry, Coedpoeth, near Wrexham. 10 a.m. until 3.30 p.m. Meet in the car park.

Join us as we work to halt successional processes to maintain a mosaic of habitats at this former limestone quarry. Please contact Jordan Vigus-Hurst if you would like to attend.

Friday 16th February

Coed Trellyniau, near Rhydymwyn. **11 a.m.** until 3.30 p.m. **Please note later start time.** Parking is limited – please contact Paul Furnborough if you would like to attend so that we can arrange car sharing.

This nature reserve is a fragment of a once larger ancient woodland. It sits within an agricultural landscape and is linked to other scattered woodlands by ancient hedgerows and tracks that are the last refuge for many native plants and animals.

Today we will be re-visiting last year's work projects – tackling hedgerow maintenance, planting and fence repairs. Please contact Paul Furnborough if you would like to attend.

Tuesday 20th February

Aberduna, Maeshafn, near Mold. Meet at the office car park. 10 a.m. until 3.30 p.m.

Today we will be clearing scrub from the limestone grassland and near a defunct drystone wall to create suitable habitat for reptiles. Please contact Jordan Vigus-Hurst if you would like to attend.

Friday 23rd February

Cors y Sarnau, Sarnau, near Bala. 10 a.m. until 3.30 p.m. Meet in Sarnau village.

Our regular monthly visit to this reserve. Today we will be carrying out a variety of jobs including fencing and scrub clearance on this wonderful nature reserve. Don't forget your wellies! Please contact Jordan Vigus-Hurst if you would like to attend.

Tuesday 27th February

Blaenyweirglodd, 2 miles SW of Llansannan. 10 a.m. until 3.30 p.m. Meet at the off-road parking place near the reserve (SH9114 6322).

We return to this peaceful peatland site to remove regenerating saplings from the wetter areas to help keep it clear. There will also be an opportunity to monitor the reserve's hydrology and extend our plastic dams. Please contact Jordan Vigus-Hurst if you would like to attend.

Wednesday 28th February

Minera Quarry, Coedpoeth, near Wrexham. 10 a.m. until 3.30 p.m. Meet in the nature reserve car park.

Join us as we work to halt successional processes to maintain a mosaic of habitats at this former limestone quarry. Please contact Jordan Vigus-Hurst if you would like to attend.

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

