

Denbighshire Countryside Service

# Volunteer programme

October 2009 - March 2010



## Pulling Power

Removing birch trees and saplings, pushing back the woodland edge to maintain and increase the heathland and its special character

## Exposing the past

Come and help us clear vegetation from around the Iron Age Hillfort of Caer Drewyn to expose more of the fabulous stone work.

## Bits 'n' Bobs

There's work to be done in Coed Llangwyfan, whether it be thinning the riparian area, or improving access.

**Heathland Restoration**

help restore motorbike damage on Moel y Gaer and Llantysilio

# Welcome

There are a whole range of opportunities to get involved in the work of Denbighshire Countryside Service - and we need your help! There are projects taking place across the whole county. You can join in every once in a while or every week – the choice is yours.

Tasks vary from tree planting to dry stone walling, footpath construction to creating wildlife habitats. No previous experience required - training will be provided and you're free to work at your own pace.

For more information contact David Shiel, Loggerheads Country Park 01352 810614

For a braille, large print or tape version of this information call free on 0800 243980



AHNE Bryniau Clwyd  
Clwydian Range AONB



Cyngor Cefn Gwlad Cymru  
Countryside Council for Wales



## Clwydian Range Area of Outstanding Beauty

### In your area contact:

Loggerheads Country Park - 01352 810614

North Denbighshire (Rhyl) - 01745 356197

South Denbighshire (Llangollen) - 01978 869618

### A word about Health & Safety

The Countryside Service will provide all necessary safety clothing. Remember to wear sturdy foot wear with a good grip and to bring water proof clothing and a packed lunch with you. Please ensure that under 14 year olds are accompanied by a parent/guardian. Unfortunately we are not able to work with children under 8 years old.

[www.clwydianrangeaonb.org.uk](http://www.clwydianrangeaonb.org.uk)

[www.denbighshire.gov.uk/countryside](http://www.denbighshire.gov.uk/countryside)

[www.heatherandhillforts.co.uk](http://www.heatherandhillforts.co.uk)



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**Tuesday 6 10<sup>am</sup>**

**Dormouse survey taster session.**

Short introduction to Dormouse ecology followed by a nest box survey looking for evidence of these tree-dwelling animals. Meet at Clawdd Newydd village hall.

**Wednesday 7 10<sup>am</sup>**

**To the end of the World's End!**

Come along and help maintain one of the most stunning sections of the Offa's Dyke Path. Meet at the Worlds End Car Park SJ 23384 (pick up from Llangollen available, please ring 01978 869618 for details)

**Thursday 8 10<sup>am</sup> Scrub Clearance**

Lend a hand with the prickly, but essential task of removing invasive scrub from special grassland areas in the park. Meet at Loggerheads.

**Monday 12 10<sup>am</sup> Clean the Nose!**

Come and help pick litter at Hortons Nose as part of the Coastal Access Programme. Meet at Hortons Nose SH995 808.

**Tuesday 13 & Wednesday 14 10<sup>am</sup>**

**Heathland Restoration.**

Come and help restore motorbike damage on Moel y Gaer, Llantysilio, back to Heather moorland. Meet Bwlch y Groes (SJ 150 450).



**Tuesday 13 10<sup>am</sup>-3<sup>pm</sup> Pulling Power.**

Once again the focus of this winter's work on the heathland will be scrub control. We will be removing birch trees and saplings, pushing back the woodland edge to maintain and increase the heathland and its special character. Meet at Eastern entrance 500m SE from Maeshafn village on the road to Nercwys/ Eryrys SJ 205 608.

**Wednesday 14 10<sup>am</sup> Path Work.**

The well trodden paths at Loggerheads always benefit from some tender loving care, so come and help improve them. Meet at Loggerheads.

# October

**Thursday 15 – Saturday 17 10<sup>am</sup> – 3<sup>pm</sup>**

**Hedge Laying.**

Help to lay this boundary to the Brickfields Pond Nature Reserve. Come along and have a go at this traditional craft with professional tuition. Meet at Brickfields Pond car park (SJ 013804).

**Monday 19 & Tuesday 20 10<sup>am</sup>**

**Erosion repairs on Moel Famau.**

Thousands of pairs of boots each year take their toll. We need help to try to reverse this damage by laying out heather on eroded sections of footpath. Meet at Iron Gate (top) car park.



**Tuesday 27 10<sup>am</sup> Exposing the past.**

Come and help us clear vegetation from around the Iron Age Hillfort of Caer Drewyn to expose more of the fabulous stone work. Meet Leisure Centre Car Park, Corwen.



**Tuesday 27 10<sup>am</sup>-3<sup>pm</sup> From Shade to Glade.**

We will be continuing to foster the next generation of trees at the local nature reserve by thinning the younger trees, removing non-native saplings and creating small glades. Meet: Western site Entrance near Tŷ Newydd, Maeshafn (SJ 204 611).

**Thursday 29 & Friday 30 10<sup>am</sup>**

**Shepherd's Cottage Dry Stone Walling.**

The old Shepherd's cottage at Coed Nercwys is undergoing a facelift. The dry stone walls around the enclosure are being re-built so there is an opportunity to come along and improve on or learn a new skill alongside an experienced local craftsman. Meet Coed Nercwys, Northern car park, SJ 218 593.

"This project has received funding through the Rural Development Plan which is financed through the European Union and Welsh Assembly Government."



# November

## **Tuesday 3 10<sup>am</sup>-3<sup>pm</sup> Stepping Up.**

Maintenance of the footpaths on and around Prestatyn Hillside, including sections of the Offa's Dyke National Trail. Sturdy footwear essential. Meet at Small car park on hairpin bend below Hillside Gardens, Prestatyn SJ 071 821

## **Wednesday 4 10<sup>am</sup> Corwen Cynwyd Woodland Work.**

Bow-saws at the ready! Come along and help thin out sections of woodland along this beautiful section of the old railway line. Meet at Stamp lay-by SJ 060 420

## **Thursday 5 10<sup>am</sup> Scrub Clearance.**

Help us continue to keep on top of invasive scrub in the park. Meet at Loggerheads

## **Tuesday 10 & Wednesday 11 10<sup>am</sup>**

### **North of the tower.**

The dry stone wall boundary, north of Moel Famau tower is in need of repairs.

Come along and learn to wall, or improve your skills alongside an experienced local craftsman. Meet at the viewpoint above Cilcain (signposted from Cilcain village).



## **Thursday 12 10<sup>am</sup> Help in Dee Valley.**

Come and explore the treasures of the Dee Valley and help improve access opportunities along key Rights of Way in this stunning landscape. For this event, key access improvements will be focused around the impressive Valle Crucis Abbey. Meet at Market St Car park, Llangollen

## **Thursday 12 & Friday 13 10<sup>am</sup> – 3<sup>pm</sup>**

### **Woodland Work.**

Come and lend a hand to continue with the ongoing improvements to this local woodland. Coppice and thinning work with a bonfire will help to warm the winter workers. Meet at Mount Wood gateway SJ 047 658

## **Tuesday 17 10<sup>am</sup> Exposing the past.**

Come and help us clear vegetation from around the Iron Age Hillfort of Caer Drewyn to expose more of the fabulous stone work. Meet Leisure Centre Car Park, Corwen.



## **Tuesday 17 10<sup>am</sup>-3<sup>pm</sup> Pulling Power.**

Scrub control, see 13<sup>th</sup> October. Meet at Eastern entrance 500m SE from Maeshafn village on the road to Nercwys/ Eryrys SJ205608

## **Wednesday 18 & Thursday 19 10<sup>am</sup> Hedgelaying.**

Come and learn a new skill or improve your hedgelaying skills with an experienced instructor. Meet at Coed Llangwyfan car park on the road between Nannerch and Llandyrnog SJ 139 668.



## **Monday 23, Tuesday 24 & Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> 10<sup>am</sup> Coppicing.**

Day 1 – help re-establish an old coppice system. Day 2 & 3 – Coppice the first coup in the rotation. Meet at Loggerheads.

## **Tuesday 24 – Saturday 28 10<sup>am</sup> – 3<sup>pm</sup> Hedge Laying.**

It is exciting times for the Rhuddlan Nature Reserve and help is needed to continue the laying of the hedge that surrounds the site. Includes professional tuition throughout the week. Meet at junction to Morfa Rhuddlan Premier Inn SJ 020778.

## **Thursday 26 10<sup>am</sup>-3<sup>pm</sup> From Shade to Glade.**

We will be continuing to foster the next generation of trees at the local nature reserve by thinning the younger trees, removing non-native saplings and creating small glades.

Meet: Western site Entrance near Ty Newydd, Maeshafn SJ 204 611

# December

## Tuesday 1 10<sup>am</sup>-3<sup>pm</sup> Juniper Jolly.

High above Prestatyn on the steep, rocky slopes overlooking Bishops Wood we'll be cutting back scrub around the nationally important Juniper bushes. Boots essential. Meet at Small car park on hairpin bend below Hillside Gardens, Prestatyn SJ 071 821.

## Tuesday 1 & Wednesday 2 10<sup>am</sup>

### Dead Hedging.

Come and help create a 'dead hedge' from the material coppiced last week! Meet at Loggerheads.

## Monday 7 10<sup>am</sup>

### House Work at House for a Grouse.

Ongoing management is needed to stop this open area being overtaken by conifer re-gen. Meet forest car park (lower car park)



## Tuesday 8 10<sup>am</sup>-3<sup>pm</sup> Stepping Up.

More footpath improvements on the Offa's Dyke National Trail including maintenance of the wooden steps high above Bishops Wood. Meet at Small car park on hairpin bend below Hillside Gardens, Prestatyn SJ 071 821

## Wednesday 9 10<sup>am</sup> Exposing the past.

Come and help us clear vegetation from around the Iron Age Hillfort of Caer Drewyn to expose more of the fabulous stone work. Meet Leisure Centre Car Park, Corwen.



## Thursday 10 10<sup>am</sup> Scrub Clearance.

More prickly work to be done removing unwanted scrub from important areas in the park. Meet at Loggerheads.

## Thursday 10 & Friday 11<sup>th</sup> 10<sup>am</sup> – 3<sup>pm</sup>

### Woodland Recycling.

First we will coppice the abundant hazel and then weave a boundary line with the traditional dead hedging. All located in a woodland setting in Denbigh. Meet at Mount Wood gateway SJ 047658.

## Tuesday 15 10<sup>am</sup>-3<sup>pm</sup> Pulling Power.

Scrub control, see 13th Oct. Meet at Eastern entrance 500m SE from Maeshafn village on the road to Nercwys/ Eryrys (SJ 205 608).

## Wednesday 16 10<sup>am</sup> Drains.

Help maintain the drains around the park by clearing out the autumn leaves. Meet at Loggerheads.

## Thursday 17 10<sup>am</sup> More bog trotting!

Help to clear the important wetland site of Llyn Ochin from conifer re-gen and birch. Meet at Coed Nercwys Northern car park SJ 218 593.



## Tuesday 22 December 10<sup>am</sup>-3<sup>pm</sup>

### From Shade to Glade.

We will be continuing to foster the next generation of trees at the local nature reserve by thinning the younger trees, removing non-native saplings and creating small glades. Meet at Western site Entrance near Ty Newydd, Maeshafn SJ 204 611.



**Tuesday 12 10<sup>am</sup>-3<sup>pm</sup> Pulling Power.**  
Scrub control, see 13<sup>th</sup> Oct. Meet at Eastern entrance 500m SE from Maeshafn village on the road to Nercwys/ Eryrys SJ 205 608.

**Wednesday 13 10<sup>am</sup> Corwen Cynwyd Woodland Work II.**  
Fed up of Turkey (or nut loaf!)? Why not come and work off those Yuletide calories and get stuck into clearing sections of this fantastic old railway line?  
Jacket potatoes and beans to be cooked on the fire – if anyone wants to bring anything more adventurous to cook then bring it along! Meet at Stamp lay-by SJ 060 420

**Wednesday 13 10<sup>am</sup> Nordic Walk up Caer Derwyn.**  
A brisk Nordic walk to the top of Caer Drewyn. Poles provided. Meet at Corwen Leisure Centre and the walk lasts for 90mins.

**Thursday 14 & Friday 15 10<sup>am</sup> A helping hand in the Forest.**  
A part of the forest at Moel Famau is being slowly overtaken by Western Hemlock. Help is needed to take it out and re-plant the under story. Meet Forest car park.

**Tuesday 19 10<sup>am</sup>-3<sup>pm</sup> From Shade to Glade.**  
We will be continuing to foster the next generation of trees at the local nature reserve by thinning the younger trees, removing non-native saplings and creating small glades. Meet at Western site Entrance near Ty Newydd, Maeshafn SJ 204 611.

# January

**Wednesday 20 10<sup>am</sup> – 3<sup>pm</sup> Pond Improvements.**  
The ponds at Gronant are home to the rare Natterjack toad, come and help re-line a pond and lay vegetation for the coming year. Meet at Presthaven Holiday Camp car park SJ 090 842.

**Thursday 21 10<sup>am</sup> Scrub Clearance.**  
Help us continue to keep on top of invasive scrub in the park. Meet at Loggerheads.

**Monday 25 & Tuesday 26 10<sup>am</sup> Path Work**  
The well trodden paths at Loggerheads always benefit from some TLC, so come and help improve them. Meet at Loggerheads.

**Thursday 28 & Friday 29 10<sup>am</sup> Nightjar area.**  
The riparian area at Coed Nercwys is fast being overtaken by conifer re-gen and pioneer trees. We need help to thin this area out so that the heathland can thrive, and the nightjars will be enticed back. Meet at Coed Nercwys Southern entrance.



# February

**Tuesday 2 & Wednesday 3 10<sup>am</sup> Bird boxes.**  
Come and help make bird boxes to provide plenty of nesting opportunities for a variety of birds in both Loggerheads and the forests of Clwydian range. Meet at Loggerheads.



**Wednesday 3 10<sup>am</sup> Help in Dee Valley II.**  
Come and explore the treasures of the Dee Valley and help improve access opportunities along key Rights of Way in this stunning landscape. Meet at Market St Car park, Llangollen.

**Tuesday 9 & Wednesday 10 10<sup>am</sup> Improving the Woodland.**  
Come and spend the day helping to remove non-native tree saplings from the internationally important woodland at Loggerheads. Meet at Loggerheads.

**Thursday 11 10<sup>am</sup> Exposing the past.**  
Come and help us clear vegetation from around the Iron Age Hillfort of Caer Drewyn to expose more of the fabulous stone work. Meet at the Leisure Centre Car Park, Corwen.



**Tuesday 16 10<sup>am</sup> Bits 'n' Bobs.**  
There's work to be done in Coed Llangwyfan, whether it be thinning the riparian area, or improving access. Come along and lend a hand. Meet Llangwyfan car park on the road between Nannerch and Llandyrnog SJ 139 668.



**Wednesday 17 10<sup>am</sup> Nordic Walk up Moel Famau.**  
A brisk Nordic walk to the Jubilee Tower. Poles provided. Meet at Pen Barras Car Park and walk lasts for 90 mins.

**Thursday 18 10<sup>am</sup> Scrub Clearance.**  
Lend a hand with the prickly, but essential task, of removing invasive scrub from special grassland areas in the park. Meet at Loggerheads.

**Wednesday 24 10<sup>am</sup> Bracken Litter Clearing.**  
Following bracken spraying in the summer, help break up and clear the bracken litter that is left to make way for other heathland plants. Meet at the Iron Gate Car Park.



**Wednesday 24 10<sup>am</sup> Nordic Walk.**  
Join us on a walk along Prestatyn Dyserth Way and the Prestatyn Community Woodland. Poles provided. Meet at Anglia Car-park, Dyserth and walk will last around 2hrs.

**Wednesday 24 & Thursday 25 10<sup>am</sup> Wetland improvements.**  
Some of the artificial scrapes on Moel Famau still need to be lined so that they can become effective wet areas for the moorland wildlife. Meet at the Iron Gate (top) car park.



# March

**Thursday 4 10<sup>am</sup> Help in Dee Valley III.**  
Come and explore the treasures of the Dee Valley and help improve access opportunities along key Rights of Way in this stunning landscape. Meet at the Main car park, Corwen.

**Thursday 4 10<sup>am</sup> Scrub Clearance.**  
More prickly work removing unwanted scrub from important areas in the park. Meet at Loggerheads.

**Tuesday 9 10<sup>am</sup>-3<sup>pm</sup> Pulling Power.**  
Scrub control, see 13<sup>th</sup> Oct. Meet at Eastern entrance 500m SE from Maeshafn village on the road to Nercwys/ Eryrys SJ 205 608.

**Wednesday 10 & Thursday 11 10<sup>am</sup> The Dry Stone Walling continues.**  
The Eastern boundary at Coed Nercwys is an ongoing project. Help is needed to continue repairing the age old dry stone wall. Meet Coed Nercwys Northern car park, SJ 218 593



**Monday 15 & Tuesday 16 10<sup>am</sup> Path work.**  
More important work needs to be done on the heavily used paths at Loggerheads! Meet at Loggerheads.

**Wednesday 17 10<sup>am</sup> Putting a shine on Llantysilio Green.**  
It's that Spring Clean time of year again! Why not come along and help prepare the site for the busy season and also help thin out sections of the woodland. Meet at Llantysilio Green SJ 198 433.

**Wednesday 17 10<sup>am</sup> Nordic Walk along the canal in Llangollen.**  
A short stroll along the canal. Poles provided. Meet at TIC Llangollen and walk will last around 30mins.

**Tuesday 23 10<sup>am</sup>-3<sup>pm</sup> From Shade to Glade.**  
We will be continuing to foster the next generation of trees at the local nature reserve by thinning the younger trees, removing non-native saplings and creating small glades Meet at Western site Entrance near Ty Newydd, Maeshafn SJ 204 611.

**Wednesday 24 10<sup>am</sup> Nordic Walk along Lady Bagot's Drive.**  
A strenuous walk in the Rhewl countryside. Poles provided. Meet at the Pavilion, Rhewl and walk will last around 2 hours.

**Thursday 25 10<sup>am</sup> Bits 'n Bobs Moel Famau.**  
Help us to ready the park for the busy Spring and Summer period. We will need to undertake annual drainage clearance along the main footpath's and any other repairs or clean up that is needed after a harsh winter. Meet Iron Gate (top) car park.





It is hoped that there will be several days of heather management undertaken this year.

Obviously this task is entirely weather dependent and often a decision to burn can only be decided at short notice.

If you would be interested in helping out this year, please contact Nick Critchley on 01352 810614 and leave your number so that we can get in touch once we know that we will be heading for the hills!

