

Volunteer Programme

April to September 2017

Denbighshire Countryside Service and the
Clwydian Range and Dee Valley Area
of Outstanding Natural Beauty



Bryniau Clwyd a Dyffryn Dyfrdwy
Clwydian Range and Dee Valley
Ardal o Harddwch Naturiol Eithriadol
Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty

Cyngor
sir ddinbych
denbighshire
County Council



Welcome

There are a range of opportunities for you to get involved in the work of Denbighshire Countryside Service and the Clwydian Range and Dee Valley AONB - and we need your help!

From Rhyl & Prestatyn in the north along the Clwydian Range and Dee Valley and to Hiraethog in the west, 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 a Braille, large print or tape version of this call free on 0800 243980

For further information contact:

Loggerheads Country Park

 01824 712 757

North Denbighshire (Rhyl)

 01824 708 313

South Denbighshire (Llangollen)

 01824 712 795

Check us out on social media for up to date information and events

 **Denbighshire Countryside Service
Clwydian Range & Dee Valley AONB**

 **@clwyd_Deer_AONB
@DenbshireCside**

A word about Health & Safety

The Countryside Service will provide all necessary safety clothing. Remember to wear sturdy foot wear with a good grip, steel toe cap boots are recommended for most jobs. Please bring water proof clothing and a packed lunch with you. Under 14 year olds must be accompanied by a parent /guardian. Unfortunately, we are not able to work with children under 8 years old.

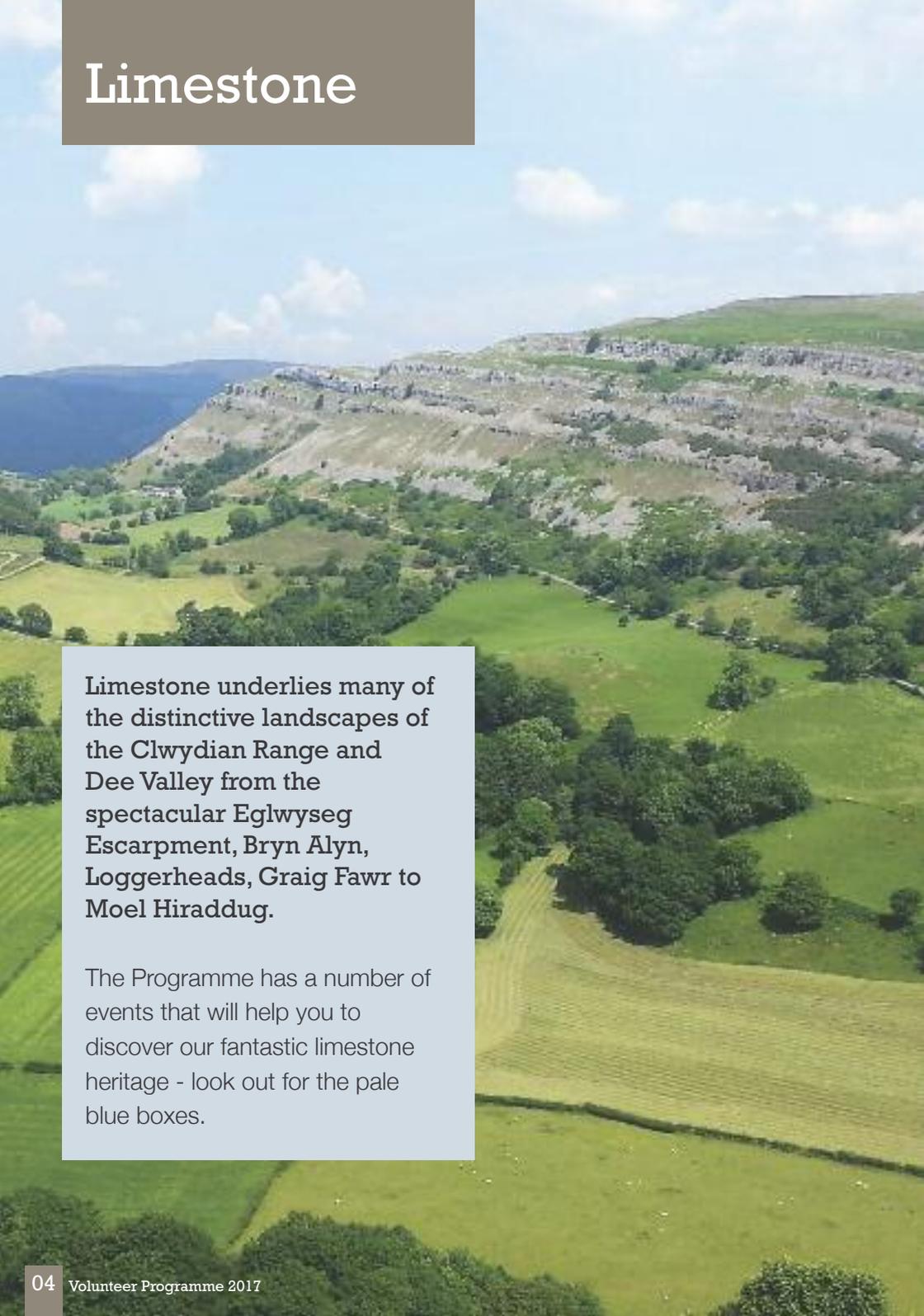
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denbighshirevolunteers.co.uk

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**Bryniau Clwyd a
Dyffryn Dyfrdwy**
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and Dee Valley
Ardal o Harddwch Naturiol Eiddafod
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Limestone



Limestone underlies many of the distinctive landscapes of the Clwydian Range and Dee Valley from the spectacular Eglwyseg Escarpment, Bryn Alyn, Loggerheads, Graig Fawr to Moel Hiraddug.

The Programme has a number of events that will help you to discover our fantastic limestone heritage - look out for the pale blue boxes.

Little Terns

The Gronant bird colony had amazing success with 170 little tern fledglings for season 2016.



The number of breeding terns was again at a high with 141 pairs in total. This is sadly in sharp contrast to many colonies around the UK that had a poor year. Population figures for the UK in 2016 are at minus 11% compared to the 5-year mean at pre-EU LIFE+ project (2009-13).

On a brighter note, the North Wales Little Tern Group was set up to be a hub for volunteer activity and this has already seen

an increased provision in terms of people engagement, protection and monitoring of the terns at Gronant, Rhyl Harbour and RSPB Point of Ayr. A big thank to everyone who have joined the group or been involved with the work of the Countryside Service on site. Let's hope for a productive summer!

If anyone is interested in volunteering with the Little Tern colony this year please contact 01824 708 313.



**Tuesday 25th 10am-3pm
Spring Clean**

Come and help complete some general Park maintenance to get Loggerheads ready for the summer season. Meet at Loggerheads Country Park.

**Wednesday 5th 10am - 3pm
Country Park tidy up**

Help to tidy up the park before the busy Easter holidays with the start of the summer programme of maintenance. Meet at Moel Famau, Bwlch Penbarras car park. (SJ174 613)



**Friday 7th 10am - 3pm
Spring Clean at Dinas Brân**

Come and join us for a big Spring Clean at Castell Dinas Brân to get the site ready for another busy season of visitors. Meet at Market Street Car Park, Llangollen at 10am.

**Tuesday 11th 10am - 3pm
Riverside Fencing**

Come and help create weaved fences along our well used paths. Meet at Loggerheads Country Park.

**Tuesday 11th 10am - 3pm
Brickfields Bird Boxes**

Help us build a variety of bird boxes to attract a range of birds. These boxes will be used on our sites and you can take one home at the end of the day. Meet at Brickfields Pond office, Rhyl.



**Tuesday 25th 10am - 3pm
Fighting the Gorse**

Come along and cut back gorse that has started invading a path near Maes Hiraddug. Meet at Prestatyn – Dyserth way car park, Dyserth (Grid ref. SJ062 792)

**Wednesday 26th 10am - 3pm
Moel Famau**

Help the Country Park ranger keep the park looking its best with access improvements and maintenance work. Meet at Bwlch Penbarras car park (SJ 174 613)



**Wednesday 26th 10am - 3pm
Harbour fencing**

Setting out the electric fencing in preparation for small nesting waders and the potential for breeding terns. Meet at Pont y Ddraig car-park, Rhyl Harbour.



**Wednesday 10th 10am -12noon
Help the Gardener at Plas
Newydd Historical Gardens**

Help the gardener to plant out new plants in the garden and create special displays for all the visitors to appreciate. Meet at Plas Newydd, Llangollen, LL20 8AW.

**Tuesday 2nd - Thursday 4th
10am - 3pm**

Little Tern Protection

Come to help at the annual set up with the erecting of fencing and boards all ready for the forthcoming Little Tern breeding season. Meet at Gronant Dunes (parking at Lower Gronant opposite Crofter's Café).

**Tuesday 9th 10am-3pm
Riverside Fencing**

Come and help create weaved fences along our well used paths. Meet at Loggerheads Country Park.

**Tuesday 16th 10am - 3pm
Plug and Play**

Come along for a morning of planting wildflower plugs followed by surveying the reserve for wildflowers and other wildlife. Meet at Rhuddlan Local Nature Reserve, Station Road.

**Tuesday 16th and Wednesday 17th
10am - 3pm**

Dry stone walling

Help to continue rebuilding the old forest boundary at Coed Nercwys. Meet at the main forest car park, (SJ 218 593).



**Tuesday 23rd 9am - 3pm
Bruton Bio Blitz**

Following the woodland work at Bruton Park this past winter we want to survey the site to see what species are currently present and to enable us to track any changes to the biodiversity in the coming years. We will be recording Plants, Butterflies, Birds and more. Meet at Tarquin Drive, Rhyl (SJ027 801).



**Tuesday 30th 10am - 3pm
Riverside Fencing**

Come and help create weaved fences along our well used paths. Meet at Loggerheads Country Park.

Thursday 1st 10am - 3pm Wildflower Identification

Improve your wildflower identification skills, marvel at the early purple orchids and help maintain favourable conditions for limestone loving plants along one of Denbighshire's designated Roadside Nature Reserves in the stunning Eglwyseg Valley. Meet at 10am, Market Street car park, Llangollen (parking is restricted on site, so we will look to car share).

Monday 5th 10am - 5pm

Lord's Garden

Help the gardener at the Lord's Garden. Nantclwyd Y Dre, Ruthin.

Wednesday 7th & Thursday 8th

10am - 3pm

Dry Stone Walling

Learn how to build a dry stone wall at Gop Hill, Trelawnyd, parking is limited so lifts are available from Loggerheads and Brickfields Pond, Rhyl. Please ring to book, 01824 712 757.

Tuesday 13th 10am-3pm

Drainage Improvements

Help us improve the drainage issues we have on one of our well used paths at Loggerheads. Meet at Loggerheads Country Park.

Tuesday 13th, Wednesday 14th & Thursday 15th

Dry Stone Walling

Why not try your hand – or improve your skills – at Dry Stone Walling? We will be rebuilding sections of the impressive boundary wall at Coed Pen y Pigyn, Corwen. Meet at Main Car Park, Corwen 10am.



Thursday 15th and Friday 16th 10am - 3pm

Building a Bird Hide

Using locally-sourced larch the plan is to build a bird hide at the reserve to overlook the quieter area of the site but well-connected by the new paths.

Meet at the Glasdir site, Ruthin.

Tuesday 20th 10am - 3pm

Coed Nercwys

Help with important maintenance work in the popular forest. Access improvement, cutting back vegetation and work in the Old Shepherd's Cottage and Enclosure. Meet at the main forest car park, Coed Nercwys (SJ 218 593).



Wednesday 21st 10am - 1pm

A Yellow Rag to a Horse

Come to help dig out the Oxford ragwort ready for ponies to graze the field at Gronant Dunes in the future. Meet at Gronant Dunes (parking at Lower Gronant opposite Crofter's Café).

Tuesday 27th 10am - 3pm

Walk and Work

Help survey and cut back footpaths in the area. We will be walking various routes so you will need to be happy walking and carrying your bag for most of the day. Meet and finish at Loggerheads Car Park but we may travel to other sites nearby.

Wednesday 28th 10am - 3pm

Tree Trimming

We will side prune the trees at the reserve and create habitat piles with the brash. Meet at Rhuddlan Local Nature Reserve, Station Road.



Thursday 6th 10am - 3pm Balsam Bashing!

Be a part of this year's Big Dee Day – The Invasion, and help eradicate invasive non- native species from the banks of the River Dee. We'll be targeting dense stands of Himalayan Balsam. Free BBQ for all participants! Wellies recommended, meet at the main car park, Corwen LL21 0DN.

Wednesday 5th 10am – 3pm Coed Moel Famau - Arboretum

Help to continue the work improving the arboretum, clear the bases around the young trees and tidy up the paths. Meet at Coed Moel Famau car park (SJ 174 613).



Friday 7th 10am – 2pm Perfect Pathways

We will be improving path edges that are starting to erode then levelling off the surface to maintain easy access around the site. Also looking at the wildflowers at the site. Meet at Mount Wood, Denbigh.

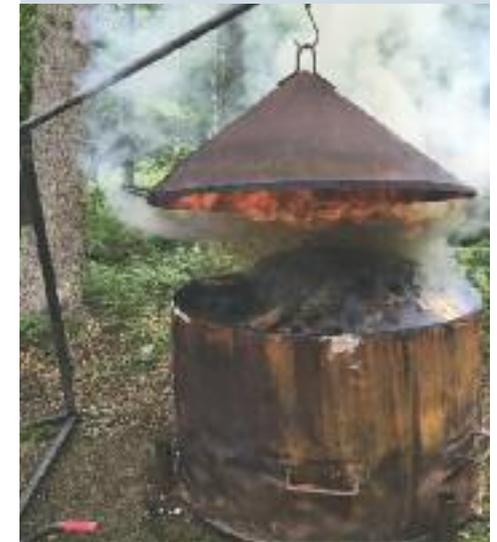
Thursday 13th 10am – 3pm Wattle Fencing

Join us at the community woodland for some side pruning and the traditional craft of making wattle fencing. Meet at Coed y Morfa, Prestatyn.



Monday 17th, Tuesday 18th & Thursday 20th 10am Charcoal Making

Try your hand at traditional charcoal making, free charcoal for all participants. Monday – filling the kiln, Tuesday – lighting the kiln, Thursday – bagging the product. Meet at Loggerheads Car Park.



Tuesday 18th 10am – 3pm Excavations at Penycloddiau

Help the team ready the site at the Iron Age Hillfort, Penycloddiau, ready for further study by Liverpool University. Meet at Coed Llangwyfan, top car park, on the road between Nannerch and Llangwyfan (SJ 139 668).



AUGUST



Wednesday 2nd 10am - 3pm Improved Access

Task is to put in better access to the site for volunteers and also in anticipation for pupils from the new local school to use the site for an educational purpose. Meet at Glasdir Nature Reserve, Ruthin.

Tuesday 8th 10am - 3pm Grasslands

Lend a hand removing invasive scrub from Loggerheads' precious grasslands! Meet at Loggerheads Country Park.

Thursday 10th 10am - 3pm Coppicing

Continue the coppicing on the banks ensuring new healthy stands of hazel and promoting unique wildflowers that thrive on the exposed limestone. Meet at Old Meliden Goods Shed, Prestatyn-Dyserth Way.

Thursday 10th 10am - 3pm Excavations at Penycloddiau

Help Liverpool University close down the site after the Summer excavations at Penycloddiau. Meet at Coed Llangwyfan top car park, on the road between Nannerch and Llangwyfan (SJ139 668).



Tuesday 22nd & Wednesday 23rd 10am - 3pm Old Shepherds Cottage

Help to reinstate the footings of the original Shepherd's Cottage in the centre of the forest. Meet at Coed Nercwys, main car park (SJ 218 593).





Friday 1st 10am - 1pm
Denbigh Town Community Miles
Join us on a task with a difference - an active walk cutting back any overgrowth along this community miles route around the Denbigh countryside. Meet at Bryn Stanley, off Lon Llewellyn entrance to Mount Wood, Denbigh (SJ 047 658).

Saturday 2nd 10am - 12noon
Trimming the Topiary
Help the gardener at Plas Newydd trim the distinctive topiary that stand out in the historical gardens. Meet at Plas Newydd, Llangollen, LL20 8AW.

Tuesday 5th 10am - 3pm
Moel Famau
Help the Country Park ranger keep the park looking its best with access improvements and maintenance work. Meet at Moel Famau, Bwlch Penbarras car park (SJ 174 613).



Thursday 7th 10am
Eglwyseg Escarpment
Help is needed to build up sections of the Offa's Dyke Path as it traverses along the spectacular Eglwyseg Escarpment. As parking is limited, please meet at Market Street Car Park, Llangollen at 10am and we will travel to site from there.

Tuesday 12th 10am - 3pm
Drainage Improvements
Help us improve the drainage issues we have on one of our well used paths. We will bring in stone to create new drainage channels and rebuild existing ones. Meet at Loggerheads Country Park.

Thursday 14th
Moor Path Work
Come and join us for essential maintenance to the Offas Dyke Path as it crosses Cynr y Brain moor towards Llandegla. Meet at the lay-by where the National Trail leaves the road at SJ234 495 for 10am, or lift available from Market St Car Park, Llangollen at 9.30am.

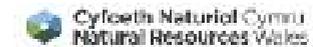
Thursday 14th 10am - 3pm
Exposing the Pond
Help cutting back between the two ponds so that we can access both easily for the first time since we took over the site. Meet at Llanynys pond, Rhewl.

Tuesday 19th 10am - 3pm
Opening Up
Day spent on opening up views over the pond as well as clearing out some of the ditches for water vole. Meet at Brickfields office, Rhyl.

Tuesday 19th and Wednesday 20th
10am - 3pm
Dry stone walling
Help to continue rebuilding the old forest boundary at Coed Nercwys. Meet at the main forest car park, (SJ 218 593).



Wednesday 27th 10am - 3pm
Coed Llangwyfan
Help keep the site looking its best, enjoy beautiful views whilst you work around the forest. Meet at Coed Llangwyfan top car park, on the road between Nannerch and Llangwyfan (SJ139 668).





Nantclwyd y Dre

Nantclwyd y Dre, Wales' oldest timbered town house and historic gardens in Ruthin are maintained by a band of keen volunteers. If you would like to get involved please ring 01824 70 8218/8232.

Young Rangers

Young Rangers is perfect for youngsters aged between 11 and 18 years old who want to learn more about the amazing landscape on their doorstep and don't mind getting messy, working in and exploring the great outdoors.



For more information please contact 01824 712 757 or e-mail clwydianrangeanddevalley@denbighshire.gov.uk



Get Walking, Feel the Difference Be Healthier, Fitter, Happier

Why not join one of our regular weekly walks to improve your health? If you would like to help out and become a leader, we would love to hear from you. Please call 01745 356197 or 01824 712 757 for further details. www.denbighshirecountryside.org.uk/lets_walk/

