

Denbighshire Countryside Service

# Volunteer programme

October 2011 to March 2012



Controlled heather burning is an important part of our heather management

# Welcome

There are a range of opportunities for you to get involved in the work of Denbighshire Countryside Service – and we need your help! From Rhyl & Prestatyn in the north along the Clwydian Range to Hiraethog and the Dee Valley in the south, 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**



## Clwydian Range Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty

For further information 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, 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.

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

### Wild about Dinas Brân

This year we're hoping to undertake a series of wildlife and vegetation surveys at Castell Dinas Brân. Finding out what actually lives and grows up there will help us prioritize future management works. Look out for these events in the up and coming months!

Printed using vegetable based inks on 100% post-consumer, non-bleached recycled paper.



**Bryniau Clwyd  
Clwydian Range**

Ardal o Harddwch Naturiol Eithriadol  
Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty



**Cyngor Cefn Gwlad Cymru  
Countryside Council for Wales**



# October

**Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> 10<sup>am</sup> - 3<sup>pm</sup>**

## **Beating the Bounds**

Moel Findeg Local Nature Reserve  
Annual maintenance of the heathland boundary fence. Some steep slopes, boots essential.

Meeting point – Between Maeshafn village and Old Youth Hostel. (SJ 205 608)

**Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> 10<sup>am</sup>**

## **Moving Ponds**

Help us tidy up around the Fenlli pond. It has become overgrown so we will be transplanting rushes from it to create an improved habitat in the education ponds at Coed Moel Famau. Meet at Moel Fenlli car park. (SJ 161 606)



**Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> 10<sup>am</sup> – 3<sup>pm</sup>**

## **Healthy Heath**

Moel Findeg Local Nature Reserve  
Management to remove birch trees and saplings to maintain the unusual mosaic of heathland plants that give Moel Findeg its unique character

Meeting point – Between Maeshafn village and Old Youth Hostel. (SJ 205 608)

**Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> & Friday 14<sup>th</sup> 10<sup>am</sup>**

## **Pond Creation**

Come and join us at the Countryside Services newest site (so new that it has yet to have a name!) on a meadow on the banks of the River Dee.

Help is needed to create a small pond by finishing its excavation before lining and back filling.

Meet at the main car park, Corwen.

**Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> 10<sup>am</sup>-3<sup>pm</sup>**

## **Dry Stone Walling**

Help is needed to continue to rebuild the boundary wall on Moel Famau. Come along and improve or learn with an experienced instructor. Warm clothes, waterproofs and a flask recommended! Meet at Bwlch Penbarras car park. (SJ 162 606)



**Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> 10<sup>am</sup> – 3<sup>pm</sup>**

## **Hike the Dyke**

Manor Hill Quarry, Prestatyn

Continuing to improve sections of the Offa's Dyke National Trail on and around Prestatyn Hillside. Some steep slopes, boots essential.

Meet at – Small car park on hairpin bend below Hillside Gardens, Prestatyn.

(SJ 071 821)

**Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> 10<sup>am</sup> – 1.30<sup>pm</sup>**

## **Tree planting at Dinas Bran**

Come along and help us plant up a mixture of broadleaf tree species in the shadows of Castell Dinas Bran.

Spades provided!

Meet at 'The Pancake' on the eastern side of the castle. (SJ 218 430)

**Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> 10<sup>am</sup>**

## **Time for a tidy**

Help reduce brash on the woodland floor to allow more light reach the ground which will increase the biodiversity of the woodland.

Meet at Loggerheads Country Park.

**Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> 10<sup>am</sup> – 3<sup>pm</sup>**

## **Hedge-laying**

We will be carrying on the hedge-laying at Rhuddlan that we began at the start of the year. Most of the clearing work has already been done by volunteers!

Meet at Rhuddlan Nature Reserve car-park (SJ 013 804)

**Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> 10<sup>am</sup>**

## **Corwen Cynwyd Railway Line**

Come and help manage this beautiful section of old railway line as a meadow. We'll be removing trees and scrub to help keep the area as a sunny ride and create a wider floristic diversity.

Meet at Stamp lay-by. (SJ 060 420)

# November

**Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> 10<sup>am</sup>**

## **Hen Ardd Coppicing and Scrub Clearance**

Come and help coppice willow to open up an important wetland and remove scrub on the surrounding grassland. Wellies essential! Meet at Hen Ardd, Eryrys. (SJ 204 578)

**Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> 10<sup>am</sup>-3<sup>pm</sup>**

## **Healthy Heath**

Moel Findeg Local Nature Reserve Management to remove birch trees and saplings to maintain the unusual mosaic of heathland plants that give Moel Findeg its unique character

Meeting point – Between Maeshafn village and Old Youth Hostel. (SJ 205 608)

**Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> 10<sup>am</sup>**

## **Slow down, you move to fast, Gotta make the water last.....Fill in the Groovies!**

Help is needed to block some of the deeply eroded channels adjacent to the Offas Dyke Path at Cynr y Brain and to create a healthier habitat. We will be removing drifts of self seeded conifers and using the timber and heather bales to create grips to trap more water.

Meet at: Minera to World Ends road by the slate waymarker (SJ 234 496)

**Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> 10<sup>am</sup>**

## **Offa's Dyke Path Improvements**

Help clear the drains along the Offa's Dyke Path between Bwlch Penbarras car park and Jubilee Tower. We will also be taking litter picks to have a tidy up as we walk and litter pick around the tower. Meet at Bwlch Penbarras car park. (SJ 162 606)



**Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> 10<sup>am</sup>**

## **Coppicing**

Lend a hand with this important traditional woodland management technique, which will increase biodiversity within the woodland at Loggerheads. Meet at Loggerheads Country Park.

**Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> 10<sup>am</sup>-3<sup>pm</sup>**

## **Healthy Heath**

Moel Findeg Local Nature Reserve Management to remove birch trees and saplings to maintain the unusual mosaic of heathland plants that give Moel Findeg its unique character

Meeting point – Between Maeshafn village and Old Youth Hostel. (SJ 205 608)

**Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> 10<sup>am</sup>**

## **Thinnin' Pen y Pigyn!**

Help is needed to remove dense stands of scrub from around the old Gorsedd stones at Coed Pen y Pigyn.

Jacket spuds cooked on the fire too! Feel free to bring a topping of your choice. Biggest spud to the most creative!

Meet at Main car park, Corwen

**Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> 10<sup>am</sup>**

## **Coppicing**

Help us continue this important traditional woodland management technique, which will increase biodiversity within the woodland at Loggerheads. Meet at Loggerheads Country Park.

**Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> 10<sup>am</sup>-3<sup>pm</sup>**

## **Bog Trotting**

Help to clear the important wetland site of Llyn Ochin from scrub encroachment and birch. Bring Wellies! Meet at Coed Nercwys, northern car park. (SJ 218 593)



**Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> 10<sup>am</sup> – 2<sup>pm</sup>**

## **Pond Clearance**

Come and help clear the small pond near the Cefndy Business Park, a water vole conservation area. The area has become overgrown since it was created 5 years ago so this is the beginning of a new programme of management for this site. Meet at Brickfield's Pond, Rhyl

**Monday 28<sup>th</sup> 10<sup>am</sup>**

## **Bits 'n' bobs Llangwyfan**

There is always work to do at Coed Llangwyfan, whether it be improvements to the wetland area or improving access. Come along and lend a hand. Meet at Llangwyfan car park on the road between Nannerch and Llandyrnog. (SJ 139 668)



**Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> 10<sup>am</sup>-3<sup>pm</sup>**

## **Healthy Heath**

Moel Findeg Local Nature Reserve Management to remove birch trees and saplings to maintain the unusual mosaic of heathland plants that give Moel Findeg its unique character.

Meeting point – Between Maeshafn village and Old Youth Hostel. (SJ 205 608)



# December

**Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> 10<sup>am</sup> – 3<sup>pm</sup>**

## **Woodland Management**

Help with the work at enhancing this community woodland where we will be opening up some areas.

Meet at Coed y Morfa car-park (SJ 058 823)

**Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> 10<sup>am</sup>**

## **Access Work**

Come and help us with key access improvement works in the Llangollen area. Meet at Market Street car park, Llangollen.

**Monday 5<sup>th</sup> 10<sup>am</sup>-3<sup>pm</sup>**

## **Thinning in Arboretum**

Help to thin areas in the arboretum to allow the planted trees space to grow! Meet at Coed Moel Famau car park. (SJ 174 613)



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

## **Scrub clearance**

Help with scrub clearance to improve this internationally important limestone grassland. Meet at Loggerheads Country Park.

**Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> 10<sup>am</sup>**

## **Clean up at House for a Grouse**

Ongoing management is needed to stop this open area being overtaken by conifer regeneration. Chance to spot a good Christmas tree! Meet Coed Moel Famau car park. (SJ 174 613)



**Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> 10<sup>am</sup> – 3<sup>pm</sup>**

## **Healthy Heath**

Moel Findeg Local Nature Reserve Management to remove birch trees and saplings which threaten the unusual mosaic of heathland plants that give Moel Findeg its unique character

Meeting point– Between Maeshafn village and Old Youth Hostel. (SJ 205 608)



**Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> 10<sup>am</sup> – 1.30<sup>pm</sup>**

## **More down the line**

Continuation of tree regeneration removal along the former railway line in a bid to maintain it as a flower rich linear meadow. Meet at Stamp lay-by (SJ 060 420)

**Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> 10<sup>am</sup>**

## **Drains**

Help maintain the drains by clearing out the autumn leaves. Meet at Loggerheads Country Park.

**Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> 10<sup>am</sup> – 3<sup>pm</sup>**

## **Moorland Management and Mince Pies**

Moel Findeg Local Nature Reserve Management to remove birch trees and saplings which threaten the unusual mosaic of heathland plants that give Moel Findeg its unique character

Meeting point– Between Maeshafn village and Old Youth Hostel. (SJ 205 608)



# January

**Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> 10<sup>am</sup>-3<sup>pm</sup>**

## **Healthy Heath**

Moel Findeg Local Nature Reserve  
Management to remove birch trees and saplings to maintain the unusual mosaic of heathland plants that give Moel Findeg its unique character

Meeting point– Between Maeshafn village and Old Youth Hostel. (SJ 205 608)

**Monday 9<sup>th</sup> 10<sup>am</sup>**

## **Nightjar area**

We need help to improve this area of heathland and clear out some of the scrapes put in to entice the Nightjar back. Meet at Coed Nercwys, Southern entrance.

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

## **Woodland work**

Help remove brash from felled trees and create habitat piles in order to allow more light on the woodland floor and provide homes for a variety of wildlife. Meet at Loggerheads Country Park.

**Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> 10<sup>am</sup>**

## **Gorse Bashing**

Help is required to clear dense stands of gorse at Caer Drewyn hillfort. Jacket spuds and beans to be cooked on the fire (as if you needed a reason to spend a day on this fantastic site!).

Meet at- Corwen Leisure Centre Car Park

**Friday 13<sup>th</sup> 10<sup>am</sup> – 1<sup>pm</sup>**

## **Access Work**

Come and help widen the paths at Mount Wood to allow the access for all that visitors have been able to enjoy.

Meet at Mount Wood (SJ 047 658)

**Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> 10<sup>am</sup>-3<sup>pm</sup>**

## **Thinning in arboretum.**

Help to thin areas of birch and rowan behind the arboretum. We will use cut poles in spring to help create an improved entrance to the arboretum. Meet at Coed Moel Famau car park. (SJ 174 613)



**Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> 10<sup>am</sup> – 3<sup>pm</sup>**

## **Healthy Heath**

Moel Findeg Local Nature Reserve  
Management to remove birch trees and saplings to maintain the unusual mosaic of heathland plants that give Moel Findeg its unique character

Meet at – Between Maeshafn village and Old Youth Hostel. (SJ 205 608)

**Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> 10<sup>am</sup>**

## **Path work**

Help improve the paths for all by continuing the path improvements work on the busy paths at Loggerheads. Meet at Loggerheads Country Park.

**Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> 10<sup>am</sup> – 3<sup>pm</sup>**

## **Footpath Maintenance**

Manor Hill Quarry, Prestatyn  
Continuing to improve sections of the Offa's Dyke National Trail and other footpaths on and around Prestatyn Hillside. Some steep slopes, boots essential.

Meet at – Small car park on hairpin bend below Hillside Gardens, Prestatyn. (SJ 071 821)

**Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> 10<sup>am</sup>**

## **Dead Hedging**

Help is needed to finish the dead hedge along the path that leads to Gro Isa. Not only will this be a nice feature, but as the path is adjacent to an old tipping site, it will also serve to prevent burrowing rabbits spreading glass and old pottery shards underfoot!

Meet at Sports Pavilion Car Park, Corwen. (The Sports Pavilion is located next to the Recreational playing fields)

# February

**Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> 10<sup>am</sup> – 3<sup>pm</sup>**

## **Healthy Heath**

Moel Findeg Local Nature Reserve Management to remove birch trees and saplings to maintain the unusual mosaic of heathland plants that give Moel Findeg its unique character

Meeting point– Between Maeshafn village and Old Youth Hostel. (SJ 205 608)

**Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> 10<sup>am</sup> – 3<sup>pm</sup>**

## **Bird Box**

Come and help make bird boxes to provide plenty of nesting opportunities for a variety of birds. Meet at Loggerheads Country Park.

**Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> 10<sup>am</sup> – 2<sup>pm</sup>**

## **Preparation to Lay**

Help at another date at this site for cutting back along the boundaries of this young woodland in preparation for hedge-laying next year.

Meet at Tarquin Drive, Rhyl (from Vale Road - first right off Bryn Cwnin Road)

**Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> 10<sup>am</sup>**

## **More thinnin' in Pen Y Pigyn**

Continuation of scrub clearance around the old Gorsedd stones.

Meet at main car park, Corwen.

**Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> 10<sup>am</sup>**

## **Scrub clearance**

Help with scrub clearance to improve this internationally important limestone grassland  
Meet at Loggerheads Country Park.

**Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> 10<sup>am</sup> – 3<sup>pm</sup>**

## **Healthy Heath**

Moel Findeg Local Nature Reserve Management to remove birch trees and saplings to maintain the unusual mosaic of heathland plants that give Moel Findeg its unique character

Meeting point – Between Maeshafn village and Old Youth Hostel. (SJ 205 608)

**Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> 10<sup>am</sup> – 1.30<sup>pm</sup>**

## **More down the line**

Continuation of tree regeneration removal along the former railway line in a bid to maintain it as a flower rich linear meadow.

Meet at Stamp lay-by (SJ 060 420)

**Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> and Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup>  
Nature area**

Come and help us to continue the good work improving the habitat in the nature area at Penycloddiau. Jacket potatoes for lunch!

Meet at Coed Llangwyfan car park.  
(SJ 138 669)

**Monday 27<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup>  
Scrape improvements**

The scrapes on Moel Famau provide important habitat for our Black Grouse populations. Come and help us improve these wet areas by re-lining some of the old scrapes. Meet at Bwlch Penbarras car park. (SJ 162 606)

**Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> 10<sup>am</sup> – 3<sup>pm</sup>**

## **Healthy Heath**

Moel Findeg Local Nature Reserve Management to remove birch trees and saplings to maintain the unusual mosaic of heathland plants that give Moel Findeg its unique character

Meeting point – Between Maeshafn village and Old Youth Hostel. (SJ 205 608)



# March

**Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> 10<sup>am</sup> – 3<sup>pm</sup>**

## **Footpath Maintenance**

Manor Hill Quarry, Prestatyn

Continuing to improve sections of the Offa's Dyke National Trail and other footpaths on and around Prestatyn Hillside. Some steep slopes, boots essential.

Meet at – Small car park on hairpin bend below Hillside Gardens, Prestatyn. (SJ 071 821)

**Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> 10<sup>am</sup>**

## **Spring Clean at the Castle**

Come and help Spring Clean around the castle and also to cut back stands of gorse from the lower slopes to assist with access. Meet at 'The Pancake' on the eastern side of the castle (SJ 218 430)

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

## **Path work**

Help improve the paths for all by continuing the path improvements work on the busy paths at Loggerheads. Meet at Loggerheads Country park.

**Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> 10<sup>am</sup> - 3<sup>pm</sup>**

## **Healthy Heath**

Moel Findeg Local Nature Reserve

Management to remove birch trees and saplings which threaten the unusual mosaic of heathland plants that give Moel Findeg its unique character

Meeting point—Between Maeshafn village and Old Youth Hostel. (SJ 205 608)

**Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> 10<sup>am</sup>**

## **Offa's Dyke Path Improvements**

Due to the thousands of feet walking along it annually, the section of Offa's Dyke Path running through Moel Famau Country Park needs some improvements. Meet Bwlch Penbarras car park. (SJ 162 606)

**Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> 10<sup>am</sup> – 3<sup>pm</sup>**

## **Landscape a Pond Habitat**

A new pond was put in last autumn. Come and landscape the area for a secluded wetland habitat for wildlife

Meet at Glasdir nature area (on north ring road opposite new Glasdir housing estate)



**Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> 10<sup>am</sup>**

## **More thinnin' in Pen Y Pigyn**

Continuation of scrub clearance around the old Gorsedd stones.

Meet at main car park, Corwen.

**Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> 10<sup>am</sup>**

## **Helping hand**

Come and lend a hand with improving the park ready for the busy season ahead. Meet at Loggerheads Country Park.

**Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> 10<sup>am</sup> - 3<sup>pm</sup>**

## **Healthy Heath**

Moel Findeg Local Nature Reserve

Management to remove birch trees and saplings which threaten the unusual mosaic of heathland plants that give Moel Findeg its unique character

Meeting point—Between Maeshafn village and Old Youth Hostel. (SJ 205 608)

**Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> 10<sup>am</sup>**

## **General Tidy up**

Help to tidy up at Moel Famau Country Park before the busy Easter period. Meet at Bwlch Penbarras car park. (SJ 162 606)

**Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> 10<sup>am</sup> – 1.30<sup>pm</sup>**

## **End of the line**

The last session this year of tree regeneration removal along the former railway line in a bid to maintain it as a flower rich linear meadow. Meet at Stamp lay-by (SJ 060 420)



come and have a go!





# Heather Management

Controlled heather burning is an important part of our heather management work. It is hoped there will be several days of heather management undertaken during the year between November and March. 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 us and leave your number so that we can get in touch once we know that we will be heading for the hills!

 **01352 810614**

**Loggerheads Country Park**

