# 2018 Mid-Week Programme October to December

This list may change at short notice please ring first or meet at the pick up point

## **OCTOBER**

- 3<sup>rd</sup> **Thriplow Meadows SSSI** A slight change from the team's usual Spring visit to this nationally important fen site. A day spent cutting and clearing the rampant rush sedge and meadowsweet from this year's very dry summer will hopefully assist the cattle that graze the site over the Autumn and Winter to keep these less desirable species down.
- 10<sup>th</sup> **Roman Road SSSI** A fantastic site for chalk plants and animals parts of this site have been managed by the Midweek team for over 20 years. There have been hiccups along the way, natural as well as man-made, but the site gets better and better. But only with the mid-week team's regular visits, clearing scrub and cutting grass.

## 17<sup>th</sup> **Roman Road SSSI – As above.**

- 24<sup>th</sup> **Great Abington Disused Railway CWS** 6 years ago the species rich chalk grassland was being lost under a blanket of hawthorn, blackthorn, privet and more. Now, it looks completely different! The southern side of the site is completely clear of scrub, with the grassland returning to former areas, and the cutting is slowly being cleared of scrub returning more of the sites chalky soils back to grassland. After this task there will be even less scrub!!!
- 31<sup>st</sup> **Barnwell East LNR** As an important link in the East Cambridge Wildlife Corridor the appropriate management of this site is essential. As well as providing suitable habitat for those species already found on site it also provides for newer species as they move through the landscape.

#### **NOVEMBER**

- 7<sup>th</sup> **Roman Road SSSI As above.**
- 14<sup>th</sup> **Coldhams Common CWS** The largest green space in Cambridge hosts a substantial area of species rich grassland. Unfortunately, grassland doesn't look after itself so the team needs to head out with rakes and tree poppers in hand to help clear the encroaching scrub and clear this seasons grass growth!
- 21<sup>st</sup> Roman Road SSSI As above.
- 28<sup>th</sup> Coldhams Common CWS As above

#### **DECEMBER**

- 5<sup>th</sup> **Barnwell East LNR As above.**
- 12<sup>th</sup> **Fulbourn Fen SSSI Nature Reserve** Since the 'discovery' of the tree popper, work on clearing the encroaching scrub has been made so much easier. That doesn't mean that that is it and there is no more encroaching scrub. The cattle that graze the site aren't able to nibble every single scrub seedling that pops his head up, so a gaggle of volunteers armed with tree poppers and other suitable tools will descend and deal with it all!
- 19<sup>th</sup> **Great Abington Disused Railway CWS** As above but with far more jacket potatoes, mince pies, cups of tea and singing!

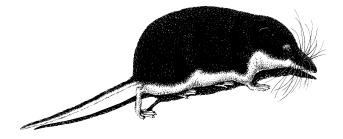
### 26<sup>th</sup> BOXING DAY - NO TASK



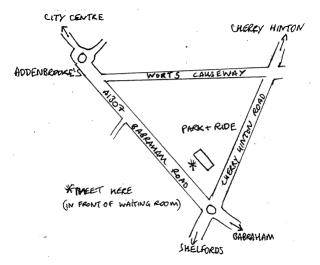
# **Directions to work sites**

**Barnwell East LNR** - Meet at the reserve entrance on Uphall Road, off Coldhams Lane.

**Coldhams Common LNR**– Meet at the layby on Barnwell Road opposite Camgas plc.



# BABRAHAM ROAD PARK AND RIDE

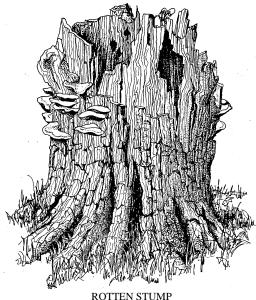


The Trust has now combined the two volunteer conservation teams into one. Now working solely on Wednesdays the team will carry out essential conservation management on wildlife sites within Cambridge and in the surrounding parishes. For sites in the City the team will meet there, for those out of the city volunteers can either make their own way to the site, or can meet at the Babaraham Road Park and Ride site at 9.30am for a lift. Things you need to know Bring a packed lunch. Wear old clothes, strong shoes and bring waterproofs. All tools and necessary training is provided. Arrive at site the work site for 9.30am and finish by 3.30pm. Don't forget your tetanus jab. And most importantly of all...tea and biscuits are provided. Details on how to get to each site can be found on this leaflet. For more details please contact: Iain Webb **Community Conservation Officer** The Cambridgeshire Wildlife Trust The Manor House **Broad Street** Great Cambourne Cambridge **CB23 6DH** Tel. 01954 713531 Mobile. 07734 478461 Email. Iain.webb@wildlifebcn.org



Bedfordshire Cambridgeshire Northamptonshire

# CAMBRIDGE MIDWEEK CONSERVATION TEAM



ROTTEN STUMP (FULL OF LIFE!)

OCTOBER TO DECEMBER 2018