

# Programme April - June 2019

*This list may change at short notice, please ring first to confirm*

## APRIL

- 3<sup>rd</sup> **Thriplow Meadows SSSI** – As one of the most important grassland sites in south Cambridgeshire its management is essential in maintaining that value. After an experimental cut and clear visit last Autumn, the team will be back to the traditional Spring visits. Cutting back the dominant sedge and rush will hopefully allow the scarce fen/marsh plants to get their time in the Sun. - **Meet at Babraham Road Park and Ride.**
- 10<sup>th</sup> **Thriplow Meadows SSSI** – **AS ABOVE** - **Meet at Babraham Road Park and Ride**
- 17<sup>th</sup> **NO TASK**
- 24<sup>th</sup> **Skater's Meadow NR** – A new site for the team. Small, but perfectly formed, this floristically rich wet grassland suffers due to its diminutive size. Appropriate management of such a small site can be difficult at times. The team will be helping this by cutting and clearing the spring flush of growth from the less desirable plant species, making space for the more desirable ones.

## MAY

- 1<sup>st</sup> **Coldham's Common/West Pit SSSI** – Hoary cress is a persistent pest of grassland. Native to the steppes of central Asia it has the unfortunate knack of dominating grassland very rapidly. The team has been involved in controlling this species on Coldham's Common for several years, but, hopefully the end is in sight for this species at this site. If time allows the team will then head to West Pit on Lime Kiln Hill to the same there. Hoary cress has recently been discovered growing on this site, so rapid removal is essential.
- 8<sup>th</sup> **Fulbourn Fen NR** – Hemlock control is the priority today at this jewel in the crown of Trust reserves in Cambridgeshire. The combination of species-rich dry and wet grassland as well as woodland make this a nationally important site. - **Meet at Babraham Road Park and Ride**
- 15<sup>th</sup> **TO BE CONFIRMED** – Please ring Iain on 07734 478461 to find out where the team is going.
- 22<sup>nd</sup> **Roman Road SSSI/Devil's Dyke SSSI** – An invasive spurge and rosebay willowherb, respectively, are threatening the nationally important chalk grassland on these sites. The team will be using its well-honed skill of pulling up plants. - **Meet at Babraham Road Park and Ride**
- 29<sup>th</sup> **TO BE CONFIRMED** – Please ring Iain on 07734 478461 to find out where the team is working.

## JUNE

- 5<sup>th</sup> **Byron's Pool LNR\*** – This well-loved riverside site in the south of Cambridge has been 'hosting' Himalayan balsam for many years. The team are hoping to reduce further its presence in favour of more desirable plant species.
- 12<sup>th</sup> **Stourbridge Common** – One of the largest City sites that the team work on, thistle removal will be the order of the day, hopefully without being rained on!
- 19<sup>th</sup> **Sheep's Green** – The team will be clearing thistle, dock and nettle from part of the site, in preparation for habitat enrichment in the Autumn. That means plug-planting appropriate native flowering plants to enhance the diversity of the grassland!
- 26<sup>th</sup> **River Cam** – Himalayan balsam, a beautiful plant growing in the wrong place, used to be commonly seen along the River Cam, south from Fen Causeway road-bridge. Thanks to the efforts of the Midweek team over the years it has been harder and harder to find. Meet at the Paradise LNR car park.



Bedfordshire  
Cambridgeshire  
Northamptonshire

\*Tasks on Local Nature Reserves are carried out in partnership with Victoria Smith, Community Reserves Officer who will jointly lead these days. For more information on Local Nature Reserve's in Cambridge, contact Victoria Smith.

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## Directions to work sites

**Byron's Pool LNR** - Meet in the carpark south of Grantchester Road between Trumpington and Grantchester.

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

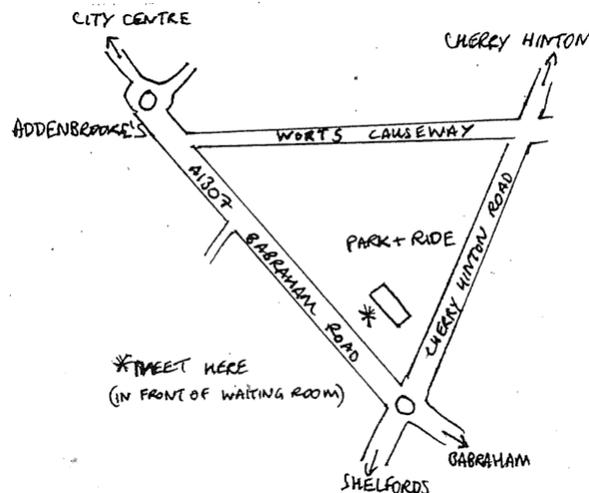
**River Cam** - Meet in the Lammas Land car-park, Newnham.

**Sheep's Green** - Meet in the Lammas Land car-park, Newnham.

**Skater's Meadow NR** - Meet at the reserve which is situated at the far end of Grantchester Meadows, Newnham.

**Stourbridge Common** - Meet at the entrance to the site on Garlic Row.

## 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 Babraham 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:

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# CAMBRIDGE MIDWEEK CONSERVATION TEAM

## Task Sheet



ORANGE-TIP BUTTERFLY

**APRIL TO JUNE  
2019**