



Work parties are usually on the 2nd Sunday of the month

All welcome, and no experience necessary

For more information please contact us (see front page for details)

Date	Activity	Meeting Point
Sunday 12th January 10.00-12.00	Natterer's Wood Tree planting	Natterer's Wood Kingsworth Road entrance
Sunday 9th February 10.00-12.00	Natterer's Wood Hedge maintenance	Natterer's Wood Kingsworth Road entrance
Sunday 8th March 10.00-12.00	Natterer's Wood Hedge maintenance	Natterer's Wood Kingsworth Road entrance
Sunday 19th April (3rd Sunday) 10.00-12.00	Tool store maintenance	Woodland Ways storage unit Pond Covert, Sebert Road
Sunday 10th May 10.00-12.00	Cherry Trees Wood <i>Provisional - check beforehand</i> Woodland maintenance	Airfield Road
Sunday 14th June 10.00 - 12.00	Wild flower identification Fun learning	Natterer's Wood Kingsworth Road entrance
Sunday 12th July 10.00 - 12.00	AGM followed by Woodland Ways Pond hay rake / Pond Covert orchard hay rake	Community Centre meeting room, Symonds Road
Sunday 9th August 10.00 - 12.00	Natterer's Wood Hay rake	Natterer's Wood Kingsworth Road/Arundel Close entrance
Sunday 13 September 10.00 - 12.00	Natterer's Wood Hedge maintenance	Natterer's Wood Kingsworth Road entrance
Sunday 11th October 10.00 - 12.00	Pond Covert Box hedging	Woodland Ways storage unit Pond Covert, Sebert Road
Sunday 15 November (3rd Sunday) 10.00 - 12.00	Home Covert Path maintenance	Woodland Ways storage unit Pond Covert, Sebert Road
Sunday 13 December 10.00 - 12.00	Pond Covert Path maintenance	Woodland Ways storage unit Pond Covert, Sebert Road

Weather, new needs etc sometimes means we change plans at short notice.

Check our website or Facebook for the most up to date information

The Moreton Hall Wildlife Group

WOODLAND WAYS NEWS

January 2020

Welcome to the New Year

A work party is as good as going to the gym, but better! Make a resolution to join work party, get fit, and enjoy the occasion. Our work parties are on the second Sunday of the month, but be aware there are a couple of exceptions this year - to avoid Easter and to avoid remembrance Sunday.

But if you can't make it, we very much appreciate your support as it makes us stronger and so we can achieve more.

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News from our woods

Natterer's Wood

You may remember that a year ago we were concerned about brambles overwhelming trees in part of Natterer's Wood, and we had the brambles in that part of the wood flailed down to ground level (we left plenty of brambles for blackberry picking). When the trees came into leaf in the spring, we found that many were Swedish whitebeam, and other on-native species that had seeded in as part of our natural regeneration zone in the wood. Natural regeneration was effortless but has created patchy woodland. In January we'll plant native trees into the larger gaps, to enrich the species present and make a more dense woodland. The trees will also absorb carbon dioxide as they grow thus contributing a tiny amount to reducing the polluting effects of using our cars or other fossil fuel use.

Please come and join us on 13th January at 10am. The woodland floor will have plenty of low-growing bramble so wear tough boots and tough trousers; at least one of us may get scratched by their thorns so do be careful.

Cherry Trees Wood

Some time ago, we reached an informal agreement with Taylor Wimpey and West Suffolk Council that we would have a substantial input to Cherry Trees Wood. Now that development is progressing next to the wood, we hope that the substantial input will be placed on a more formal basis soon. In the meantime we've programmed in a work party this spring to tidy up and to maintain the trees we planted there several years ago.

Forthcoming events

In June, our work party will be replaced by some fun wild flower identification. Nick Sibbett will show us how to identify some of the plants in Natterer's Wood, in the hay meadow and possibly outside it too. do come and learn the names of some of the plants we are conserving!

We will also visit Lackford Lakes together, with the date to be decided. Shall we go in spring, and listen for the nightingale? Or in the summer to



see many dragonflies hunting their aerial prey? Or on a winter's evening to watch clouds of starlings whirl around? Or see the winter-visiting wetland birds on the lake margins.

Also at Lackford Lakes, our own Nick Sibbett is talking about bats to wildlife trust members on 29th January. Its not a Woodland Ways event but open to all, and you are very welcome to go. for more information see <https://www.suffolkwildlifetrust.org/events/2020-01-29-bats-suffolk-and-beyond>.

Membership renewals

Thank you very much for renewing your membership in October. We rely on members for two reasons. firstly, a long membership list gives us good political clout as well as the money we need to keep running. Secondly, of course, our members voluntarily do our valuable work in the woods, without which we wouldn't achieve anything. Whether you attend work parties or not, your membership is very much valued.

Trustees

Welcome to Jane Starling and Russell Moles, who were co-opted as trustees in December until the next AGM where they will be eligible to stand for election. Trustees meet once every three months, usually on a Monday evening at the community centre, where they discuss recent work parties, manage the money, keep an eye on Health and Safety and plan ahead. Its more informal than it sounds. If you would like to offer your services as a trustee, or just come along to see what its like, please get in touch with us.

This year's meetings, all at 7.30pm at the Community Centre, are

16th March
15th June
21st September
14th December