
Newsletter and task programme

Harlow Conservation Volunteers (HCV) was founded in 1985 to give local people the chance to participate in nature conservation work in and around Harlow. HCV is affiliated to the British Trust for Conservation Volunteers (BTCV) and the Harlow Centre for Voluntary Support (HCVS).

BTCV

Conservation Centre, 163 Balby Road, Doncaster, South Yorkshire. DN4 0RH. ☎01302-572200
Email : information@btcv.org.uk
Web : www.btcv.org

TASK INFORMATION

Tasks start at 9.30am. Most end at about 4.30pm. Everyone is welcome and your help will be valued for whatever time you can spare. Volunteers under 16 should be accompanied by a responsible adult. Between the ages of 16-18 volunteers will need written consent from a parent/guardian. No previous experience is necessary. Instruction in techniques and safe working practice will be given.

WHAT TO BRING

You'll need a packed lunch and a

mug, strong footwear (work boots, walking boots, or wellies for wet tasks), old warm clothes, and waterproofs. Sun protection is advisable (even in winter). We provide tools and protective gear, as well as tea and coffee.

HEALTH AND INSURANCE

Insurance cover is arranged for the group on task. An up-to-date anti-Tetanus injection is strongly advised for most outdoor activities. If you think you may not be covered on this or other health issues, you are advised to consult a health professional.

CONTACT US:

Marilyn Hart (Secretary)
70 Rivermill, Harlow, Essex
CM20 1NT. ☎01279-865239
Email: gary.dobrin@virgin.net
Web : www.harlowcvs.org.uk/hcv/hcvindex.htm

GROUP ORGANISERS

Gary Dobrin ☎01707-375216
Marilyn Hart ☎01279-865239
Andrew Tomlins ☎01279-434322
Peter Hooper ☎01277-353412

HARLOW COUNCIL CONTACTS

Darren Fazackerley,
Landscape Officer. ☎01279-446997

News : Summer 2006

New Boardwalk at Parndon Wood

This summer HCV have been hard at work installing a new boardwalk at Parndon Wood Nature Reserve. To ease public access and protect the habitat around the path the new boardwalk has been put in place in a series of tasks with help from the First Bus Group volunteers. The materials were bought with funding from the Wildspace project, a two year English Nature/Big Lottery/Harlow Council project to improve the local environment of Harlow.

This task will be completed with a further two-day task on the 14/15th October.

Calling all members...

On the 7th January 2007 HCV will be running an induction session for all new members of HCV and those existing members who may need a refresher in safe working techniques. As well as basic tools handling and health and safety advice for working on task, there will be an opportunity to come along and meet the rest of the group. We will be having a barbeque in the afternoon to welcome in the New Year and warm up after the morning's work!

This induction/refresher session will start at 9.30am at Parndon Wood Nature Reserve – all members are very welcome!

Task Programme October '06 – March '07

October

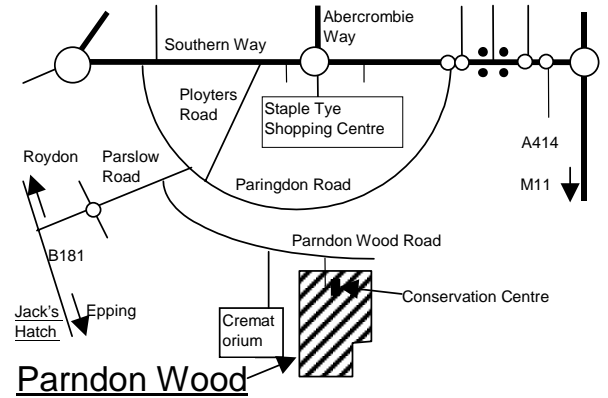
Saturday 14th/Sunday 15th October 2006

Parndon Wood Nature Reserve

Boardwalk construction

Task leader: Jenny/Colin

Construction of the final 15m of boardwalk, with handrail. HCV will also be erecting the opening of the new HCV totem pole as a feature to celebrate the new boardwalk. HCV members will have the option to camp at Parndon Wood on Saturday night. Bring a tent but the Conservation Centre will be available if the weather is poor. Meet at Parndon Wood Nature Reserve at 9.30am.



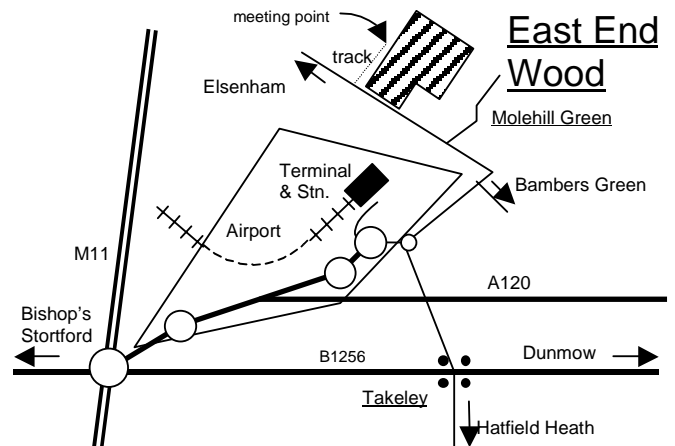
Sunday 29th October 2006: East End Wood

Coppicing

Task leader: Peter

Learn the theory and methods that are used in the traditional management technique of coppicing at East End wood.

Meet by the gate into the wood at the end of the access lane. From the A120 at Takeley take the Molehill Green Road, go right at the roundabout, past the turn to Molehill Green, then half a mile further to the wood on the right. Grid Ref. TL 559 254.



November

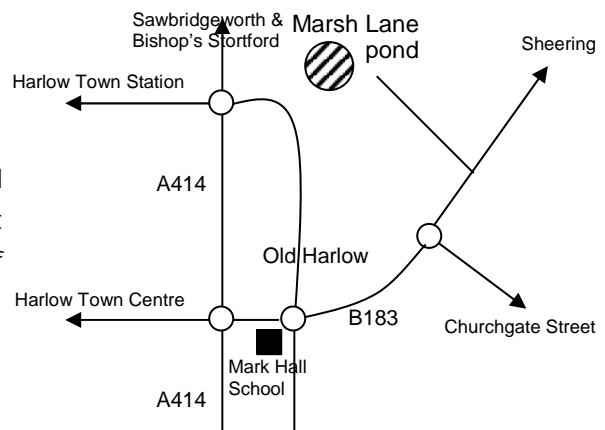
Sunday 12th November 2006: Marsh Lane

Pond clearance and restoration

Task leader: Linda

This pond has fallen into some disrepair recently and will be the target of restoration work to increase light levels and improve the wildlife and aesthetic value of this small but important habitat.

Meet at Marsh Lane near the Gibberd Garden at 9.30am.
(This task is currently only provisional – please contact HCV to confirm closer to the time)



From Harlow Town Centre head west on towards Old Harlow and Churchgate Street onto the B183/Gilden Way. From the M11 roundabout enter Harlow on the A414. Go straight over three roundabouts and at the fourth turn right towards Old Harlow and Churchgate Street. Go straight over the next roundabout onto the B183/Gilden Way. Go straight over the roundabout that leads to Churchgate street and after 300m look out for a small turning on the left. Turn onto Marsh Lane and drive to the end near to the Gibberd Garden. Parking will be provided in this area.

HCV AGM – This year's AGM will be held on Sunday 12th November at The Moorhen pub, Burnt Mill Lane, Harlow. A room has been reserved for us from 7pm. This is also a good excuse for a social event and will be having a meal whilst at the venue.

Task Programme October '06 – March '07

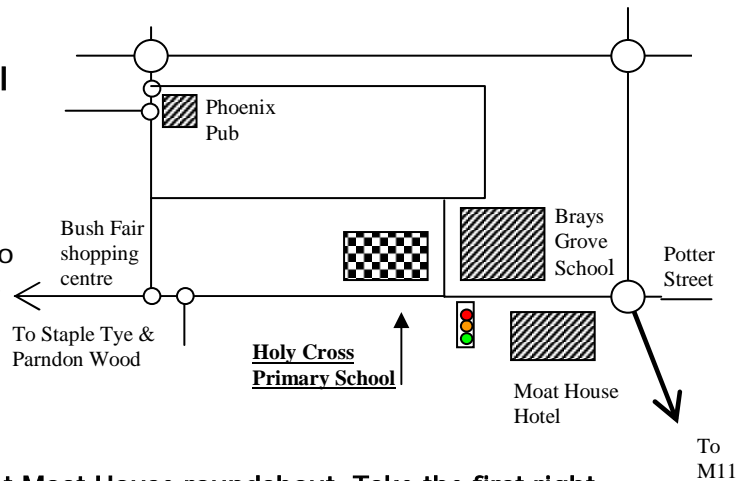
November cont...

Sunday 26th November 2006: Holy Cross School Hedge-laying

Task leader: Andrew T.

HCV helped to create a wildlife garden at Holy Cross school earlier this year. The school have asked for help to lay a hedge on the school grounds to allow light to enter the newly created wildflower meadow.

Meet at Holy Cross school car park at 9.30am.



From M11 roundabout head to Harlow taking first exit at Moat House roundabout. Take the first right and you will see Holy Cross on the left. The car park is on the left as you pass the school.

December

Sunday 10th December: Marshgate Spring Hedge planting and fence building

Task leader: Colin

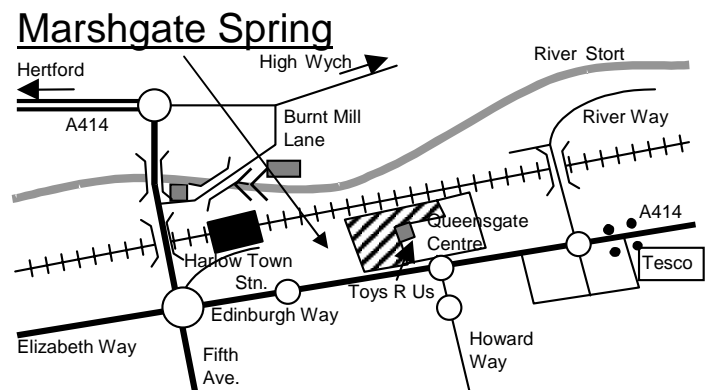
HCV will be constructing a fence and planting a brand new hedge at Marshgate Spring in order to create a new boundary and wildlife corridor between the site and the Road Safety Centre.

Thursday 28th December: Marshgate Spring Christmas Stodgebuster!!!!

Task leader: Sean H.

Our traditional HCV stodgebuster! To work off the excesses of Christmas and escape the relatives for a while we will be clearing paths on Marshgate Spring.

Meet at the Toys 'R' Us car park at 9.30am.



Meet in the Toys 'R' Us car park at the shop front, Edinburgh Way. Grid Ref. TL 454 114.

January 2007

Sunday 7th January: Parndon Wood Nature Reserve HCV Induction session and New Year Barbeque

Task leader: Gary D.

Induction session for new members and refresher session for existing members. Meet the group and enjoy our New Year barbeque in the afternoon.

Meet at Parndon Wood Conservation Centre at 9.30am (directions as above).

Task Programme October '06 – March '07

January cont...

Sunday 21st January 2007: Marshgate Spring

Bridge and Stile Construction

Task leader: Colin

After our task in July 2006 was unfortunately cancelled, HCV will once again be attempting to construct a bridge and stile to improve public access to the site.

Meet at Toys 'R' Us at 9.30am (directions as above).

Tuesday 23rd January 2007: HCV Planning Meeting

Programme planning meeting

Meet at Parndon Wood Conservation Centre at 7.30pm.

(Directions as above)

February

Sunday 4th February 2007: Parndon Wood Nature Reserve

Woodland coppicing and protection

Task leader: Marilyn

Continuation of the rotational regime of coppicing at Parndon Wood.

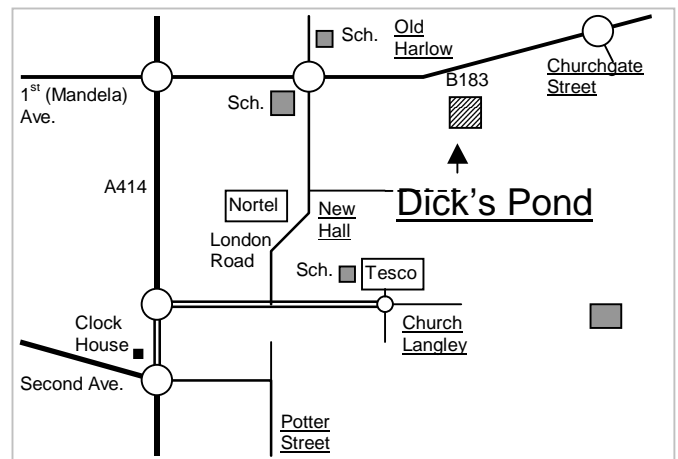
Meet at Parndon Wood Conservation Centre at 9.30am (directions as above).

Sunday 18th February 2007: Dick's Pond and Wood

Path clearance and scrub control

Task leader: Jenny

This Scheduled Ancient Monument site (*tumulus*) has become very overgrown in recent years and needs some care and attention to help it towards recovery and enable public access.



Meet at the Harlow Council nursery on Gilden Way, Old Harlow. From the roundabout by Mark Hall School, take the B183 signed Hatfield Heath. The nursery is on the right, just before the pedestrian crossing lights. Grid ref. TL 478 113

March

Sunday 4th March 2007: East End Wood

Coppicing

Task leader: Peter

Continuation of task held in October 2006.

Meet at East End Wood, Molehill Green at 9.30am (directions as above).

For more information on any of the tasks please feel free to contact a group organiser using the contact details given above.