
Newsletter and task programme: March – August 2007

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).

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

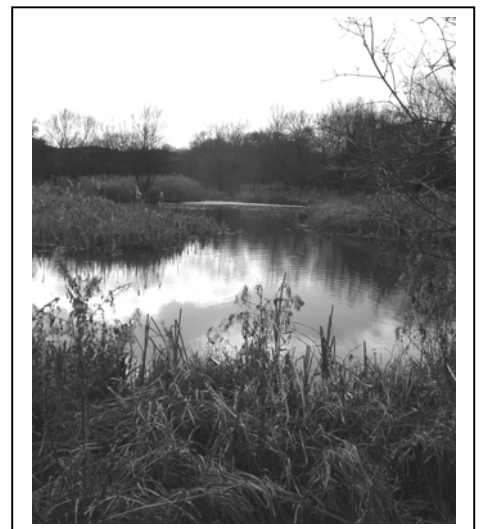
HARLOW COUNCIL CONTACTS

Darren Fazackerley,
Landscape & Biodiversity Manager.
☎01279-446997
Parndon Wood Nature Reserve
☎01279-430005

News : Spring – Summer 2007

The Pond Life of HCV

One of the most challenging and rewarding tasks carried out by any Conservation group is to pond restoration. Usually dirty, smelly and generally very messy, this type of task is a challenge to any enthusiastic volunteer – which is why HCV have carried out three 'pond life' tasks at Harlow Wildlife Sites in recent months. The first was at Hospital and Risdens Woods in the autumn of 2006, followed by Marsh Lane in November and Dick's Pond in February. These sites are vital for local wildlife populations and have fallen into decline due to lack of maintenance. Hopefully the hard work, blood, sweat and tears of all volunteers involved will make a great contribution to the preservation of these sites. Well done to all those who made a contribution!! ☺



Parndon Wood Wildlife and Country Crafts Fair 6th May 2007

Harlow celebrates it's 60th Anniversary this year, and to mark the occasion a range of activities, events and demonstrations will be on display at the annual Fair. HCV will be displaying traditional conservations skills and crafts - volunteers required!!

Task Programme March – August 2007

March

Sunday 18th March 2007

Broadfields School

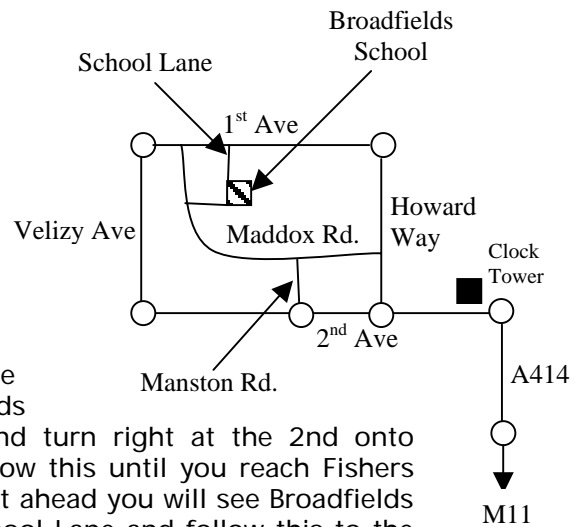
Wildlife Garden

Task leader: Andrew

Tree planting, construction of habitat piles and bulb planting among a variety of tasks to create a wildlife garden and outdoor classroom.

Meet at Broadfields School at 9.30am.

Entering Harlow from the M11 on the A414 continue along the A414 to the Clock Tower roundabout, take the 1st exit towards the Town Centre. Go straight over the 1st roundabout and turn right at the 2nd onto Manston Rd. Turn left at the end onto Maddox Rd and follow this until you reach Fishers Hatch and the Garden Tiger pub. Turn right here and straight ahead you will see Broadfields School. Alternatively, from First Avenue turn south onto School Lane and follow this to the end to reach the school.



April

Sunday 1st April 2007

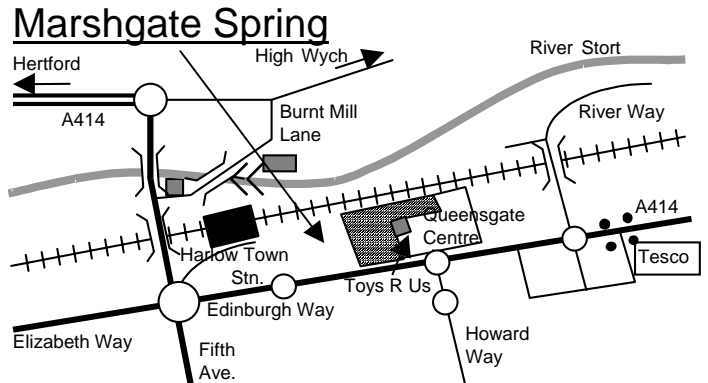
Marshgate Spring

Screen/Hedge Planting

Task leader: Colin

Planting of a hedge along the newly constructed fence to screen the nature reserve from the nearby Road Safety Centre.

Meet at Toys 'R' Us, Queensgate Centre at 9.30am.



Sunday 15th April 2007

Parndon Wood Nature Reserve

Variety of tasks

Task leader: Andrew

Tool check, refurbishment of gate and build a new bridge to ease public access to the reserve. Also a chance to meet the new staff at Parndon Wood Conservation Centre. Meet at Parndon Wood Nature Reserve at 9.30am.

Sunday 29th April 2007

Marshgate Spring

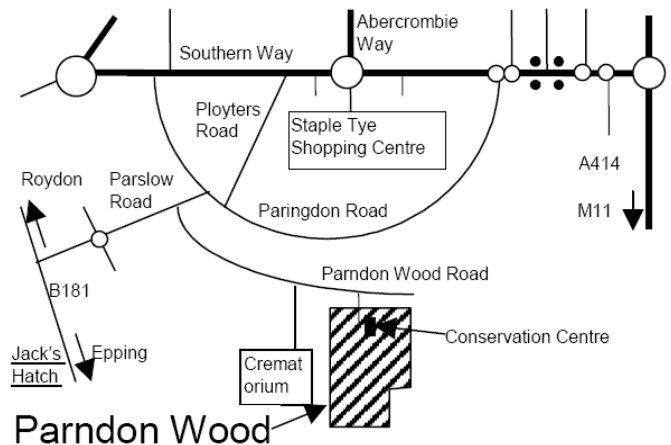
Bridge and Stile construction

Task leader: Colin

Construction of new bridge and stile at the nature reserve to restore public access.

Meet at Toys 'R' Us, Queensgate Centre at 9.30am.

Tuesday 24th April 2007
Wildlife & Craft Fair planning meeting
 7.30pm Parndon Wood Conservation Centre



Task Programme March – August 2007

May

Sunday 6th May 2007

Parndon Wood Nature Reserve

Wildlife & Craft Fair 2007

Annual Event at Parndon Wood Nature Reserve with HCV demonstrating charcoal burning, tool handling and providing information on our group and what we do.
All volunteers welcome to help out and promote the group – please contact Marilyn (Secretary)

Sunday 20th May 2007

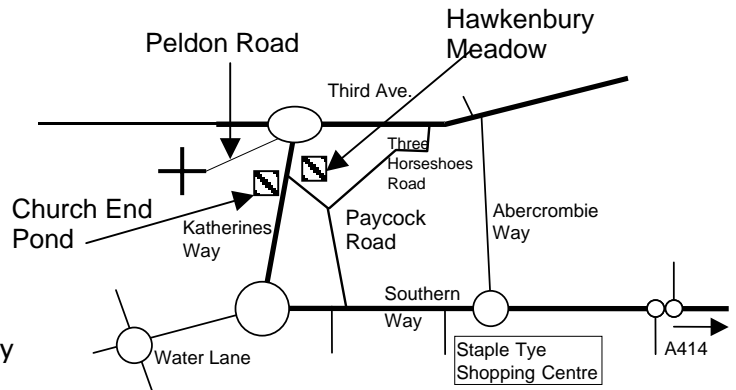
Church End Wildlife Site and Hawkenbury Meadow

Wildlife Site Improvements

Task leader: Linda

General spring-clean and site improvements of Church End with a trip across the road to Hawkenbury Meadow.

Meet at Church End Pond at 9.30am. Parking available at St Mary's Church at the end of Peldon Road.



June

Sunday 3rd June 2007

Marshgate Spring

Boardwalk Construction *part 1*

Task leader: Colin

Boardwalk construction to further improve public access to marshland areas.

Meet at Toys 'R' Us, Queensgate Centre at 9.30am.



Sunday 17th June 2007

Wildlife Week!

Survey of Harlow's finest wildlife sites in association with Wildlife Week 2007
Meet at Parndon Wood Nature Reserve at 9.30am.

July

Sunday 1st July 2007

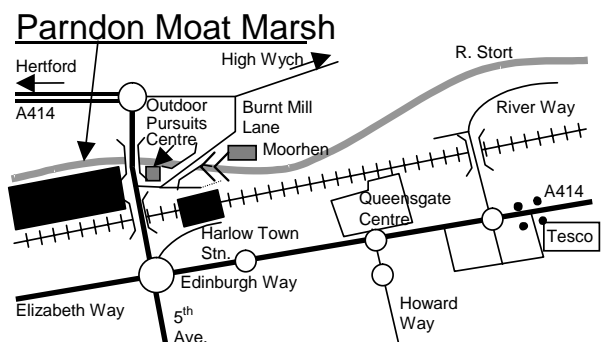
Parndon Moat Marsh

Otter Holt Restoration

Task leader: Jenny

HCV constructed an otter holt at a secret location at this nature reserve some time ago. It is now in need of restoration and improvements.

Directions: Meet at the entrance to Burnt Mill Lane, off A414 between Harlow Town Station roundabout and High Wych roundabout. Parking available in the car park at the rear of the station. Site grid ref, TL 443 113



Task Programme March – August 2007

July

Sunday 15th July 2007

Marshgate Spring

Boardwalk Construction *part 2*

Task leader: Colin

Completion of task begun on 3rd June to further improve public access to marshland areas.

Meet at Toys 'R' Us, Queensgate Centre at 9.30am.

Tuesday 17th July 2007
Programme planning meeting
7.30pm Parndon Wood
Conservation Centre

Sunday 29th July to Sunday 5th August 2007

Parndon Wood Nature Reserve

World Scout Jamboree

Task leader: Gary

Scouts from all over the world will be working with HCV and Harlow Council on conservation projects, including a Stag Beetle Pyramid in Hospital and Risdens Wood on Sunday 29th July.

Volunteers are needed for the week to guide the scouts in a variety of other projects in Nature Reserves across Harlow. Please contact Gary Dobrin of HCV or Darren Fazackerley of Harlow Council for more information.

August

Sunday 12th August 2007

Marshgate Spring

Stream Clearance

Task leader: Jenny

Task to clear the stream running through Marshgate Spring of overhanging branches and debris.

Meet at Toys 'R' Us, Queensgate Centre at 9.30am.

Directions as above.

HARLOW TOWN SHOW

Sunday 2nd September 2007

Volunteers required to help promote the work of HCV and recruit new volunteers!

Further information will be provided closer to the time!!

Dates for the Diary:

Summer opening hours at Parndon Wood Nature Reserve

begin on *Sunday 1st April 2007.*

Harlow Biodiversity Partnership meetings:

6th March, 15th May and 10th July 2007.

Monday 7th May (Bank Holiday)

Parndon Wood Nature Reserve

- ❖ Dawn Chorus Walk at 5am.
- ❖ Hawk and Owl Display from 11am to 3pm.

Tuesday 22nd May 2007

Moth Night at Parndon Wood Nature Reserve
(Contact Parndon Wood Conservation Centre for more info)