GREEN GYM PROGRAMME January to March 2013



http://sonningcommon.tcv.org.uk

| MEETING POINTS: ASSISTANCE: | Meet On Site for 9.30am start with a finish time of 12:30 unless otherwise stated. See map on back or telephone in good time beforehand. |
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| WHAT TO WEAR: | Please wear old, warm clothes and sturdy boots and bring waterproofs. |
| TETANUS: | Please ensure your tetanus inoculation is up to date. |
| MEDICATION: | You must yourself be responsible for creams (e.g. against sunburn or bites) and for any medication you may need. |

CONTACT: If you need any help, please ring 0118 9723528

January 2013

| Date & Time | Site | Activity | Meeting Point | Leaders | Notes |
|---|---|--|---|--|--|
| Thursday 3 rd 9.30 – 12.30 | Peppard Common | Cutting brambles/raking | Car park by Peppard crossroads | Tony Chandler Elizabeth Smeeton | |
| Saturday 5 th 9.30 - 12.30 | Ewelme watercress beds | Ongoing restoration of waterside site | Roadside by bridge | Mike Macleod Robert Watson | When parking, please avoid entrances/bus stop |
| Thursday 10 th 9.30 – 12.30 | Cleeve Water Meadow | To include replacing gate/ cutting/dragging | On site – follow signs from A329, north of Streatley | Eric Yarrow Keith May | Park in car-park off side-road – allow 10 minutes for walk to site |
| Saturday 12 th 9.30 – 12.30 | Spring Wood Rotherfield Peppard | Cut back re-growing holly/ brambles | In paddock off Blounts Court Road | Robin Howles Diane Gordon | |
| Thursday 17 th 9.30 – 2.30pm | National NR, Aston Rowant | To be agreed | To be advised – see below for directions | Tony Chandler Eric Yarrow | Don't forget your packed lunch! |
| Saturday 19 th 9.30 – 12.30 | Crocker End, Nettlebed | Cutting back encroaching brambles/saplings | On roadside – follow signs from Nettlebed triangle | John Hasler Elizabeth Smeeton | |
| Thursday 24 th 9.30 – 12.30 | Greys Court (NT) | To be agreed | On site – in main NT car park | Brian Gardener Edward Sandars | |
| Saturday 26 th 9.30 – 12.30 | Rotherfield Greys Church | Continue reclamation of area on east side of churchyard/ground clearing | By the church | Julia Booker Robin Howles | This churchyard contains rare fungi |
| Thursday 31 st 9.30 – 12.30 | Ipsden Wood (Forestry Commission) | Removal of redundant fence/related scrub clearing | On site – access by track, Judges Lane, off Stoke Row to Checkendon road | Julia Booker Robert Watson | Note: park in field by track entrance – look for left turn off SR to C road |

The Green Gym is the outdoor way to develop your fitness and health whilst improving your local environment. Green Gyms were pioneered in conjunction with the British Trust for Conservation Volunteers (now TCV), by the Sonning Common group which is run solely by its members.

February 2013

| Date & Time | Site | Activity | Meeting Point | Leaders | Notes |
|---|-------------------------------------|---|---|---------------------------------------|---|
| Saturday 2 nd 9.30 – 12.30 | Kingwood Common | Raking | By Great Davids | Tony Chandler Elizabeth Smeeton | Joint session with Commons Volunteer group |
| Thursday 7 th 9.30 – 12.30 | Green Broom Wood | Removing fallen wood/ coppicing/bonfire | On site – car park off Goring Heath to Goring road, near Crays Pond | Elizabeth Smeeton John Hasler | |
| Saturday 9 th 9.30 – 12.30 | Dunsden Church | Hedgelaying/hedge trimming | Church car park | Chris Ash Sheelagh Hill | First of three visits, in quick succession! |
| Thursday 14 th 9.30 – 12.30 | Dunsden Church | Continue hedgelaying/ hedge trimming | Church car park | Chris Ash Sheelagh Hill | |
| Saturday 16 th 9.30 – 12.30 | Dunsden Church | Complete hedgelaying/ hedge trimming | Church car park | Chris Ash Sheelagh Hill | Perhaps we'll know by the end of the Thursday session if packed lunches will be needed!! |
| Thursday 21 st 9.30 – 2.30pm | National NR, Aston Rowant | To be agreed | To be advised – see below for directions | Tony Chandler Eric Yarrow | Don't forget your packed lunch! |
| Saturday 23 rd 9.30 – 12.30 | Temple Island Meadows SSSI | Continue clearing/stacking tree remains in meadow areas | On riverside – access from Henley to Marlow road, opposite 'Swiss Farm' | Robin Howles Sian Hickman | Don't be late – gate to field will be re- locked at 9.25 am |
| Thursday 28 th 9.30 – 12.30 | Duffields Common | Clearing scrub around young trees | On site – off road, on west side of Busgrove Lane, about 2 miles from Gallowstree Common | John Hasler Robert Watson | Off road parking is possible at some nearby points along Busgrove Lane – please park with care |

Directions for the Natural England Nature Reserve, Aston Rowant

Usual meeting-point is the Reserve office. We occasionally meet at three other sites, Hill Farm, the Nature Reserve car park, and Cowlease car park. Please check beforehand, if necessary. All four locations can be found on the map. At Nettlebed take B480 to Watlington; then take B4009 following signs for M40.

For Hill Farm, turn right before the northbound motorway exit and continue for half a mile.

Drive under Motorway (Junction 6) & take next right (A40). After 1/4 mile turn right onto track (Icknield Way) signposted "Nature Reserve Office".

For Nature Reserve and Cowleaze car parks continue on the road and turn right after 1 mile further on at the top of the hill signposted to Christmas Common. The Nature Reserve car park is on the right after $\frac{1}{2}$ mile (brown sign). Cowleaze is a $\frac{1}{2}$ mile further on and on the left after crossing motorway.

From Christmas Common, reverse the directions.

March 2013

| Date & Time | Site | Activity | Meeting Point | Leaders | Notes |
|---|--|--|--|--|---|
| Saturday 2 nd 9.30 – 12.30 | Withymead, Goring | Tasks to include building bird-hide (with help of children's group) | On site – follow signs from Goring to Wallingford road | Julia Booker Robert Watson | |
| Thursday 7 th 9.30 – 12.30 | Watlington Hill (NT) | Scrub removal/bonfire | NT car park | Robin Howles Eric Yarrow | |
| Saturday 9 th 9.30 – 12.30 | Mill Meadows, Henley | Pond clearing | On site – park in Mill Meadows car park | Sheelagh Hill Edward Sandars | At request of Henley Wildlife Group |
| Thursday 14 th 9.30 – 12.30 | Cleeve Water Meadow | To include clearing fence- line/ clearing main channel | On site- follow signs from A329, north of Streatley | Eric Yarrow Keith May | Park in car park off side-road – allow 10 minutes for walk to site |
| Saturday 16 th 9.30 – 12.30 | Nettlebed Common | Pond management/scrub clearing | Car park by sports field | Tony Chandler Elizabeth Smeeton | |
| Thursday 21 st 9.30 – 2.30pm | National NR, Aston Rowant | To be agreed | To be advised – see directions below | Chris Ash Brian Gardener | Don't forget to bring packed lunch! |
| Saturday 23 rd 9.30 – 12.30 | Bishopswood Field, Sonning Common | Assisting Rotherfield UFC in management of marginal areas around sports field | On site | John Hasler Keith May | Access from Gallowstree Road |
| Thursday 28 th 9.30 – 12.30 | Greys Court (NT) | Contribute to parkland management | Main NT car park | Brian Gardener Edward Sandars | |
| Saturday 30 th 9.30 – 12.30 | Withymead, Goring | To include cutting back willows/sycamores | On site – follow signs from Goring to Wallingford road | Robert Watson Sian Hickman | |