



North Wales Wildlife Trust

Nature Reserve Work Parties in NE Wales (Denbighshire, Flintshire & Wrexham)

January 2025

Blwyddyn Newydd Dda! Happy New Year! Thank you for your interest in volunteering with North Wales Wildlife Trust. With 35 nature reserves to manage across North Wales, there is always lots of work to be done and we would love you to come along and join us. Winter is a great time of year to visit our nature reserves and discover why they are such special places.

This programme lists the volunteering opportunities that are available throughout **January 2025** on our nature reserves in Denbighshire, Flintshire & Wrexham. You can also volunteer with our NE Wales Living Landscapes Project – see below for more information.

Our work parties provide an interesting and lively mix of practical work and informal training. **Details of the locations of our nature reserves can be found on our website www.northwaleswildlifetrust.org.uk** Please wear work clothes and stout boots/wellies and bring waterproofs and a packed lunch. We will supply work gloves & tools. We ask that you make sure your work boots or wellies are clean; biosecurity is an important part of our work - you can find out more on our website.

In summary, there is usually:

- A volunteer workday every Tuesday & Friday on one of our nature reserves in NE Wales. **Contact Jordan Vigus-Hurst on 07764 897416 or Jordan.Vigus-Hurst@northwaleswildlifetrust.org.uk or Paul Furnborough on 07880 033562 or Paul.furnborough@northwaleswildlifetrust.org.uk**
- A volunteer workday at Minera or Marford Quarry (Wrexham area) on the 2nd & 4th Wednesday of each month. **Contact Jordan Vigus-Hurst on 07764 897416 or Jordan.Vigus-Hurst@northwaleswildlifetrust.org.uk**
- Opportunities to volunteer with our NE Wales Living Landscape project, near Mold. Please contact Sarah Ellis on 07494 962909 or sarah.ellis@northwaleswildlifetrust.org.uk for more information about the project. We will be working with Denbighshire County Council growing trees and wildflowers at their plant nursery near St Asaph, as well as working at our tree nursery near Mold.

Please note, if you wish to attend any of the volunteer workdays, you must book ahead directly with the task organiser (their contact details are listed above).

Friday 3rd January

Cors y Sarnau, Sarnau, near Bala. 10 a.m. until 3.30 p.m. Meet in Sarnau village. Our regular monthly visit to this reserve. We will be kickstarting the year by clearing invading scrub from the open bog habitats and carrying out some fencing repairs at this peaceful wetland nature reserve. Please contact Jordan Vigus-Hurst if you would like to attend.

Tuesday 7th January

Coed y Felin, Hendre, near Mold. 10 a.m. until 3.30 p.m. Meet in the large car park: <https://maps.app.goo.gl/sMwyyTmA4iZJvzSg9>

Coed y Felin is an ancient oak/ash woodland planted with sycamore, beech and sweet chestnut. The woodland has a long post-industrial heritage, and its timber has been used to support the local mining village for centuries. This peaceful woodland & sunny grassland are filled with colour & life, including the nationally rare Deptford pink and dozens of other wildflowers. Today we will be going back to the Deptford pink slopes, scything and raking the grassland; rotavating bare ground; sowing seed that we have collected and coppicing/tree popping encroaching scrub. Please contact Paul Furnborough if you would like to attend.

Wednesday 8th January

Marford Quarry, near Wrexham. Meet in the accessible car parking area off Springfield Lane. 10 a.m. until 3.30p.m.

Our Minera Quarry & Marford Quarry volunteers meet on the 2nd & 4th Wednesday of every month. Why not join them and witness the incredible power of nature as it slowly reclaims these former quarries into wildlife havens? Today we have a wide variety of jobs to do including: clearing and tidying up hanging trees and branches, widening paths for vehicle access, installing new post and rail fencing at the Springfield Lane entrance, and removing trees from around bunds and standing dead wood. Please contact Jordan Vigus-Hurst if you would like to attend.

Friday 10th January

Coed Trelynniau, near Rhydymwyn. 10 a.m. until 3.30 p.m. Parking is limited – please contact Paul Furnborough if you would like to attend so that we can arrange car sharing – possibly from nearby Coed y Felin nature reserve car park.

This nature reserve is a fragment of a once larger ancient woodland. It sits within an agricultural landscape and is linked to other scattered woodlands by ancient hedgerows and tracks that are the last refuge for many native plants and animals.

Today we have a new project for the New Year! We will begin hedge laying and gap-filling a new section of hedgerow. A fun opportunity to try something different – novice and experienced hedge layers are all welcome! Please contact Paul Furnborough if you would like to attend.

Tuesday 14th January

Big Pool Wood, 2.5 miles east of Prestatyn. 10 a.m. until 3.30 p.m. Parking off the road, close to the reserve entrance. Meet at the entrance to the nature reserve. A wonderful reed bed and woodland site filled with wildflowers, birdsong and facilities that allow you to get closer to wildlife. Join us for a big session at Big Pool Wood, cutting back reeds around the pond edges and bird hides; controlling some invasive willows in the pond and maybe a bit of tree management too! Please contact Paul Furnborough if you would like to attend.

Friday 17th January

Gors Maen Llwyd, near Llyn Brenig. 10 a.m. until 3.30 p.m. Please book with Paul – parking location will be determined depending on the number of people attending. Today we are heading back on to the moors, pulling and felling self-seeded Sitka saplings and trees. This work is important as it will help to restore precious heathland habitat. Please contact Paul Furnborough if you would like to attend.

Tuesday 21st January

Graig Wylt, 3 miles SE of Ruthin on the B5429. Meet at the Three Pigeons Inn, or if you are familiar with the reserve, feel free to head straight to the reserve entrance (What3Words: escorting.increment.sits). 10 a.m. until 3.30 p.m. We'll continue various jobs to improve accessibility throughout the nature reserve, as well as some winter woodland management. Here's hoping for clear views across the wonderful Vale of Clwyd. Please contact Jordan Vigus-Hurst if you would like to attend.

Wednesday 22nd January

Minera Quarry, Coedpoeth, near Wrexham. 10 a.m. until 3.30 p.m. Meet in the car park.

Today we will be carrying out work to improve accessibility at this former limestone quarry as well as some woodland management. Please contact Jordan Vigus-Hurst if you would like to attend.

Friday 24th January

Aberduna, Maeshafn, near Mold. Meet at the office car park. 10 a.m. until 3.30 p.m. Aberduna is a striking 20-hectare nature reserve offering stunning views across the Alyn Valley to Moel Famau & the Clwydian Range. Today there is a range of jobs to be done including woodland management and the removal of encroaching saplings from the meadows. Please contact Jordan Vigus-Hurst if you would like to attend.

Tuesday 28th January

Blaenyweirglodd, near Llansannan. Parking off-road near the nature reserve (grid reference SH 9114 6322). 10 a.m. until 3.30 p.m.

We return to this peaceful peatland to remove regenerating saplings from the mire, which will help to keep it clear. We'll also replace a gate post and some rotten fenceposts. There may also be an opportunity to monitor the reserve's hydrology. Please contact Jordan Vigus-Hurst if you would like to attend

Friday 31st January

This will be our monthly catch-up task. Location to be confirmed. Please contact Jordan Vigus-Hurst for more information

We would like to thank Natural Resources Wales for supporting our conservation management work.

