

# Dee Valley Volunteer Programme July - September

## **Event Round Up**

#### **Guided walks across the Dee Valley**

As a new season was upon us, we've had various guided walks over the last few months. A thank you for everyone who have come out to unearth the gems of our valley. These guided walks are a great opportunity to explore the Dee Valley, meet new people and see what makes it special. From the Bluebells of Corwen-Cynwyd Railway Line, discovering the Bat species at Horseshoe Falls, and learning more about the iconic Curlew. Come along with the National Landscape team and discover the sites and species as the seasons change.

Have a look at what's coming up over the next few months.









#### Corwen Community Garden – An Update

The Community Garden is full of life thanks to the growing group of volunteers who attend weekly gardening sessions there every Wednesday afternoon. Volunteers have been very busy planting, watering and weeding at the Community Garden over the last few months, whilst also enjoying a cuppa and a chat with the Nature for Health team. The community can now begin to harvest lettuce, radish and rhubarb in the garden, as well as different herbs.

The grass in the community garden has been left to grow long for "No Mow May" which has allowed more flowers to bloom. This has created lots of food and habitat for insects and small mammals as well as a beautiful spot to sit and enjoy the scenery.

Thank you to everyone who has visited, volunteered and shared their experiences in the garden over the last few months.











## New Picnic Table – Llantysilio Green

Getting ready for Summer – volunteers and university placement students helped the rangers to build a new picnic table at Llantysilio Green, overlooking the Horseshoe Falls. This is one of three tables going to be built here to replace the old one, and to provide more seating for families and people with disabilities or limited mobility at the top of the slope, where they can still enjoy the views.

The tables are built out of larch grown in North Wales, to cut down on carbon emissions related to transport and to support local business, and they are untreated, to reduce chemical pollution. Despite being a softwood, larch is very durable, so these tables should hopefully last many years. The funding for these benches came as part of the Levelling Up package for the Horseshoe Falls car park as a whole, improving the area for people's safety, convenience, and enjoyment.



# **Volunteer Programme July- September 2024**

# July

Every Wednesday Afternoons 1pm – 3pm

**Light Gardening Session** 

Join the Rangers for some light gardening, a chat and a cuppa every Wednesday afternoon at Corwen Community Garden.

Meet at Corwen Community Garden, Corwen

Postcode: LL21 0DN

What3Words:///support.files.scratches

Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> 1pm - 3pm

**Bracken Bashing and Mindfulness** 

Come along and join the Rangers for a bracken bashing session on Dinas Brân. This work will aid the growth of the important U1 grassland. Nature for Health will also be on site looking at the connection between nature and wellness.

Limited lifts available from Market Street, Llangollen. Please let us know if you require a lift\*

Meet at the pancake on Dinas Brân, Llangollen

**Grid Reference: SJ 21736 42971** 

What3Words:///fund.newsprint.ramp



# Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> 10am - 12pm

# Balsam Bashing at Tŷ Mawr Country Park

Lend a hand removing this invasive species at Tŷ Mawr. Himalayan balsam (*Impatiens glandulifera*) was introduced to the UK in 1839. It is now classed as an invasive weed which is present on/near riverbanks and ditches and prevents native species of plants from growing.

Meet at Tŷ Mawr Country Park, Cefn Mawr

Postcode: LL14 3PE

What3Words:///plants.freshest.change

Monday 15<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> 10am – 4pm

**Scything and Stook Making at Corwen Community Garden** 

Connect with nature and rediscover this traditional method of grassland management. Tools and equipment provided.

**Booking essential\*** 

Meet at Corwen Community Garden, Corwen

Postcode: LL21 0DN

What3Words:///support.files.scratches

Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> 10am - 3pm

**Vegetation Surveys Drop-in Session at Corwen-Cynwyd** 

Come along with the biodiversity and ranger team to get to know what's on our sites. A great opportunity to practice of improve your identification skills.



Meet at Llangar (Stamp) layby, Cynwyd

Postcode: LL21 0HW

What3Words:///sleepless.pausing.newsprint

# **August**

Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> 10am - 12pm

**Balsam Bashing** 

Join the Rangers on Llangollen Old Railway to help remove this invasive species.

Meet at Wenffrwd Nature Reserve, Llangollen

Postcode: LL20 7UH

What3Words:///durations.cloak.reserved

Monday 5<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> 10am – 12pm

Scything and Stook Making at Dôl Llangar

Connect with nature and rediscover this traditional method of grassland management. Tools and equipment provided.

**Booking essential\*** 

Meet at Llangar (Stamp) layby, Cynwyd

Postcode: LL21 0HW

What3Words:///sleepless.pausing.newsprint



# Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> 10am-3pm

## **Vegetation Surveys Drop-in Session at Dôl Corwenna**

Come and join the biodiversity and ranger team to get to know what's on our sites. A great opportunity to practice of improve your identification skills.

Meet at Corwen Community Garden, Corwen

Postcode: LL21 0DN

What3Words:///support.files.scratches

Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> 9:45am – 12pm

**Litter Picking along Llangollen Canal** 

Join the National Landscape Rangers and other volunteer groups in this joint litter pick along Llangollen Canal.

Meet at Llantysilio Green car park

Postcode: LL20 8BT

What3Words:///best.middle.fatigued

Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> 9:30am – 4pm

# **Drystone Walling**

Have a go at drystone walling at Coed Pen y Pigyn. With the guidance of an instructor, learn this traditional method of boundary maintenance.

**Booking essential\*** 

Meet at Green Lane car park, Corwen

Postcode: LL21 0DN

What3Words:///support.files.scratches



# Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> 10am – 2pm

#### **Waymarking the National Trail**

Help the Ranger Team install new waymarks on Offa's Dyke National Trail.

**Meeting Location: TBC** 

# September

Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> 10am - 12pm

**Llantysilio Litter Pick** 

Come along and join the Rangers litter picking on Llantysilio. All equipment will be provided.

Meet near the Ponderosa Cafe

**Meeting Location: LL20 8DR** 

What3Words:///control.prove.intricate

Monday 16<sup>th</sup> 10am – 12pm

**Moorland Mondays** 

Join the Rangers and the Moorland Field Officer for our regular Moorland Monday session.

**Meeting Location: TBC** 

Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> 10am – 12pm

**Wildflower Sowing** 

Join Ranger Dwynwen sowing wildflower seeds at Horseshoe Falls. Horseshoe Falls is part of the Pontcysyllte Aqueduct & Canal World Heritage Site.



Meet at Llantysilio Green car park

Postcode: LL20 8BT

What3Words:///best.middle.fatigued

These events are not suitable for children below age 16. Please let us know in advance if you are planning to attend. No experience necessary. For more information on our volunteering activities, please contact us.

Dwynwen Williams – Assistant Countryside Ranger

Email: <u>Dwynwen.williams@denbighshire.gov.uk</u>

Phone: 07467 681229

#### **Events**

Swift Spotting and Walking the Picturesque - 'Stepping Across Borders and Time'

Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> July 13:00 - 16:00

Meet at the Health Centre Car Park, Colliery Road, Chirk, Wrexham, LL145DH

What3Words: ///veto.wheat.region

Book: Contact Dwynwen on 07467681229 or dwynwen.williams@denbighshire.gov.uk



## **Meandering Over the Moorland**

Tuesday 6th August 13:00 – 16:00

Meet at Ponderosa Café, Horseshoe Pass, Llangollen, LL20 8DR

What3Words:///marzipan.contacts.grace

Book: Contact Dwynwen on 07467681229 or dwynwen.williams@denbighshire.gov.uk

### **Twilight Walk and Perseid Meteor Shower**

Monday 12<sup>th</sup> August 20:00 – 23:30

Meet at Green Lane Car Park, Corwen, LL21 0DN

What3Words:///support.files.scratches

Book: Contact Sam on 07918 224784 or samuel.langdon@denbighshire.gov.uk

## Walking through Heather and Bilberry

**Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> August 10:00-12:00** 

Meet at Bwlch y Groes layby

Grid Reference: SJ 14942 45044

What3Words:///doped.slack.shortage

Book: Contact Dwynwen on 07467681229 or dwynwen.williams@denbighshire.gov.uk



**Nocturnal Stroll: Bat Walk** 

Monday 9th September 19:30-21:00

Meet at Plas Newydd Historic House and Gardens, Llangollen, LL20 8AW

What3Words:///piles.troll.tower

Book: Contact Sam on 07918 224784 or samuel.langdon@denbighshire.gov.uk