

# Lothians Conservation Volunteers

In support of the Scottish Wildlife Trust



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Scottish Natural Heritage  
Dualchas Nàdair na h-Alba  
All of nature for all of Scotland  
Nàdar air fad airson Alba air fad

# puggled mucker

Spring 2013 Issue 161

*We are a Scottish Charity, run entirely by volunteers, and we've been doing conservation work in and around Edinburgh for over forty years.*

*We belong to TCV Community Network. Our funding comes from the clients that we work for, and also by grants from organisations like Scottish Wildlife Trust and Scottish Natural Heritage.*

*Charity number SC020384*



**Lothians  
Conservation  
Volunteers**  
[www.lcv.org.uk](http://www.lcv.org.uk)

Despite a fairly benign winter we haven't proven wholly immune to cancellations this quarter, with three tasks having to be rearranged in January. However, due to impressive efforts by Matt—LCV's Task Officer—all were relocated and no volunteers had to be disappointed by a break in our programme. In fact, it's been a successful quarter all round for Matt as he also sailed through his minibus driving test just before Christmas.

In other news, LCV is saying (a hopefully temporary) 'goodbye' to Mark Herron who is heading off to work in Gibraltar for a year. His place as Tools Officer will be filled by Trevor Paterson.

Tasks remain popular. For example, our volunteers tallied a genuinely impressive total of forty-two work days on the Scone Palace New Year Resi, while cutting a great swathe through the invading rhododendrons.

We have also secured funding for—and have arranged—two tree-felling training days, and work is afoot to update our constitution this year. This is mainly to remove an upper age limit that we have never actually applied and which now falls foul of equality laws. It will also ensure that we have procedures in place for those rare—but serious—eventualities such as the disappearance of a Trustee.

Roll on spring!

*Louisa Martin, Co-ordinator*





# How to book and what to bring

## Saturday and Sunday Tasks

We meet on the north side of St Andrew Square at 9.30 am prompt—look out for our white minibus. We normally aim to return around 5.30 pm. Bring a woolly hat, waterproofs, a packed lunch and boots or wellies—steel toe-cap wear is recommended. If you have your own work gloves, you might want to bring them, though we do have gloves that anyone can borrow. Pack plenty of drinking water and wear warm clothes. Tea, coffee and biscuits will be provided.

Transport is free: phone Debbie, our Transport Secretary, by the Friday evening before the task to book your seat so that we know how many tools to take and don't go without you. Early booking is recommended. We only have twelve seats in the bus, so please do come if you've booked or others will miss out. If the bus is full, or if it's easier for you, you can meet us at the task site, but please inform Debbie so we can confirm the meeting point and arrival time with you. We don't cancel if it's raining. Age limits: Under 16s must be accompanied by a responsible adult and cannot travel in our minibus. We ask under 18s to please tell us your age when booking. Please ensure that your tetanus vaccination is up to date.

## Residential Tasks

Residentials are great fun and they allow LCV to undertake larger tasks further away from Edinburgh. They involve a weekend away to work on the Saturday and Sunday. We leave on Friday night and usually take in a chip shop on the way. We get back to Edinburgh on Sunday evening.

Regardless of the time of year, bring a complete change of clothing so that you can get out of your work clothes in the evening. Remember that the weather can be very changeable, so bring a warm jumper and hat and above all don't forget a waterproof jacket and trousers and sturdy footwear. A water bottle is recommended. Unless otherwise indicated you'll probably need to take a sleeping bag and, if sleeping on the floor, a Karrimat or air-bed.

On residential tasks, breakfasts, lunches and the evening meal are organised by a volunteer. Everyone helps to prepare the food. The fare is usually vegetarian and there is plenty of it. Food for a weekend usually works out at £8 – £10 each. Pick-up is from St Andrew Square at 7.30 pm on Friday, unless otherwise stated. If you want to go on a residential task, please book with Debbie, our Transport Secretary. Bookings will be accepted for weekend residential tasks up to the preceding Wednesday evening.

## Monthly committee meetings

Every second Tuesday of the month we have a meeting to discuss LCV business at 16 Forth Street off Broughton Street. We leave a notice near the door with a mobile number to call so we can let you in. All are welcome to the meeting; we usually go for a drink in a local pub afterwards.

# **LCV Contacts**

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**Tools Officer**

**Sarah McConachie**

**Newsletter Editor**

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**Newsgroup**

To join our newsgroup send an email to [webmaster@lcv.org.uk](mailto:webmaster@lcv.org.uk).

Full details at [www.lcv.org.uk](http://www.lcv.org.uk)



## Conservation Tasks: [www.lcv.org.uk](http://www.lcv.org.uk)



March	Sun 17	Addiewell	Tree planting
	Sun 24	Ormiston Wood	TBC
	Sun 31	Bawsinch	Pathwork / pond management
April	Sun 7	Spottiswoode	Tree planting
	Sun 14	Beecraigs	Pathwork
	Sun 21	Roslin Glen	Pathwork / step repair
	Sun 28	Pishwanton	TBC
May	Sun 5	Roslin Glen	Habitat creation / publicity event
	<b>SAT 11</b>	Beecraigs	Pathwork / boardwalk building
	Sun 12	Beecraigs	Pathwork / boardwalk building
	Sun 19	Beecraigs	Pathwork
	Sun 26	Traprain Law	Ragwort control
	June	Sun 2	Traprain Law
Sun 9		Traprain Law	Ragwort control
Sun 16		Easter Craiglockhart Hill	Meadow raking
Sun 23		Beecraigs	Pathwork
Sun 30		Yellowcraig	Piri-piri control

## Other events: [www.lcv.org.uk](http://www.lcv.org.uk)

March	Thur 14	7.30 pm	SWT talk: Breadalbane alpiners
	Tue 19	6 pm	Royal Society talk: Dr Livingstone
April	Sat 6	7.15 am – 8.45 am	Botanics dawn chorus walk
	<b>Tue 9</b>	<b>7.30 pm</b>	<b>Committee meeting / pub</b>
	Mon 29	7.30 pm for 8.30 pm	Cumberland Bar pub quiz
May	<b>Tue 7*</b>	<b>7.30 pm</b>	<b>AGM / pub *note date change</b>
	Thur 30	6 pm	Evening hill walk / pub
June	<b>Tue 11</b>	<b>7.30 pm</b>	<b>Committee meeting / pub</b>
	TBC	TBC	Craigintinny recycling centre tour