

Lothians Conservation Volunteers

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Autumn 2017 Issue 180

www.lcv.org.uk

We are a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation, run entirely by volunteers, and we've been doing conservation work in and around Edinburgh for over forty-five years.

We belong to TCV Community Network. Our funding comes from the clients that we work for and grants from organisations like Scottish Wildlife Trust and others.

Charity number SC020384



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Season's greetings, and welcome to a new and exciting quarter for LCV. As always we have a full programme ahead of us, with visits to a mix of old and new sites and clients.

Once again we have been working at locations both within the city and further out. We worked at Granton Castle Walled Garden in Edinburgh for the first time last quarter, and as for our more far-flung sites, in October we had our residential, with two days at Carsegowan Moss in Dumfries and Galloway. We'll be back again this quarter if you missed your chance in 2017!

Last year had its challenges and changes which we've come through sailing, and we look forward to meeting the challenges of the new year, and working with you whether you are an old hand or an as yet undiscovered new hand!

William McSporran, Co-ordinator

How to book and what to bring

Saturday and Sunday Tasks

We meet on the north side of St Andrew Square at 9.30am prompt — look out for our white minibus. We normally aim to return around 5.30pm. Bring a woolly hat, waterproofs, a packed lunch and boots or wellies — steel toe caps are 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 to £10 each. Pickup is from St Andrew Square at 7.30pm 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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Online locations

Check out our **website**: www.lcv.org.uk

Like us on **Facebook**: www.facebook.com/LothiansConservationVolunteers

Follow us on **Instagram**:

<https://www.instagram.com/lothiansconservationvolunteers>

Join our Yahoo **Newsgroup**: to join our newsgroup, lcvnews, send an email to webmaster@lcv.org.uk

Upcoming events

For more details on any event check out our website: www.lcv.org.uk

Conservation tasks

Jan	Sun 7	Gifford Community Woodland	Rhododendron removal
	Sat 13	Yellowcraig	Sea buckthorn control
	Sun 14	Traprain Law	Gorse control
	Sun 21	Bawsinch	Pond maintenance
	Sun 28	Traprain Law	Gorse control
Feb	Sat 3	Yellowcraig	Pirri pirri removal
	Sun 4	Spottiswoode	Birch thinning
	Fri 9 - Sun 11	Carsegowan and Carstramon residential	Scrub clearance and beech control
	Sun 18	Gifford Community Woodland	Rhododendron removal
	Sun 25	Penicuik to Dalkeith Walkway	Pathwork and woodland management
Mar	Sat 3	Yellowcraig	Pirri pirri removal
	Sun 4	Gifford Community Woodland	Rhododendron removal
	Sun 11	Addiewell Bing	Tree maintenance
	Sun 18	Hermitage of Braid	Pathwork
	Sun 25	Holyrood Park	Wildflower planting/sowing
Apr	Sun 1	Holyrood Park	Wildflower planting/sowing, sapling removal
	Sun 8	Valleyfield Pond	Pond management

Other events

Jan	Tue 9	19:30	Committee meeting followed by pub trip
Feb	Thurs 8	19:30	SWT Talk: Soay sheep on St Kilda
	Tue 13	19:30	Committee meeting followed by pub trip
Mar	Thurs 8	19:30	SWT Talk: Urban pollinators
	Sat 10	19:00	FoE Scotland ceilidh
	Tue 13	19:30	Committee meeting followed by pub trip