Norfolk Commons Week



Saturday 6 to Sunday 14 July 2019

Our heritage of commons across the county are part of what makes Norfolk special: brilliant for wildlife and great places to explore. Help us celebrate them.



Saturday 6 July

Reptiles of **NWT Rovdon Common**

Saturday 6 July, 10am to 12pm NWT Roydon Common has a fantastic population of reptiles, join us as we go in search of them and learn what makes this group of animals so special.

Leader: Karl Charters

Location: NWT Roydon Common,

West Norfolk

Booking essential: phone 01603 598318 or email wild@norfolkwildlifetrust.org.uk

A wild time on the heath



Saturday 6 July, 10am to 1pm Do you like the outdoors? Would you like to help make a difference for wildlife on Broome Heath? Join Norfolk Wildlife Trust and the Ditchingham Estate and help carry out simple conservation tasks, including hay raking, silver birch thinning and scrub removal. Never done anything like this before? Don't worry you can do as much or as little as you want. Supported by Essex & Suffolk Water.

Leader: Mark Webster, Norfolk Wildlife Trust

Location: Broome Heath, Ditchingham Booking essential: phone 01603 598318 or email wild@norfolkwildlifetrust.org.uk

Wildlife in common

Saturday 6 July, 3 to 5pm

Join us for an afternoon dedicated to wildlife. Have a go at making a bird box, create a minibeast home and try out our 'Common Knowledge' quiz. Lots to do, suitable for all ages. Leader: Norfolk Wildlife Trust and North Runcton Wildlife Group

Location: The Meeting Place, The Green, North Runcton, Norfolk, PE33 0RB

No need to book, just turn-up and join-in.

Sunday 7 July

An introduction to orchid identification

Sunday 7 July, 10am to 12pm Learn to identify some of the orchids associated with Norfolk commons. This two-hour session will introduce vou to the main characteristics of orchids and key features to look for when identifying them.

Leader: Roger Jones Location: Buxton Heath

Booking essential: phone 01603 598318 or email wild@norfolkwildlifetrust.org.uk

Mini-beast fun for the family

Sunday 7 July, 2.30 to 4pm

Find your own real life bugs on Broome Heath and then make a mini-beast from natural materials, plus lots of free making activities in the village hall afterwards. Fun for all the family. Leader: Norfolk Wildlife Trust and

Waveney and Blythe Arts

Location: Meet outside Ditchingham Village Hall, Loddon Road,

Ditchingham, Norfolk, NR35 2QN

No need to book, just turn-up and join in.

Monday & July

Exploring the common

Monday 8 July, 10 to 11.30am This fantastic common, which is one of five in the village, is a SSSI full of wildflowers, insects and birds. Discover just some of the flora and fauna on this beautiful common and learn how the site is managed.

Leader: Margaret Downland, Southrepps Volunteer Group Location: Southrepps

Booking essential: phone 01603 598318 or email wild@norfolkwildlifetrust.org.uk

A common wildlife wander

Monday 8 July, 10am to 12pm Nick Acheson will take you on a tour of Litcham Common showing you the wildlife that makes this site so special.

Leader: Nick Acheson, Norfolk Wildlife Trust

Meeting point: Litcham Common Car Park, Dunham Road, Litcham, Norfolk, PE32 2NT

No need to book, just turn-up and join in.

The history of **Catfield Common**

Monday 8 July, 2 to 3.30pm Keith Bacon, local historian, will take us back in time and reveal some of the history of this common nestled within the Broads.

Leader: Keith Bacon Location: Catfield Common, near NWT Hickling Broad

Booking essential: phone 01603 598318 or email wild@norfolkwildlifetrust.org.uk

Bats, bush-crickets and sounds of the night

Monday 8 July, 8 to 10pm As dusk falls join Stuart Newson on Flordon Common for an exploration of this fantastic site looking for bats and bush-crickets, who knows what we may find?

Leader: Stuart Newson, Flordon Common

Location: Flordon Common

Booking essential: phone 01603 598318 or email wild@norfolkwildlifetrust.org.uk

Tuesday 9 July

A wild walk on the heath

Tuesday 9 July, 9.30am to 12pm A walk taking in the wildlife and conservation management of almost 67 ha of heathland, woodland, and valley mire. Buxton Heath is home to many rare and interesting plants and animals and is a special area of conservation.

Leader: Steve Collins, Norfolk Wildlife Trust Location: Buxton Heath

Booking essential: phone 01603 598318 or email wild@norfolkwildlifetrust.org.uk

Ghost commons of Norfolk

Tuesday 9 July, 9.30am to 12.30pm In times gone by it was said that you could walk across Norfolk never leaving a common, with half of the county recognised as common land. Join us on this walk as we take in some of the ghost commons of Wymondham and Wreningham and learn about the history (and natural history) of commons in Norfolk.

Leader: Helen Baczkowska, Norfolk Wildlife Trust Location: Wymondham

Booking essential: phone 01603 598318 or email wild@norfolkwildlifetrust.org.uk

Reptile ramble

Tuesday 9 July, 2 to 4.30pm Incleborough Hill and the surrounding heathland provide a haven for three species of native reptiles, plus a whole host of other interesting wildlife. Join National Trust Rangers for a tour of the area, keeping eyes peeled for adders and lizards as well as an array of insect and birdlife.

Leaders: Rob Coleman and Mark

Webster, National Trust

Location: Roman Camp car park (NT) Booking essential: phone 01603 598318 or email wild@norfolkwildlifetrust.org.uk





Wednesday 10 July

In step with the heath...

Wednesday 10 July, 9.30am to 12.30pm

This fantastic nature reserve is home to a whole of host of wildlife from nightjars to woodlarks, green tiger beetles to black darter dragonflies. Join Ash Murray, Reserves Manager, as he shows us some of the things that make this reserve so special and gives us an insight into how the reserve is managed.

Leader: Ash Murray, Norfolk Wildlife Trust Location: NWT Roydon Common Booking essential: phone 01603 598318 or email wild@norfolkwildlifetrust.org.uk

On the trail of Robert Kett

Wednesday 10 July, 2 to 4pm Join us as we follow the footsteps of Robert and William Kett and delve into the Norfolk Rising of 1549 and the history behind the enclosure of common land that led to the uprising.

Leader: Gemma Walker, Norfolk Wildlife Trust **Location:** Wymondham

Booking essential: phone 01603 598318 or email wild@norfolkwildlifetrust.org.uk

New light on the history of Norfolk's commons

Wednesday 10 July, 7.30 to 9pm
Through this talk Tom Williamson will
describe the results of recent research,
carried out as part of the 'Wildlife in
Common' project, into the history and
archaeology of Norfolk's common land.
Leader: Professor Tom Williamson, UEA

Location: Southrepps

Booking essential: phone 01603 598318 or email wild@norfolkwildlifetrust.org.uk

Friday 12 July

Hoe Common: history, wildlife and conservation

Friday 12 July, 10.30 to 11.30am
Hoe Common – a 19th Century
enclosure, a fuel allotment for the
poor, military trenches, a boundary
of ancient oaks, a bio-diverse acid
heathland and home to the Hoe bird
walk. Just some of the things that
make Hoe Common so special.

Leader: Dick and Sue Malt, Hoe Common

Location: Hoe Common

Booking essential: phone 01603 598318 or email wild@norfolkwildlifetrust.org.uk

Thursday 11 July

Exploring Whitwell Common

Thursday 11 July, 2 to 3.30pm Whitwell Common is a hidden gem in the Wensum Valley and designated a SSSI for its typical rare fen flora. Discover its treasures, history and management through this walk with the Trustees of Whitwell Common.

Leader: Lin Garland, Trustee of Whitwell Common **Location:** Whitwell Common

Booking essential: phone 01603 598318 or email wild@norfolkwildlifetrust.org.uk

Between a rock and cold place, on a hot day?

Thursday 11 July, 2 to 4pm Guided Walk looking at the hugely varied ice-age geology and botany of this classic Breckland site.

Leader: Mark Webster, Thetford Town Council

Meeting point: Barnham Cross Common, main (large) car park, on the playing fields near the Spar shop and garage, A134 Bury Road, Thetford, nearest postcode IP24 3DZ

No need to book

A wildlife walk on Beeston Common

Thursday 11 July, 2.30 to 5pm Join honorary warden, Francis Farrow, for a fascinating insight to the wildlife of Beeston Common on a summer's afternoon. We will be on the look-out for butterflies, dragonflies, birds and wildflowers as we pass through the different habitats of this special site.

Leader: Francis Farrow **Meeting point:** Layby next to Beeston Common (TG 166 425, nearest postcode NR26 8RX)

No need to book

Walking through common history

Thursday 11 July, 5.45 to 8.15pm
Tom Williamson, landscape historian and archaeologist, will take us on a tour of four commons, Fritton, Morningthorpe, Shelton and Woodgreen and give us an insight into how to read the landscape history of these amazing commons.

Leader: Professor Tom Williamson, UEA

Location: Fritton Common

Booking essential: phone 01603 598318 or email wild@norfolkwildlifetrust.org.uk

Stepping up to help common wildlife

Friday 12 July, 1 to 2pm
The Felbeck Trust have been working hard to improve and increase the wildlife of Sustead Common. Join Trevor Williams on this tour of the common to find out the wildlife it is home to and what is being done to help it.

Leader: Trevor Williams, The Felbeck Trust

Location: Sustead Common

Booking essential: phone 01603 598318 or email wild@norfolkwildlifetrust.org.uk

Common (and not so common) wildflowers

Friday 12 July, 7.30 to 9pm
Common and not so common wild flowers: discover 50 plant species found on common land and roadside verges local to Erpingham, Alby and Aldborough. Our verges and commons are havens for many flowers once widespread in the wider countryside.

Leader: David North, Norfolk Wildlife Trust

Meeting point: Erpingham with Calthorpe Village Hall, The Street, Erpingham, Norfolk, NR11 7QB

No need to book

Minibeast magic on the common

Friday 12 July, 3.30 to 5pm
With bug pots in hand we go in search of some of the weird and wonderful minibeasts found on the common – don't worry we will provide all the equipment, just bring yourself. Take part in a minibeast hunt, games and craft activities.

Leader: Norfolk Wildlife Trust and Southrepp's Volunteer Group Meeting point: School Common, entrance opposite Antingham and Southrepps Primary School

No need to book, just turn-up and join in

Saturday 13 July

Whitwell Common Open Day

Saturday 13 July, 11am to 3pm
The Trustees of Whitwell Common
welcome you to explore this beautiful
common with them on this special open
day. There will be opportunities to go on
guided walks, see some traditional crafts
in action and sample food from the fire pit.
For further details see their Facebook page
– Whitwell Common, Reepham, Norfolk.

Leader: Trustees of Whitwell Common

Location: Whitwell Common,

Reepham, Norfolk

No need to book, just turn-up and join-in

Saturday 13 July

CONTINUED...

Coltishall to Belaugh

Saturday 13 July, 10am to 12pm Neville Andrews guides you from Coltishall to Belaugh taking in the history and wildlife as you go.

Leader: Neville Andrews

Meeting Point: Lower Common car park, by The Rising Sun pub, Off Wroxham Road, Coltishall, Norfolk, NR12 7EA

No need to book, just turn-up and join-in

Coltishall - A look at now. then and nature

Saturday 13 July, 10am to 12pm Join Peter Croot on a walk around Coltishall

taking in the sites, history and nature of this fascinating village on the river.

Leader: Peter Croot

Meeting Point: Lower Common car park, by The Rising Sun Pub, Off Wroxham Road, Coltishall, Norfolk, NR12 7EA

HERITAGE

No need to book, just turn-up and join-in

Sunday 14 July

Spurrell's Wood official opening event

Sunday 14 July, 10am to 4pm This event is to mark the official opening of Spurrell's Wood - 5 acres of mixed deciduous woodland - purchased by Felbeck Trust in 2018. There will be walks around the woodland, displays, entertainment and refreshments. For further information visit www.felbecktrust.org.uk

Leader: The Felbeck Trust

Location: Sustead Common, NR11 8QZ

No need to book, just turn-up and join-in

Wild about the Common

Sunday 14 July, 2 to 5pm

Take part in a guided walk, join in with a minibeast safari, have a go at dyke dipping, make a bird box and explore the common through our treasure hunt. Lots to do, plenty to see.

Leader: Norfolk Wildlife Trust and Shotesham Conservation Group Location: Shotesham Common, Shotesham, Norfolk, NR15 1YB

No need to book, just turn-up and join-in

In search of wildflowers

Sunday 14 July, 3 to 4.30pm Join local botanist Stella Taylor and discover some of the flowers that make this common so special.

Leader: Stella Taylor, Friends of Boyland Common

Location: Boyland Common, Shelfanger Booking essential: phone 01603 598318 or email wild@norfolkwildlifetrust.org.uk

JUST ONE MORE...

Wednesday 17 July

Help the animals guided walk and litter pick

Wednesday 17 July, 9.30 to 11.15am Come and find out how Thetford Town Council are managing Barnham Cross Common which is a nationally important Site of Special Scientific Interest. Find out about the history of the common and the Breckland Pine Lines. We may make you litter pick the site as we walk around!

Leader: Thetford Town Council Meeting point: Barnham Cross Common Car park, Bury Road, Thetford, Norfolk, IP24 3EB

No need to book, just turn-up and join in

