

## Practical conservation tasks

There are regular opportunities to get more involved in the practical management of the site, usually on a Thursday or at weekends between September and May. Work normally involves the cutting back of scrub using hand tools. Please contact Robin Harley or Jade North to join the conservation volunteer mailing list.

## Are you a friend?

Receive events programme and attend events for less, by becoming a member. Membership only costs £3 per adult. Please contact the chairman for further details.

## Useful Contacts:

Councillor Sue Spittle  
Friends of St Catherine's Hill  
sue.spittle@ntlworld.com 01202 484623

Robin Harley, Countryside Officer  
rharley@christchurchandeastdorset.gov.uk 01425 470721

Jade North, Countryside Officer  
janorth@christchurchandeastdorset.gov.uk 07900 137881

Dorset Police (North Christchurch Beat)  
northchristchurchsnt@dorset.pnn.police.uk 101  
(non emergency line)

Website: [www.fsch.org.uk](http://www.fsch.org.uk)

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*Friends of St Catherine's Hill*

## Events Programme 2016



[www.fsch.org.uk](http://www.fsch.org.uk)



## Friends of St Catherine's Hill Events Programme 2016

Events are subject to change and weather conditions on the day, please e-mail [rharley@christchurchandeastdorset.gov.uk](mailto:rharley@christchurchandeastdorset.gov.uk) or call **01425 272479** for further information.

Most guided walks and talks are charged at £2 per member and £4 per non-member (accompanied children free). All proceeds will go towards the running of the group. Most events open to non-members.

**Wed 24 Feb Annual General Meeting** 7.45pm (8pm start) –9.30pm  
Get an update on the seventh year of the Friends and elect officers; followed by refreshments and a talk on Christchurch local history by Mike Andrews. *Meet in St Catherine's Community Hall.*

**Sun 17 April Wild Spring Walk** 1pm-3pm  
Join naturalist Mike Gibbons for a walk around site looking for spring butterflies, birds and other wildlife. *Meet Outside St Catherine's Community Hall, Marlow Drive.*

**Sun 8 May Early Bird Walk** 6.30am-8am  
Join us on our annual early morning bird walk with local ornithologist Graham Armstrong. Chance of hot drink and bacon roll in Hall at end. *Meet Outside St Catherine's Community Hall, Marlow Drive.*

**Sat 21 May Christchurch Harbour Bird Boat** 9am  
Guided 1.5-2 hour birdwatching boat tour around Christchurch Harbour led by local ornithologist David Taylor. Booking well in advance essential, cost **£13pp**, minimum of 10 people required. *Please call 01425 470721 to book and to get meeting point details.*

**Sat 11 Jun Nightjar & Nightcap** 8.45pm–10.15pm  
Opportunity to see and hear fascinating nightjars, followed by an optional drink in the pub afterwards. Torch, wellies and insect repellent recommended. *Meet Avon Causeway entrance to site, opposite Avon Causeway Hotel, SZ136975.*

**Sun 26 June Wildflower wander** 2pm-4pm  
Join local botanist Felicity Woodhead for a walk around site identifying some of the interesting plants found on site. *Meet Outside St Catherine's Community Hall, Marlow Drive.*

**Thu 18 Aug Family Bugs & Beasties Day** 11am-4pm  
Join in a child-friendly programme of walks exploring the rich and fascinating natural history of the site. We will be pond dipping and looking for butterflies, dragonflies and other site wildlife. *Meet on the main bridleway adjacent to the concrete water reservoirs.*

**Sun 25 Sep Eight Legged Friends** 2pm-4pm  
Join local webmaster Tony Sheridan for this popular guided walk, looking at the wide variety of spiders found on site. *Meet at five bar gate at top of St Catherine's Hill Lane. SZ145950*

**Sat 15 Oct Annual Litter Pick** 10am-12pm  
All equipment (pickers, gloves, bags) and refreshments provided. No charge for this event!! *Meet at the top end of Sandy Lane. SZ144948.*

**Sat 12 Nov Fungal Foray** 11.00am-1.00pm  
Join expert Phil Budd on a walk around site and find out more about the world of mushrooms and toadstools. *Meet at the top end of Sandy Lane. SZ144948.*

**Sun 27 Nov Taster Practical Task** 1pm-4pm  
Find out more about how the site is managed and get hands on by taking part in a pine pull to help keep the heathland habitat open. Gloves, tools, supervision and refreshments provided. £Free *Meet outside St Catherine's Community Hall, Marlow Drive.*

**Wed 14 Dec Christmas Social & Fun Quiz** 7.30pm-9.30pm  
Annual festive get together for members, with mulled wine, mince pies and prizes. Maximum team size of six people. Tickets £4 members, £6 non-members *Meet at St Catherine's Community Hall.*