

## 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 Sarah Davis ([sarah.davis@bcpCouncil.gov.uk](mailto:sarah.davis@bcpCouncil.gov.uk)) 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:

Melanie Gibbons, Chairman  
Friends of St Catherine's Hill  
[melaniegibbons@hotmail.com](mailto:melaniegibbons@hotmail.com) 01202 470849

Robin Harley, Countryside Officer  
[robin.harley@bcpCouncil.gov.uk](mailto:robin.harley@bcpCouncil.gov.uk) 01202 817605

James Palmer, Assistant Countryside Officer  
[james.palmer@bcpCouncil.gov.uk](mailto:james.palmer@bcpCouncil.gov.uk) 01202 817428

Dorset Police (West Christchurch Beat) 101  
[westchristchurchnpt@dorset.pnn.police.uk](mailto:westchristchurchnpt@dorset.pnn.police.uk) (non emergency line)

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



## Events Programme 2022



Photos: provided by and © Robin Harley



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



## Friends of St Catherine's Hill Events Programme 2022

Events are subject to change and weather conditions on the day, please e-mail Robin Harley: [countryside@bcpcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:countryside@bcpcouncil.gov.uk) 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 23 Feb     **Annual General Meeting** 7.45pm – 9.30pm

Get an update on the 14th year of the Friends and elect officers; followed by refreshments and a talk by Bryan Pinchen on Solitary bees and wasps—garden pollinators and predators. *Meet in St Catherine's Community Hall.*

Sat 2 Apr        **Snakes in the Heather** 10am –12.30pm

Join Owain Masters from ARC and a ranger for a morning walk to look for our six native reptiles and learn about their conservation. Sturdy footwear or wellies recommended, 15 min walk to site. *Meet in small gravel car park opposite the Avon Causeway Pub, Hurn*

Sun 29 May     **Birds of the Heath** 8am-10.30am

Guided walk to look for birds typical of the heathland habitat with local bird expert David Taylor. Binoculars recommended if you have them. *Meet at junction of Suffolk Avenue and Marsh Lane. SZ151947*

Sat 18 June     **It's a wonderful night for a Moondance** 8.45pm-late

Evening walk on site led by Robin Harley to hopefully see and hear nightjars. Should be some extra light from a nearly full moon, if not overcast. Torch and insect repellent recommended. *Meet at junction of Orford Close and Hillside Drive.*

Sat 16 July     **Here there be Dragonflies** 11am–1pm

Join Andrew Brown from Dorset Dragonflies and a BCP Ranger for a walk to look for some of the many resident species of dragonflies and damselflies. Wellies recommended, 15 min walk to site. *Meet in small gravel car park opposite the Avon Causeway Pub, Hurn*

Sat 30 July     **Looky Dip** 1pm-3pm

Join a BCP Ranger for a family friendly walk and pond dip, looking for butterflies, dragonflies and other small residents. Equipment provided and wellies recommended. *Meet at entrance to site at the top of Marlow Drive, at the junction with Hillside Drive.*

Sat 20 August   **Bats All Folks!** 9.15pm-late

Evening bat walk to find out more about the species using this area, led by Ranger and bat detectorist Jamie Palmer. Torch and insect repellent recommended. *Meet in small car park opposite Avon Causeway Pub, Hurn.*

Sat 24 Sept     **Archaeology walk** 11am-12.30pm

Travel through time with Rick Sharp from ARC and a BCP Ranger for a walk around site visiting some of the historic features and locations, from the Bronze Age to the Cold War. *Meet at entrance to site at the top of Marlow Drive, at the junction with Hillside Drive.*

Sat 8 Oct        **Annual Litter Pick** 10am-12pm

Help the Council's Countryside team keep the site litter free. All equipment (pickers, gloves, bags) and refreshments provided. No charge for this event!! *Meet at the top end of Sandy Lane. SZ144948.*

Sun 23 Oct     **Little Rotters** 11am-1pm

Join naturalist Phil Budd for a mushroom identification walk. We will be focusing on identification and learning about the ecology of the varied species found on site, rather than picking. *Meet at entrance at top of Sandy Lane. SZ144948*

Wed 7 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—**booking in advance essential** via Melanie Gibbons. Tickets £4 members, £6 non-members. *Meet at St Catherine's Community Hall.*