

## 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 West (countryside@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 01202 470849

Lisa Sharp, Heathland Mitigation Warden  
Lisa.sharp@bcpcouncil.gov.uk 01202 817605

Robin Harley, Countryside Officer  
robin.harley@bcpcouncil.gov.uk 01202 817605

James Palmer, Assistant Countryside Officer  
james.palmer@bcpcouncil.gov.uk 01202 817605

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

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



## Events Programme 2024



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



## Friends of St Catherine's Hill Events Programme 2024

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 and funding items on site. Most events open to non-members.

### **Sat 17th Feb Lichens and Mosses 10:30 AM-12:30PM**

Join naturalist Phil Budd for a guided walk looking for Lichens and mosses that can be found within the heathland habitat. Meet at the junction of Orford Drive and Hillside Drive. SZ1388395821

### **Wed 21st Feb 16th Annual General Meeting 8.15PM– 9.30PM**

Get an update on the 15th year of the Friends and elect officers; followed by refreshments and a talk by Phil Budd on Lichens and mosses. *Meet in St Catherine's Community Hall. Doors open from 8pm.* SZ1404495246

### **Sat 2nd March A trip to Stanpit Marsh SSSI 1PM –3 PM**

*Join BCP ranger Rose and Senior Volunteer Warden Zena for an afternoon's stroll learning about the wildlife and history of this wonderful site. Coffee and biscuits to follow at the visitor centre. Please bring binoculars if you have them. Meet at Stanpit Car park.* SZ1719792489

### **Sun 14th April Spiders and bugs of the Heath 1 PM- 3PM**

Join naturalist and insect expert Phil Budd looking for spiders and other insects typical of a heathland habitat. Meet at entrance at junction of Orford Drive and Hillside Drive. SZ1388395821

### **Sat 11th May Photography Workshop 9:30AM -12:45 PM**

Join Alan Crockard and learn some camera techniques for photographing bird species. The session will start with a brief talk at the hall, followed by a practical session on St Catherine's Hill. There will then be an indoor session at the hall on the hill. Participants will need to bring their own camera. Booking is essential, please email [countryside@bcpcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:countryside@bcpcouncil.gov.uk). 12 spaces available. £6 non member, £4 members. Please meet at St Catherine's Community Hall. SZ1404495246

**Fri 7th 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. Torch and insect repellent recommended. *Meet at junction of Orford Drive and Hillside Drive.* SZ1388395821

### **Sat 27th July Here there be Dragonflies 11AM-1PM**

Join Andrew Brown, Dorset County Recorder for a guided walk to see some of the many dragonfly and damselfly species found on site. Meet in the small gravel car park opposite the Avon Causeway Pub, Hurn. SZ1369597552

### **Sat 24th August Bats All Folks! 8.15pm-late**

Evening bat walk to find out more about the species using this area, led by Jamie Palmer. Torch and insect repellent recommended. Meet in small car park opposite Avon Causeway, Hurn SZ1369597552

### **Sun 1st Sept Guided Walk and Cream tea 11 AM -1 pm**

*Come join us and see the Heathland in all its splendour. A general guided walk led by Lisa Sharp followed by a Cream Tea at the Hall on the Hill. Booking is essential, please email [countryside@bcpcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:countryside@bcpcouncil.gov.uk), 20 places available. £7 non member, £5 member.*

*Meet at entrance at the top of Marlow Drive* SZ1409295291

### **Sun 27th 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 of Orford Drive and Hillside Drive.* SZ1388395821

### **Sun 24th Nov Practical Pine Pull 10 am-1pm**

*Join Christchurch Conservation Volunteers for a practical morning managing an area of open heathland. Hot drinks, equipment and gloves provided. Meet at the entrance at the top of Marlow Drive.* SZ1409295291

### **Wed 4th 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.* SZ1404495246