



# Volunteer Programme (South) January - March 2026



**Bryniau Clwyd a Dyffryn Dyfrdwy**  
 Tirwedd Cenedlaethol  


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**Clwydian Range and Dee Valley**  
 National Landscape

In partnership with  
 **Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru**  
**Natural Resources Wales**



Wedi ei ariannu gan Llywodraeth y DU  **Funded by UK Government**

# Successes from last year



## DINAS BRAN DIG

1

Last year, the Dee Valley Ranger team swapped bow-saws and loppers for trowels and buckets, joining archaeologists from Heneb and Cadw for two weeks of excavation at Castell Dinas Brân. Exciting times!

The first trench was opened at the medieval gatehouse, adjacent to the dig from 2021, while the second explored the Iron Age rampart, an especially exciting development as this section had never been excavated before.

Whilst we didn't find gold, nor the Holy Grail, discoveries were intriguing. More medieval pottery was uncovered at the rampart than at the castle itself, suggesting that material may have been tipped there. Older, neolithic fragments also came to light, but the main aim was to collect soil samples that might help confirm when the ramparts were constructed – we will have to wait and see!

A huge thank you goes to everyone who joined in – it was great to spend time on the hill with so many dedicated volunteers.

## CORWEN COMMUNITY GARDEN

2

New Year, New You!

Why not start the year by getting involved in the Corwen Community Garden? Every Wednesday, volunteers come together to help manage and maintain this special space. With spring on the horizon, it will soon be time to tend the beds, sow seeds, and prepare the garden for the new season.

Everyone is welcome, whatever your gardening background. So why not pop down for chat, a cuppa, a slice of cake and the chance to learn a few gardening tips – or share your own!

Come along and join us, we'd love to see you there!

## NEW RANGERS JOIN THE TEAM

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We're delighted to welcome two new Rangers to the Dee Valley team:-

Tom joined the Dee Valley team in August. Before joining us, Tom worked as a Conservation Project Officer with Ecological Land Management and, prior to that, served seven years in the military. He brings a wealth of experience and enthusiasm to the role and is looking forward to meeting and working alongside many of you in the coming months.

Geraint joined the Dee Valley team early November. Before joining Geraint worked for Wild Ground based with Groundwork North Wales as a Reserves Officer looking after nature reserves across North East Wales, conserving habitats for Great Crested Newts. His background is predominantly nature conservation and working with volunteers. Geraint also volunteers with the Wirral Countryside and as an ancient tree verifier with the Woodland Trust. He also loves hedge laying! Geraint is really looking forward to working with the volunteers in the Dee Valley to improve the beautiful area that we live in.

# January



## Every Wednesday afternoon

### *Light Gardening Session*

Join the Rangers for some light gardening, a chat and a cuppa every Wednesday afternoon at Corwen Community Garden.

Meet at Corwen Community Garden, Corwen

Postcode: **LL21 0DN**, What3Words: **///support.files.scratches**

## Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> January

### *Wenffrwd Nature Reserve - Pathway maintenance*

Join us at Wenffrwd Nature Reserve for a day of pathway maintenance, including cutting back vegetation and revealing the wooden edging along the paths. It's a great chance to help keep the reserve accessible and looking its best!

Meet at Wenffrwd Nature Reserve Car Park

Postcode: **LL20 7UH**, What3Words: **///cheer.serve.aliens**

## Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> January

### *Dol Llangar - Hedge laying*

A great opportunity to learn or refresh a traditional countryside skill, led by the Rangers. Come along to meet like-minded people and get hands-on experience. All tools and equipment are provided – but feel free to bring your own if you prefer!

Meet at Llangar (Stamp) layby, Cynwyd

Postcode: **LL21 0HW**, What3Words: **///sleepless.pausing.newsprint**

## Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> January

### *Dol Llangar – Hedge laying (Round 2!)*

Join us for a second session of hedge laying – perfect if you couldn't make the first date, or if you'd like to come along to both. All tools and equipment will be provided though you're welcome to bring your own if you prefer.

Meet at Llangar (Stamp) layby, Cynwyd

Postcode: **LL21 0HW**, What3Words: **///sleepless.pausing.newsprint**

## Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> January

### *Castell Dinas Brân - Gorse clearance*

Join us at the iconic Castell Dinas Brân to help with vital habitat management on this unique and fragile acid grassland site. This session will focus on gorse clearance to support the health of the habitat. All tools and equipment will be provided.

Meet along the Pancake (the flat bit on the town-side!)

Postcode: **LL20 8D**, What3Words: **///offstage.trumpet.tasters**

# February



## Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> February

### *Horseshoe Falls - General Habitat Management*

Join the rangers for a rewarding day of general habitat management at our designated UNESCO World Heritage Site. Your helping hand will support the ongoing care and conservation of this special place. Tea, Coffee and biscuits will be provided!

Meet at Llantysilio Green Car Park, Llangollen

Postcode: **LL20 8BN**, What3Words: **///cookers.foresight.inch**

## Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> February

### *Plas Newydd - Laurel & Bramble Bashing*

Join us at the magnificent Plas Newydd to help with garden management by tackling laurel and bramble. Controlling these plants prevents them from spreading aggressively, becoming leggy, or shading out native undergrowth. Tools and equipment will be provided, along with tea, coffee, cake and biscuits!

Meet at Plas Newydd Tearooms, Llangollen

Postcode: **LL20 8AW**, What3Words: **///nozzles.creatures.fade**

## Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> February

### *Corwen-Cynwyd Railway - Coppicing*

Come and help manage this site for both conservation and recreation, by taking part in traditional coppicing. This task supports the woodland corridor and footpath/cycleway, offering a hands-on way to get involved with environmentally friendly management techniques.

Meet at Llangar (Stamp) Layby, Cynwyd

Postcode: **LL21 0HW**, What3Words: **///sleepless.pausing.newsprint**

## Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> February

### *Wenffrwd - Green woodworking*

Come and join us to learn the traditional skill of green woodworking. Green woodworking uses freshly cut, unseasoned timber, making it easier to shape with traditional hand tools like axes, froes, and drawknives to create items like spoons, furniture, or hurdles, focusing on splitting wood along the grain of the wood, come and enjoy a natural sustainable craft experience.

Meet at Wenffrwd Nature Reserve Car Park

Postcode: **LL20 7UH**, What3Words: **///cheer.serve.aliens**

## Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> February

### *Pen-Y-Pigyn Western Hemlock removal*

Come along and help the Rangers remove Western Hemlock (*Tsuga heterophylla*) at Coed Pen Y Pigyn to help enhance the broadleaved woodland, allowing younger native trees to emerge. Tools and equipment will be provided.

Meet at the Green Lane Car Park, Corwen

Postcode: **LL21 0DN**, What3Words: **///support.files.scratches**



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# March



## Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March

### *Pen-Y-Pigyn Western Hemlock removal*

Join the Rangers for another session where we will remove Western Hemlock at Coed Pen Y Pigyn. Tool and equipment will be provided.

Meet at the Green Lane Car Park, Corwen

Postcode: **LL210DN**, What3Words: **///support.files.scratches**

## Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> March

### *Dinas Bran School Hedge Laying*

Hedge laying is a traditional, ancient craft of managing hedgerows that rejuvenates the hedge and boosts wildlife habitat. Come along with us to learn the traditional heritage skill of hedge laying, join us to learn the safe use of traditional hand tools, the importance of hedges in the landscape and their benefits to wildlife and the countryside. We will cover lots of aspects of hedge laying and how to lay a hedge in the local Welsh Clwyd style.

Meet at Market Street Car Park, Llangollen

Postcode: **LL20 8NB**, What3Words: **///stems.rejoin.reckon**

## Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March

### *Dinas Bran School Hedge Laying*

The 2<sup>nd</sup> day of hedge laying to finish the hedge along the footpath by the school at Dinas Bran and tidy up the brash to make a habitat area. Teas and biscuits will be provided.

Meet at Market Street Car Park, Llangollen

Postcode: **LL20 8NB**, What3Words: **///stems.rejoin.reckon**

## Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> March

### *Trevor Hall Woods Dry Stone Walling*

Come and join the Rangers to help repair the Stone Wall at Trevor Hall Woods. An ancient, mortar-free method of building walls by interlocking carefully selected stones. Not only are stone walls durable and pleasing to the eye, they blend into landscapes and provide vital habitats for wildlife. Tools and equipment provided.

**\*Meeting location TBC**

**Thank you so much for  
your hard work!**



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