

## 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 Ranger  
Lisa.sharp@bcpcouncil.gov.uk 01202 817605

Robin Harley, East Area Manager  
robin.harley@bcpcouncil.gov.uk 01202 817605

James Palmer, Lead Countryside Ranger  
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 2025



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



## Friends of St Catherine's Hill Events Programme 2025

Events are subject to change and weather conditions on the day, please e-mail Lisa Sharp : [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.

### **Sun 9th 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 Close and Hillside Drive.  
w3w///zeal.haystack.vine SZ1389895827

### **Wed 26th Feb AGM and talk on Wildlife Gardening 8.15PM– 10 PM**

Get an update on the 16th year of the Friends and elect officers; followed by refreshments and a talk by BCP Ranger Josh Clarke on Wildlife gardening. *Meet in St Catherine's Community Hall. Doors open from 8pm.* w3w///stardom.marinated.result SZ140509249

### **Sat 22nd March Poetry on the Hill 10AM – 12pm**

Join BCP's very own Poet Richard Hesketh as we celebrate the start of spring with a nature walk and some spring poetry. We will hear both familiar and not-so-familiar spring nature poems. Feel free to bring along your favourite spring poem to have read out during the walk. Meet at entrance at the top of Marlow Drive  
w3w///anchorman.yarn.erase SZ1409295291

### **Sun 27th April Woodland walk at Steamer Point 10 AM- 12 PM**

Join BCP ranger Sarah West for a woodland walk around Steamer Point Nature Reserve, a mixed broadleaved woodland exploring the folklore, historical and medicinal uses of the plants that call it home. Meet at Steamer Point Visitor Centre, Penny Way.  
w3w///youth.herds.glass SZ1970092863

### **Sun 25th May Birds of the Heath 7:30 AM -9:30 AM**

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 the junction of Suffolk Drive and Marsh lane.  
w3w///exact.post.buggy SZ1513194691

**Wed 4th 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 Close and Hillside Drive.* w3w///zeal.haystack.vine SZ1389895827

### **Sat 12th July Here there be Dragonflies 11AM-1PM**

Celebrating Dragonfly week , 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.  
w3w///reference.alarmed.opponent SZ1369597552

### **Sun 3rd August Celebrating Heath Week—Fun Crafts and activities 10AM-12pm Free Event**

Come and join the Heathland Mitigation Rangers and enjoy a fun morning of crafts and activities with a Heathland theme. Meet on site by the water reservoirs. w3w///edgy.areas..emporium  
Nearest entrance Top of Marlow Drive w3w///anchorman.yarn.erase SZ1409295291

### **Sat 23rd Aug Bats all Folks 8.00 pm-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  
w3w///reference.alarmed.opponent SZ1369597552

### **Sat 27th Sept Archaeology Guided Walk 11 AM -1 pm**

Join Robin Harley and Hayden Scott-Pratt for a trip through time and find out more about the rich and varied past of this special area, from the Stone Age to the present.  
*Meet at entrance at the top of Marlow Drive*  
w3w///anchorman.yarn.erase SZ1409295291

### **Sun 26th Oct Town Common and back 10am-1pm**

Join BCP Ranger Eva for an extended walk that features both St Catherine's Hill and Town Common. Taking in the ridge path to show the stunning view across the Avon Causeway.  
*Meet at the entrance of Marlow Drive.* w3w///anchorman.yarn.erase SZ1409295291

### **Sun 2nd Nov Little Rotters 11 am-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 Close and Hillside Drive.* w3w///zeal.haystack.vine SZ1389895827

### **Wed 3rd 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.*  
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