



CONSERVATION VOLUNTEERS TAYSIDE GROUP

SUMMER PROGRAMME

JUNE – NOVEMBER 2019

www.nts.org.uk/Volunteering/Outdoor



About Conservation Volunteers

Conservation Volunteers (CVs) are a diverse group of people who carry out practical conservation work for the National Trust for Scotland. The Tayside CV Group work mainly on properties in Central, Tayside & Fife and occasionally at properties outwith this area. All food is provided on residential weekend projects. However, you are required to bring your own sandwiches on day projects (we provide hot drinks & biscuits).

CVs have the opportunity to:

- Learn new skills such as drystone dyking, footpath construction and woodland management;
- Work in beautiful gardens and stunning countryside throughout Scotland;
- Meet new people, enjoy some fresh air and exercise, and become actively involved in conservation and the Trust;
- Attend training courses and lectures to enhance your understanding of countryside skills and conservation issues.

How to Register

You will need to complete a Registration Form (details on how to obtain this form can be found at the end of this programme). Thereafter, you will receive a Conservation Volunteer New Member Information Pack. You will remain on our database providing you attend at least one project every three years.

Meet-ups/Socials

Most planning for the weekend projects and social events is discussed/arranged at meetings held on Perthshire workdays. Additional meetings and the AGM are held when necessary on a Monday evening at 7.30pm, in Dundee or Perth.

How to Join a Project

If you would like to go on any of the projects listed below, please contact the nominated leader directly. If there is no leader yet appointed for a particular task, please give your name to Robert Dey. Robert can be contacted on the number given at the end of this programme. To enable property staff to co-ordinate projects and to maximise use of the hire minibus, it is **ESSENTIAL** to know volunteer numbers in advance. **Volunteers must sign up for a project by the Sunday preceding the weekend on which the project is due to take place (ie a week's clear notice).** If there are insufficient numbers to make a project viable, then volunteers will be notified of the cancellation by phone at the start of the week. **If you are unable to attend a project, it is ESSENTIAL that you let the project leader know, so no one is waiting for you. Please let leaders know if you require a lift or will make your own way to the project.**

June 2019	
Saturday 8 June	Falkland one-day project, departure time 9am <i>Leader: Roy Cooper, 07852 122 014</i>
Friday 21 June - Sunday 23 June	Threave weekend project, departure time TBC <i>Leader: Fiona Paterson, 07931 870 474</i>
July	
Saturday 6 July	Branklyn one-day project, departure time 9am <i>Leader: Rob Dey, 07875 879 354</i>
Saturday 20 July	Linn of Tummel one-day project, departure time 9am <i>Leader: Diane Milne, 07773 631 117</i>
August	
Saturday 17 August	Falkland one-day project, departure time 9am <i>Leader: Rob Dey, 07875 879 354</i>
Saturday 24 August	Barry Mill one-day project, departure time 9am <i>Leader: Diane Milne, 07773 631 117</i>
September	
Saturday 14 September	House of the Binns one-day project, departure time 9am <i>Leader: Rob Dey, 07875 879 354</i>
Saturday 28 September	Culross one-day project, departure time 9am <i>Leader: Fiona Paterson, 07931 870 474</i>
October	
Saturday 5 October	Dollar Glen one-day project, departure time 9am <i>Leader: Moira Coull, 07982 821 528</i>
Saturday 26 October	Pineapple weekend project, departure time 9am <i>Leader: Diane Milne, 07773 631 117</i>
November	
Saturday 16 November	Killiecrankie one-day project, departure time 9am <i>Leader: Rob Dey, 07875 879 354</i>
Saturday 30 November	CV Christmas Ceilidh , Ballinluig Village Hall, Perthshire 8.00pm

NB: Sturdy footwear essential, unless otherwise stated.

Project Information

Accommodation & Work Grading

Falkland Palace Falkland is one of Scotland's finest Renaissance palaces. **In June** the main task will be clearing ivy and brambles from the woodland area which will help provide access for tree work/inspections. **In August** clearing cut grass from the wildflower meadow will be on the agenda. This work will help to maintain the meadow's vitality.

WG 2

Threave Come along for the weekend and help with maintenance of the path network on the wider estate at this beautiful Dumfries & Galloway property. **Steel toe capped boots may be required. Check with your CV Leader beforehand.**

NTS Holiday Cottages
WG 3

Branklyn This attractive garden is a peaceful haven within walking distance of Perth city centre, bursting with rare and unusual plants and flowers. Gardener Jim could do with a hand to scythe the meadow to encourage native wildflowers that help protect biodiversity in this lovely property.

WG 2

Linn of Tummel	The Linn of Tummel is a picturesque and peaceful place, bursting with wildlife and stunning views. Join Emma the Ranger to help repair revetments along the riverside path, build new small boardwalks and lay down netting. If there's time, removal of <i>Rhododendron ponticum</i> might also be on the agenda. Steel toe capped boots may be required. Check with your CV Leader beforehand.	WG 2/3
Barry Mill	Barry Mill takes you right back to the heart of 19 th century rural Scottish life. Now a haven of tranquillity, this water-powered mill was once the hub of its community, producing oatmeal and animal feed, as well as providing work for locals. Work tasks will be confirmed nearer the time, but might include building dead hedges, forest clearance and footpath maintenance. Steel toe capped boots may be required. Please check with your CV Leader beforehand.	WG 2
House of the Binns	Set in beautifully landscaped parkland overlooking the River Forth, this fascinating laird's house near Linlithgow has been the home of the Dalryells for 400 years. Come along for the day and help Ranger Laura with some brash removal.	WG 2
Culross	Culross is acknowledged as one of the most picturesque villages in Scotland - often used as a film and television location. During this one day project you will be helping Gardener Louise with hedge border maintenance. Maximum of 8 volunteers required.	WG 2
Dollar Glen	This stretch of woodland lies east of Stirling and is ensconced in the shadow of the Ochil Hills. There's a wealth of rare wildlife habitats here. The local Ranger needs your help with upgrading the path network to improve access for visitors. Steel toe capped boots may be required. Check with your CV Leader beforehand.	WG 3
The Pineapple	Step back to 1761, a time when pineapples were among the most exotic foods imaginable. This intriguing folly was built by the Earl of Dunmore to enjoy fantastic views of the surrounding area. During this one day project you'll be having some Rhoddie bashing fun with Gardener Louise.	WG 2
Killiecrankie	Killiecrankie is rich in social and natural history as it played a part in the Jacobite uprising and is classified as a Special Site of Scientific Interest for its semi-ancient woodland. You'll be busy helping the Rangers with some fencing work which will allow visitors to access the site safely. If there's time, tree planting, invasive species removal and footpath maintenance may also feature. Steel toe capped boots may be required. Please check with your CV Leader beforehand.	WG 2/3
Christmas Ceilidh	The Conservation Volunteer Christmas Ceilidh is always a great night! Mulled wine and nibbles will be available on arrival and a two course meal will be served at 9.00pm. Tickets are priced at £14.00 and partygoers will be able to stay overnight in the village hall at no extra cost - a simple breakfast will be provided. Tickets can be purchased from the Conservation Volunteer Co-ordinator, Julie Bond. Do remember to bring along a small raffle prize and your own special beverage! Transport provided.	Ballinluig Village Hall, Perthshire

Work Grading:

WG1. Low-level work, not too physical

WG2. Medium, tasks slightly more physical

WG3. Demanding work (eg footpath repairs/dyking) and could also involve a long walk to the worksite

Additional Events and Information

Leader Training Course: Friday 22 – Sunday 24 November 2019**Venue: Pitlochry Youth Hostel, Knockard Road, PH16 5HJ**

This weekend leader training course is free and open to all five Groups and is aimed at those who would like to lead weekend or day projects. For further information, please contact Julie Bond; email

conservationvolunteers@nts.org.uk

Under 18s: On grounds of Health and Safety, our projects are unsuitable for those under 18 years of age.

What to bring with you:

Tough old clothes to work in, waterproofs, boots and/or wellies, toilet kit/towel, hat, sunscreen F30+, wide brimmed sun hat, insect repellent, scarf, gloves, personal medication, torch, camera - and don't forget your lunch if it's a day project! NB: Sturdy footwear is **ESSENTIAL!** **Any volunteer wishing to participate in drystone dyking is required to wear boots or Wellingtons with steel toecaps. For newcomers to the Group, there will be a limited supply of Wellingtons with steel toecaps available for use. Remember** to clean your boots before and after a project, and between work sites. Please refer to our Biosecurity instructions – [Mind your feet!](#)

What we provide

Transport, accommodation, food on residential projects, refreshments on day projects, crockery, cutlery, tools, work gloves, insurance and first aid kits. If you have any dietary requirements, please let your project leader know in advance.

Leaders and drivers wanted

If you're interested in becoming a Project Leader or Minibus Driver then we'd love to hear from you! Leaders need to be trained in First Aid, which we will arrange for you, and if you're interested in driving a minibus you will need to take a MiDAS minibus driving test. This certificated course covers all aspects of safe and defensive minibus driving and is recognised nationally. The course is free to CVs who are over 21 with two years' driving experience (you must also have D1 on your driver's licence). Please contact Robert Dey if you are interested in this.

Paramo - www.paramo.co.uk

The National Trust for Scotland has negotiated a substantial discount with the outdoor clothing company Paramo. For further information, please contact the Tayside Group Paramo Representative Robert Dey. This discount is only available to active CVs.

Regatta Great Outdoors - www.regatta.com offer active CVs a 20% on-line discount. At checkout use code **STAFF20NTS**.

Holiday Discount Active CVs are also eligible for a **50% discount on one-week stays and 25% off short breaks** in selected Trust accommodation! (Conditions apply – discount on full price only, when booked within two weeks of stay, excludes non-Trust accommodation). Check availability on www.nts.org.uk/holidays, then email holidays@nts.org.uk or phone 0131 458 0398 to book.

Evaluation Forms It's always good to get feedback. If you'd like to draw our attention to anything or you'd just like to let us know how much you've enjoyed your weekend, please ask the Project Leader for a Conservation Volunteer Evaluation Form.

Health and Safety

The Trust is committed to a safe and healthy working environment for all, and as part of this aim, considers all volunteers as staff for the purposes of health and safety management and legal compliance. In practical terms this means that:

Volunteers should be aware of their general responsibilities to look after their own safety and that of anyone else around them, and to cooperate with the Trust fully in adopting their safe working practices. The normal arrangements in relation to footwear, clothing, preventative steps and sensible working practices apply equally to staff and volunteers.

The Trust Staff Member co-ordinating the activity should carry out a specific risk assessment of the activity before it takes place, to identify the significant risks and their control measures and provide the volunteers with the information prior to the activity starting. Property staff should familiarise all volunteers with:

- the summary of the risk assessment
- any relevant emergency procedures
- detailed instructions for specific equipment
- detailed instructions for specific techniques, as required.

Further support can be obtained from:

- The current NTS Health, Safety and Environmental Manual - particularly the model risk assessments
- Property staff involved in the activity
- The NTS HSE
- The Property's Safe System of Work where one exists.

If at any time you have any questions, or feel uneasy about the level of risk being faced, please let the leader of the Group know immediately. Please note that Health and Safety Legislation requires that items such as aspirin are not included in our First Aid Kits. If you suffer from migraine or require any form of medication, you must provide this yourself. Volunteers are strongly urged to have an anti-tetanus injection, or booster, if required.

Other Conservation Volunteer Groups Please visit our website www.nts.org.uk/Volunteering/Outdoor to see what other CV Groups are up to this season. Tayside CVs are very welcome to attend projects advertised in other programmes, providing there is space available and you can arrange your own transport to the site or pick-up point.

REGISTRATION FORMS can be obtained from Julie Bond. Alternatively you can download a registration form from our website: www.nts.org.uk/Volunteering/Outdoor

ALL VOLUNTEERS MUST COMPLETE A REGISTRATION FORM PRIOR TO WORKING WITH THE GROUP

Volunteer Chairperson:

Robert Dey
Carlton
Craigie Knowes Road
Perth
PH2 ODG

Tel: 07875 879 354 (mobile)

CV Regional Co-ordinator, Tayside Group:

Hannah Patterson
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PH8 OAN

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NTS Central Office Contact:

Julie Bond
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5 Cultins Road
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Tel: 0131 458 0315

Email: conservationvolunteers@nts.org.uk

(Monday, Wednesday & Thursday)

Find us on Facebook <http://www.facebook.com/NTSVolunteering>

The National Trust for Scotland for Places of Historic Interest and Natural Beauty is a charity registered in Scotland,
Charity Number SC 007410

