


Guided Walks & Countryside Events in Staffordshire January 2009 - June 2009

The guided walks are generally for 1½ hours whilst the duration of the events is variable. Where possible, information of local public transport is given. At some locations a small charge is made for car parking.

There is a charge for the activities of £2.00 per adult, children free.

A	Easy, level, walking - younger children and people with disabilities	Ch	Cannock Chase
B	Multi-terrain, some gradients	CRS	County Ranger Service
C	Heavy going, mud, obstacles, steep gradients	NCP	Newcastle Countryside Project
D	Rubber boots are advised for pond dipping	AONB	Cannock Chase AONB Unit
E	Event	SWT	Staffordshire Wildlife Trust
			Public Transport (where available)
		<i>ARR - Arriva</i>	<i>TAX - Taxico</i>
		<i>FIR</i>	<i>- First</i>

JANUARY '09

Sun 4th B, CRS, Ch Start 10.00am SJ974212
Get Fit after Christmas
 Burn off those excess calories off on this 10 mile trip to Cannock Chase Visitor Centre.
Meet at Milford Common Car Park - 10.00am (return 3.00pm).

 *ARR 825 to Milford Common*

Sun 4th B, CRS Start 12.00pm SJ839399
Calorie Burner
 Burn off those Christmas calories with a 7 mile New Year walk accompanied by a ranger. With views of woodland scenery, the Wrekin and surrounding land.
Meet at Hanchurch Hills County Council car park off Drayton Road by Keepers Cottage. (Bring a packed lunch).

Sun 18th E, Ch, CRS Start 2.00pm SK004153
Nest Box Building
 Come and try your hand at building nest boxes for the new breeding season. Either take the box away with you or donate it to the rangers to put up around the visitor centre. £5.00 per box.
Meet at Cannock Chase Visitor Centre, Marquis Drive, Hednesford.

 *ARR 351,352 to Moors Gorse then 1½ mile walk to Marquis Drive.*

Sun 18th B, CRS Start 11.30am SJ889551
Who needs leaves?
 Join the ranger for a short walk around Greenway Bank Country Park and learn how to identify trees in winter.
Meet at Visitor Centre, Greenway Bank Country Park, Bemmersley Road, Knypersley.

 *FIR 6A, 99*

Sun 25th C, CRS Start 10.30am SJ944483
Churnet Valley Hike
 A long-distance walk of approximately 7 miles, with some strenuous sections, taking in the beauty which is the Churnet Valley, starting at Consall Nature Park Visitor Centre. There will be the opportunity to have lunch at a local public house, therefore **BOOKING IS ESSENTIAL**. To book phone 01782 550939. Please bring appropriate clothing and footwear.
Meet at Visitor Centre, Consall Nature Park, Wildacres Drive, Consall.

 *TAX 16 to Wetley Rocks, 1 mile walk*

Sun 25th B, NCP Start 12.00pm SJ725374
Ancient Stones of Oakley Park
 A walk along the lanes to Norton-in-Hales return via Oakley Park to see the Devils Ring and Finger and other Neolithic monuments. Picnic on the village green.
Meet at Mucklestones Church, Mucklestones near Loggerheads.

Sat 31st E, SWT Start 1.00pm to 3.00pm SJ824484
Wildplay at Apedale
 Fun packed environmental activities for children at Apedale Community Country Park with the Staffordshire Wildlife Trust team (also every other Saturday and during school holidays).
Meet at Apedale Community Country Park. Loomer Road, Chesterton, Newcastle.

FEBRUARY '09

Sun 1st B, Ch, CRS Start 2.00pm SK004153
Brindley Heath Walk
 Learn about the military, industrial and natural history of this scenic part of the Chase.
Meet at Cannock Chase Visitor Centre, Marquis Drive, Hednesford.

 *ARR 351,352 to Moors Gorse then 1½ mile walk to Marquis Drive.*

Sun 1st B, CRS Start 10.30am SJ962534
A Scenic Walk Around Longsdon
 Admire the rolling hills and valleys on this 4½ mile walk around Longsdon.
Meet at Deep Hayes Visitor Centre, Sutherland Road, Longsdon.

 *FIR X18, 18*

Sun 8th B, CRS Start 12.00pm SJ889551
Birdwatching for Beginners
 Join a County Council Ranger for an introduction into watching and identifying birds. Bring a note book, pencil and binoculars if possible.
Meet at Visitor Centre, Greenway Bank Country Park, Bemmersley Road, Knypersley.

 *FIR 6A, 99*

Sun 15th B, CRS, Ch Start 2.00pm SJ981192
The Great War Trail
 An opportunity to tread the path of the 1st World War soldier and learn about the military history of the Chase.
Meet at Coppice Hill Car Park, Chase Road, Brocton.

 *ARR 836 to Brocton Cross Road then ¾ mile walk to Brocton Village Green, turn right up "Chase Rd" for ¾ mile, then first left after "Chase Vista" Car Park.*

Sat 14th & Sun 15th E, CRS Start 11.00am to 4.00pm SJ994483
Next Box Building Weekend
 Come and be part of National Nest box week and help the birds in your local area. We will show you how to construct a nest box suitable for the garden and provide a guide to locating your newly constructed box in your garden; this is suitable for all ages. Only £5.00 per box, all tools and materials provided.
Meet at Visitor Centre, Consall Nature Park, Wildacres Drive, Consall.

 *TAX 16 to Wetley Rocks, 1 mile walk*

Sun 22nd B, NCP Start 12.00pm
The Countryside Around Ashley
 An exploration of the lanes and hidden corners of Ashley Dale and Ashley Heath. Picnic in the pine forest, Burnt Wood.
Meet at Ashley Memorial Hall car park, (junction of Pinewood Rd and Gravelly Hill).

Sun 22nd E, CRS Start 12.00pm to 4.00pm SJ824484
Build a Bird Home
 As part of National Nest Box Week why not come along and make your very own bird box to provide a home for the birds in your garden. £5.00 per box.
Meet at Apedale Community Country Park. Loomer Road, Chesterton, Newcastle.

MARCH '09

Sun 1st B, CRS, Ch Start 10.00am SK004153
Put a Spring in your Step
 5 mile walk as the Chase wakes up for Spring.
Meet at Cannock Chase Visitor Centre, Marquis Drive, Hednesford.

 *ARR 351,352 to Moors Gorse then 1½ mile walk to Marquis Drive.*

Sun 22nd B, CRS Start 11.30am SJ889551
The Countryside Around Knypersley
 This is a 7 mile walk taking Norton Green, the Cauldron Canal and Stockton Brook. Approximately 3.5 hours. Please bring appropriate outdoor clothing and footwear.
Meet at Visitor Centre, Greenway Bank Country Park, Bemmersley Road, Knypersley.

 *FIR 6A, 99*

Sun 29th E, Ch, CRS Start 2.00pm SK004153
Feathered Finery
 View the birds in their breeding plumage and see the migrants preparing for that long journey.
Meet at Cannock Chase Visitor Centre, Marquis Drive, Hednesford.

 *ARR 351,352 to Moors Gorse then 1½ mile walk to Marquis Drive.*

Sun 29th B, CRS Start 12.00pm SJ824484
Newcastle Way and Apedale Circular
 A chance to get a view of the local area surrounding Adedale taking in views of the country park on the way. Some undulating slopes on walk.
Meet at Apedale Community Country Park. Loomer Road, Chesterton, Newcastle.

Sun 29th B, CRS Start 1.30pm SJ994483
Spring is in the Air
 It's that time of year again when all things are bursting into life so why not let the Ranger take you on a journey of discovery to show you what is new in the woods.
Meet at Visitor Centre, Consall Nature Park, Wildacres Drive, Consall.


 *TAX 16 to Wetley Rocks, 1 mile walk*

APRIL '09

Sun 5th B, CRS, Start 1.30pm SJ962534
Spring at Deep Hayes
 At this time of year it's very busy! Visit the park to find out what's happening.
Meet at Deep Hayes Visitor Centre, Sutherland Road, Longsdon.

 *FIR X18, 18*

Sun 12th B, CRS, Ch Start 2.00pm SJ981192
Annual Easter Sunday Spring Walk
 Easter Sunday Heathlands and Woodlands walk over Cannock Chase.
Meet at Coppice Hill Car Park off Chase Road, Brocton.

 *ARR 4 to Brocton Cross Roads then ¾ mile walk to Brocton Village Green, turn right up "Chase Rd" for ¾ mile, then first left after "Chase Vista" car park.*

Sun 12th & Mon 13th A, NCP Start 10.30am to 3.00pm SJ824484
Easter Eggstravaganzer
 This Easter search for eggs, solve clues and unlock the mystery word to win some fantastic prizes. £2.00 per entry.
Meet at Newcastle Countryside Project Centre, Apedale Community Country Park.

Mon 13th E, Ch, CRS Start 11.00am SK004153
The Great Eggscape
 Solve the clues to find the eggscapes.
Meet at Cannock Chase Visitor Centre, Marquis Drive, Hednesford.

 *ARR 351,352 to Moors Gorse then 1½ mile walk to Marquis Drive.*

Sun 19th E, CRS Start 10.00am to 4.00pm SK026477
Map Reading for Beginners
 Ever wondered where you are? Learn some basic techniques to help you explore the countryside. Take home a starter pack to help you find your own way around. **MAXIMUM 10 PLACES - £5.00 EACH. BOOKING REQUIRED BY FRIDAY 17th APRIL BY CONTACTING RANGER ON (01538) 266909.** Please bring a packed lunch and outdoor clothing/footwear.
Meet at Froghall Wharf Picnic Site, Foxt Road, Froghall, S-O-T.

Sun 19th E, Ch, CRS Start 11.00am SK004153
Heritage Trail Opening
 To celebrate the opening of this cycle route come and join the rangers on a family bike ride partly over the trail and partly on the Chase and after lunch the children can try the Squirrel Scurry orienteering trail!
Meet at Cannock Chase Visitor Centre, Marquis Drive, Hednesford.

 *ARR 351,352 to Moors Gorse then 1½ mile walk to Marquis Drive.*

Sat 25th B, E Start 11.00am to 4.00pm SJ994483
The Working Woodland
 This will be a FREE demonstration day to illustrate how an area of woodland can be managed to benefit both people and wildlife. There will be an opportunity to watch traditional woodland crafts and purchase your own bean polls and pea sticks.
Meet at Visitor Centre, Consall Nature Park, Wildacres Drive, Consall.

 *TAX 16 to Wetley Rocks, 1 mile walk*

Sun 26th B, Ch, CRS Start 10.30am - 2.30pm SK004204
Cross Chase Walk & Ride
 Enjoy a 5 mile walk across Cannock Chase beginning at Seven Springs and arriving at Cannock Chase Visitor Centre for lunchtime. Experience a trip in a landrover back over the Chase in the afternoon. **PRIOR BOOKING REQUIRED BY 24th April 2009 - COST £5.00 - CONTACT RANGER SERVICE ON (01543) 871773.**
Meet at the Seven Springs Car Park on A513.

 *ARR 825*

Sun 26th B, NCP Start 12.00pm
Spring is all Around
 A stroll from Whitmore to Combesdale and Haddon Hill, with a chance to listen to the birds and view the wildflowers in the hedgebanks. Bring a picnic. Optional local farm tea after the walk.
Meet at Whitmore Village Hall

MAY '09

Date TBC B, AONB Start 9.30am to 11.30am
AONB Bluebell Walk
 Come on a walk around Beaudesert Scout Camps beautiful bluebell wood. Bluebells are only in full bloom for one week a year so please register an interest with the AONB team and then we will contact you with a date when they come out.
Venue: Beaudesert Scout Camp, Cannock Wood
Contact: Emma Beaman - 01889 882613 or email emma.beaman@staffordshire.gov.uk

Sat 9th E, AONB Start 11.00am to 4.00pm
Canine Awareness Day 2009
 Calling all dogs! Bring your owners to Cannock Chase's Canine Information Day on Saturday 9th May.
 The fun happens between 11am and 4pm at Birches Valley Forestry near Rugeley.

Dogs can pick up free goody bags from Arden Grange, special canine calendars and watch experts from the Staffs Agility School and Dog Display Team. And between 12 noon and 1pm you could be judged the smiliest dog, the owner of the waggiest tail and your owner could be win a prize for being the best handler too!

Human companions can pick up lots of tips from the information caravan on how to keep dogs safe on the Chase and how to ensure that dogs, horses and wildlife can enjoy Cannock Chase in harmony.

In addition, this year we will have dash and splash there. A large pool which your dog can long jump into and win prizes. An un-missable experience.

Anyone wanting to exhibit for the day should contact the AONB unit.

Venue: Birches Valley Forestry Centre, WS15 2UQ
Entry: £1
Contact: Emma Beaman - 01889 882613 or email emma.beaman@staffordshire.gov.uk

Sun 10th B, CRS, Ch Start 1.30pm SJ962534
Wild Food Wonder
 Food is not always wrapped in cling film, sprayed with chemicals and shipped from Peru! Come and see what nature can provide on your doorstep.
Meet at Deep Hayes Visitor Centre, Sutherland Road, Longsdon.

 *FIR X18, 18*

Sun 10th B, Ch, CRS Start 10.30am SJ981192
A Beginners Guide to Reptiles
 Adder nuff of being frightened of snakes? Come and walk over the Chase to see the reptiles basking on the heathlands. **NUMBERS LIMITED - PRIOR BOOKING REQUIRED BY 9TH MAY. CONTACT RANGER SERVICE ON (01543) 871773. STRICTLY NO DOGS!**
Meet at the Glacial Boulder Car Park on Chase Road.

 *ARR 836 to Brocton Cross Roads then ¾ mile walk to Brocton Village Green, turn right up "Chase Rd" for ¾ mile.*

Sun 17th E, Ch, CRS Start 10.30am SK004153
Map Reading for Beginners
 Instead of getting lost on the Chase, let the rangers tell you how to use a compass, read maps and much more. There is also a chance to practice your skills in the great outdoors!. **PRIOR BOOKING REQUIRED BY FRIDAY 15th MAY BY CONTACTING RANGER ON (01543) 871773.**
Meet at Cannock Chase Visitor Centre, Marquis Drive, Hednesford.

 *ARR 351,352 to Moors Gorse then 1½ mile walk to Marquis Drive.*

Sat 23rd E, CRS Start 10.00am to 4.00pm SJ889551
Volunteers Day
 Join the volunteers and the ranger for a day of practical work, helping out with the management of Greenway Bank Country Park. Bring boots, practical clothing and a packed lunch. Plenty of tea and biscuits provided.
Meet at Visitor Centre, Greenway Bank Country Park, Bemmersley Road, Knypersley.

 *FIR 6A, 99*

Sun 24th B, CRS Start 2.00pm SK033096
Blooms at the Bog
 Come to Norton Bog and see the spring flowers emerge from this new country park.
Meet at the car park off Burntwood Road, Norton Canes.

Tues 26th E, CRS Start 10.30am to 3.00pm SJ962534
Bushcraft Day
 Learn the skills of survival in the woods of Deep Hayes. Please bring appropriate clothing and footwear and a packed lunch. **NUMBERS LIMITED - PRIOR BOOKING REQUIRED BY 25th MAY. CONTACT RANGER SERVICE ON (01538 387655).**
Meet at Deep Hayes Visitor Centre, Sutherland Road, Longsdon.

 *FIR X18, 18*

Wed 27th E, CRS Start 1.30pm SJ994485
Bugs, Bugs Glorious Bugs
 We will become bug hunters for the afternoon discovering the small things that grown ups miss, crawling through the grass into the world that is the **'CREEPY CRAWLIES'**. This event is for all who enjoy getting their hands mucky. Children £2.00, adults free.
Meet at Visitor Centre, Consall Nature Park, Wildacres Dr., Consall.

 *TAX 16 to Wetley Rocks, 1 mile walk*

Sun 31st D, E, Ch, CRS Start 11.00am to 3.00pm SK004153
It Came From the Depths
 Come and see what lives in the ponds on the Chase and try your hand at catching mini beasts in the woods.
Meet at Cannock Chase Visitor Centre, Marquis Drive, Hednesford.

 *ARR 351,352 to Moors Gorse then 1½ mile walk to Marquis Drive.*

Sun 31st B, CRS Start 12.00pm SJ824484
Beating the Bounds at Apedale
 Get a good look around Apedale using unique routes around this site. This is a good chance to have a look at the wildlife riches at Apedale.
Meet at Apedale Community Country Park. Loomer Road, Chesterton, Newcastle.

JUNE '09

Sun 7th B, CRS, Ch Start 2.30pm SJ972183
Natural History of Brocton Local Nature Reserve
 Wildfowl on the lake and wildlife of the surrounding woodlands and heathlands.
Meet Bednall Belt Car Park. NO parking at reserve itself.

 *ARR 4 aight Chetwynd Arms and walk up Camp Road (towards Commonwealth Cemeteries) to Bednall Belt Car Park ¼ mile on right.*

Sun 7th E, NCP/CRS Start 10.00am to 3.30pm SJ824484
Apedale Nature Day
 A family activity day including pond dipping, face painting, mini-beasts and fungi fun. Come and join us for a great day out.
Meet at Newcastle Countryside Project Centre, Apedale Community Country Park.

Sun 21st E, Ch, CRS Start 1.00pm SK004153
Dads Day Bushcraft
 An event for lads and dads! Come and try your hand at shelter building, practice simple survival skills and find out how to survive the night in the open. **NUMBERS LIMITED - PRIOR BOOKING REQUIRED BY 19th JUNE. CONTACT RANGER SERVICE ON (01543 871773).**
Meet at Cannock Chase Visitor Centre, Marquis Drive, Hednesford.

 *ARR 351,352 to Moors Gorse then 1½ mile walk to Marquis Drive.*

Sat 27th B, CRS Start 11.00am SK096561
Manifold Valley Walk
 An enchanting walk passing through some of the best scenery the Staffordshire moorlands has to offer. 6 miles, 4 hours. Outdoor clothing required.
Meet at layby parking near to Wetton Mill, near to café.

Sun 28th D, CRS Start 2.00pm SK038088
Pond Dipping at Norton Bog
 Try your hand at pond dipping in the pools at Norton Bog and visit the world of Skaters, Scorpions and Skimmers!
Meet at Chasewater Heath Café Car Park off the Burntwood Bypass.