

FOLK Work Party Programme, April to September 2025.

Please note that, according to Natural England rules, scrub clearance and grass cutting should be curtailed between 1st March and 15th July (and tree removal between 1st March and 31st August). These restrictions do not apply to infrastructure, maintenance or restoration work which can be done with caution.

The FOLK spring/summer programme consists of annual mowing tasks, keeping well used paths accessible, creating and maintaining firebreaks, removal of alien plant species and maintaining the integrity of Special features such as the Cotswold stone boundary wall and the limekilns. In addition, this period is a good time to monitor the effectiveness of previous scrub clearance, and to treat regrowth as necessary.

Here is the programme for April to September.

CKC/W

Monitor and maintain areas previously cleared of gorse and other scrub. Check for regrowth and treat as necessary, this includes both sides of the diagonal path above Shackleton.

Maintain integrity of the Cotswold stone boundary wall by the removal of vegetation from the wall and immediately in front of it.

Remove Ragwort and Hemp Agrimony from selected areas. (June/July)

Remove Cotoneaster from the lower slopes above Daisybank Road (western end). April/May.

Maintain access along all major paths - this includes the diagonal above Shackleton, the adjacent track above Daisybank Road and Windlass (lower end).

CKC/E

Review and maintain areas previously cleared of gorse and other scrub. Remove regrowth and treat as necessary - this applies to areas above the Gallops.

Maintain and widen existing firebreaks - on the boundary wall side of the Cotswold Way (CW). In addition clear areas of gorse on the opposite side to help prevent spread of fire.

Create an additional firebreak at the western end (opposite the turning to Windlass).

Hemp and Ragwort removal. Select two areas of the former and treat differently to assess which is more effective - dead heading vs digging up. (June/July)

Maintain a one to two metre gap along side track adjacent to the Gallops.

The Hill

Annual mowing work (from mid August and September).

Grassy areas above Bridge CP.

Burial Mound, Butterfly Motorway, along nearby wall.

The Sidings.

Brownstones Quarry.

Judith's Ride - cut and remove vegetation from path edges.

Footpath from Brownstones to Judith's Ride - cut and remove vegetation from path edges.

Brownstones car park - remove encroaching vegetation as required.

Tidy up around the re-built Cotswold stone wall and memorial wall areas. Support Cotswold Wardens when necessary in the construction of the new wall.

Maintain integrity of boundary wall that runs from Hartley Lane to the end of Salterley Quarry. This includes removing creeping growth and keeping area immediately in front of the wall clear. Particular care needs to be made not to disturb reptiles. Probably best done in late autumn?

Remove wire and growth from the old stone wall to clear area for the ongoing reconstruction of the Cotswold stone wall (achieved 10/4)

Salterley Quarry. Cut/remove scrub from around the edges inside the quarry (achieved 10/4).

Limekilns - cut back area of vegetation in the surrounding area.

Remove laurel from woodland walk.

Daisybank field. Cut grass along the fence lines of the cattle enclosure. (May)

Five ways - maintain contractor clearance work in the triangle by cutting back regrowth in bowl and adjacent areas.

Prepared by Pete Niblett - with support/advice from the Work Planning sub committee.

April 2025.