

Excerpt from Cotswold Water Park Volunteers Newsletter TOAD PATROL 2019

The annual toad migration crossing at Latton is again in need of volunteers this year.

Each spring, hundreds of toads make the trip to their spawning grounds, part of which involves crossing the busy Roman road outside the village. Sadly, one of the peak times for their movement coincides with the evening rush hour (at least until the clocks change). For the last 7 years the Trust has coordinated volunteers monitoring the migration crossing, in an attempt to save as many toads as possible from a premature death, by carrying them across the road to the lake.

It's not a job for the faint hearted as it's a fast road, and good judgement is needed to decide whether or not to venture into the road to rescue a toad before the next approaching vehicle. Sadly, due to the speed of vehicles, we cannot save every single toad, so probably not a task for the more squeamish amongst you either.

If all that hasn't put you off, and you're interested in helping out then please get in touch with lead coordinator kieren.thomas@waterpark.org to be added to the list.

We will provide the hi-viz vests and buckets, you need only bring your enthusiasm and a good torch!

UPCOMING VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Weekday Work Party

When: Thursday 21st March 2019

Location: Rangers Compound, Cerney Wick Lane, SN6 6QP, Grid Ref: SU067 948 at 10.00 a.m.

Task: We have various things to build for our countryside sites including new notice boards and new litter bin storage to improve the aesthetics of our sites.

If you are interested in helping out please contact either Kieren or Michael if you would like to attend.

Contact: kieren.thomas@waterpark.org or michael.diss@waterpark.org

Weekend Work Party

When: Sunday 10th March 2019 from 10 a.m - 3 p.m.

Location: Clayhill Meadow car park on the Spine Road, SN6 6QX

Task: Removing self seeded hybrid poplar to protect the meadow from encroachment and to improve the sub canopy layer of the woodland.

Lead Ranger: Michael Diss - michael.diss@waterpark.org