



To mark the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Devon Wildlife Trust, we would like to welcome you to the first year of Avon Valley Open Meadows.

All at different stages of evolution, these meadows are being restored under a meadow-making partnership between landowners and DWT's Avon Valley Project. Our collective aim is to increase the range of flower rich habitat available to wildlife across the valley. Working on everything from former arable farmland, horse grazed pastures to burial grounds and using yellow rattle as a transformative tool, we are steadily developing a new wildflower meadow network in the Avon.

These meadows are not generally open to the public so this is a unique opportunity to visit a handful of these evolving wildlife havens.

Every meadow tells a story. Stories which say as much about the people who tend them as the plants and creatures they support. Come along to learn a little about their history and the management techniques we are using to restore biodiversity value, creating new wildlife corridors, crucial to nature's recovery.

You are welcome to drop in during the allotted time at each site and have a wander. Bring your own flask if you want a cuppa and don't forget to wear appropriate footwear. The landowners will be on hand to enthuse, inspire, answer your questions and share their meadow making experiences. On occasions they will be supported by DWT's Avon Valley Project Officer, Lynne Kenderdine\*.

In the heart of the valley is DWT's Andrews Wood Nature Reserve with its stunning network of scrub, wet meadows and rich assemblage of wildflowers including the nationally rare heath lobelia. This is open for public enjoyment all year round and you are welcome to explore at your leisure. We are delighted to include the Reserve in the programme here when joining Lynne on site will be Nathan Robinson, DWT's Nature Reserve Officer.

These meadow makers have generously opened their gates free of charge, but if you feel you would like to make a donation to support Devon Wildlife Trust's Avon Valley Project then you can do so here – [www.devonwildlifetrust.org/what-we-do/our-projects/avon-valley](http://www.devonwildlifetrust.org/what-we-do/our-projects/avon-valley)

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\*For further information about any of these events please contact Lynne Kenderdine, Land Management Advisory Officer, Devon Wildlife Trust – [lkenderdine@devonwildlifetrust.org](mailto:lkenderdine@devonwildlifetrust.org) – 07392 865905

# DWT 60<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY AVON VALLEY PROJECT OPEN MEADOWS - JUNE 2022

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These events also form part of the Dartmoor based Moor Meadows Open Meadows Programme, running from now until end August 2022. Now in its 8<sup>th</sup> year! For their full programme visit [www.moormeadows.org.uk/events](http://www.moormeadows.org.uk/events)

We look forward to meeting you!

## AVON VALLEY OPEN MEADOWS PROGRAMME JUNE 2022

**MONDAY 13<sup>th</sup> 430pm – 730pm; FRIDAY 17<sup>th</sup> 10am-1pm;  
WEDNESDAY 22<sup>nd</sup> 130-430pm**

**Lower Aish, Near Lydia Bridge, South Brent. TQ10 9JL  
John Severn & Desley White – Cows in Clover**

A 2 acre wildflower meadow managed by conservation graziers Cows in Clover that's 5 years in transition from semi-improved pasture and now rich in yellow rattle, eyebright, clovers, hawkbit, angelica, pignut and a few orchids. Lynne Kenderdine from Devon Wildlife Trust's Avon Valley Project will be here on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> between 2-4pm offering advice on meadow making. All welcome at above times. No need to book.

**DIRECTIONS:** Access on foot from South Brent, cross Lydia Bridge, head uphill for 100 metres, then take path on right. Alternatively, park in the lane before Oak Hill and Lydia Bridge.

**GRID REF:** SX 694607

**OTHER NOTES:** Dogs on leads are welcome. No steps but uneven, sloping terrain. Phone John Severn for more information 07527 775296

**TUESDAY 14<sup>th</sup> 1030-1230pm  
GREEN PARK FARM, AVETON GIFFORD TQ7 4EN  
Dave & Sue Halsall**

A single 8 acre field, not ploughed in living history but which less than 10 years ago contained a limited range of wildflowers. The first wildflower meadow transformed by the Avon Valley Project, now donating seed to other would-be meadows. A wide range of wildflowers, skylarks, great green bush crickets and butterflies galore. All welcome. No need to book.

**DIRECTIONS:** Head north through Aveton Gifford village. Past the community shop take the right turn, this is the back lane to California Cross. As you begin to climb up hill, pass the church. After houses set back on the right you reach a public bridleway signed Hoppy Green Lane. Turn right here and along the track. The entrance to Green Park Farm is on your right hand side, opposite a farm barn complex. Turn right into Green Park Farm, then turn left to park in the woodland field.

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**GRID REF:** SX 701483

**OTHER NOTES:** Generally even terrain. No dogs allowed.

**TUESDAY 14<sup>th</sup> 2-4pm; THURSDAY 16<sup>th</sup> 1030-1230pm**  
**LONG EASTON, BIGBURY TQ7 4AN**  
**Henry & Louise Wainwright**

Ideally situated at the head of the Easton valley in Bigbury and dissected by a public footpath, meadow-makers Henry & Louise have been transforming their grass dominated pasture into something more diverse. Starting by seeding with yellow rattle in 2019, this was quickly followed by planting a small area of woodland and planting hedgerows. This year the yellow rattle has spread throughout the field with many more plants coming through. The meadow is cut for hay after seeding (late July) and grazed by sheep in the autumn to prepare the way for future sowing.

Henry & Louise look forward to meeting you and on Tuesday 14 June will be joined by DWT's Lynne Kenderdine to answer any questions.

**DIRECTIONS:** Follow signs to St Anne's Chapel on the B3392 from Harrington Cross. At the Post Office (Holywell Stores) take the Stakes road signposted Oyster Shack. In 500 metres take the left turn signed for Easton. At this turning is the entrance to the field and parking (signposted DWT). Turn in here to park.

**GRID REF:** SX 671469

**OTHER NOTES:** Even terrain. All welcome. Well behaved dogs on leads.

As this field is on a public footpath, you may, of course, observe the meadow from the path at other times.

**FRIDAY 17<sup>TH</sup> – 2-4pm**  
**CHURCHILL MEADOW, GRIPSTONE FARM, HALWELL. TQ9 7JF**  
**Douglas & Tink Stoddart**

DWT began working with Douglas in 2013 when he acquired 4 acres of re-seeded grassland. To assist the sale, the previous owners had the meadow treated with herbicide and re-seeded with an agricultural grass mix. Douglas wanted a wildflower meadow and we have been delighted to work with him to make his dream come true. Planting in-field copses to create tree cover, repeated wildflower seeding, green hay and patience has paid dividends with an increasing abundance of wildflowers. Last year this site became a donor for the National Trust, helping them with their meadow creation work at Malborough. This meadow has a wonderful story. Douglas and Lynne will be on hand to tell you more.

**DIRECTIONS:** From the A381 Totnes to Kingsbridge road, take the turn for Moreleigh immediately after, (or before), The Old Inn pub at Halwell. Follow the lane down the dip

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and over the stream. As you start to climb up hill you will notice an entrance to Gripstone Farm to the right. Don't turn off here but carry straight on. Keep climbing up hill, the

entrance to Churchill Meadow will be through the field gate on the next right. Park in the field at the top. If you reach the turning to Stanborough House, you have gone too far!

**GRID REF:** SX 773530

**OTHER NOTES:** Steep field in places with uneven terrain. Well behaved dogs on leads.

**TUESDAY 21<sup>st</sup> – 2-4pm**

**ALLERON, LODDISWELL. TQ7 4ED**

**Dr's John & Caroline Cochrane**

Flower rich wet grassland, lakes, woodlands, mature hedgerows. This historic spot has it all. John & Caroline diversified their wetland via turf stripping. This is the practice of removing the top layer of soil, often high in nutrients, allowing plants to regenerate more readily. We find their results inspiring and hope you do too. Lynne Kenderdine joining to learn more.

**DIRECTIONS:** Exit B3196 at Loddiswell Butts taking the immediate right turn. Follow the country lane past Robins Park, ignore the right hand turn for Tunley and carry straight on. This will be marked with a "dead end" sign. In a while you will come to the right hand entrance to Alleron. Drive down the track and up to the house where there is plenty of car parking.

**GRID REF:** SX 712497

**OTHER NOTES:** Even terrain but may be wet. Well behaved dogs on leads.

**THURSDAY 23<sup>rd</sup> – 2-4pm**

**ANDREWS WOOD NATURE RESERVE, LODDISWELL. TQ7 4EA**

**DEVON WILDLIFE TRUST**

Developed on a series of fields once farmed by the villagers of Stanton, Andrews Wood is a jewel in the heart of the Avon Valley. A Site of Special Scientific Interest, supporting the largest heath lobelia colony in the UK, breeding dormice, greater and lesser horseshoe bats, basking lizards and fritillary butterflies.

This mosaic of woodland, scrub, wet grassland and heathland is a must see, whatever time of year with herb rich meadows particularly spectacular in summer.

**DIRECTIONS:** From A38 take Ugborough-Yealmpton exit. Head south onto A3121 to Kitterford Cross and here take the B3196 signed Loddiswell and Modbury. Remain on this road and immediately after the garage at California Cross take the left hand turn, still

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following the B3196 and signs for Loddiswell. Continue to the Cold Harbour Cross and 250 metres further on look for nature reserve car park entrance to right.

Additional car parking can be found at Grid Ref: 702518 opposite Torr Down Plantation on the Hangmans Cross to Aveton Gifford lane.

**OTHER NOTES:** Footpaths and boardwalks are signed. Some areas may be wet and muddy. Terrain generally flat, apart from approach from main car park. Good footwear required. No dogs. To reserve your place please contact Lynne Kenderdine, Land Management Advisory Officer, Devon Wildlife Trust – [lkenderdine@devonwildlifetrust.org](mailto:lkenderdine@devonwildlifetrust.org) 07392 865905

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