



The nights are drawing in and if you are like me, it will now be a struggle to wake and get going in the morning with it still being pitch black outside, although the clocks going back at the end of this month should help a little for a couple of weeks at least.

As you may have seen down in Wembury beach car park we have had some works occurring to produce a base area for our volunteer ranger team which will give the team a focus area to work from and provide information to local people and visitors. We are planning to have a light weight pole and tarpaulin system which is erected each day the base will be manned and we hope to have this area up and ready for use soon. Dave Bassett volunteer co-ordinator will then up-date all the volunteers on our database with the works going on and invite them all to a social gathering with one of Dave's fun quizzes!

Last month we had a corporate group of volunteers from the company Debut services come out and help us undertake a beach clean at Wembury Point and then some scrub cutting works. The group of 14 people had a great time. The weather was glorious and they all enjoyed getting stuck in cutting down the gorse and burning it on the bonfires. Cutting back the gorse at the Point stops the gorse from smothering the coastal grassland, which is an incredibly valuable habitat, with a whole variety of different plant species and small invertebrates. This in turn means the grassland sustains a whole host of different bird species that feed on the insects in the grassland.

The foals and their mothers at Wembury Point will soon be returning back to the moors for their veterinary checks, micro chipping and passport applications. Other mares will be brought down to the site for over winter grazing at Wembury point. These ponies are wild and graze on grass so please do not feed them as this will upset their digestive system and in extreme cases can kill them. Please ensure to minimise disturbance to the ponies that dogs are kept under close control.

By the time you read this newsletter article I will already be on maternity leave hopefully enjoying a nice rest before the baby arrives. Rest assured I will be returning to my role as Ranger towards the end of next year and the team will ensure that an article for the newsletter will be submitted each month so that you can keep up-to-date with news from the National Trust.

Lorna Sherriff
Ranger – South Devon coast and countryside.

NOVEMBER EVENTS

Hedge Laying – Countryside Skills Workshop

Tuesday 1st November 9.30am – 3.30pm Ayrmer Cove Nr. Bigbury

Join the National Trust Ranger team for hands on teaching of hedge laying, learn about the different types of plants used and how you can restore these important landscape features in the countryside. Adult £25. Booking essential.

Charcoal Making – Countryside skills workshop

Saturday 19th & Sunday 20th November 10am – 4pm Wembury

Spend two days in the woods making charcoal from start to finish and take a bag home with you. Learn and join in chopping wood, loading, burning, grading and bagging charcoal. There will also be an opportunity to try other woodland skills including coppicing and cleaving. Adult £50. Booking essential.

For further information and to book please call 01752 346585