



Happy Easter from the South Devon Team. We hope you are enjoying the holiday if you are off from school.

The Ponies at Wembury Point have been moved from the area by the radar station to the lower cliff compartment. The Dartmoor ponies provide great conservation grazing at Wembury, this minimizes the need for using large machinery for land management. The ponies graze the grass and young scrub as well as poach up the ground to disturb the seed bed in the soil, which leads to an increase in the maritime grassland and wild flowers. There are now fifteen ponies at Wembury Point and eight ponies at Wembury cliff's, in the compartment below Rocket Cottage. If you are in the area see if you can spot them all.

The South Devon Ranger team are looking forward to our schools week. The whole week we will be spending with 5 different schools from the local area to Wembury (Wembury, Newton Ferrers, Yealmpton, Brixton and Long Cause school – Plymouth). We will be doing a variety of tasks including scrub and bracken cutting, bonfire for marshmallows and hot chocolate, miniature raft race down the stream, scavenger hunts to name but a few. This is a good way for the school children to learn and gain an interest in our beautiful countryside.

In Noss Mayo woods we have been undertaking Rhododendron clearance and management. The Rhododendron is an invasive species which if not managed will spread rapidly and will decline the number of under story species growing in these woods, causing a detrimental affect for the flora and fauna in the area. A bi-product of these works are the stunning views up the estuary which have been opened up, well worth a walk through the woods.

Wembury Beach car park is manned this season by Martin, Trisha and Mike, so make sure you have a chat with them when you are down at the beach. Ask them about the new South West Love My Outdoors membership.

To keep up to date with the South Devon ranger team visit our blog at: www.ntsouthdevoncountryside.co.uk

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