



**National
Trust**

We are now fully immersed in our Autumn works with the team undertaking the annual tree inspections. We ensure to the best of our ability that all the trees along paths, roads and boundaries are safe and healthy and will only do work to trees if they are dead, dying or dangerous. So if you see Ranger Joel (a fully qualified tree inspector) looking up and around the trees on National Trust land you now know that he is completing the tree inspections.

After all the planning and organising for the South West Outdoor Festival back in October I am pleased to say that it all went well with hundreds of people joining us. Even with the inclement weather on the Saturday everyone who came had a great enjoyable time. We now hand the SWOF torch over to the Cornwall team who will be hosting the festival on 13th – 15th September 2019 at Penrose between Helston and Porthleven.

After the recent storms we have had some lumps of congealed palm oil washed up onto Wembury beach. It is toxic to animals if eaten and so we advise that you keep dogs on a lead to prevent them from coming into contact with it. If you do find any on the beach if possible please move it to any area where it is not easily reached by animals and we will endeavour to collect it. I would also like to thank everyone who has come down to the beach and collected a bit of litter each day ensuring the beach is kept safe and clean for everyone.

During the next few months we will be doing some swaling (burning areas of vegetation) alongside scrub clearance at Noss and stoke cliffs. It can look dramatic, but is vital for the restoration of these coastal grasslands. Gorse and thorn can quickly smother areas limiting the diversity and wildlife richness and swaling is a way to remove large patches, allowing the species rich grasslands to regenerate. We select certain areas to swale so we ensure that a mosaic of young dense scrub patches are kept, which provides shelter and nesting for the plentiful bird life. Grazing is then needed to help control the re-growth of scrub. Cattle and sheep are vital in helping us manage the coastal grassland; ensuring the area is accessible for all to enjoy and remain rich in wildlife.

Finally I hope you all have a wonderful Christmas and a very happy and healthy New year.

Check out our events coming soon (for further information go to www.nationaltrust.org.uk/events):

16th December, 12noon – 3.00pm – Festive fun – East Soar Farm. Join the rangers at East Soar Outdoor Experience to start off your festive break. Make your own wreath or festive lantern to take away. Have a go at campfire cooking, and tick off some of your '50 things to do before you're 11 ¾' activities. All with the warmth of a campfire and refreshments from the café (charges apply for refreshments). This event is easily accessible, with a gentle walk from the car park to the farm. Blue badge holders may drive down the track to park at the farm. Please wear sturdy footwear for the walk, and warm comfortable clothing. To join us for this event, drive to East Soar car park and then walk along the track to the farm. This will be well signed on the day. Postcode: TQ7 3DR Grid ref: SX 713375

For information regarding the work of the South Devon National Trust team please call Lorna Sherriff on 01548 562344 or email lorna.sherriff@nationaltrust.org.uk