

Rochdale Borough Countryside Events - November 2011 to March 2012

2011 marks the International Year of Forestry. Throughout the year, there will be woodland wildlife walks, practical activities and exhibitions to help you discover what is wild about woods. Look out for events with this logo.



November

Sunday 6 November

Woodland Management

Time: 10.00am **Place:** Lever Bridge, Alkrington Woods (off Manchester Old Road), Middleton M24 1WD
Duration: 2 hours

Help the Friends of Alkrington Woods and Rangers with some woodland management and learn some new skills. Wear suitable clothing and strong boots.

Sunday 6 November

Hey Wood and Hopwood Hall

Medium

Time: 10.30am **Place:** Station Road car park, Broadley, OL12 8RJ **Duration:** 3 hours
Distance: 6 miles

Don't be fooled by the title of this enjoyable walk out of Healey Dell. Bring a packed lunch.

Sunday 20 November

Postcard from the Arctic

Time: 2.00pm **Place:** Hollingworth Lake Visitor Centre **Duration:** 1-2 hours

A slideshow talk by Frank Harrison from Lancashire Wildlife Trust as part of the Arts, Craft & Photographic Exhibition.

Thursday 24 November

Roch Valley Walk

Easy

Time: 1.00pm **Place:** Queen's Park Lodge, Queen's Park Road, Heywood
Duration: 2 hours. Enjoy a short walk through the woodlands of the Roch Valley.

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Saturday 26 November

RSPB information stall

Time: 11.00 - 4.00pm **Place:** Hollingworth Lake Visitor Centre

Find out more about the local birds in the area and talk with RSPB expert Jo Keene about the best places to go.

Saturday 26 November

GO WILD Feed the Birds

Time: 2.00-4.00pm **Place:** Hollingworth Lake Visitor Centre **Duration:** 1-2 hours

Booking essential: Limited places. Call 01706 373421. Cost £1.00 per person

As part of National Tree Week enjoy a walk through the woods, discovering what birds are around and make your own bird feeders with woodland fruits, logs and sticks.

December

Sunday 4 December

Tree Dressing

Time: 11.00am **Place:** Lever Bridge, Alkrington Woods (off Manchester Old Road) Middleton M24 1WD **Duration:** 2 hours
Make some decorations and help dress a tree with Friends of Alkrington Woods and Rangers on Alkrington Hall Slope.

Saturday 10 December

Community Litter Pick

Time: 1.00pm **Place:** Hollingworth Lake Visitor Centre **Duration:** 2 hours

Help the Rangers with a pre-festive litter pick around the Lake and enjoy a mince pie to finish. All equipment provided.

Sunday 11 December

Natural Crafts

Easy

Time: 2.00pm **Place:** Hollingworth Lake Visitor Centre **Duration:** 2 hours

Booking essential: Limited places. Call 01706 373421. Cost £1.00 per person.

Make seasonal decorations from willow and natural materials. Includes a short walk to gather inspiration and materials. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

Saturday 17 December to Monday 2 January

Christmas Trail

Easy

Time: Self led **Place:** Hollingworth Lake Visitor Centre **Duration:** 2-3 hours

Collect a trail leaflet from the visitor centre and go out and explore the lake for yourself, looking for clues along the way. Suitable for all the family.

Monday 26 December, Boxing Day

Punch and Mince Pies

Time: From 11.00am **Place:** Hollingworth Lake Visitor Centre

Call in at the Visitor Centre to enjoy seasonal punch and mince pies.

January

Sunday 1 January

Walk in the Park

Easy

Time: 11.30am **Place:** Hollingworth Lake Visitor Centre **Duration:** 2-3 hours

Welcome the New Year in with this fantastic walk in the country park. Booking not essential but please call 01706 373421 in case of bad weather.

Sunday 15 January

Winter Wonderland

Easy

Time: 10.00am **Place:** Lever Bridge, Alkrington Woods (off Manchester Old Road), Middleton, M24 1WD
Duration: 2 hours

Enjoy a winter walk through the woods with the Friends of Alkrington Woods and Rangers. Learn how to identify the trees in their winter disguise.

Saturday 21 January

Brown Wardle

Medium

Time: 10.30am **Place:** Healey Dell Ranger Office, Dell Road, OL12 6BG

Duration: 4 hours **Distance:** 6 miles

A circular walk from Healey Dell to the top of Brown Wardle via Man Stone Edge

Saturday 21 January

Go Wild Signs of Nature

Time: 2.00-4.00pm **Place:** Hollingworth Lake Visitor Centre **Duration:** 1-2 hours

Booking essential: Limited places. Call 01706 373421. Cost £1.00 per person.

Learn how to use natural things to help find your way around the Country Park and discover more about its winter wildlife.

Thursday 26 January

Roch Valley Walk

Easy

Time: 1.00pm **Place:** Queen's Park Lodge, Queen's Park Road, Heywood
Duration: 2 hours.

Enjoy a short walk through the woodlands of the Roch Valley.

Saturday 28 January

RSPB stall & big garden bird watch

Time: 11.00am-4.00pm

Place: Hollingworth Lake Visitor Centre

Throughout the day visit the RSPB stall and find out everything you wanted to know about birds and the best places to hear and see them. Then join us and have a go at spotting some birds as part of the RSPB's annual BIG GARDEN BIRDWATCH at 2.00pm.

February

Sunday 5 February

Winter Tree ID

Easy

Time: 1.00pm **Place:** Hollingworth Lake Visitor Centre **Duration:** 2 hour

Join the countryside rangers and Pennine Edge Forest officer and learn basic tree identification using shape, buds and bark.

Sunday 12 February

Hall to Hall

Medium

Time: 10.00am **Place:** Lever Bridge, Alkrington Woods (off Manchester Old Road), Middleton M24 1WD

Duration: 4 hours.

Come for a walk from Alkrington Hall to Hopwood with the Friends of Alkrington Woods and Rangers. Bring a packed lunch.

Saturday 18 February

Greenbooth

Medium

Time: 10.30am **Place:** Healey Dell Rangers Office, OL12 6BG **Duration:** 4 hours **Distance:** 6 miles.

A circular walk from Healey Dell to Greenbooth and Naden Reservoirs via Rooley Moor Road. Bring a packed lunch.

Saturday 18 February

Community Litter Pick

Time: 1.00pm **Place:** Hollingworth Lake Visitor Centre **Duration:** 2 hours

Help the Rangers with a litter pick around the Lake. All equipment provided.

Sunday 19 February

Bird ID and Bird Boxes

Time: 10.30am **Place:** Hollingworth Lake Visitor Centre **Duration:** 2 hours

Join local experts on this short bird walk, followed by a bird box making workshop. Box is £2.50 to take home.

Sunday 19 February

RSPB STALL

Time: 11.00am - 4.00pm **Place:** Hollingworth Lake Visitor Centre

Throughout the day, visit the RSPB stall and find out everything you wanted to know about birds and the best places to hear and see them.

Thursday 23 February

Roch Valley Walk

Easy

Time: 1.00pm **Place:** Queen's Park Lodge, Queen's Park Road, Heywood
Duration: 2 hours.

Enjoy a short walk through the woodlands of the Roch Valley.

March

Saturday 3 March

Go Wild Signs of Spring

Time: 2.00-4.00pm **Place:** Hollingworth Lake Visitor Centre **Duration:** 1-2 hours

Booking essential: Limited places. Call 01706 373421. Cost £1.00 per person

Buds are bursting, bulbs are emerging and birds are busy making nests. Take a walk in the woods searching for signs of Spring.

Sunday 4 March

Watergrove Walk

Hard

Time: 10.00am **Place:** Healey Dell Ranger Office, Dell Road, OL12 6BG
Duration: 6 hours **Distance:** 11 miles

A walk from Healey Dell to Watergrove Reservoir via Brown Wardle, passing Whitworth Square on the return

Sunday 18 March

Mysteries in History

Easy

Time: 1.30pm **Place:** Hollingworth Lake Visitor Centre **Duration:** 2 hours

Discover the hidden secrets of Hollingworth Lake's history with Ranger Jude Murray and Friends of Hollingworth Lake

Saturday 24 March

Spring Clean and BBQ

Time: 10.00am **Place:** Healey Dell Ranger Office **Duration:** 2-3 hours

Help the countryside rangers and the Friends of Healey Dell prepare for summer, then relax and chat over a well earned BBQ lunch.

Saturday 24 March

Duck Race

Time: 2.00pm **Place:** Boardman Brook, Off Manchester New Road, Middleton. Follow the path opposite Mainway

Duration: 1-2 hours

Race your chosen duck down Boardman Brook in Alkrington Woods. Prizes awarded for the winning ducks. This is a free family event run by Friends of Alkrington Woods and Rangers - come and enjoy!

Sunday 25 March

Lunch at the Dell

Hard

Time: 10.30am **Place:** Hollingworth Lake Visitor Centre **Duration:** 5 hrs

All day circular walk from Hollingworth Lake Visitor Centre. Bring a packed lunch to enjoy at Healey Dell.

Thursday 29 March

Roch Valley Walk

Easy

Time: 1.00pm **Place:** Queen's Park Lodge, Queen's Park Road, Heywood
Duration: 2 hours

Enjoy a short walk through the woodlands of the Roch Valley.

Winter 2011/12 Exhibitions Hollingworth Lake Visitor Centre

14 Oct - 8 Nov	Bury Art Society
10 Nov - 2 Dec	Art, Crafts & Photographs. A collection from local crafts people, with demonstrations and have-a-go workshops running every weekend throughout the exhibition
10 Dec - 2 Jan	Seasons Greetings by Hollingworth Lake Ranger Service
5 Jan - 31 Jan	Healey Dell
2 Feb - 28 Feb	Heywood Artists
2 March - 21 March	Wardle Artists
23 March - 11 April	Rochdale Camera Club

The opening hours at Hollingworth Lake Visitor Centre are:

November to March Weekdays 11.00am-4pm

Weekends 10.30am-5pm

