

**8b. Two-Day Hedgelaying Course, Part 2**

Saturday 28th & Sunday 29th October, 10.30am – 4.00pm  
 Grand Western Canal Country Park and Local Nature Reserve: East Manley Bridge, Tiverton. For directions please contact the Ranger Service on 01884 254072.

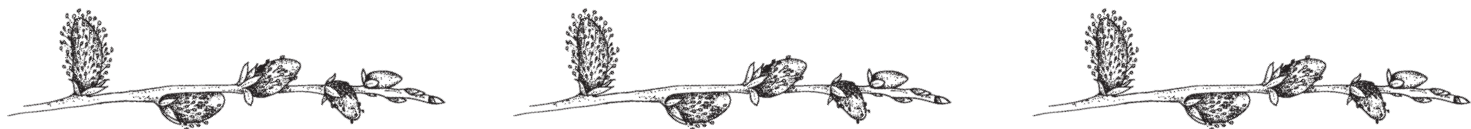
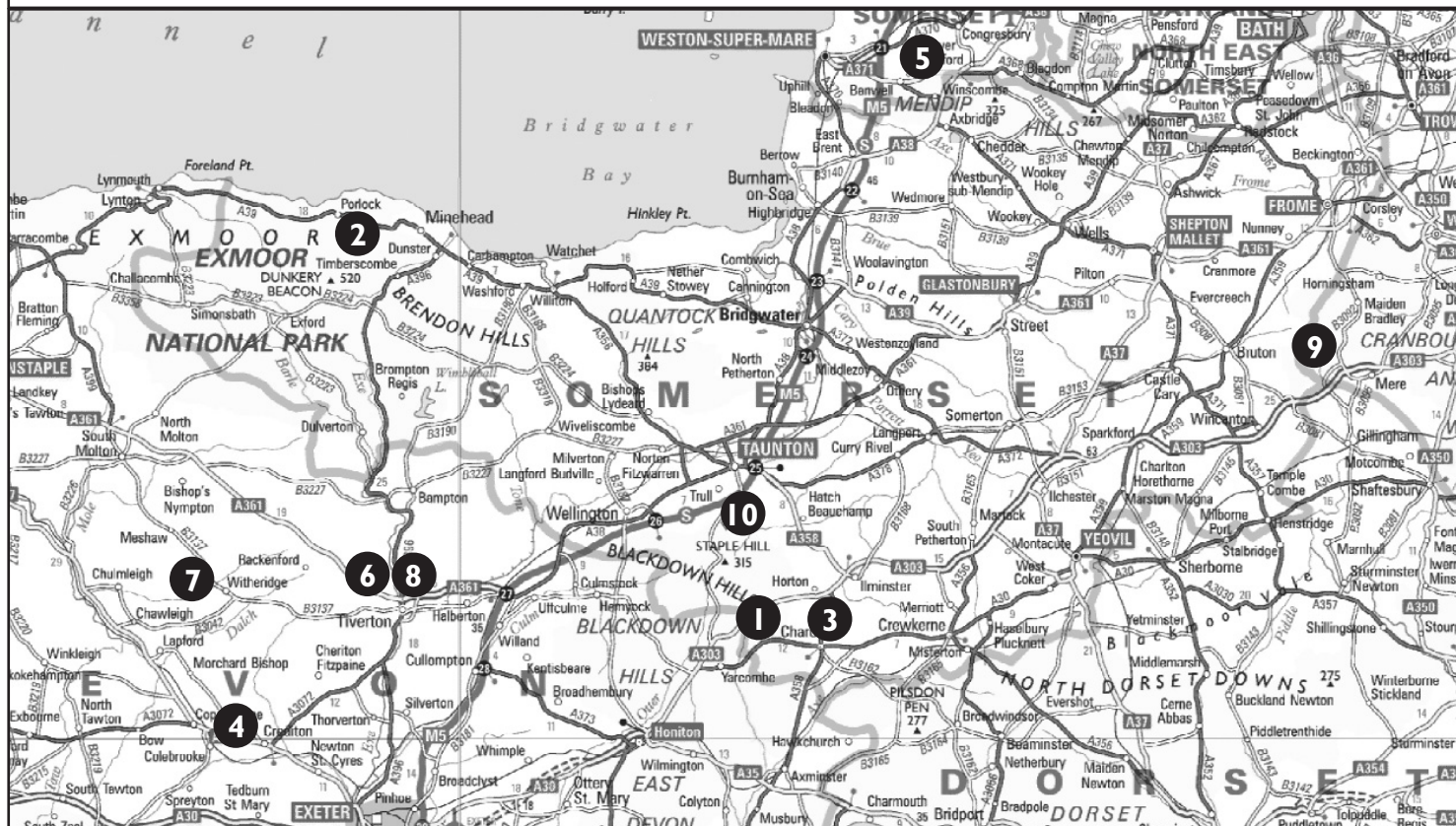
**Description:** Join forces with Rangers at the Grand Western Canal to learn the traditional art of hedge laying. In this two-day course you will learn how to use traditional tools and help create a living fence that is great for wildlife.

**Special requirements:** Advanced booking essential. Refreshments provided. Please bring a packed lunch, thermos, suitable outdoor clothing and footwear. Suitable for children aged 10 and over. All children should be accompanied by an adult. Sorry, no dogs. **Event cost:** Free.

**Contact:** Jo French or Mark Baker, Tel: 01884 254072, Email: joanne.french@devon.gov.uk

Events location map

Each event is numbered and the location shown (approximately) on the map below



Contact us

Hedge Group Co-ordinator  
 c/o Somerset FWAG  
 Economy Transport & Environment Dept  
 County Hall,  
 Taunton, TAI 4DY  
 Tel: 01823 355427 Fax: 01823 356899  
 E-mail: hedges@somerset.gov.uk

Thanks

*Many thanks to all those organisations who are holding events during Hedge Week or who have assisted with organisation of the Week.*



Devon Hedge Week

Devon Hedge Week is also being held from Saturday 21 – Sunday 29 October 2006. For a programme of events please contact: www.devon.gov.uk/hedges or tel 01392 352012.



The Somerset Hedge Group proudly present

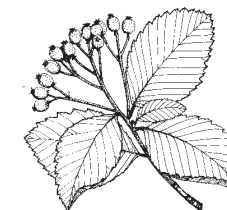


# Somerset Hedge Week

21 - 29 October 2006

## Welcome

Welcome to Somerset Hedge Week, co-ordinated by the Somerset Hedge Group. We hope you will enjoy our varied programme. Inside you will find a timetable of events from guided walks and craft workshops, to training in hedgerow management and survey techniques. There is something for everyone, all ages and interests. Hedge Week is an annual event which aims to raise awareness of the importance of our hedges and the associated wildlife.



We hope that you will join in and celebrate Somerset's Hedges with us.

## Working in partnership

The Somerset Hedge Group evolved from the interest and concern of various conservation and farming organisations as well as from interest from Somerset farmers. The group was formed in 1997 and presently enjoys the support of Somerset Wildlife Trust, Somerset Farming and Wildlife Advisory Group (FWAG), National Farmers Union (NFU), Country Land and Business Association (CLA), Council for the protection of Rural England (CPRE), Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB), English Nature, British Trust for Conservation Volunteers (BTCV), Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA), Somerset County Council, Sedgemoor District Council, South Somerset District Council, Taunton Deane Borough Council, Mendip District Council, West Somerset Council and Exmoor National Park Authority.

We work to promote the appreciation and conservation of the hedge network across the county, and to highlight the value of hedges for farming, wildlife, landscape and archaeology. Our aims are to:

- ◆ Increase awareness of the value of hedges to farming and non-farming communities through hedge-related events, competitions, exhibitions, school activities and presentations;
- ◆ Influence those who manage hedges for better effect by providing information and advice;
- ◆ Support research to further understanding for more appropriate hedgerow management.



Visit our website at [www.somerset-hedgegroup.org.uk](http://www.somerset-hedgegroup.org.uk)



## Sunday 22 October

**1. A Celebration of Hedgerow Crafts with the Blackdown Hills Hedge Association**

Sunday 22nd October, Buckland St Mary Village Hall. Map Ref: ST 275 135.

**Description:**

- With professional stick maker *Peter Snelson* create your own personalised thumb stick, knob stick or walking stick to make your countryside walks a real pleasure. Morning class 10.00am - 1.00pm. Afternoon class 2.00pm – 5.00pm. **Class fee** £19.
  - With *Ivor Hancock* make a rustic hedgerow chair using hazel and ash from the hedgerows. The secret is in selecting appropriately shaped branches to create a chair of proven strength and reliability. 10.00am – 5.00pm. **Class fee** £40.
  - What could be more elegant than a traditional garden trug? With *Martin Turner* create your own Blackdown trug using goat willow and ash from Blackdown Hills hedges. 10.00am – 5.00pm. **Class fee** £40
  - With *Sophie Courtiour* weave a jolly, hedgerow house, complete with door and peep-holes for youngsters aged 5-10 using willow and hedgerow slips of hazel, ash and dogwood. 10.00am – 5.00pm. **Class fee** £40
- Special requirements:** Advanced booking essential. Wheel chair access. Tea, coffee and biscuits provided. Toilet facilities available. Not suitable for young children. Dogs allowed.
- Contact:** free brochure from Margaret Edwards. Tel: 01460 234222 E-mail: mgtedwards@hotmail.com

## Tuesday 24 October

**2. Exploring the hedgerow wildlife of Porlock Vale**

Tuesday 24th October, 2.00-4.00pm

Bossington Farm, near Porlock. In conjunction with the National Trust and Exmoor National Park Authority.

**Map ref:** SS 896 480

**Description:** Come and see the impressive work that National Trust tenant, Michael Dyer, has been carrying out on his farm to improve the wildlife in his hedges and associated field margins. A chance to wander round a mixed farm with sea views! Leader: Michael Dyer, with National Trust and National Park Authority conservation staff.

**Special requirements:** Advanced booking essential. No wheel chair access. No formal toilet facilities.

**Event cost:** No charge but donations to the “CareMoor for Exmoor” fund welcome.

**Contact:** Bea Davis, Tel: 01398 322288, E-mail: bdavis@exmoor-nationalpark.gov.uk

## Wednesday 25 October

**3. What makes a good hedge and why are they important?**

Wednesday 25th October 2.00pm – 4.00pm. Burnt House Farm (just off A303, 3 miles out of Ilminster in Honiton direction). **Map Ref:** ST 293 136 (parking point)

**Description:** A guided walk across undulating grassland fields on the edge of the Blackdown Hills. Regular stops to discuss and observe. (approx. distance to be walked 1km). Leader: Mark Edwards.

**Special requirements:** Advanced booking required. Refreshments supplied. Dogs allowed if on a lead.

No wheel chair access. No formal toilet facilities available. **Event cost:** No charge – donations to Blackdown Hills Hedge Association appreciated. **Contact:** Mrs Edwards Tel 01460 234222.

**4. Higher-Level Stewardship Schemes and Hedge Management**

Wednesday 25th October, 2.30pm – 5.00pm

Ashridge Farm, Sandford, Crediton, EX17 4EN. In conjunction with RDS and DCC. **Map Ref:** SS 825 063

**Description:** The event will look at the different hedge management options available under Environmental Stewardship. The event will also look at how to make the most of the opportunities of the Higher Level Stewardship Scheme, what level of funding is available and how to make a successful application.

**Special requirements:** Bookings essential. Classroom has disabled access. Farm walk is unsuitable for those with limited mobility. **Event cost:** Free.

**Contact:** Peter Burston, Tel: 01884 855627, E-mail: peterburston@wayfarm.co.uk

## Thursday 24 October

**5. An introduction to the Hedgerow Survey Handbook**

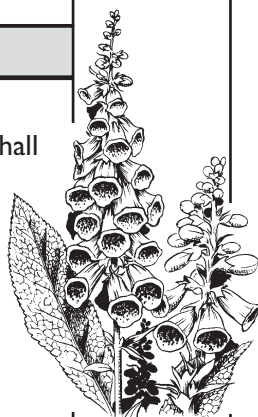
Thursday 26th October, 2.00pm – 5.00pm. Barton Farm, nr Winscombe (courtesy of J House Esq.) with Marshall Agroecology Ltd. **Map Ref:** ST 397 568

**Description:** An afternoon out-of-doors with practical tips on how to use the DEFRA hedge survey methodology with an experienced ecologist. The Hedgerow Survey Handbook is being revised and will soon include a condition assessment. Following a brief introduction, we will visit a number of hedges and complete some survey forms. Tea and biscuits to finish at 2 Nut Tree Cottages, Barton.

**Special requirements:** Advanced booking essential, places limited to 10. No wheel chair access.

Unsuitable for young children. Toilet facilities provided. Sorry, no dogs. **Event cost:** £15.00.

**Contact:** Dr Jon Marshall, Tel: 01934 844844 or 07779 719969, E-mail: jon.marshall@agroecol.co.uk



## Thursday 26 October continued

**6. Hedge planting** with the Ranger Service of the Grand Western Canal Country Park & LNR

Thursday 26th October, 1.00pm – 3.00pm

Grand Western Canal Country Park and Local Nature Reserve, please call for location along the Canal

**Description:** Help Rangers celebrate Hedge Week by planting up a 20m section of hedge along the canal. Take part in environmental games that explore what wildlife is lurking within our hedges.

**Special requirements:** Children must be accompanied by an adult. Sorry, no dogs. No wheel chair access. No formal toilet facilities. Please bring suitable outdoor clothing and footwear. Booking essential.

**Event cost:** Free. **Contact:** Jo French, Tel: 01884 254072, E-mail: joanne.french@devon.gov.uk



## Saturday 28 October

**7. Farm Walk on Historic Domesday Farm**

Saturday 28th October, 2.15pm – 5.30pm

West Yeo Farm, Witheridge. **Map Ref:** SS 789 149

**Description:** Farm Walk featuring Stewardship scheme work including hedges at all stages of management, dry stone walling, new hedge banks, three new orchards, Culm grassland, river walk, pedigree cattle and rare breeds. Children welcome.

**Special requirements:** Outdoor clothing and boots. Sorry, no dogs. **Event cost:** £3.50 to include organic red ruby beef burger, cake, tea & coffee. **Contact:** Kate Palmer, Tel: 01884 861269, Website: www.westyeofarm.co.uk

**8. Two-Day Hedgelaying Course, Part I**

Saturday 28th & Sunday 29th October, 10.30am – 4.00pm

Grand Western Canal Country Park and Local Nature Reserve: East Manley Bridge, Tiverton. For directions please contact the Ranger Service on 01884 254072.

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**Contact:** Jo French or Mark Baker, Tel: 01884 254072, E-mail: joanne.french@devon.gov.uk

**9. National Hedge Laying Championship**

Saturday 28th October. Open to the public from 9:30 am until close approx 5:30pm. Prize giving at approx 4:00pm. Tower Road, Kilmington. **Map ref:** ST 7651 3561

**Description:** Hedge layers from all over the UK compete for the title “National Champion”. There are seven styles of hedging and prizes are also awarded for the best in each style. There is also a ploughing match, plus trade stands and craft demonstrations.

**Special requirements:** Toilet facilities available, including disabled; however field surface may be unsuitable for wheelchairs. Field surface may be rough depending on weather conditions. Children under 16 must be accompanied by an adult. Refreshments available. Dogs must be on a lead. **Event cost:** £3.50 payable at the gate

**Contact:** Allan Portas, Tel: 01525 873795, E-mail: allan.portas@farmersweekly.net

## Sunday 29 October

**10. Hedgerow Survey Training Day**

with Somerset Wildlife Trust

Sunday 29th October, 10.00am to 4.00pm

Pitminster/Blagdon area, details of location will be given on booking

**Description:** Learn the importance of hedges and their value to wildlife through species identification and surveys. The day has indoor and outdoor activities so wear appropriate clothing and bring own packed lunch.

**Special requirements:** Advanced booking essential. Refreshments provided but please bring own lunch. Toilet facilities available. Bring sturdy boots or wellies and water proofs or sun hat. Terrain may be rough, please ring for details. Sorry, no dogs.

**Event cost:** £2 per head to include tea and cake.

**Contact:** Mandy Hamley, Tel: 01823 652400



Events continued overleaf...