



Valley Park Woodlands Local Nature Reserve, Chandlers Ford

Grid reference: SU420203

Comprising of ancient woodland with a mixture of woodland rides, open glades, ponds and rough grassland, the woodlands have been managed by Test Valley Borough Council since 1998. Rich in wildlife as well as archaeology the woodland is home to a variety of species including pipistrelle bats, roe deer and a host of insects and plant life. The site is thought to be derived from the historic Baddesley Common complex and has close characteristics with the New Forest. It also boasts the remnants of an Iron Age enclosure and associated features.

Tadburn Meadows Local Nature Reserve, Romsey

Grid reference: SU367214

Hidden amongst the houses, Tadburn Meadows covers almost 12 acres and provides a home for a variety of Britain's best loved wildlife and some nationally threatened species. The site boasts a variety of habitats, from a stream more characteristic of the New Forest, to wet woodland and grassland.



Abbotswood Local Nature Reserve, Romsey

Grid reference: SU364228

Abbotswood Local Nature Reserve, located adjacent to the Abbotswood development, has been designated primarily due to the presence of great crested newts, a European protected species. The site contains a host of interesting habitats, including wetlands, ancient semi-natural woodland and grassland. These support a wealth of wildlife. The site also boasts veteran oak trees, estimated to be over 300 years old and each a home to hundreds of other species, making them a hugely important part of the site.

Local Conservation Groups

Tadburn Conservation Volunteers

A local volunteers group working on Tadburn Meadows Local Nature Reserve, Romsey. For more information contact: tadburn.meadows@gmail.com

Friends of the Parks

A local volunteer group working in Valley Park Woodlands Local Nature Reserve, Chandlers Ford. Contact Steve White on **02380 263204**

Wilder Romsey

A local conservation group working in and around Romsey. For more information, visit www.romseytc.org.uk/wilder-romsey.html

Test Valley Parks and Countryside Team

The team work to maintain and develop the borough's green spaces which include countryside sites, Nature Reserves, parks and cemeteries.

Please contact the countryside officers in advance for more details. Further information is available on www.testvalley.gov.uk Or contact the Countryside Officers on **01264 368000**, or email community&leisure@testvalley.gov.uk

Parks and Countryside

Events and Activities 2026



South Test Valley



TestValleyBC



TestValleyBC

www.testvalley.gov.uk

Test Valley
Borough Council



Thank you to everyone who has volunteered throughout 2024 to help maintain and enhance our green spaces.

New volunteers, including families, are always welcome to help with the on-going programme of events.

Parks and Countryside Events and Activities Guide 2026

South Test Valley

| Date | Time | Task | Venue | Meeting Place |
|------------|----------------|--------------------------------------|---|---------------------------|
| Sun 04 Jan | 10am-2pm | Holly Bash and Bonfire | Valley Park LNR, Knightwood Copse | Knightwood Leisure Centre |
| Sat 24 Jan | 10am-12pm | Veg Management | Tadburn Meadows Local Nature Reserve | Eight Acres |
| Wed 28 Jan | 10am-1pm | Veg management | Romsey barge canal | New Road carpark |
| Wed 11 Feb | 10am-1pm | Veg Management | Abbotswood LNR | TBC |
| Sun 15 Feb | 10am-12pm | Coppice (Hazel) | Valley Park LNR, Skyswood | Top of Morgan Le Fay |
| Sun 08 Mar | 10am-12pm | Tree planting (hazel restock) | Valley Park LNR, Zionshill Copse | Knightwood Leisure Centre |
| Sun 22 Mar | 10am-12pm | Willow Clearance | Tadburn Meadows Local Nature Reserve | Eight Acres |
| Sun 12 Apr | 10am-12pm | Holly management (Green man) | Valley Park LNR, Green Man, Zionshill Copse | Knightwood Leisure Centre |
| Sun 19 Apr | 10am-1pm | Scrub Management | Abbotswood LNR | TBC |
| Sat 09 May | 10am-12pm | Drainage Work & Litter Pick | Tadburn Meadows Local Nature Reserve | Eight Acres |
| Wed 20 May | 10am-1pm | Footpath Maintenance and Litter Pick | Abbotswood LNR | TBC |
| Sat 13 Jun | 10am-1pm | Invasive Species Removal | Abbotswood LNR | TBC |
| Sun 21 Jun | 10am-12pm | Heath Management | Valley Park LNR, Heathland Management | TBC |
| Sun 05 Jul | 10am-12pm | Non-native species control | Tadburn Meadows Local Nature Reserve | Eight Acres |
| Sun 12 Jul | 10am-12pm | Meadow Managment | Valley Park LNR, Balancing Pond Meadow | Knightwood Leisure Centre |
| Tue 28 Jul | 10am-12pm | Discovery Day | Tadburn Meadows Local Nature Reserve | Eight Acres |
| Wed 29 Jul | 10am-12pm | Discovery Day | Abbotswood LNR | Abbotswood Sports Centre |
| Sun 02 Aug | 10am-1pm | Pond Maintenance | Abbotswood LNR | TBC |
| Fri 04 Sep | 7.45pm onwards | Bat Walk | Tadburn Meadows Local Nature Reserve | Eight Acres |
| Fri 18 Sep | 7.30pm onwards | Bat Walk | Abbotswood LNR | Abbotswood Sports Centre |
| Sun 20 Sep | 10am-12pm | Coppice (Hazel) | Valley Park LNR, Zionshill Copse | Knightwood Leisure Centre |

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|-------------------|-----------|-------------------------------------|---|----------------------------|
| Sat 26 Sep | 10am-12pm | Wildflower Meadow Management | Tadburn Meadows Local Nature Reserve | Eight Acres |
| Wed 30 Sep | 10am-1pm | Orchard Maintenance Woodley | Woodley Open Space | Woodley open space orchard |
| Sun 18 Oct | 10am-12pm | Hazel coppicing | Valley Park LNR, Tredgoulds Linking Strip | Top of Yewberry Way |
| Wed 11 Nov | 10am-1pm | Veg management | Romsey barge canal | New Road carpark |
| Sun 15 Nov | 10am-12pm | Sycamore coppicing | Valley Park LNR, Zionshill Copse | Knightwood Leisure Centre |
| Sun 22 Nov | 10am-12pm | Veg Management / non-native removal | Tadburn Meadows Local Nature Reserve | Eight Acres |
| Wed 09 Dec | 10am-1pm | Christmas Reserve Spruce UP | Abbotswood LNR | TBC |
| Sun 13 Dec | 10am-12pm | Holly management | Valley Park LNR, Tredgoulds Copse | Top of Yewberry Way |
| Sun 13 Dec | 12pm-2pm | Festive Wreath making | Valley Park LNR, Zionshill Meadow | TBC |

Important Note

The practical tasks that we carry out on our Green Spaces and Nature Reserves can be strenuous, tiring and involve the use of hand tools that some people may find challenging. Please inform the co-ordinator leading the event if you have any medical conditions or concerns that could be a danger to yourself or other volunteers working around you. We reserve the right to restrict your level of participation in certain circumstances. All children under the age of 16 must be accompanied by a responsible adult.