

Countryside Project Report July-Aug 2025

- Tues 1/7/25:
Churchfield Community Allotment/Well-Being Garden maintenance/development with 4 volunteers for 2hrs = **8 volunteer hours**.

Riverfly monitoring with 28 pupils and 4 staff from Scissett Academy.
The school has recently been awarded Eco-School Green Flag renewal (with distinction)...as have St Aidan's and Denby CofE First.....well done!

Skelmanthorpe Academy and Denby Dale First and Nursery have also been awarded their first Green Flags and Shelley College has retained theirs 😊

Denby Dale station adoption meeting with the Penistone Line Partnership.

Attendance and reporting at full parish council meeting.

- Weds 2/7/25:
Attendance at Urban Trout event with Kirklees Volunteer Co-ordinator and 1 volunteer for 9hrs = **9 volunteer hours**.
- Thurs 3/7/25:
Log delivery to the Mast garden project in Skelmanthorpe.

Dog bag dispenser recce.

- Sat 5/7/25:
Picnic in the Park and community allotment/well-being open day at Churchfield, coinciding with the Scarecrow Trail around Denby Dale, which the Trinity Workshop Men's Shed also took part in at their open day.
8 Friends of Churchfield volunteers for 6hrs = **48 volunteer hours**.
4 Ten Village/Community Allotment volunteers for 6hrs = **24 volunteer hours**.



- Tues 8/7/25:
Churchfield community allotment/well-being garden maintenance with 3 volunteers for 3hrs = **9 volunteer hours**.

Delivery of Churchfield willow to Mast Community Garden, Skelmanthorpe.
- Weds 9/7/25:
Cliffe Woods maintenance with 1 volunteer for 1hr = **1 volunteer hour**.
- Thurs 10/7/25:
Attendance at Don, Dearne and Rother Network Day with 2 Friends of the Dearne for 7hrs = **14 volunteer hours**.
- Fri 11/7/25:
Cumberworth PROW aggressive cow recce.
- Sat 12/7/25:
East Hill and Denby Dale station maintenance, plant watering and litter picking with 6 volunteers for 2hrs = **12 volunteer hours**.
- Mon 14/7/25:
Attendance at Upper Dearne Woods meeting with 4 volunteers for 2hrs = **8 volunteer hours**.
- Tues 15/7/25:
Churchfield Community Garden/Allotment/site maintenance with 7 volunteers for 1.5hrs = **10.5 volunteer hours**.

Eco-Fest poster collection, designed by pupils from Denby Dale First and Nursery School.
- Weds 16/7/25:
Walling at Cliffe Woods.
- Thurs 17/7/25:
Path clearance at Churchfield with 4 Cummins CSR volunteers for 4hrs = **16 volunteer hours**.



- Fri 18/7/25:
Office front garden weeding and other general building tasks (cellar).
- Sat 19/7/25:
Litter pick and nettle bash at Clayton West Millennium Green with 1 volunteer for 2 hours = **2 Volunteer hours**.

Clayton West allotment maintenance (weeding and compost turning etc) with 6 Ten Village volunteers for 2.5hrs = **15 volunteer hours**.



- Mon 21/7/25
Development of cycling route with 1 volunteer from Denby Dale Cycling hub for 3 hours = **3 volunteer hours**.

Attendance at CEWG meeting.
- Tues 22/7/25:
Churchfield Community Garden/Allotment/site maintenance with 6 volunteers for 2hrs = **14 volunteer hours**.

Bridge repair of one broken slat, off Cuckstool Lane, Denby Dale.

Attendance at DDPET meeting.
- Weds 23/7/25:
Showing a visitor from Sheffield Hallam University round different areas of the Upper Dearne, including the source, with 2 volunteers for 2 hours = **4 volunteer hours**.

Cliffe Woods site recce and planning in preparation for large group of Cummins volunteers in August with 2 volunteers for 1.5 hours = **3 volunteer hours**.
- Thurs 24/7/25:
PROW issue recce on the Clayton West Circular.

Balsam bashing and riverfly sampling of two sites just upstream from the new Clayton West wetland in preparation for testing downstream soon, to see what effect the reed bed is having.

- Tues 29/7/25:
Community allotment and well-being garden maintenance with 5 volunteers for 2 hours = **10 volunteer hours**.

Preparation of displays for Emley Show.

- Weds 30/7/25:
Cliffe Woods volunteer morning, drystone walling and clearing out old rotten tool storage shed with 2 volunteers for 1 hour = **2 volunteer hours**

PROW issue recce on a path that forms part of the Denby Dash taking place at the end of August.

- Thurs 31/7/25
Dismantling greenhouse for community use on one of our sites with 1 volunteer for 7 hours = **7 volunteer hours**

- Fri 1/8/25:
Preparation and setting up for Emley Show.

- Sat 2/8/25:
Collection of riverfly sample for exhibiting at Emley Show.
1 Friend of the Dearne for 1hr = **1 volunteer hour**.

Representation of the parish at Emley Show with 1 Friend of the Dearne for 3hrs = **3 volunteer hours**, and 1 Ten Village volunteer for 6hrs = **6 volunteer hours**.

- Tues 5/8/25:
Community allotment and well-being garden maintenance with 4 volunteers for 2 hours = **8 volunteer hours**.
- Weds 6/8/25:
Walling, holly removal and general woodland maintenance at Cliffe Woods with 15 Cummins volunteers for 4hrs = **60 volunteer hours**, and 1 Cliffe Woods volunteer for 4hrs = **4 volunteer hours**.
- Thurs 7/8/25:
Relocation of dog bag dispenser from Holly Rd in Scissett to the top of Langley Lane in Clayton West.

- Sat 9/8/25:
(Balsam bashing with 4 Friends of Park Gate for 2hrs = **8 volunteer hours**).

- Sun 10/8/25:
Construction/maintenance of a sloped/stair case area to make it easier and safer to walk down in Upper Dearne Woods, with 7 volunteers for 2 hours = **14 volunteer hours**.

- Tues 12/8/25:
Community Allotment and Well-Being Garden maintenance with 4 volunteers for 2 hours = **8 volunteer hours**.

Attendance at Walkers are Welcome meeting.

Attendance at Friends of the Dearne AGM with 10 volunteers for 1hr = **10 volunteer hours**.

- Weds 13/8/25:
Cliffe Woods walling.
Delivery of more logs to Mast NHS Garden Project, Skelmanthorpe

- Thurs 14/8/25:
Woodchip collection from Graham Coultish

Riverfly sample at Clayton West Pack Horse Bridge with 1 Friend of the Dearne volunteer for 2hrs = **2 volunteer hours**.

- Fri 15/8/25:
Spreading of woodchip on the Denby Dash route at Quaker Bottom with 4 volunteers for 1.5 hours = **6 volunteer hours**.
- Sat 16/8/25:
Path clearance through the allotments at Churchfield with 6 volunteers for 2 hours = **12 volunteer hours**
- Mon 18/8/25:
Attendance at Cliffe Woods AGM with 6 volunteers for 1.5 hours = **9 volunteer hours**
- Tues 19/8/25:
Churchfield allotment, orchard and well-being garden maintenance with 8 volunteers for 2 hours = **16 volunteer hours**.



- Weds 20/8/25:
Cliffe Woods Well-being Wednesday – spreading of woodchip to replace some of the last load which has since rotted down, with 2 volunteers for 2 hours = **2 volunteer hours**.

Construction of garden at Skelmanthorpe community centre.

- Thurs 21/8/25:
(Attended by Adam's college tutor):

Bridge maintenance at Wither Wood with 1 volunteer for 1.5 hours = **1.5 volunteer hours**.

Path clearance in Emley.

Attendance at Park Gate meeting at the council offices with 7 volunteers for 1.5 hours = **10.5 volunteer hours**.

- Fri 22/8/25:
Office grounds and cellar maintenance, weeding/tidying.
- Sat 23/8/25:
Maintenance of the newt ponds with 10 Villages Group. 6 volunteers for 2.5 hours = **15 volunteer hours**.

Clearing grounds at Skelmanthorpe Community Centre in preparation for their summer fair with 2 volunteers for 2 hours = **4 volunteer hours**.
- Tues 26/8/25:
Churchfield Community allotment and Well-being Garden volunteer morning with 6 volunteers for 2 hours = **12 volunteer hours**.
- Weds 27/8/25
Cliffe Woods Well-being Wednesday with 2 volunteers for 2 hours = **2 volunteer hours**

Repairing of wheelbarrow wheels so that the barrows can be put to use again.
- Thurs 28/8/25:
Skelmanthorpe Community Centre Garden construction.
- Fri 29/8/25:
Public footpath (DEN/151/30) clearance at the stairway down to Hinchliffe's from the train station.

HWRC visit with 3 tonne bags of green waste.

Gathering info/pictures for the Oxley Trail leaflet update.

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TOTAL = 425.5 Volunteer hours.

(Equivalent to a value of £6382.50 using a volunteer rate of £15/hr)

(+ 8 Volunteer hours at Park Gate in partnership with Kirklees).

Work with 28 pupils and 4 staff from 3 schools.

6 of our schools have achieved the coveted Eco-Schools Green Flag this academic year:

Scissett Academy (with distinction)

Denby CofE First (with distinction)

St Aidan's (with distinction)

Denby Dale First and Nursery

Skelmanthorpe Academy

Shelley College

Some future volunteer opportunities:

Sat 6th Sept – Park Gate.

Sun 7th Sept – Wither Woods.

Sat 13th Sept – East Hill Woods.

Sat 20th Sept – Ten Villages at Scissett Community Garden.

The regular volunteer sessions on Tuesday mornings at Churchfield Community Allotment and Wednesday mornings at Cliffe Woods will also continue throughout Sept at 10am.

Thank You
Dave and Adam
5/9/25