

Sunday
16 October

Leaves and fruits in Banstead Woods

Explore autumn in this historic woodland's leafy scenery. The large tracts cleared of *Rhododendron ponticum* are enjoying the return of our diverse native woodland species. Join Marion for a 2.5 mile, 2.5 hour walk (some slopes).



Meeting point: Leaving Holly Lane car park at 10am. Chipstead station ¼ mile, CR5 3NR

Grid reference: TQ 274 584

For further information, contact the Downlands Project on 01737 737700 or 01883 341140.

Guided walks and events programme

June to October 2011



Welcome to Reigate & Banstead Borough Council's guided walks and events programme.

There are lots of activities all year round for everyone to enjoy in the borough's 55 parks and open spaces and we are committed to maintaining and investing in them.

If you plan to attend any of our walks please wear suitable footwear, and be aware that sometimes the terrain can be a bit rough or steep in places. We will keep to a reasonable pace so it won't be a race!

Well behaved dogs are welcome unless stated otherwise in the information for individual walks. Events may be cancelled due to bad weather. If you are in any doubt please call the events organisers.

Countryside volunteering

The Council works with various partners in the management of its countryside sites including extremely dedicated groups of conservation volunteers. They are out in all weathers and happily carry out high quality work in a sensitive manner.

Our partners are always looking for new volunteers and if you are interested in giving your time, then please contact them to find out more.

Monday
19 September

Wildlife Watch

Wildlife Watch is UK's leading environmental action club for children aged 5 to 11 years. If you care about nature and the environment and want to explore your local wildlife then this is the club for you. Free admission.

Time: 4pm - 6pm

Meeting point: Meet at Merstham Community Facility, 44 Portland Drive, Merstham

For further information, contact Tom Newman, Community & Education Officer on 07967 575255 or email tom.newman@surreywt.org.uk

October

Sunday
9 October

East of Earlswood autumn walk

Join The Council's Countryside Rangers for an autumn stroll around the eastern side of Earlswood, discovering its picturesque, green side and the wildlife of the area.

Meeting point: Brambletye Park Road, opposite Trentham Road, Earlswood, RH1 6JA at 10am

Grid reference: TQ 279 491

Duration: About two hours



September

Monday 5 September Earlswood Lakes bat walk

In case you couldn't make the last one you are welcome to join the Council's Rangers for another evening walk around the lakes to discover the various bat species that live in the park. Bat detectors will be used to locate the bats and listen to them using echolocation. If you have your own detector you are welcome to bring it along.



Time: 8pm

Meeting point: Earlswood Lakes car park, Woodhatch Road, RH2 7QB

Grid reference: TQ 268 484

Duration: About one hour (depending on the weather)

Sunday 11 September Banstead Countryside Day 2011

Free annual family event organised by the Downslands Countryside Management Project, in association with the Downslands Trust, and the Council. The event is open as part of the national Heritage Open Days weekend.

The theme of the day is a celebration of our local countryside, history, community and rural and traditional crafts.

There will be lots of activities, including a nature trail, tractor pulled trailer rides, craft making, a variety of stalls with local produce, wildlife and much more.

Time: 10.30am - 4.30pm

Meeting point: Held in the large field by Banstead Woods on Holly Lane, adjacent to Holly Lane car park

Contact details

Reigate & Banstead Borough Council Countryside Rangers	Eleanor Yoxall eleanor.yoxall@reigate-banstead.gov.uk Richard Townsley richard.townsley@reigate-banstead.gov.uk 01737 276000
Downlands Countryside Management Project and the Old Surrey Downs Project	01737 737700 downlands@surreycc.gov.uk
Reigate Area Conservation Volunteers	www.racv.org.uk
Surrey Wildlife Trust	07967 575255
Surrey Greenspace Project	01483 795468 greenspace@surreywt.org.uk
Gatwick Greenspace Partnership	01293 550730



June

Friday 24 June Midsummer flowers on Chipstead slopes

The chalk slopes are home to an increasing variety of colourful flowers thanks to management work to reduce invasive scrub. Volunteers and animals have been hard at work. Join Marion for a 2.5 mile, 2.5 hour hilly walk.

Meeting point: Leaving Holly Lane car park at 10am. Chipstead station ¼ mile, CR5 3NR

Grid reference: TQ 274 584

For further information, contact the Downlands Project on 01737 737700 or 01883 341140.

Thursday 30 June to Sunday 10 July Reigate Heath exhibition, walks and talks

Reigate Heath, the Pavilion, Flanchford Rd, Reigate

There will be walks, talks and a treasure trail on the Heath - which is a designated Site of Special Scientific Interest and a Local Nature Reserve. Come and add your stories and pictures to the Heath's own Map of Memories.



Visit www.reigateheath.org.uk for full details and times of activities.

Sunday 26 June Dragonflies at The Moors

Join Surrey Wildlife Trust ranger Steve Bolton for a guided walk of The Moors wetland reserve looking at dragonflies and damselflies. Numerous species will be on show, weather permitting, including the UK's largest - the Emperor.

Meeting point: The Pavillion, Priory Park, Bell St, RH2 7RL

Times: 10am, 12pm and 2pm

To sign up, please call the park office 01737 242179 or email priorypark@reigate-banstead.gov.uk.

Thursday 25 August Earlswood Lakes bat walk

Join the Council's Rangers for an evening walk around the lakes to discover the various bat species that live in the park. Bat detectors will be used to locate the bats and listen to them using echolocation. If you have your own detector you are welcome to bring it along.



Meeting point: Earlswood Lakes car park, Woodhatch Road, RH2 7QB

Grid reference: TQ 268 484

Time: 7.45pm

Duration: About one hour (depending on the weather)

Wednesday 31 August Mini beast hunt

Go on a mini beast hunt around Priory Park and rummage through the undergrowth to discover the many creepy-crawlies hiding there. See how many you can find. All bug hunting equipment provided.

Meeting point: The Pavillion, Priory Park, Bell St, RH2 7RL

Times: 10am, 12pm and 2pm

To sign up, please call the park office 01737 242179 or email priorypark@reigate-banstead.gov.uk.

Meeting point: The car park off Bletchingley Road, RH1 3QN

Grid reference: TQ 306 526

**Wednesday
10 August**

Bird spotting and wildlife walk

Take the circular walk around the park and see how many birds/wildlife you can spot on your way. Children under seven must be accompanied by an adult.



Meeting point: The Pavillion, Priory Park, Bell St, RH2 7RL

Times: 10am, 12pm and 2pm

To sign up, please call the park office 01737 242179 or email priorypark@reigate-banstead.gov.uk.

**Wednesday
17 August**

Den building and tracking

Come and learn how to build a den in the woods and learn all about tracking. For ages seven and above.

Meeting point: The Pavillion, Priory Park, Bell St, RH2 7RL

Times: 10am, 12pm and 2pm

To sign up, please call the park office 01737 242179 or email priorypark@reigate-banstead.gov.uk.

**Wednesday
24 August**

Lake birds and pond dipping

See if you can find anything stirring beneath the surface of Priory Park's lake. Also learn about the many birds that live in and around the lake. We provide all the equipment and know how. Children under seven must be accompanied by an adult.

Time: 1.30pm - 3.30pm

Meeting point: Car park next to Linden Homes development on Nutfield Road, near junction of Nutfield Road and Cormongers Lane, Merstham, RH1 3HH

For further information, contact Steve Bolton on 07799 894148.

July

Thursday 7 and 21 July

Merstham pram walk

Free buggy friendly walks for parents who want to explore their local area and get fit and healthy. This is a great social event and refreshments will be provided after the walk.

Time: 10am - 12pm

Meeting point: The Red Oak Children's Centre, Rastock Way, Merstham

For further information, contact Tom Newman, Community & Education Officer on 07967 575255 or email tom.newman@surreywt.org.uk.

**Saturday
16 July**

Horley circular health walk

Join Gatwick Greenspace Partnership for a nine mile health walk and pub lunch.

Time: 9.30am

Meeting point: Riverside Park, off of the Crescent, Horley, RH6 7LN

Grid reference: TQ 281 421

For further information, contact Kevin on 01293 550730 or email KevinLerwill@sussexwt.org.uk.

**Thursday
21 July** Conservation work to benefit dragonflies at The Moors, Nutfield Marsh

We will be having a look at what species we have, as well as some management to benefit them.

Meeting point: The car park off Nutfield Road, between the roundabout to Watercolour and Fordbridge, RH1 3HH

Grid reference: TQ 295 517

For further information, please email marjan.leray@btinternet.com.

**Wednesday
27 July** Mini beast hunt

Go on a mini beast hunt around Priory Park and rummage through the undergrowth to discover the many creepy-crawlies hiding there. See how many you can find. All bug hunting equipment provided.

Meeting point: The Pavillion, Priory Park, Bell St, RH2 7RL

Time: 2pm

To sign up, please call the park office 01737 242179 or email priorypark@reigate-banstead.gov.uk.

**28 July, 4, 25, 18 and 11 August,
1 September** Treecutters Club

Treecutters Club is a woodland group for people aged 10 to 16 years. If you like the idea of cutting down trees and making things that you can use, plus cook your own food in the woods, then this is the club for you. Free admission.

Time: 1.30pm - 3.30pm

Meeting point: Radstock Way Open Space, Radstock Way, Merstham

For further details please contact Tom Newman, Community & Education Officer on 07967 575255 or email tom.newman@surreywt.org.uk.

August

**Wednesday
3 August** Trees and leaves adventure

Learn about the different trees on this exciting trail around Priory Park. Collect leaves and make a collage or a try some leaf printing. Find out which is your favourite tree in the park and which one is the tallest of its kind in the UK. Children under seven must be accompanied by an adult.



Meeting point: The Pavillion, Priory Park, Bell St, RH2 7RL

Times: 10am, 12pm and 2pm

To sign up, please call the park office 01737 242179 or email priorypark@reigate-banstead.gov.uk.

**Sunday
7 August** Earlswood Lakes wetland planting management

Reigate Area Conservation Volunteers will be continuing their rolling programme of planting to improve this site.

Meeting point: The car park by the lakes, RH2 7QH

Grid reference: TQ 268 484

For further information, please email marjan.leray@btinternet.com.

**Monday
8 August** Spynes Mere bat walk

Join Surrey Greenspace Officer, Tom, to track down the bats using special bat detectors and find out more about these amazing creatures. This event is for children aged 16 and under.

Time: 8.30pm - 10pm