



THE ROYAL FORESTRY SOCIETY

Woodland Visits 2025

IMPORTANT – PLEASE READ

As these events may be subject to change or cancellation, please check the website or contact the local Honorary Secretary.

rfs.org.uk/events-category/woodland-meetings

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|--------------------|---|
| 12 - 15 May | Annual Study Tour hosted by the South Wales Division |
| 25 Sept | Excellence in Forestry Awards Ceremony at Westonbirt, The National Arboretum |
| 20 Nov | NDG James Memorial Lecture at The Levine Building, Trinity College, Oxford |

For a full list of RFS events including online and in-person training courses, seminars and lectures, please visit rfs.org.uk/events.

***RFS meetings take place in woodlands in all weathers.
Appropriate, clean footwear should be worn.
Please be aware of your health and safety at all times.
Do not take risks that could put yourself or others in danger.
Do not attempt to do anything that you do not feel confident about and please follow instructions.***

RFS members are welcome to attend events in **all** Divisions.
Local Honorary Secretaries have the details.

Attendance at woodland events can contribute to any ongoing CPD obligations.

EAST ANGLIA

Hon. Secretary Lulu Agnew - 07388 918759 - lulu.agnew@brown-co.com

08 May Ickworth Estate - National Trust (Bury St. Edmunds)

19 June Fulmodeston Severals and Holmes Wood - Edward Brun (Fakenham)

18 Sept Sotterley Estate - Miles and Tessa Barne (Beccles)

"Growing oaks faster?" Visit to include Divisional AGM.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE

Hon. Secretary Dr Denise Taylor - 07931 303367- rfsglos@gmail.com

Visit Secretary Stuart Payne - 07935 603536 - stuart.payne@fdean.gov.uk

22 May Lydney Park Estate (Aylburton)

Conversion of estate grown timber and restocking of clear-fell sites.

16 July Batsford Estate (Moreton-in-Marsh)

Three Counties joint visit to look at woodland management and arboretum.

13 Nov Three Counties Winter online lecture with Worcestershire and Herefordshire

Evening event. Delivered by Anna Field, the topic will be *the Goshawk*.

HEREFORDSHIRE

Hon. Secretary Simon Lloyd - 07770 324785 - rfsherefordshire@gmail.com

20 Mar Stoke Lacy Village Hall - (Bromyard, Worcester)

Evening event. Chris Johnson Memorial Lecture delivered by Tony Norman the topic will be black poplar. Preceded by hot pot supper and Divisional AGM.

13 June Netherley Hall Estate - Sir Geoffrey Vos (Mathon)

Agroforestry vs poplar and orchard restoration.

16 July Batsford Estate (Moreton-in-Marsh)

Three Counties joint visit to look at woodland management and arboretum.

12 Sept Berrington Estate and Park - Lord Cawley and The National Trust (Leominster)

AM: Establishment and maintenance of young plantations.

PM: Restoration of a Capability Brown landscape.

10 Oct Mortimer Forest - Forestry England (Ludlow)

Resilience within the Forest.

13 Nov Three Counties Winter online lecture with Worcestershire and Gloucestershire

Evening event. Delivered by Anna Field, the topic will be *the Goshawk*.

HOME COUNTIES

Hon. Secretary Tom Williams - 01462 420851 - tom.williams@maydencroft.co.uk

tbc Woburn Abbey - Duke of Bedford

Tour of grounds.

LONDON & MIDDLESEX

Hon. Secretary Angus Morrison - 07739 313739 - angus.morrison@rbkc.gov.uk

15 Apr Natural History Museum Gardens - Tom McCarter (South Kensington)

Tour of the gardens.

13 May Battersea Park and Gardens - Sam Morgan

Tour of this remarkable Victorian Park.

MIDLANDS

Hon. Secretary Cheryl Lundberg 07736 549309 - cheryl@robinson-forestry.co.uk

30 Apr Brooke Weston Academy (Corby)

Evening event. Delivered by Prof Jo Bradwell from Norbury Park, the topic will address climate change resilience.

13 May Nene Park Trust (Peterborough)

The role of trees and woodlands in supporting the growth agenda.

16 Sept Donington Park and Calke Abbey (Derbyshire)

AM: Floodplain planting, the self-supplied biomass boiler and visit to deer park and deer larder/processing facility. Visit to include Divisional AGM.

PM: Tour of stunning parkland.

NORTH EASTERN

Hon. Secretary Luke Hemmings - 07977 056495 - royalforestry.ne@gmail.com

06 March James Jones & Sons Sawmill - Tom Coates (Sherburn Hill)

Look at investment and future species supply.

20 June College Valley Estate - Sir James Knott Trust (Hethpool)

Joint visit with RSFS looking at felling, thinning and restocking.

18 July Doxford Estate - Savills (Chathill)

After Storm Arwen, selective felling, windblow and woodland improvement.

19 Sept Druridge Bay Country Park - The Great Northumberland Forest

Regeneration and new woodland using GNF funding.

NORTH WALES

Hon. Secretary Dr Christine Cahalan - 01248 382337 - 07901 856892 - c.m.cahalan@bangor.ac.uk

Visit Secretary Fiona Peate - 07980 598411 - fiona.peate@hotmail.com

17 Apr Norbury Park Estate - Prof Jo Bradwell (Staffordshire)

Alternative silviculture to combat climate change and maximise carbon sequestration.

08 May Natural Resources Wales - Kath McNulty (Betws-y-Coed)

Challenges of plantations on Ancient Woodland sites.

03 July Natural Resources Wales - Aidan Cooke (Clocaenog Forest)

Continuous Cover Forestry (CCF). Visit to include AGM.

09 Oct Llyn Parc Mawr - Tim Peters (Anglesey)

Conservation conflicts in forest management.

NORTH WEST MIDLANDS

Hon. Secretary Chris Henretty - 07973 136277 - christopher.henretty@gmail.com

30 Apr Kedleston Estate - Hon Richard and James Curzon (Derbyshire)

Proactive woodland management with topics including cricket bat willow and Countryside Stewardship application.

09 July National Forest Staffordshire

Transformation of landscapes in the National Forest and visit to Heartlands Community Woodlands Group to look at producing biochar.

12 Nov Chillington Estate - Charlie Giffard (Staffordshire)

Challenges and opportunities of managing an historic estate including acute oak decline, underplanting and Continuous Cover Forestry (CCF).

NORTH WESTERN

Hon. Secretary Dr Romola Stringer - 01539 725168 - 07806 065602 - mail@sprintmill.uk

24 Apr Hyndburn Community Woodlands - Sara Parsons (Hyndburn)

Community woodland management.

15 May Rigmaden Woods (Carnforth)

Education in the woods for schools, Scouts, scientists and how woodland can be used as a classroom.

10 July Brackenburgh Estate - James Turner (Calthwaite)

Estate woodland management, SSSI and open heathland restoration.

18 Sept Hornby Woods/Backsbottom Farm and Middlewood Centre (Lancaster)

Organic farm and orchard agroforestry. Visit to include Divisional AGM.

NORTHERN IRELAND

Hon. Secretary Brian Malcomson - 02827 638026 - brian.malcomson@scottishwoodlands.co.uk

11 Apr Gosford Forest Park - NI Forest Service (Markethill, Co. Armagh)

Plans - past and present, windblow damage from Storm Éowyn and tour of deer enclosure.

13 June Hillsborough - Historic Royal Palace

AM: Agri-Food and Biosciences Institute.

PM: Hillsborough Castle and Gardens.

12 Sept Lough Bawn - Jack Tenison (Castleblayney, Co. Monaghan)

Continuously planted since 1820 and well known for the quality of its soft and hardwood timber. Visit to include Divisional AGM.

NOTTS & Lincs

Hon. Secretary William Price - 07771 376622 wjep@hhfarms.co.uk

10 June Normanton Hall - John Machin (Newark)

Evening event. Tour of RFS Silver Award EIF Small & Farm Woodland 2024.
Further visits and dates tbc.

OXON-BUCKS

Hon. Secretary Tim Shardlow - 01869 340342 - tim@nicholsonsgb.com

19 March Neighbours Hall (Great Milton)

Evening event. John Morris will talk about the last 10 years managing RFS Hockeridge and Pancake Woods. Keith Kirby will discuss the relevance of the wildwood. Preceded by supper at 6.30 pm.

16 May Eastbrook Farm, Bishopstone - Helen Browning (Swindon)

Variety of established agroforestry systems on a working farm. Visit to include Divisional AGM.

16 July Black Park/Langley Park and Pinewood Studios- Buckinghamshire CC -Tim Williams and Pinewood Studios (Slough)

AM: History of the Black Park site and management of SSSI and veteran tree management at Langley.

PM: How forestry products are effectively used in film industry.

17 Sept Campbell Park Pavilion - Milton Keynes Parks Trust (Milton Keynes)

Management of urban forest within 2428 ha of green open space and the challenges it brings.

SOMERSET & DORSET

Hon. Secretary Oliver Mead - 07780 667082 - oliver.mead@carterjonas.co.uk

06 June Dinder Woods - Trustees of Dinder Estate (Wells)

Managing mixed objectives in small scale lowland forestry.

02 July Langridge Wood - Fairfield Estate (Minehead)

Reinstatement of broadleaf woodland and issues related to timber harvesting in proximity to water courses.

10 Sept Hook Park, Beaminster

Tour of the Architectural Association's woodland campus.

SOUTH EASTERN

Hon. Secretary Dr Petra Billings - 07505 280155 - rfssoutheast@hotmail.com

15 May Birling Estate - the Nevill family (West Malling)

Recreational use of woodlands, bringing woodlands back into management, *Ips typographus* and ash dieback.

04 June Farningham Woods Nature Reserve - Sevenoaks DC (Farningham)

Management of SSSI woodland, oriental chestnut gall wasp, habitat creation.

02 July Langley Vale Wood - The Woodland Trust (Ashted)

Woodland creation (one of The Woodland Trust's four First World War Centenary sites), ancient woodland and open habitats.

16 Sept Rotherfield Park - English Woodlands on behalf of the Scott family (Alton)

Joint visit with Southern Division. Estate forestry, deer management, in-house milling and carpentry utilising estate-sourced timber.

01 Oct Plumpton College - The Forestry Commission (Lewes)

Workshop to provide current information on woodland grants and significant pests and diseases.

SOUTH WALES

Hon. Secretary Racheal Lee - 07525 202186 - racheal.lee1812@gmail.com

12 - 15 May RFS Annual Study Tour (WSM) SOLD OUT

04 July Banc Farm and Brechfa Forest Garden - Tilhill Forestry and NRW

AM: Productive woodland creation.

PM: New species and the functional role they play.

19 Sept Glandwr Forest and Maes Mynach - Tilhill Forestry and Pryor & Rickett

AM: Carbon community with established woodland.

PM: Expansion of existing woodland in challenging circumstances.

SOUTH WESTERN

Hon. Secretary Carolyn Richards - 07872 598659 - crichardsb@mac.com

- 19 May Lukesland Estate - Mr and Mrs Howell (Ivybridge)**
Visit to Forest School and tour of pinetum, arboretum and gardens.
- 18 June Woodland Valley Farm (Ladock)**
Agroforestry and introduction of beavers for The Cornwall Beaver Project.
- 10 Sept Ausewell Wood, Ashburton/Buckland in the Moor - Woodland Trust/National Trust**
- 09 Oct Buckland House and Estate - Ralph and Suzanne Nicholson (Buckland Filleigh)**
Award-winning forestry.

SOUTHERN

Hon. Secretary Steve Russell - 01380 830022 - steve@woodlandcountrysidemangement.com

- 26 Mar Malshanger Estate Club - Sir Jeremiah Colman (Basingstoke)**
Evening event. Richard Pumphrey will talk about the operation of Shrigley Wood since 1390. Hugh Milner will discuss the management of Shrawley Wood, both past and present.
- 23 Apr Barton Manor and Garlic Farm - Mr and Mrs Haig-Thomas and Hugo Boswell (Isle of Wight)**
AM: Ancient tree recording.
PM: Agroforestry.
- 13 May Teffont Estate - the Keatinge family (Salisbury)**
Workings of small estate woodlands.
- 19 June Northdown Plantation - Prof Julian Evans OBE (Steventon)**
Evening event. The topic will be silviculture for the future.
- 03 July Micheldever Wood - Greg Wyle (Micheldever)**
Multiple coupe felling, ride management, Scheduled Ancient Monument sites, research plots and hazel.
- 16 Sept Rotherfield Park - English Woodlands on behalf of the Scott family (Alton)**
Joint visit with South Eastern Division. Estate forestry, deer management, in-house milling and carpentry utilising estate-sourced timber.

WORCESTERSHIRE

Hon. Secretary Stewart Carter - 07590 369712 - rfsworcs@gmail.com

- 13 Feb Binton Hill Wood - Mr and Mrs Richard Freeman (Alcester)**
Ways of dealing with ash dieback and firewood production.
- 19 Mar Worcestershire Young Farmers Club HQ (Hawford)**
Evening event. The Lawrence Pilling Memorial Lecture, delivered by Archie Miles, the topic will be hidden trees of Britain.
- 02 Apr Croome Estate - Croome Estate and The National Trust (High Green)**
Visit to include Divisional AGM.
- 08 May Chaddesley Estate - Worcestershire Wildlife Trust (Bromsgrove)**
Timber production and wildlife management.
- 16 July Batsford Estate (Moreton-in-Marsh)**
Three Counties joint visit to look at woodland management and arboretum.
- 16 Sept Wyre Forest National Nature Reserve - Forestry England (Bewdley)**
Beavers in the Wyre Forest.
- 13 Nov Three Counties Winter online lecture with Herefordshire and Gloucestershire**
Evening event. Delivered by Anna Field, the topic will be *the Goshawk*.

YORKSHIRE

Hon. Secretary Ed Johnson - 07702 999433 - ejohnson@halifaxstates.co.uk

- 08 May Duncombe Park - Hon. Jake Duncombe (Helmsley)**
Estate woodlands, windblow management and specimen trees.
- 21 June Zetland Estate - Earl of Ronaldshay (Aske Hall)**
Rural regeneration and proactive woodland management.
- 31 July Snaizholme - Yorkshire Dales National Park**
- 17 Sept Temple Newsam - Leeds City Council (Leeds)**
New planting schemes and modular nursery trials.