



CNTV Introductory Leaflet

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The aim of the Group is to undertake practical work for the National Trust and to promote interest in the Trust. Anyone over the age of 18 may become a Member of the Group and you do not need to be a Member of the National Trust.

Subscriptions are due in January and are set at £3 to cover mailing costs, maintaining the website, etc. Members receive quarterly a programme of events and a newsletter to which everyone is invited to contribute – Members can also login to our website Member area and download these.

The Work

For National Trust insurance reasons we must have received a completed membership form and payment of the £3 subscription before anyone can work on a National Trust task / event.

Tasks are generally held on Sundays. We meet at the property, typically 10:00am or, if you require transport, at Shire Hall car park at 9.30am. Please contact the task leader a few days beforehand if you intend to go, so that the warden can be informed of expected numbers and transport arranged. A task usually entails assisting NT wardens with practical work on the estate. You will require working boots or wellingtons, waterproofs old clothes and gloves if you have any although some are available. It's also worth remembering to take a hat for warmth in winter, or sun protection in summer. Sun block is also vital as work areas may not always be shaded. You will also need a packed lunch but alcohol is not permitted on any tasks. Expect to finish about 4pm, and at certain properties we are offered free tea and cakes at the end of the task. This is a 'thank you' from the estate for the work done that day.

The Benefits

All Members completing a total of at least 50 hours in a calendar year will receive a "National Trust Volunteer Card". This is valid for one year and allows free entry to all NT properties, some of the benefits of NT membership plus 20% off most purchases in NT shops.

Social events are an important feature of the Group's activities and help to promote interest in the Group and its work as well as providing interest and motivation to Members. River trips, cinema and pub outings, badminton, 10 pin bowling and Go-Karting are just examples.

In addition to regular Sunday tasks, social events and training days there are usually several weekend trips organised. Typically this entails travelling to a distant NT property and doing 1 ½ - 2 days work. Bunkhouse accommodation is provided free in an NT basecamp and sleeping bags are required. We have to buy and cook our own food and pay for petrol (as it is travel outside our usual range of properties). The work done counts towards the "50 hour cards". These weekends are very popular and generally a good social event and opportunity to get to know people. Application for a weekend must be made on a booking form, to be found at the back of the newsletter, and a £5.00 deposit paid.

The Group Structure

The Group is run by a Committee of active Members comprising: Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, Programme Secretary, Membership Secretary, Newsletter Editor, Publicity Officer and Health and Safety Officer with a maximum of 9 Officers. The Committee meets at least 4 times per year and these meetings are open to non committee Members. The AGM is held in October each year and is well worthwhile for everyone in the Group to attend.

The Group cares for its own collection of tools - provided by the Trust as necessary - and are looked after by a committee Member. Insurance is provided by the Trust whilst we are working on NT property.

Petrol expenses are paid by the Trust to Members carrying passengers, on the basis of a standard mileage rate and distances from Shire Hall to NT properties. As few cars as possible should be taken to tasks. Mileage may be claimed by drivers who drive direct to the task with at least one passenger. The Group submits a quarterly claim to Regional Office and individual cheques follow.

We are supported and funded by the National Trust Office at Westley Bottom, Bury St Edmunds, where the main contact is Jenny Jordan. In addition to her role as Regional Volunteers Co-ordinator she also has responsibility for other areas such as Health and Safety, and training. As a Group we sometimes work on joint tasks with other NTV Groups.

Other Opportunities

Anyone interested in other types of voluntary work with the National Trust, such as Room Stewarding, assisting in the shops, publicity, etc., should contact Jenny Jordan at the Regional Office on 01284 747570.

Data protection

Your details will be held on computer for use by CNTV and the National Trust only.

They will not be passed to third parties for any reason.

If you agreed to email contact on your Application Form, your email address will be added to our Yahoo Group. This is simply used to email task / programme updates etc to current CNTV Members only, no other details such as your address, phone number etc are entered on the Yahoo Group.

If you object to the Group holding your membership record or to the circumstances of disclosure please contact the Membership Secretary to have your record removed.

Lastly, our website at www.cntv.org.uk is a useful source of current information. Members can also login to the Member area. Login details are available from the Web-Master or Membership Secretary.