

Go Wild in Porlock

Wildlife Weekend

Interview with: Ruth Hyett, volunteer

Project: Go Wild in Porlock – Wildlife Weekend, Porlock Visitor Centre

Aims:

- Raising Awareness of local wildlife
- Attracting and involving families

How and why did you get involved with the project?

- Through the Exmoor National Park Authority volunteers
- Was already working at Porlock Visitor Centre
- Wildlife is my main interest

How long were you involved and how much time did you spend volunteering?

- Helped to set it up
- 20+ hours

As a volunteer, what are the most important things for an organiser to be aware of?

- Using skills appropriately
- H & S
- Risk Assess all sites
- Promotion

Are there any downsides to being involved?

- Time constraints
- Doing the one role limits your enjoyment of the whole event as stuck in one place

A typical day in action:

- I was based in Orchard doing a BioBlitz – only had a few people, but they were interested
- Got very wet!
- Enjoyed leading walk – meeting and involving participants

Any advice for those looking to get involved?

- Need to know exactly what your involvement will be before signing up
- Equipment needed
- Suitable clothing

Any other comments:

Enough volunteers are needed so that all can have a break at some point during the event and to look around and appreciate the other activities