

NORTH WILTS TRAINING GROUP NEWSLETTER



November 2021

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NWTG Autumn newsletter

I hope all the members had a good summer and all harvests, and planting went well.

The pre-harvest health and safety course was well attended, many thanks. Also thanks to the main contributors to the day who all provided their time for free, Peter Lord, Farm Manager Dyson Farms, Pc Cox, Avon & Somerset, Pc Jackson, Wiltshire, Thomas Price, NFU transport expert, Kevin Short, TH Whites, Richard Hutchinson, Claas Western, Ben Parnell, Chandlers. A special thanks to Alec Thomas, ex-Agrii. who spoke about his experience of malignant melanoma, due to overexposure to the sun.

There have been changes to the law regarding B+E training, those who have a driving licence dated after the 1st January 1997 are now allowed to tow trailers up to 3,500kg MAM, bringing them in line with those who have a driving

licence issued before 1st January 1997. The changes will become law on 15th November 2021. DVLA will update your driving licence record to show that you're allowed to tow trailers. You'll get category B+E added to your driving licence when you get a new photocard driving licence. You do not need to contact DVLA for this to happen. It will be done automatically.

Until the law changes on 15 November 2021, you must continue to follow the current rules. You can be fined up to £1,000, be banned from driving and get up to 6 penalty points on your driving licence if you tow anything heavier before the law changes.

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/new-rules-for-towing-a-trailer-or-caravan-with-a-car-from-autumn-2021#what-will-change-from-15-november-2021>

Please think ahead to the training needed for the winter and any less busy times over the next few months. NWTG will always try to organise or find the cheapest option for any training. Please let me know your course requirements.

The AGM will be in February 2022, if anyone has a good idea for a speaker please let me know.

And lastly, a pre-Christmas Christmas cracker joke: How many tickles does it take to make an octopus laugh? Tentickles

COURSES (dates and venue dependent on bookings)

Chainsaw course

Lantra Certification for crosscutting and maintenance and small tree basic felling to 200mm

Monday 29th November, Tuesday 30th November, Wednesday 1st December 2021.

Maximum 4 on course.

Day 1, In workshop. Day 2, Morning in workshop, afternoon on-site. Day 3 on-site felling

Requirements: trainees to bring Saw / Maintenance tools, PPE etc.

9 am – 4 pm each day.

£250/candidate

Pesticide application courses

- **021694 PA1** 14th December 2021

Safe use of pesticides, PA1 must be passed by anyone wishing to take other PA courses.

- **021652 PA4g** February 2022

This is needed by anyone wishing to apply granules.

- **021650 PA2** February 2022

Is needed to operate mounted or trailed boom sprayers. It is also needed if you wish to operate most weed wiper types of applicator.

021654 PA6 and PA6w February 2022

Is needed by anyone wishing to apply pesticides using a hand-held lance or knapsack type applicators. The lance may be vehicle-mounted.

Priority Farmland Birds Walks led by Nick Adams

Venue: Upper Farm Cherhill

17th November 2021 8.30 am-10.30 am Looking at the effectiveness of planting wild-bird cover crops and the variety of birds it attracts.

- Which priority farmland birds are likely to be found on your farm

- How to identify those species by bird call and sight

- What habitat is each species likely to need and how can that be provided

The walk will cover a variety of habitats. The walks will be led by Nick Adams (Fellow of British Naturalists' Association). Nick has worked with farmers across Wiltshire and Gloucestershire for over twenty years helping them to bring wildlife into their decision making on their farm in a way that delivers for both farmer and wildlife.

City and Guilds 3268 Award in Welding

This course is an evening course taking place at Lackham College

City & Guilds welding courses are designed for a range of abilities:

Beginners who need basic welding training, experienced welders who want to develop specialist skills

This welding Award is offered at multiple levels covering Manual Metal Arc (MMA), Metal Inert/Active Gas (MIG/MAG), Tungsten Inert Gas (TIG) and Oxygen & Acetylene (O/A) processes.

Most useful for NWTG members will be Level 1 welding course but other levels are available

Candidates are able to start at any time between October – June, and candidates learn at their own pace, so there is no set number of sessions. Cost for Level 1 - £550.

ORGANISING / BOOKING A PLACE ON A COURSE

Please contact NWTG, by email or telephone, for any training courses which you would like arranged. Below are examples of our most popular courses:

- NPTC Pest Control of Rats and Mice
- New User and refresher telehandler course employers need to provide adequate training, new user courses and refreshers courses usually done every three-five years, or for a change of machine, or change of use
 - Basic Tractor training (for aged 13-16)
 - Welding (Mig and Arc), Abrasive wheels
 - ATV training
 - Livestock courses
 - Manual Handling
 - Chain saw training
 - Infectious Disease Control on Dairy Units
 - Cattle Handling
- Practical Tractor Driving course for Proficiency Test (16year olds)
- Experienced User Telehandler course