

# Durham Wildlife Trust

Conserving Wildlife from Tees to Tyne



## Exmoor Ponies

The Exmoor ponies which graze this site are semi feral, and happily survive here as they would in the wild.

Their hooves are fine and the chips to their hooves are a result of natural breakage, whilst they don't look perfect, this does not cause them any problems, as their hooves trim themselves naturally overtime.

The ponies are checked daily and have access to natural water sources, we also avoid supplementary feeding the ponies as we wish them to stay in their wild and natural state.



# Why Durham Wildlife Trust Owns Exmoor Ponies

Exmoor ponies are brilliant at conservation grazing. Very hardy, with an ability to thrive in all sorts of habitats from high moorland to bogs. They are selective grazers with great teeth, and whilst they like the sweet young grass, they will also tackle gorse, purple moor grass, soft rush, brambles and thistles with gusto; whilst trampling bracken and opening up the sward with their small sharp feet.

The ponies were brought into graze at Durham Wildlife Trust nature reserves in 2017 and have been doing a fantastic job of maintaining the wildflower meadows - a job in the summer that used to use a huge amount of volunteer time but not anymore thanks to a conservation grazing programme and the Trust's furry friends.

## Who to contact for help

The Moorland Mouse Trust are a charity who work to promote and protect the rare-breed Exmoor Pony. You can contact them on:

**Tel: 01398 323093**

**Email: [info@exmoorponycentre.org.uk](mailto:info@exmoorponycentre.org.uk)**

**Address: Ashwick, Dulverton, Somerset, TA22 9QE**

Or you can contact the Durham Wildlife Trust Pony Warden line on 07484 929677.

## How you can support the ponies

People can still donate to the upkeep of the Exmoor Ponies via JustGiving or by calling 0191 584 3112.

Durham Wildlife Trust is the only charity dedicated to conserving wildlife and delivering environmental education across County Durham, Darlington, Gateshead, South Tyneside and Sunderland. The support of our members allows us to manage nature reserves, work with schools and community groups and deliver projects to conserve threatened habitats and species.

[Please support us today, click here to find out more](#)

Rainton Meadows, Chilton Moor, Houghton-le-Spring, Tyne & Wear. DH4 6PU.

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