

# friends of WARTON CRAG LOCAL NATURE RESERVE

21<sup>st</sup> May 2022

## Invasive Plant Species

Every year new non native invasive species of plants find their way to the UK, one of these is the cotoneaster shrub. This species is native to Asia and was introduced in 1824 as an ornamental plant which it thrives on limestone cliffs and pavements. The seeds are spread by birds and once this plant takes hold it can out compete all other native flora. However, in urban areas where there isn't sensitive flora it can be a positive food plant for birds and pollinators.

Our task was to remove as much of the cotoneaster from the quarry floor as possible. We spent two days with two volunteer groups the FoWC and the AONB team. Between us we really made a notable impact on clearing this plant. When the roots get in it can be extremely difficult to remove so great effort by all the volunteers.



Save the date Saturday **18<sup>th</sup> June**