



# Newsletter

Bracknell Conservation Volunteers

Newsletter No. 10

01 February 2017

## What we've been doing

**31 January 2017**

**Wildmoor Heath**

**Leader: Jon Munday**

**BFC ranger: Richard Westwood**

We cut down Scots pine and birch encroaching on a heathland area. Cleared material was burnt on a bonfire.

The water was overcast and drizzly, but we did not get as much rain as was suggested by the BBC forecast.

11 volunteers were present.

2 students from Berkshire College of Agriculture joined us; they were on work experience with the Ranger.

We were also joined by 3 wardens from the Thames Basin Heaths partnership.

### ***Previous visits***

We last visited Wildmoor Heath on 18 October 2016. This was more or less the same as the task on 31 January. We cleared invasive species from heathland (Scots pine mostly) and burned the brash on bonfire.

### ***Wildmoor Heath***

Wildmoor Heath is 91 hectares of heathland. The Reserve is run by Berkshire, Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire Wildlife Trust (BBOWT).

The Reserve is on a slope, which is unusual for heathlands. Lowland heath is now a very threatened habitat, so this is a precious piece of countryside. The Reserve has a rich community of fungi, insects, reptiles, birds, mosses and flowering plants.

Most of the work we do on the site is controlling invasive species, especially Scots pine.

## Coming up next

**7 February 2017**

**Osmans Close**

Holly thinning.

## **Christmas outing/bushcraft activities**

BCV Christmas Outing will be on 14 March 2017. Activities will include wood whittling, fire lighting, baking bread over a campfire (including lunch) and setting up tarpaulins and hammocks. The day will be spent at Hayley Green woods, which has the advantage of toilets being available at Westmorland Park.

## What's on

### ***Bracknell Forest Society***

"The Bracknell Town Regeneration", talk by Councillor Marc Brunel-Walker, executive member for economic development and regeneration.

Bracknell Rugby Club            Lily Hill Drive, RG12 2UG

Friday 10 March 2017            20:00

All welcome, bar and raffle.

### ***South Hill Park***

Community Litter Pick

Thursday 23 March                    10:00-11:00

Meet at courtyard in front of SHP reception, Ringmead, Bracknell RG12 7PA

*Produced by Roger Britt. Send any contributions/comments to [rogerbritt@btinternet.com](mailto:rogerbritt@btinternet.com)*