



Newsletter

Bracknell Conservation Volunteers

Newsletter No. 49

30 November 2017

What we've been doing

28 November 2017

Westmorland Park

Leader: Richard Elsbury

Ranger: Alan Wilson

The group coppiced woodland to the east of the car park, by the lake and near the playground. The brash was burnt, binders and posts were kept. Posts of 1.9m length were kept for use at Lily Hill Park; other posts were trimmed to 1.4m for future use elsewhere. The weather was sunny but cold, 6-9°C. Twelve volunteers were present.

Previous visits

On 14 March 2017 we visited Hayley Green Wood, which is part of Westmorland Park, for our woodcraft training with David Willis. We whittled butter knives, cooked unleavened bread on skewers and learned about fire starting with a steel.

Our last visit to Hayley Green Wood for a task outing was on 11 July 2017, when we cleared rhododendron, cleared a bonfire site and stacked the brash.

Westmorland Park

Westmorland Park is 8 hectares of land on London Clay; it includes Hayley Green Wood, which has been designated a Local Nature Reserve and Local Wildlife Site for its wildlife. The "lake" is a balancing pond, which is maintained by Thames Water. Grass snakes are known to live in the park, and there are some fine veteran oak trees.

Westmorland Park came into the ownership of Bracknell Forest Council in 1999. Hayley Green Wood was incorporated into the park in 2002.

See: <https://files.bracknell-forest.gov.uk/sites/bracknell/documents/westmorland-park-leaflet.pdf?kGiOAcB9qIvpRiJ4aNjh1rB1GlzarTKr>

Coming up next

5 December 2017

Lily Hill Park (Starch Copse)

Vegetation clearance and fire; meet at Running Horse car park.

Burn and bash at Wildmoor Heath

This is BFC's annual get-together of conservation organisations (e.g. the National Trust and BBOWT) at Wildmoor Heath.

Monday 11 December 2017 10:00 – 15:00; BBQ lunch at 13:00

If you want to go to this, please tell Richard Westwood **by 6 December** so he has an idea of numbers for catering. Veggies please bring your own veggie food!

BCV Christmas Outing

Just a reminder that on Tuesday 19 December BCV will be visiting the Reading Museum of Rural Life followed by a meal in the afternoon at the Golden Retriever.

Museum visit begins: 10:00

Table booked at Golden Retriever: 13:30

Bracknell Tree Strategy

Bracknell Forest Council has published its tree strategy consultation document:

<http://democratic.bracknell-forest.gov.uk/documents/s112700/07c%20Bracknell%20Forest%20Tree%20Strategy%20draft.pdf>

What's On

BBOWT Christmas Tree sales

Saturday 9 December and Sunday 10 December 2017 11:00 – 15:00

Edgbarrow Woods Car Park, Wildmoor Heath, Sandhurst Road, Crowthorne near RG45 7PP

Heathland Magic at Wildmoor Heath (BFC event)

Saturday 16 December 2017 10:30 – 13:30

[*Get involved in our heathland conservation event. Enjoy a bonfire and marshmallows and possibly take home your own Christmas tree. Tools & refreshments provided. Please bring work gloves. Booking is required: 01344 354441*]

Wildmoor Heath car park, Crowthorne Road, RG45 7PP.

Bracknell Forest Parks and Countryside

All Parks and Countryside events are listed at:

<https://www.bracknell-forest.gov.uk/parks-and-countryside/events>

Events to April 2018

<https://files.bracknell-forest.gov.uk/sites/bracknell/documents/parks-events-prog-november-17-to-april-18.pdf?VGy1eW6B5kDoGmQezhyJoGJXLlRg.Mq>

Contact Bracknell Conservation Volunteers

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