



Newsletter

Bracknell Conservation Volunteers

Newsletter No. 52

21 December 2017

What we've been doing

19 December 2017

BCV outing

Museum of English Rural Life (MERL), Reading

A good turnout of 14 BCV volunteers made their way to Reading to visit MERL. We were first given a guided tour by Scott from North Dakota. Scott started us off looking at a large display of miscellaneous items. Members of the group impressed Scott by identifying many of the items, including an eel trap.

We then spent some time browsing the displays and stacks on our own.

Everyone agreed that it was a very enjoyable visit, and would like to come back in their own time.

MERL has about 30,000 items in total, many of which are not on display. Items in the collection date from about 1750 to the present day. Even the Glastonbury Festival is included in the collection!

MERL has a library of 100,000 items, forming a comprehensive collection of books about rural England. The archives at MERL have more than 4.5km of shelving.

Website: <https://merl.reading.ac.uk/>

Golden Retriever

After our visit to MERL, a further three volunteers joined us for a Christmas meal. Our Chairman had prepared a sheet of quiz questions, some of which were too taxing for our volunteers.

A big thank you to Trevor for organising the outing!

Coming up next

2 January 2018

Wildmoor Heath footpath 18

Heathland clearance.

John Dalzell

We were very sorry to hear of the death of volunteer John Dalzell on 5 December. John and Barbara were long-standing members of the group, starting in 2008. Sadly, ill health meant that John had to drop out of the group a year or so ago.

John was unfailingly cheerful, no matter how wet or muddy things got. He will be greatly missed.

We at Bracknell Conservation Volunteers extend our sympathies to Barbara in her sad loss.

Contact Bracknell Conservation Volunteers

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