



Newsletter

Bracknell Conservation Volunteers

Newsletter No. 63

13 March 2018

What we've been doing

13 March 2018

Winkfield Footpath 8

Leader: Richard Elsbury

Ranger: Rob Solomon

Footpath 8 is a relatively short stretch of path running from the Ascot Road in Winkfield to Braziers Lane. BCV removed three stiles/gates from sites at the entrance to footpath 8 in Ascot Road, in the middle of the path and at the exit to Braziers Lane. New metal gates were fitted. Some other members of the group cleared vegetation from the sides of the path. Later the group discovered an overgrown concrete bridge close to a newer wooden bridge. Some time was spent clearing access to the bigger bridge, which appeared to be in good condition.

Ten volunteers attended. The weather was cloudy with sunny intervals, and warm for March.

We were visited by:

Councillor Iain McCracken: Executive Member for Culture, Resources & Public Protection

Vincent Paliczka: Director of Environment, Culture and Communities

Rose Wicks: Project Officer, Planning, Transport and Countryside; Environment, Culture & Communities

All from Bracknell Forest Council.

Charlie McNish, a new recruit to the rangers who is covering for Liz Vango-Smith while she is on maternity leave, and of course our ranger for the day Rob Solomon, were also present.

A photograph of BCV was taken with our visitors; which is intended to be included in the report of the Local Countryside Access Forum.

Previous visits

I can find no record of any previous visit by BCV to Winkfield footpath 8. Does anyone remember a visit or want to share some knowledge of this site?

Coming up next

20 March 2018

Wildmoor Footpath 18

Boardwalk removal, fence repairs, burn felled trees.

Poo shaming

We all know those horrible little bags of dog poo disfiguring green sites in our area. Many other places have the same problem. The village of Wimblington in Cambridgeshire is trying to do something about it. They have set up a "poo-shaming" map to record hotspots of poo dumping. People can upload pictures of unwanted deposits. The reports are either passed on to the local council or to people in the village who go round picking up dog deposits.

Fenland District Council are able to impose fines of £75 for dog poo dumping. What a good idea! A few fines at Englemere Pond, for example, would not go amiss.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-cambridgeshire-43334730>

<https://en-gb.facebook.com/Wimblington-views-and-news-1028415247218876/>

Dullingham, also in Cambridgeshire, has come up with a sign to try and discourage dog poo dumping:

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-cambridgeshire-42834994>

Frogspawn survey 2018

The Freshwater Habitats Trust is running a survey of amphibian spawn sites for 2018, see below if you are interested:

<https://freshwaterhabitats.org.uk/projects/pondnet/spawnsurvey2018/>

Kew gardens woodland walk

Royal Botanic Gardens Kew has built a new boardwalk in the woodland part of the gardens. A wide range of native and some non-native trees and wild flowers are being encouraged to naturalise. On 10 March the rare native shrub mezereon (*Daphne mezereon*) was flowering. Juniper (*Juniperus communis*) and purging buckthorn (*Rhamnus cathartica*) have been planted, with many other trees.

<https://www.kew.org/kew-gardens/attractions/natural-area>

What's on

Nightingale Triangle project

Conservation task for residents and volunteers (all invited)

Saturday 17 March 2018 10:00 – 15:00

Park in Firlands.

Bracknell Forest Natural History Society

Evening talk on "**Conservation in Conversation**" with the Hawk Conservancy

South Hill Park Recital Room

Monday 19 March 2018 19:30 (£3 fee for visitors/£1 for BFNHS members)

Bracknell Forest Council Parks and Countryside

Reptile and amphibian walk at Englemere Pond

Friday 20 April 2018 10:00 – 11:30

NB: walk is dependent on weather, meet at pond viewing platform by Englemere Pond, park in Englemere Pond car park off Swinley Road

Contact Bracknell Conservation Volunteers

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