



Newsletter

Bracknell Conservation Volunteers

Newsletter No. 68

24 April 2018

What we've been doing

24 April 2018

Peacock Meadows

Leader: Richard Elsbury

Ranger: Marie-Anne Phillips

We parked in Swift Fields, where house martins were hawking overhead. First we made our way to the field near Peacock Cottages, where we removed tree guards and collected up some tree guards which had been removed previously. We then moved cars to Tawny Owl Square. One set of volunteers then mulched the area near the basketball site. We then moved to Tarmans Copse, where we did tree guard removal and built a stag beetle loggery. The removal of tree guards was very difficult in sites which were heavily overgrown with wild rose and bramble. Utility knives were provided, which are effective in removing tree guards, but volunteers found that they also needed loppers to remove overgrowth. It may be advisable to provide loppers for future tree guard removal tasks. Secateurs are also effective.

We were very pleased to welcome another very good turnout of 19 volunteers, including 2 students from Garth College on work experience.

The weather was cloudy but quite warm.

Previous visits

We last visited Peacock Meadows on 27 June 2017. We pulled ragwort in the meadow. Our previous visit was on 16 May 2017, when we removed tree guards from trees by the A329, rebuilt post and rail fencing around 3 fenced off areas of grass and burned wood left behind by travellers.

Annual General Meeting

The AGM for Bracknell Conservation Volunteers will be held on-site at Garth Meadows on **8 May 2018**. If anybody has any items to raise at the AGM, please tell me or Richard Elsbury.

Coming up next

1 May 2018

Lily Hill Park

Task tba.

Ancient trees: an opportunity to have your say

The Woodland Trust says that because of weak planning laws, many ancient trees have been destroyed by new building. Now, changes to government planning policy are proposed which may give ancient woodland better protection. The Woodland Trust are asking for support:

<http://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/get-involved/campaign-with-us/our-campaigns/support-stronger-planning-policy-for-ancient-woodland/>

Nightingale Triangle Project

Several members of BCV attended the inaugural meeting of the Friends of Nightingale Triangle at Bracknell Leisure Centre on 23 April 2018.

Considerable progress has been made in clearing the path through Nightingale Triangle. There are now far more people walking through the wood, although sadly litter has increased as a consequence. Planting of trees and wild flowers has been started, and it is planned to continue with this. The group intends to hold monthly sessions on a Saturday morning, where volunteers will clear litter and do whatever else might be necessary. A local resident volunteered to co-ordinate activities, although there are no plans at present to set up a formally constituted group.

The next task at Nightingale Triangle is planned for Saturday 5 May, 10:00 – 12:00. Tasks will include picking litter, tree guard maintenance, watering of plants and bramble clearance.

What's on

Berkshire Conservation Volunteers

Park tidy and mulching at Snaprails Park.

Sunday 29 April 2018

For more details and contact details see:

<http://www.berkshire-conservation-volunteers.org.uk/>

Warfield Environment Group

Bat safari at Westmorland Park (booking essential)

20:15 – 20:00

Saturday 19 May 2018

For more details and contact details see poster:



Adobe Acrobat
Document

Bracknell Forest Natural History Society

Evening talk on "**Sarracenias and Pitcher Plants**" by James Rosindell (plus BFNHS AGM).

South Hill Park Recital Room

Monday 21 May 2018 19:30 (£3 fee for visitors/£1 for BFNHS members)

For more details and contact details see:

<http://www.bfnathistsoc.org.uk/meetings.html>

Contact Bracknell Conservation Volunteers

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