



# Newsletter

Bracknell Conservation Volunteers

Newsletter No. 71

31 May 2018

## What we've been doing

**22 May 2018**

**Ambarrow Court**

We created a pond, digging out a suitable-sized hole, placing the liner in the hole and starting to fill with water. Wild flower seeds were sown on the edges. The weather was warm and sunny, but we were fortunately in the shade, otherwise the task might not have been feasible. Reminder for next pond job: make sure we have a suitable string line for establishing levels, although in this case our Chairman improvised brilliantly. 15 volunteers attended.

**29 May 2018**

**Popes Meadow**

- 1) One group moved a litter bin, which proved to be embedded in a large amount of concrete. With great effort, the job was eventually completed. The bin had to be moved to allow lawnmower access to the field.
  - 2) Some volunteers removed parrot feather (*Myriophyllum*) from the pond and removed it, using the boat.
  - 3) A long stretch of soil next to the new hoggin path was raked level ready for seeding with wild grasses.
  - 4) A bench was rubbed down and restrained: the onset of rain meant that this task had to be stopped, although there are more benches awaiting restraining.
- The weather was overcast, with some light rain, later turning to heavier rain. 15 volunteers attended.

## Coming up next

**5 June 2018**

**Friendship Way**

Pond willow clearance, boundary tree clearance and litter pick. Street parking is available in Rectory Close or further round in Coningsby:

<http://www.streetmap.co.uk/map.srf?X=487089&Y=168445&A=Y&Z=106&ax=486970&ay=168593>

**12 June 2018**

**Lily Hill Park**

TBA. Meet at North car park, off Lily Hill Road:

<http://www.streetmap.co.uk/map.srf?X=488766&Y=169407&A=Y&Z=110>

## Bracknell Forest Green Spaces Forum:

Senior Bracknell Forest Council ranger Chris Swatridge is encouraging local conservation groups to set up a body to coordinate and encourage greenspace volunteering activities in the Bracknell Forest area.

See presentation below:



Friends  
presentation.pptx

BCV volunteers attended the inaugural meeting of this group at Westmorland Park Pavilion on Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> May at 7.30pm. Representatives from other related groups included: Binfield Environment Group, Warfield Environment Group, Bracknell Forest Natural History Society, Bracknell Forest Society and Southeast Berkshire Ramblers.

The idea is to establish an umbrella group, which will promote the interests of all the conservation groups within the Bracknell Forest area, and will encourage cooperation between the different groups. At present there are at least 20 groups within Bracknell Forest or neighbouring areas which have some sort of conservation rôle.

A representative from the National Federation of Parks and Green Spaces (NFPGS) attended; he is Chair of the Haringey Friends of Parks Forum in North London. This group covers more than 45 "friends of" groups for public parks. The Forum is officially constituted with a committee, officers and constitution. Specimen minutes from a recent meeting of the Haringey Friends were handed round. It is clear that the work of the Haringey group is focused on parks, whereas in Bracknell there are different kinds of green space, including woodlands and heaths, as well as urban parks.

There was some discussion about the need for such a group in Bracknell Forest.

There was general agreement that an umbrella group would be a good idea, but not much agreement about how it should be constituted. It was agreed to set up an e-mail forum on an *ad hoc* basis, and to see how things develop from here. It was decided to name the group the Bracknell Forest Green Space Network.

## Lily Hill Park steering group

BCV volunteers attended the meeting of this group on 24 May 2018. Great appreciation was expressed for the work of BCV in designing and building the bridge near the Running Horse car park. BCV devoted 2 Tuesday sessions and 3 supplementary sessions to this task in November 2017, as well as a considerable amount of time planning, preparing and transporting materials.

## What's on

### **Warfield Environment Group**

Warfield Village Fête

**Saturday 9 June 2018**

**12:00 – 16:00**

Warfield Memorial Ground, Newell Green RG42 6AE (from Bracknell, go straight on down Osborne Lane at traffic lights by Plough and Harrow, car park is on left; limited parking is available)

### **Bracknell Forest Natural History Society**

“Unravelling the story of an Alien Invader” by Prof. Helen Roy

South Hill Park Recital Room

**Monday 18 June 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>

### **Field Studies Council (FSC) BioLinks**

Invertebrate Identification training at Dinton Pastures, see below:



FSC BioLinks  
Berkshire Training Co

### **Contact Bracknell Conservation Volunteers**

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