



# Newsletter

Bracknell Conservation Volunteers

Newsletter No. 76

16 August 2018

## What we've been doing

### 7 August 2018

### Garth Pond

At first, we cleared an overgrown path from Lark's Hill almost to the Newell Green road, and stacked the brash in a corner. Some volunteers then moved on to the Lark's Hill orchard and pruned *Prunus* (plum trees) and 2 pairs of rows of pears. Other volunteers continued clearance work in other sites. The weather was very hot and sunny. A good turnout of 16 volunteers attended, despite the heat.

### 14 August 2018

### Lily Hill Park

We worked on clearance of brambles, bracken, holly and tree saplings from around the specimen *Rhododendron* and *Azalea* trees in Starch Copse. Some Japanese knotweed (*Fallopia japonica*), an invasive weed with a somewhat ferocious reputation, was also removed. See:

<http://www.nonnativespecies.org/factsheet/factsheet.cfm?speciesId=1495>

Cleared material was burnt on a bonfire. The weather was very pleasant: fine and sunny with occasional cloudy intervals, and a fresh breeze. We had a total of 19 volunteers present, which equals our record attendance of 19 on 17 July 2018 (also at Lily Hill Park) and 24 April 2018 at Peacock Meadow.

## Coming up next

### 21 August 2018

### School Hill

Meadow cut and laurel cutting. Parking is at end of School Hill:

<http://www.streetmap.co.uk/map.srf?X=483085&Y=162092&A=Y&Z=110&ax=483170&ay=162160>

### 28 August 2018

### Nine Mile Ride

Rhododendron clearance. Meet at Quintilis RG12 7QQ

<http://streetmap.co.uk/map.srf?X=485722&Y=166327&A=Y&Z=110>

## Caught in the act

Tree surgeons were fined £20,000 after felling protected trees. It appears that the offence took place in Windsor and Maidenhead Council area:

<http://www.bracknellnews.co.uk/news/16393815.pair-slapped-with-20k-fine-after-felling-ancient-trees/>

## Rights of Way

Bracknell Forest Council has published its local plan for rights of way.

<https://www.bracknell-forest.gov.uk/news/2018/07/new-local-plan-rights-way>

The picture on the front shows BCV members and rangers and BFC councillors at Winkfield footpath 18 on 13 March 2018:

<https://www.bracknell-forest.gov.uk/sites/default/files/documents/rights-of-way-improvement-plan-rowip2.pdf>

## Hedgehogs still here

A BCV volunteer found a hedgehog in her garden very close to the Nightingale Triangle site. Hedgehogs are in serious decline, so this is very good news. With a bit of luck, we might have a breeding population on this site.

## Conservation handbooks

The Conservation Volunteers (TCV) handbooks are available at:

<https://www.summerfieldbooks.com/search.asp?types=The+Conservation+Volunteers+-+handbooks>

These are not available as printed versions, but only as online publications.

## Invasive weeds

A new book about management of invasive weeds has been published. This is mainly intended for professionals.

### **Practical Management of Invasive Non-Native Weeds in Britain and Ireland**

Author: Mark Fennell, Laura Jones, & Max Wade

ISBN: 9781853411656

<https://www.summerfieldbooks.com/practical%2Dmanagement%2Dof%2Dinvasive%2Dnon%2Dnative%2Dweeds%2Din%2Dbritain%2Dand%2Direland%7E6370>

## What's on

### ***Wildlife in Ascot***

Bat walk with Trevor Smith at Englemere Pond

**Saturday 18 August 2018**                      **start 20:15**

Meet at car park off Swinley Road, SL5 8BA

### ***Bracknell Forest Parks and Countryside***

Apple harvest at Larks Hill

**Monday 27 August 2018**                      **12:00 – 13:00**

Meet in Larks Hill car park.

Booking required: cost £3, call 01344 354441 to book

### ***Warfield Environment Group***

Bat Walk at Westmorland Park

**Saturday 8 September 2018**

*For full information see:*



bat walk poster  
080918.pdf

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

Bisham Woods: a talk on flora and fauna by Frances Halstead

**Monday 17 September**                      **19:30 – 21:30**

Recital Room at South Hill Park, Ringmead, Bracknell, RG12 7PA.

Cost £3 for visitors, £1 for members of BFNHS

### ***Contact Bracknell Conservation Volunteers***

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