



# Newsletter

Bracknell Conservation Volunteers

Newsletter No. 77

30 August 2018

## What we've been doing

### 21 August 2018

### School Hill

Some members of the group scythed the meadow at the base of the hill.

BCV last carried out an autumn cut of the meadow on 28 July 2015, and we did a spring cut on 29 March 2016.

Other volunteers cut laurel and holly from among other trees at the top of the hill. Cut material was burnt on a bonfire. We also cleared reedmace (aka bulrushes) from the pond. 20 volunteers attended, this is our best turnout ever.

The weather was cloudy and very humid.

#### School Hill

School Hill does not seem to be mentioned on the Bracknell Forest Council website. There was a school (called Scotland Hill school) on the site from 1871 – 1970:

<https://planapp.bracknell-forest.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?previousCaseType=Property&previousKeyVal=IZ5GE6BVN3361&activeTab=summary&previousCaseUpn=010022824384&previousCaseNumber=IZ5GE6BVN3360&keyVal=K3H3J1BV09Y00>

Scotland Hill is the continuation of School Hill to the east of the site. Subsequently New Scotland Hill school was built in Grampian Way, which curiously is not on Scotland Hill at all. For memories of the old Scotland Hill School see:

<http://www.sandhurst.gov.uk/history.html>

and

[https://www.francisfrith.com/uk/little-sandhurst/scotland-hill-school\\_memory-331171](https://www.francisfrith.com/uk/little-sandhurst/scotland-hill-school_memory-331171)

## **28 August 2018**

## **Quintilis (Nine Mile Ride)**

For many volunteers this was their first visit to this site, although some members who have been with the group longer remember at least one previous visit. Unfortunately, there are no records of previous visits.

Parking in Quintilis was relatively easy. The site is a substantial area of woodland with oak, sycamore and Scots pine predominating. The path running through the woodland towards Nine Mile Ride is known as Dry Pond Ride. There is a playground in the woodland area run by Bracknell Town Council.

We worked on a side path, beyond the footbridge, clearing mostly laurel and rhododendron. Cleared material was piled ready for chipping.

The weather was overcast and cool. 18 volunteers attended.

## **Coming up next**

### **4 September 2018**

### **Englemere Pond**

Wetland management. Wellies are advisable. Park at the Englemere Pond car park off Swinley Road:

<http://www.streetmap.co.uk/map.srf?X=490131&Y=168568&A=Y&Z=110&ax=490166&ay=168453>

### **11 September 2018**

### **Nightingale Triangle**

Woodland regeneration. Park in Firlands:

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

## **Frost Folly Park**

There is a brand-new park at Frost Folly in Warfield. The area near the car park is a SANG (suitable alternative natural greenspace), which developers are required to fund with the aim of offsetting some of the environmental impact of building work. The car park has been resurfaced, and there are footpaths around the grassland. Two ponds have been created.

Frost Folly car park is off Wellers Lane, Warfield RG42 6EN.

