



# Newsletter

Bracknell Conservation Volunteers

Newsletter No. 87

31 January 2019

## What we've been doing

**22 January 2019**

**Shepherds Meadow**

The group removed bramble and holly along a fence line and cleared scrub encroaching on the meadow. Cleared material was burned on a bonfire. Some of the work was around a concrete structure which may have been a sheep dipping pool.

The weather was cold but bright and sunny. 18 volunteers attended.

**29 January 2019**

**Long Hill Park**

The site here is a large area of mostly pine woodland, to the north-east of the park, adjacent to Harvest Ride. Some clearance of undergrowth was carried out by contractors some time ago. BCV visited this site on 11 December 2018, when we planted about 500 trees. Today we followed on with some more tree planting, and other volunteers cleared rhododendron and some laurel and burned this on a bonfire. We also built a stag beetle loggery with logs obtained on site. The terrain was very difficult; volunteers had to make long and laborious journeys carrying material to the bonfire.

A big task was to remove a large shelter or den which had been built from logs, and was thought to be a fire risk. This took some considerable time to remove.

We had a very good turnout of 22 people.

The weather was cloudy, temperature about 4°C.

## Coming up next

**5 February 2019**

**Hayley Green Woods**

Clear brambles from buebell area/clear ditch and create ponds. Meet at Westmorland Park designated car park (RG42 3QP)

<http://www.streetmap.co.uk/map.srf?X=488603&Y=170622&A=Y&Z=110&ax=488653&ay=170817>

**12 February 2019**

**Whitegrove Copse**

Hedge weaving. Street parking in Top Common. (RG42 3SH / SU878702).

<http://www.streetmap.co.uk/map.srf?X=487863&Y=170221&A=Y&Z=110>

## BCV winners in quiz

BCV fielded a team at the Wildlife Quiz organised by Wildlife in Ascot on 28 January. This was a very enjoyable event, and very well organised. A good time was had by all, and as the icing on the cake, the BCV group came first by a clear margin.



## Hazel cages

A hazel cage is made by layering hazel shoots to form an interlacing structure which helps to prevent damage from grazing deer. This technique is 100% sustainable, since nothing is brought onto site or removed from site. BCV has done hazel layering in the past.

One of our members saw this hazel cage at Zebon Copse near the Basingstoke Canal:

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/thingstodo/countryside/finder/zeboncopse>



## What's on

### ***Friends of Nightingale Triangle***

Regular maintenance session:

**Saturday 2 February 2019**

**10:00 – 15:00**

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

Evening talk: "**On the trail of polecats and pine martens**" by Lizzie Croose

*Recital Room, South Hill Park*

**Monday 18 February 2019**

**19:30 – 21:30**

Cost for BFNHS members £1, visitors £3

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

Victory Field wildflower bed annual maintenance

**Wednesday 20 February 2019**

**14:00**

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

On-site mobile phone: **07986 707 448**

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