



Newsletter

Bracknell Conservation Volunteers

Newsletter No. **109**

16 January 2020

What we've been doing

7 January 2020

Garth Meadows

We parked at Jock's Lane, which is somewhat nearer to the site than the Lark's Hill car park, and has more room for parking. We worked at a site by the lower path, close to the Cut, where we had bonfires on previous visits on 26/11/19 and 12/11/19.

The task was cutting blackthorn and burning the cleared material on the bonfire. The fire took a long time to get going, but eventually we had a good blaze going. Material which could not be burnt on the day was piled ready for subsequent tasks. Blackthorn is difficult to deal with; everybody suffered from scratches and embedded thorns.

Following a recent incident in which one of our volunteers suffered an eye injury, BCV has now purchased safety glasses for the group. All volunteers are encouraged to wear safety glasses.

We had a very good turnout of 24 volunteers. The weather was dry and quite warm with occasional sunshine.



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14 January 2020

Wykery Copse

The forecast for today was dire: high winds and heavy rain. We were very pleased that 17 volunteers turned out notwithstanding. In fact the weather was better than forecast, although we did have some light rain and it became windy.

We last visited Wykery Copse on 24 September 2019, when we demolished some parts of the boardwalk. Further demolition work has been done since. Our first task was to load some of the remaining material from the boardwalk into the trailer of the ranger's vehicle. The main task was hazel coppicing in the area close to the Crutchley Meadow gate, to the north of the course of the boardwalk. Coppicing had clearly been carried out in the wood formerly, but the coppice stools have been allowed to get seriously overgrown with large stems, and rejuvenating them was a hard task. Many stools seem to be grown up with birch, which presumably seeded itself.

Hazel weaving was also done on the Butler Drive side of the copse, to create a screen for a habitat pile for reptiles and other animals.



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Coming up next

21 January 2020

Ambarrow Court

Clearing scrub and encroaching brambles – glade creation.

Park in the designated car park off the A321 in Little Sandhurst. There is usually enough parking space here.

<https://www.streetmap.co.uk/map.srf?X=482474&Y=162667&Z=115>

RG45 7QB

SU824626

28 January 2020

The Chestnuts

Habitat work.

From Harvest Ride, turn into Julius Hill, then take first right.

<https://streetmap.co.uk/map.srf?X=488698&Y=169886&Z=106>

RG42 3UN

SU886698

Boost to BCV funds

At one of our tasks, a stone jar was found which probably had held beer made by the firm Lovibond. The jar was cleaned by one of our volunteers and advertised for sale on ebay. A customer paid £30 for it, which will be a welcome contribution to BCV funds. Even better, the purchaser John Lovibond is the great-great grandson of the Max Lovibond whose firm produced the original bottle.

What's on

Bracknell Forest Natural History Society

Evening talk on **The Miracle of Bird Migration Explained!** by Mark Pearson

Monday 20 January 2020

19:00 for 19:30

South Hill Park

For details see:

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

Great Hollands Community Centre

Quiz night at GH Community Centre

Saturday 25 January 2020

19:00

£5 per person, including supper (jacket potato or ploughman's)

Contact Karen on 0743 208 0762 to book and record preferences for food

Jealotts Hill Community Landshare

Walk n' Wassail: guided walks and orchard wassail ceremony:

Sunday 26 January 2020

walks from 12:30, wassail from 14:30

See poster:



Wassail poster -
2020.jpg

Wildlife in Ascot

Wildlife quiz at the **Stag**, Ascot High Street

Monday 27 January 2020

19:00

Contact Bracknell Conservation Volunteers

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

Programme enquiries telephone Trevor Scott on **01344 628 602**

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