



Newsletter

Bracknell Conservation Volunteers

Newsletter No. **116**

24 September 2020

What we've been doing

13 September 2020: supplementary task at Wykery Copse

Three members of BCV and volunteers from Windsor and Maidenhead Conservation Volunteers and Berkshire Conservation Volunteers joined a Sunday hazel coppicing task at Wykery Copse to say goodbye to BFC ranger Marie-Anne Phillips, who is leaving for a new job with the Land Trust in Hampshire

We presented our card and leaving gift of a bat detector to Marie-Anne. Marie-Anne has a long history with BCV, both as a volunteer and later as a ranger; she will be sorely missed.

15 September 2020 Evenlode Way/Snaprails

An accident near Tesco Sandhurst caused traffic chaos, so volunteers were very late in arriving at Evenlode Way. This was the first visit by BCV to the small park here.

Two subgroups of six each were formed. One subgroup dug out weeds from an overgrown hedge in the Evenlode Way park and mulched the hedge.

The other subgroup removed brambles and other saplings from ornamental shrubberies in Snaprails Park. Local residents had asked rangers if this work could be done.

13 volunteers attended, the weather was hot and sunny.



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22 September 2020 Englemere Pond

We formed into three subgroups of six or fewer. One group cleared reeds from the pond with scythes. The pond was very dry, it appeared that it would have been possible to walk dryshod across the pond. Another subgroup maintained a bonfire to burn the cleared material.

A subgroup of four volunteers cleared scrub (birch, Scots pine and bramble) from heathland near the pond platform and piled the cleared material to form a dead hedge. A volunteer found a sloughed snake skin, it was not possible to identify the snake. There were large numbers of puffballs emerging, and other fungi, including a bolete which might have been the cep (*Boletus edulis*).

The weather was sunny and warm. 12 volunteers attended.

BCV last attended at this site on 23 August 2020, when we cleared scrub, mostly birch, from heathland and burnt the cleared material on a bonfire.

Coming up next

29 September 2020

Wykery Copse

Hazel coppicing.

There is some street parking in Butler Drive near the junction with Browning Copse.

<https://www.streetmap.co.uk/map.srf?X=485154&Y=168740&Z=106>

RG12 8DL

SU851687

6 October 2020

Savernake Park

Coppicing and hurdle making/ and plant bed edging

Meet at designated car park for Savernake Park: the car park is not large but there is usually enough room here.

<https://www.streetmap.co.uk/map.srf?X=488624&Y=167741&Z=110>

RG12 0XA

SU886677

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