



# Newsletter

Bracknell Conservation Volunteers

Newsletter No. **119**

5 November 2020

## What we've been doing

**27 October 2020**

**School Hill**

We met at the small car park by the entrance to School Hill. Small groups were formed to repair rotten steps in several flights at different places in the wood. First task was carrying new risers up the steps, which was hard work. Steps were then cut back, new risers were fitted and supported with stakes, and these were then back filled with soil.

Other volunteers cut back laurel regrowth from previous clearance work.

The steps work was completed by lunch time, so after this everybody worked on cutting laurel.

12 volunteers attended. We were fairly lucky with the weather, which was overcast with scattered showers.



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**3 November 2020**

## **Wildmoor Heath**

A large group of 15 volunteers attended what might be our last task session for at least a month while the Covid-19 lockdown is in place..

It was a chilly start, although the weather improved during the day, and for much of the time it was fine and sunny. We cleared Scots pine, gorse and birch from heathland between a path and a fenceline. This was an area where we had worked before. Cleared material was burnt on a bonfire. The terrain was treacherous, with deep ditches which in some cases were full of water. We succeeded in clearing quite a large area, despite the conditions.

## **Ash dieback**

Ash dieback is present on a number of nature reserves run by the Berkshire, Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire Wildlife Trust (BBOWT). The Trust is leaving some infected trees to die, but many will have to be felled in the interests of visitor safety. This is a substantial additional cost for BBOWT. You can donate to BBOWT at:

<https://www.bbowt.org.uk/ash-dieback-appeal>

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

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