



Newsletter

Bracknell Conservation Volunteers

Newsletter No. 40

15 September 2017

What we've been doing

12 September 2017

Lily Hill Park

Leader: Graham Coe
Ranger: John Morris

One group worked on what had been an ornamental bed: volunteers cut down a clump of dogwood (*Cornus* sp.) close to the ground to allow the plant to regenerate from the base and show the winter coloration of the young stems. There were a large number of very attractive ornamental ferns in this bed, which surprisingly had survived being overgrown for some years.

Another group of volunteers cleared brambles and other vegetation from around birch and rowan trees. Cleared material was burnt on a fire. Thirteen volunteers attended.

A bumble bee nest was discovered at the edge of the birch copse.

The weather was sunny with light cloud.

The sandwich-napper

A dog made several attempts to get into the group's rucksacks piled on a picnic bench and eventually managed to grab Graham Coe's egg sandwich in a clingfilm wrapper. The dog owner subsequently brought a freshly-made sandwich for Graham. The moral of the story is: keep your rucksack closed at all times.

Previous visits

We last visited Lily Hill Park on 29 August 2017, when we worked in Starch Copse. We removed brambles and holly from among specimen rhododendrons, and burned cleared material.

Lily Hill Park

Lily Hill Park covers 56 acres. The site offers a wide range of habitats for wildlife including wildflower meadows, ornamental woodland and ancient woodland. The collection of specimen *Rhododendron* varieties is of historical importance, and has been largely untouched since 1922. The park has recently benefitted from some £80,000 worth of new path surfacing.

https://files.bracknell-forest.gov.uk/sites/bracknell/documents/lily-hill-park-leaflet.pdf?6XOkn0JkIBE_idA7zQrXP9C6gNeNwG5w

Coming up next

19 September 2017

West Garden Copse (Peacock Meadows)

Hazel coppicing and work on pond project.

What's On

Bracknell Forest Parks and Countryside

Wild Service Trees (*Sorbus torminalis*) at Jocks Lane

[Help to collect seed from the wild service tree, to preserve this important species.]

Saturday 23 September 2017

10:30 – 12:00

Meet at Jocks Lane Recreation Ground

All Parks and Countryside events up to October 2017 are listed at:

https://files.bracknell-forest.gov.uk/sites/bracknell/parks-events-prog-may-to-october-2017.pdf?RJXhd3XeE25xnfV90fDVp8n_TOnfT03S

Contact Bracknell Conservation Volunteers

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

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

or email: eddiescott999@yahoo.co.uk

Produced by Roger Britt. Send any contributions/comments to rogerbritt@btinternet.com