



# Newsletter

Bracknell Conservation Volunteers

Newsletter No. 72

14 June 2018

## What we've been doing

### 5 June 2018

### Friendship Way

We cleared vegetation, including some large willow trees, from the pond in Friendship Way, which is now largely dry. The cleared material, chiefly willow and laurel, was trailed away. Later we moved to the copse near the nursery, where we removed low branches from the cedar tree and cleared along the fence line.

Twelve volunteers attended, and we were very pleased to welcome a new volunteer. It was quite chilly initially. The weather was cloudy, getting brighter and warmer later.

### 12 June 2018

### Lily Hill Park

This may have been the grandest site we have ever worked at, under 3 magnificent Wellingtonias (*Sequoiadendron giganteum*) on Vincent's Hill. These trees were probably planted in the 1850s, when the estate belonged to Henry William Vincent. It is a sobering thought that these huge trees are in fact not much more than saplings in Wellingtonia terms.

Fourteen volunteers removed vegetation near the Wellingtonias, including bracken, bramble, nettle and a heavy growth of Portugal laurel (*Prunus lusitanica*). Cleared material was put in builders' bags for removal in the trailer. The weather was overcast and mercifully cool.

## Coming up next

### 19 June 2018

### Peacock Meadows/Tarman's Copse

Ragwort and willow clearance. Meet at the Swift Fields car park:

<http://www.streetmap.co.uk/map.srf?X=484463&Y=168018&A=Y&Z=106&ax=484486&ay=167835>

### 26 June 2018

### Garth Meadows

Fencing work, tree guard removal and other tasks. Also at Larks Hill - pruning apple trees and bramble removal. Meet at Larks Hill car park.

<http://www.streetmap.co.uk/map.srf?X=487188&Y=170752&A=Y&Z=106&ax=487156&ay=170801>

## Chairman's sponsored bike ride:

Our Chairman Richard Elsbury volunteers on Monday at Yeldall Manor, a centre offering detoxification and recovery for men who abuse alcohol or other substances. On 9 June 2018 Richard will have done a 20-mile sponsored cycle ride in aid of the Bursary Fund at Yeldall: The Bursary Fund at Yeldall Manor is a lifeline for men who cannot otherwise obtain funding to access rehabilitation. You can sponsor Richard on his JustGiving page.

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising-edit/Richard-Rob-Peter-GHFC>

*[Donating through JustGiving is simple, fast and totally secure. Your details are safe with JustGiving - they'll never sell them on or send unwanted emails. Once you donate, they'll send your money directly to the charity. So it's the most efficient way to donate - saving time and cutting costs for the charity.]*

## Great British Bee Count:

Friends of the Earth are running a bee survey for bumble bees and solitary bees from 17 May to 30 June 2018. There is of course an app for those of you who like such things.

See:

<https://friendsoftheearth.uk/bee-count>

## Ticks and Lyme disease:

Ticks can carry Lyme Disease. We are at some risk working in woodland where deer graze, but the risk is very small. It is best to keep arms and legs covered, especially in long grass. See NHS advice:

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/lyme-disease/>

## National Insect Week

The Royal Entomological Society is running National Insect Week from 18 – 24 June 2018.

<http://www.nationalinsectweek.co.uk/>

## What's on

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

*Unravelling the story of an alien invader* Dr. Helen Roy

[the non-native harlequin ladybird]

**Monday 18 June 2018**                      **19:30 – 21:30**

South Hill Park Recital Room: Visitors £3, BFNHS members £1

### ***Berkshire Conservation Volunteers***

Himalayan balsam clearance at Garth Pond

**Sunday 24 June 2018**                      **start 10:15**

Meet at Larks Hill car park:

[http://streetmap.co.uk/map.srf?X=487043&Y=170808&A=Y&Z=115.](http://streetmap.co.uk/map.srf?X=487043&Y=170808&A=Y&Z=115)

### ***Field Studies Council (FSC) BioLinks***

Invertebrate Identification training at Dinton Pastures, see below:



FSC BioLinks  
Berkshire Training Co

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

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

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

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