



Newsletter

Bracknell Conservation Volunteers

Newsletter No. **111**

14 February 2020

What we've been doing

4 February 2020

Englemere Pond

The task was clearing heathland of a mix of bramble and small scrubby trees and conifers to allow heather and (in places) dwarf gorse (*Ulex minor*) to thrive. Cleared material was burnt on a bonfire, which was kept relatively small by BCV standards.

25 volunteers attended, a very good turnout. We were very glad to welcome a new volunteer. The weather was cold but quite fine.



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A vivid yellow jelly-like fungus was found on a branch: this appears to be witches' butter, *Tremella mesenterica*:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tremella_mesenterica



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Farley Copse

Some volunteers parked in Tippets Mead close to the site, while others parked in the Farley Wood Community Centre car park, which is a short walk from Tippets Mead.

Farley Copse is predominantly oak/beech/yew woodland, which was formerly part of the grounds of a large house. There are a number of wild service trees (*Sorbus torminalis*) on site, including one coppiced tree. There are large numbers of beech seedlings. Some exotic trees, including a Wellingtonia (*Sequoiadendron giganteum*) were originally planted when the copse was a garden.

The task was to trim back holly and burn the material on a bonfire on the old bonfire site. Holly thinning was done in a strip parallel to Tippets Mead.

The weather was cold and sunny, with a cloudless sky. 20 volunteers attended.

A great spotted woodpecker was drumming enthusiastically in the woodland.



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Coming up next

18 February 2020

Nightingale Crescent

Helping the Bracknell Forest Natural History Society (BFNHS) project, coppicing and bramble clearance.

Limited street parking in Firlands, or park at the Bracknell Sports Centre and take the underpass under the Bagshot Road: the site is close to the end of the underpass.

<https://streetmap.co.uk/map.srf?X=487386&Y=167814&Z=106>

RG12 9SB

SU873678

25 February 2020

Wildmoor Heath

Scrub bashing.

Park in the designated main car park.

<https://www.streetmap.co.uk/map.srf?x=483846&y=163059&z=110>

RG45 7PW

SU838630

Quiz nights

2 quiz nights are in the offing:

Bracknell Twinning Association:

Friday February 14 2020

19:00

Braybrooke Hall, Makepiece Road (near Garth School), Bracknell RG42 2HG

Cost £8, including filled baked potato and salad

The bell ringers of St. Mary's Church Winkfield

Saturday 29 February 2020

19:00

St Martin's Hall, Church Rd, Chavey Down, Ascot SL5 8RR

Including ploughmans supper, bring your own bottle.

Teams of up to 4 people.

What's on

Binfield Environment Group

Work party at **Jock's Copse**, brash bundling

Saturday 15 February 2020

10:00 – 13:00

<https://binfieldeg.wixsite.com/binfieldeg/event-info/brash-bundling>

Bracknell Forest Natural History Society

Evening talk on **The Wildlife and Geology of Iceland and Norway** by David Phillips

Monday 17 February 2020

19:00 for 19:30

South Hill Park

Wildlife in Ascot

Help to maintain our public wildflower beds.

Saturday 15 February 2020

11:00-12:00

London Road edge of Victory Field, Sunninghill, SL5 7DG

Friday 28 February 2020

11:00 – 12:00

Victoria Road side of South Ascot recreation area, SL5 7DG

A free talk on Gardening for Wildlife by Bracknell Forest ranger Rob Solomon

Wednesday 26 February 2020

20:00

King Edward's Hall, King Edward's Road, North Ascot SL5 8PD

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

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