Membership and Subscriptions

If you want to join BCV phone the Membership Secretary Mike on 01635 268482 or email membership@basingstokecv.org.uk. For the latest news on events, follow the Events Programme link at www.basingstokecv.org.uk. Access to web-site members' area - User : bcvnet, Password : honeymill. *Italics* indicate a social event or committee meeting rather than a conservation task.

BCV Programme July to October 2015

Meet up for projects on site at 10.00 a.m. except where stated. Please tell the leader in advance that you are coming so that they can plan tools and refreshments. The leader is also the person to phone if you want, or can offer, a lift to the site. Please cycle or walk to the site if possible.

Sunday 12th July **Haymaking at Pamber Forest**

July marks the time for the hay cut in Pamber Forest. This sunny, long and linear meadow is flanked by high woodland cover to one side and lower more thickly vegetated coppice coops on the other. Its many herbaceous plants and grasses (which are crowded out in the neighbouring woodland habitats) are exploited by a myriad of invertebrates looking for nectar, cover or a place to roost, which will be in turn eaten by birds and bats. Look out for butterflies such as the Silver Washed Fritillary and Ringlet feeding while on task. Tea/Coffee, refreshments and biscuits will be provided by the leader. Please contact the leader beforehand to let them know you are attending.

Leader: Dave Phone: 01256 420818

Saturday 18th July ***'Bioblitz' at Mapledurwell and the Hatch.***

Join us for a different kind of BCV task, which despite the name, is non destructive. The objective of a bioblitz is to identify as many species as possible on a site. This is important information that the site managers can use to inform their management practices. We may have a pub visit before or after depending on the timing of the day, which Dave will let us know closer to the time. **Please note there may be a shift in the date if the weather is not suitable.**

Leader: Dave Phone: 01256 420818

Sunday July 26th **Grass cut at Headley Gravel Pit**

The grass cut at Headley ensures the grassland does not turn into scrub and keeps nutrient conditions low across the site. This ensures that the large Green Winged Orchid population on site continues to flourish. Parking can be limited on the reserve so make sure to contact the leader for full details.

Leader: Graham Phone: 01189 700155

Wednesday 29th July ***Committee Meeting***

Committee meeting at Steve's house to discuss how the programme is progressing. Meeting time is at 8pm. Contact Steve for directions.

Leader: Steve Phone: 07425 160394

Friday 7th August Moth Trapping at Pamber

It is time to see what weird and wonderful moths we can trap as we sample the night life of Pamber Forest.

Please note that this date is weather dependent and an alternate day around this time may be picked. Graham will be in touch with the details closer to the time.

Contact: Graham Phone: 01189 700155

Sunday 9th August Meadow Cut at Sherbourne St John

This small site is a surviving fragment of a much larger wet meadow/fen. The current owners have managed it admirably for its wildlife interest for years but now require some help. This site has limited parking and access and numbers are limited on this task. Contacting the leader beforehand is a must.

Leader: Mike Phone: 01635 268482

Sunday 23rd August Conservation task at Mill Field

We will be working with the Mill Field Conservation group to help them with the management of this Local Nature Reserve between Basingstoke and Old Basing. Tea/Coffee, refreshments and biscuits will be provided by the leader. Please contact the leader beforehand to let them know you are coming. Exact details of the task will be confirmed by the leader beforehand.

Leader: Stuart Phone: 07848 007947

August Astro-evening

The summer night sky is not as familiar as the winter sky due to the much longer evenings, but it is just as packed with interest. By mid-August, it will be getting dark early enough to observe the stars at a reasonable time, with the added bonus of being relatively warm. The exact timing of this event cannot be fixed too far in advance, but if conditions allow we will aim for a date close to 12th Aug to try and catch the Perseid meteor shower (not least because the moon will be below the horizon giving ideal conditions for meteor spotting). If not, we will try for a suitable evening up to around 22nd Aug, after which the Moon will interfere too much. We should also be able to check out some planets and enjoy the summer Milky Way. Mike will be hosting this event under the relatively dark skies of Ecchinswell. Expect an email with further details about 3 to 5 days in advance once weather conditions can be assessed.

Leader: Mike Phone: 01635 268482

Sunday 6th September Scrub bash at Aldersbrook

The combined effect of BCV's scrub removal and the establishment of a grazing regime by the owner should now be shaping the site for the benefit of wildlife. We have finally beaten back the scub along the streamside and we are now making our way further towards the top corner.

Leader: Barry Phone: 07971036166

Sunday 20th September Coppicing at Pamber Forest

The first coppicing task of the season. Coppicing was a traditional practice of producing materials from underwood, usually Hazel. It creates a series of open spaces in different stages of growth and each stage is exploited by a range of different species. The high biodiveristy value this creates ensures that this practice remains a priority of woodland conservation. BCV will be mimicking this practice by cutting the hazel, creating the odd habitat pile and burning the brash on a bonfire.

Leader: Steve Phone: 07425 160394

Sunday 27th September Birding

Join us on a trip to the coast to observe some of the birds that are stopping off in the UK as they head south towards their wintering grounds. As usual the destination will be finalised in the week before the event based on the latest reports and the weather forecast. We will be meeting up in Basingstoke at 9.30am and expect to return late afternoon.

Leader: Mike Phone: 01635 268482

Saturday 3rd October Curry Night at Dave's House.

Come along for a BCV food evening. The theme this time is curries and associated side dishes. Contact Dave for timings and more details.

Leader: Dave Phone: 01256 420818

Wednesday 7th October Committee meeting

Committee meeting at the Red Lion pub, Mortimer West End to discuss the next programme. Meeting time is 8pm.

Leader: Graham Phone: 01189 700155

Sunday 11th October Conservation task at a Natural Basingstoke Site

We are continuing our work with the conservation groups around Basingstoke. Tea/Coffee, refreshments and biscuits will be provided by the leader. Please contact the leader and look for their email with the task details beforehand.

Leader: Paul Phone: 01635 49304

Sunday 25th October Coppicing at Pamber Forest

We are continuing with our coppicing programme at Pamber Forest. Tea/Coffee, refreshments and biscuits will be provided by the leader. Please contact the leader and look for their email with the task details beforehand.

Leader: Steve Phone: 07425 160394

The BCV Committee

Training	***Graham Dennis***	***01189 700155***
Membership	***Mike Norman***	***01635 268482***
Project Co-ordinator	***Steve Ord***	***07425 160394***
Treasurer	***Digby Cole***	***01256 818092***
Tools	***Dave Jewsbury***	***01256 420818***
Web-site	***Paul Olive***	***01635 49304***
Publicity	***Vacant – Please Apply!***	