Membership and Subscriptions

If you want to join BCV phone the Membership Secretary Paul on 01635 49304 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* indicates a social event or committee meeting rather than a conservation task.

BCV Programme July to October 2016

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.

Saturday 9th July ***Glow-worms at Old Burghclere***

Join us on a summer evening at Old Burghclere Lime Pit to count how many Glow-worms we can find. Meet at 8pm at the Royal Oak, Ecchinswell, for a drink or on site at 9pm. Please bring a torch.

Leader: Dave **Phone: 01256 326828**

Sunday 24th July **Hay cutting at Pamber Forest**

The site where a sewer line was laid through the Forest in former years has turned into sunny, long and linear meadow between high woodland cover to one side and coppice coupes 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. Selected areas of the grassland are cut each year to stop the ranker grasses from suppressing the herbaceous plants. Tea/Coffee, refreshments and biscuits will be provided by the leader. Please contact the leader and look out for their email advertising the task to find the details.

Leader: Dave **Phone: 01256 326828**

Wednesday 3rd August ***Committee Meeting***

Committee meeting at Paul's house to discuss how the programme is progressing.

Leader: Paul **Phone: 01635 49304**

Sunday 7th August **Gorse Pulling at Wigmore Heath**

We will be returning to carry on the heathland resoration we started at this site in Tadley in April. Wigmore Heath is down Shyshack Lane and is remnant habitat left over from the housing developments and forestry. In danger of becoming completely overgrown, Basingstoke and Deane council have been scraping back selected areas and are looking for our help to give the heather regrowth a head start by removing competing vegetation, principally Gorse. Tea/Coffee, refreshments and biscuits will be provided by the leader. Please contact the leader and look out for their email advertising the task to find the details.

Leader: Steve **Phone: 07425 160394**

Saturday 13th August BCV BBQ

After a few years break we have decided to hold a BCV summer barbeque. This will be held at Mike's house in Ecchinswell. The start time will be 6pm.

Leader: Mike Phone: 01635 268482

Sunday 21st August Grass-cutting at Headley Gravel Pit

This Hampshire Wildlife Trust site is well-known for its display of Green-winged Orchids in the spring. In the absence of any grazing (other than by rabbits), it is necessary to cut back invasive rank grass and scrub to stop the orchids being smothered. In summer this principally means cutting areas of grass with scythes and raking the cut material into heaps. Tea/Coffee, refreshments and biscuits will be provided by the leader. Please contact the leader and look out for their email advertising the task to find the details.

Leader: Graham Phone: 01189 700155

Sunday 11th September Meadow cutting at Sherbourne St John

This small site is a surviving fragment of a much larger wet meadow. The current owners have managed it admirably for its wildlife interest for many years but now require some help. We will be cutting the fen vegetation and raking it into piles away from the wetter areas. Spaces are limited for this task so please contact the leader beforehand to let them know you are interested in coming.

Leader: Paul Phone: 01635 49304

Saturday 17th to Sunday 18th September Mothing at College Copse Farm

Graham wil be setting up some moth traps on this Wildlife Trust site near Rotherwick to see what is on the wing there in September (maybe the legendary Blue Underwing?). Meet at the farm on Sunday morning to ID the moths from 9am.

Leader: Graham Phone: 01189 700155

Sunday 25th 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 biodiversity 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: Stuart Phone: 07848 007947

Sunday 2nd October Birdwatching

Our traditional autumn trip to catch some of the birds the migration season may be bringing to our shores. Meet at 9.30am in Basingstoke.

Leader: Paul Phone: 01635 49304

Wednesday 5th* 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 9th October Scrub-bash at Aldersbrook

This private site has a damp pasture with neutral/acid grassland vegetation of sufficient interest to be designated as Site of Interest for Nature Conservation (SINC) by HCC. BCV have been helping clear thick scrub so that grazing can help the richer grassland to recolonise and we will be continuing that work today. 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: Mike Phone: 01635 268482

Sunday 23rd October Coppicing at Pamber Forest

We will be continuing the autumn/winter coppicing programme in Pamber Forest. The exact location in the Forest will be provided nearer the day. 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: Barry Phone: 07971 036166

Sunday 6th November Visit to Burnham Beeches

Advanced notice from the next programme. Join us for a walk round the famed Burnham Beeches near Maidenhead. The site has a mixed cover of broad-leaved woodland and heathland with many ancient trees. At this time the Beech trees should have their autumn colour and we should find some fungi to ID. We will be leaving from Basingstoke at 9.00am, or meet on site at 10.00am.

Leader: Dave Phone: 01256 326828

The BCV Committee

Training	***Graham Dennis***	***01189 700155***
Membership	***Paul Olive***	***01635 49304***
Project Co-ordinator	***Mike Norman***	***01635 268482***
Treasurer	***Digby Cole***	***01256 818092***
Tools	***Dave Jewsbury***	***01256 326828***
Web-site	***Steve Ord***	***07425 160394***
Publicity	***Vacant – Please Apply!***	