



Bracknell Forest Natural History Society

A society for everyone interested in nature and its conservation

The Nightingale Triangle Woodland Restoration Project

Over the past fourteen months, with the agreement of Bracknell Council, **The Bracknell Forest Natural History Society** has been working with **local volunteers** on Phases 1 and 2 of improving and enhancing the woodland between Nightingale Crescent and Firlands - which is adjacent to the Bagshot Road, opposite the Leisure Centre.

The purpose of the project is to **restore the native woodland, enhance biodiversity and create a safer and more pleasant environment for everybody.**



Our volunteer working parties, which commenced in January 2018, have been very well attended, with at least fifteen people turning up to help on each occasion. A great deal of hard work has been put in, and many tasks on our Work Plan have already been achieved:

- Improved access by creating a woodland footpath with wood chips
- Reduction of brambles, holly, saplings and scrub to create woodland glades
- Removal of fly-tipped rubbish, litter and dumped garden waste (including removal of alien species introduced from the latter)
- Reduction of Rhododendron Ponticum (an invasive shrub that reduces biodiversity and prevents regeneration of native plants)
- Creation of log piles as habitat for beetles and other insects

A major task has been the planting of native woodland trees and shrubs, provided by **The Woodland Trust**. We plan to resume work on Phase 3 shortly, when we will continue to clear the Rhododendron Ponticum and brambles, and undertake more planting of native bulbs and flowers.

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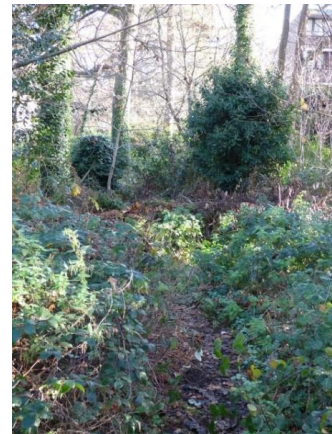


This recent picture gives a brilliant indication of just how much we have already been able to improve the 'look and feel' at Nightingale Triangle. We have also established a 'Friends of Nightingale Triangle' group which has been surveying the species present in the woodland, monitoring occasional fly tipping and garden waste dumping, conducting litter picks and undertaking light maintenance tasks.

We shortly intend to erect a hand-carved commemorative plinth within the Triangle, and to hold a celebratory 'thank you' occasion - to which residents, our volunteers and sponsors will be invited. We will then once again be starting on Phase 3 - the ongoing clearance and improvement work necessary to keep Nightingale Triangle and its flora and fauna 'in the manner to which it has become accustomed'!



THERE'S STILL LOTS TO DO!



We are immensely grateful to our hard-working volunteers - who have given us their wholehearted support and help to date. But we are always looking out for more people prepared to help with various important clearance and improvement tasks on-site. Our Work Parties are held approximately once a month - and we welcome enquiries to our Chairman, Gill Cheetham on 01344 423440, or email her on

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