

**Three Brooks Nature Conservation Group
Newsletter – 19 September 2005**

Meeting on 8 September and work programme

We had a very successful meeting on 8 September - the minutes are attached. At the meeting we agreed a programme for the next seven months as follows:

1 October - Bramble Bashing. Cutting back and opening out the brambles near the north entrance to Savage's Wood (by the new pond).
Meet outside the leisure centre at 10 am.

5 November - Coppicing in Sherbourne's Brake.
Meet at the corner of Brook Way and Baileys Court Road at 10 am.

3 December - Planting up gaps in the hedge along Savage's Wood.
Meet outside the leisure centre at 10 am.

7/8 January - Hedgelaying Weekend.

Work off those Christmas pounds by laying the hedges in the grassland between Ellicks Close and Primrose Bridge. All members of the community are warmly invited to join this event, so please tell your friends. Booking is required to establish numbers and make sure it's worth running over two days (we appreciate some people will only want to come for one, but we'd like to get good attendance on both days). We will ask members to confirm nearer the time if they are definitely intending to come, so if you think you'd like to take part, make sure you keep the dates clear!

4 February - Coppicing in Webb's Wood.
Meet by the lake at 10 am.

4 March - Coppicing in Sherbourne's Brake.
Meet at the corner of Brook Way and Baileys Court Road at 10 am .

1 April - Irrigating the marshland next to Sherbourne's Brake, i.e. digging ponds and ditches.
Meet at the corner of Brook Way and Baileys Court Road at 10 am.

Bat hunts

We had a successful evening bat hunt last Thursday, finding pipistrelles over the grassland and Daubenton's bats over the lake. David Baker also spotted a fox patrolling the school perimeter fence. If you haven't been on one of these yet then there are still three more to go - the first one **TONIGHT (Monday 19th) 7.00-9.00 pm** and the next two on **Thursday 29 September and Monday 3 October, 6.30-8.30 pm**. Meet outside the leisure centre and don't forget to bring a torch.

Calling bird lovers

(For the email mailing list only). If you are particularly fond of birds and birdwatching then Gwen Clark would like to hear from you. She would like to set up an email group of people interested in birds so that we can share information on what has been seen where on the reserve and perhaps help each other out on identification! If you'd like to join this group, please send me an email (e.creasey@hefce.ac.uk) telling me that you are happy for me to pass your email address to Gwen.

I look forward to seeing you on 1 October.

Best wishes

Emma.