

Summary

On this occasion we were joined by 5 scouts from the 3rd West Bridgford (Friary) troop and their leader Tim. Along with Chrissie, Tim and the scouts spread wood chip from the pile near the north end along paths in that immediate area. Spreading was somewhat thinner than has been the practice in the past, in the hope of reducing the tendency to turn to mulch after wet weather. About 70 metres were covered.

The rest of the party, including newcomers Kirsten and Lucas, set about removal of young sycamore and Norway Maple from either side of the central section of the main path and over towards the east path. Caution was exercised to avoid disturbance to nesting birds. Many of the saplings were small enough to be uprooted, whereas others were cut down and, where feasible, treated with "ecoplugs" to prevent regeneration. In some of these areas there were quite a few saplings or young trees of other species (e.g., field maple, lime, oak, ash), and these should thrive better with reduced competition from invasive species. As usual, a fair amount of litter was collected, including a car wheel and tyre.

On the way up to the wood a skylark was seen and heard over the field, and birdsong was constant in the wood. During lunch a pair of long-tailed tits was observed around an ivy-covered tree trunk.