

Summary

We had the best turn-out for several months, enabling us to get quite a bit done before the inevitable rain started to get the better of us. Sadly there was a large amount of litter again, including broken glass, 4 plastic garden chairs, and a tent, all of which had to be gathered, taken down the hill, and disposed of. A further unscheduled task was removal of a dead tree that had fallen across the eastern path. We managed to saw through the trunk and swing the resulting two halves off the path.

An ongoing task is tending to the whips planted during the last few years, and Mike led a small team continuing this work today.

We had been donated 25 used 6ft circular fence posts that were surplus to requirements at a nature reserve. With the help of our new post rammer, we installed 10 of these posts close together and stapled wire between them, in order to strengthen the recently installed paling fence on the south-eastern edge. The fence had already been tampered with by someone who apparently feels the need to get through that unofficial entrance. We sank the remaining 15 posts either side of a stretch of dead hedge created last winter on the western side, to keep the hedge in place when we build it up again this autumn. Further posts will be available to do similar work next time.

We had planned to use the brush-cutter to trim vegetation encroaching onto the main path. However, we found a mouse had chewed the ear muffs, making them unusable. In any case David had recently trimmed much of it by hand and did some more today, leaving little that would have still needed doing.

With the rain increasing and starting to come through the canopy, we packed up at 13.00.