

### Summary.

The brilliant weather this weekend probably meant some people were away doing other things, but nevertheless a small work party made great in-roads into clearing “weeds” from around whips planted last winter. Basically we covered about half the perimeter (the north side, and northern ends of the east and west sides). Grass, nettles, bindweed, etc., had grown considerably, so we cleared a small area around each whip. Sadly a few had died (particularly some of the blackthorn), but a good 80% had survived. Probably the dry weather prior to April accounted for much of the loss. Those that have survived have healthy growth, and compared to the planting three years ago this is quite a success (perhaps thanks to the use of guards).