Project Newsletter No.7 - May 2001

Summer's here and the vegetation is growing back again.
Put your spades a few months rest and dust down your favourite 'big stick'.

Here's the next few months work session dates.

17th June - Bracken Bash 1

Yes, it's that time of year again! At present there is virtually no sign of Bracken regenerating in the areas that we have been concentrating on over the last two years. No doubt this will change by mid-June and there will be a fresh dense crop for us to attack.

The brushcutter will be in use for this session, which should speed things up somewhat, although this may be negated by the greater presence of tall grasses which are now beginning (with our help) to compete with the Bracken.

The edges of the area will still need to be bashed with sticks – cutting can encourage sideways growth in stands of Bracken (which we don't want), whereas bashing usually restricts any regrowth to within same area.

As usual, please bring with you,

- ♦ Stout stick (or Golf Club!!)
- **♦ Work Gloves**

<u>29th July – Rosebay Pull and Nettle</u> Bash This is our annual endeavour to control these two species by removing them just after flowering and thus preventing them from setting seed.

As with last year, the Rosebay will need to be pulled up by hand, but the Nettles will now be cut down using the brushcutter. This should ensure that we have more than adequate time to attend to all the areas where control is needed.

The only equipment you will need to bring is a pair of Work Gloves

If all goes well, I should get time to cut back any soft vegetation that is starting to encroach on the paths.

12th August – Bracken Bash 2

Our second and final onslaught on the Bracken for 2001 – equipment as before.