



Loose Amenities Association Land – July 2020

This is a record and description of the valley for first 6 month of 2020

It is intended to record the valley at a point in time and also to illustrate the work and plans for the maintenance of LAA Land

As I normally enter the valley at the sheep pen, I have been taking a photo from approximately the same position each time I walk or visit the valley, the following are a time history of the view into Rainbow Meadow.

January 2020



February 2020



March 2020



April 2020



May 2020



June 2020



July 2020



Rainbow Shaw

This area in Rainbow Shaw was cleared as part of the Woodland Management Plan. The idea here is to remove diseased or poor condition trees to create an open glade, thus promoting ground cover plants. Work in this Shaw has been minimal and has been completed for the first year of the plan.



5 months after clearing, the nettles have moved in



An un-planned 'camp' using the felled logs!



Rainbow Meadow

The following are some examples of the flora and fauna found in Rainbow meadow over the last month

Left to right

Agrimony (*Agrimonia eupatoria*)

Stachys sylvatica – (Hedge Woundwort)

Veronica chamaedrys, (Germander Speedwell)



St Johns Wort and Meadow Vetchling



Knapweed



Meadowsweet



Soldier Beetles on the Hogweed, waiting for unsuspecting insects to feed on the flowers.



Roy's Meadow and Shaw

The two photos below illustrate the health of some of the Ash trees in Roy's Meadow. On the left is a good specimen tree which is as far as we can determine healthy. On the right is a collection of 3 or 4 trees which have Ash Dieback, a significant part of the tree canopy has no leaves, a clear sign of the disease.



Hopkiln Meadow

Long view from Hopkiln into Limekiln shaw – taken mid May



View of the meadow with Hogweed taking centre stage – taken Mid June



Limekiln Shaw

Again Ash Dieback is the story for this month. After a tree safety inspection, the Ash pictured was deemed to have the disease and as it is next to a footpath, the only course of action was to fell the tree, this has now been completed. I counted the rings on one of the 5 trunks and lost count at 60, so an older specimen.

Top of tree before felling



Tree midway through felling and completed

Close up of one of the trunks (I lost count at 60 rings)



Ian Greenfield and Pip Terry