



## Loose Amenities Association Land – September 2020

This is a record and description of the valley from January to September 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



August 2020



September 2020



## Rainbow Meadow

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

Wood Horsetail - *Equisetum sylvaticum*



Water Mint - *Mentha Aquatica*



Alder Buckthorn (foreground) and a Gelda Rose



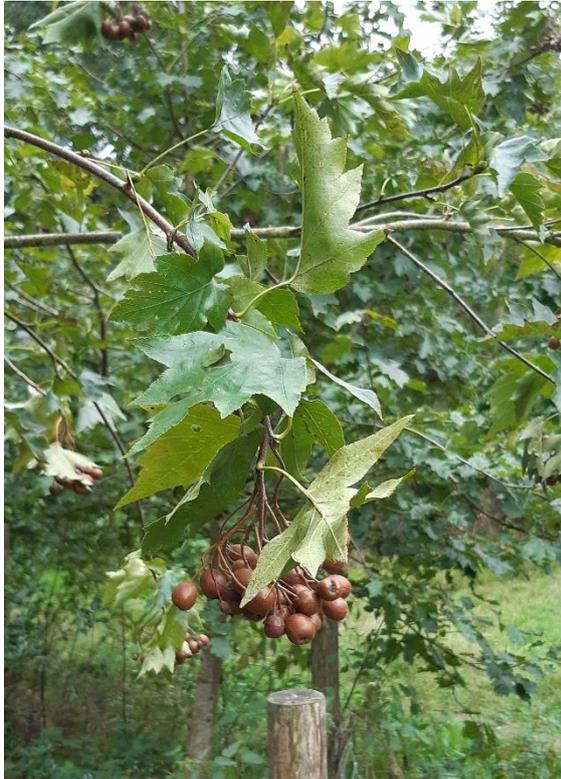
Acorns on the Oak tree adjacent to the Alders. Note the deformed acorn, sometimes called a Knopper gall is caused by the Oak Gall Wasp. The Gall wasp Larvae secrete chemicals which cause the irregular shape of the acorn. This tree is generally healthy but does have a high proportion of deformed acorns.



## Roy's Meadow

As one enters Roys Meadow from Rainbow, there is a small thicket of trees planted by LAA. One particularly rare tree, is a Wild Service or Chequer tree. The fruits, also known as chequers, are said to taste like dates and were given to children as sweets. They can be made into an alcoholic drink and it is thought they influenced the naming of 'Chequers Inns', although it is unclear which came first – the name of the fruit or the inns.

If you did want to eat the fruit, then they require 'bletting' (ie. decomposition) through freezing to make them edible.



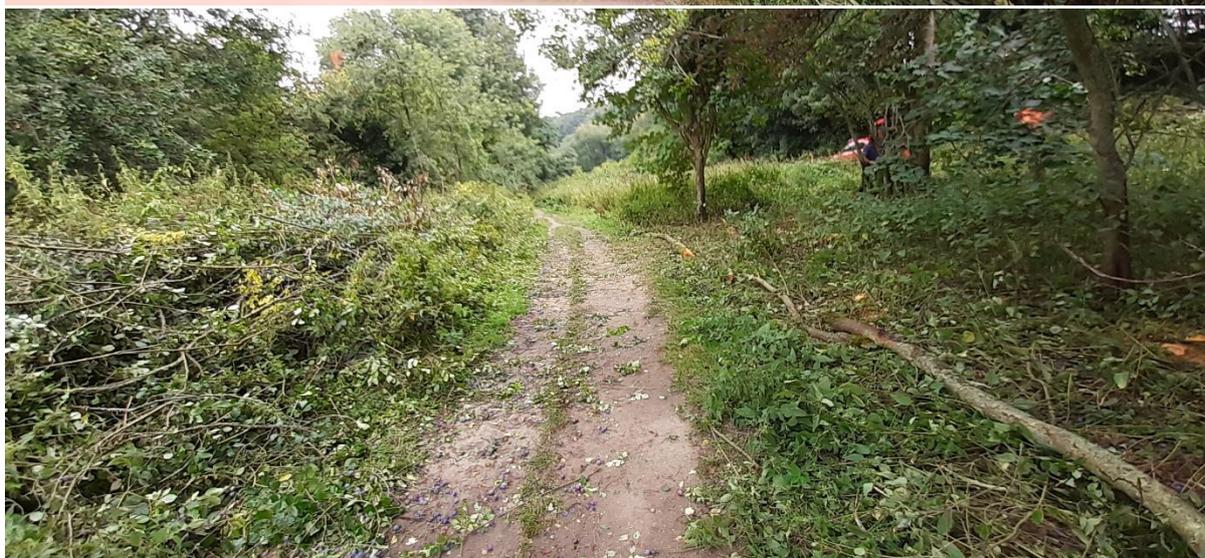
A striking fungi growing in the trunk of a dead tree, - not identified



At the August and September work parties, we cleared both Nettles and a small Bullace copse in the vicinity of Little Ivy.

The nettles have been cleared to encourage/help the area to become predominantly grass and wildflowers.

The Bullace copse has been cut down so that a variety of native trees can be planted



### **Roys Shaw**

In this area we will be continuing with tree felling in line with the woodland management plan. We have identified a number of Sycamores to fell which surround an Oak tree, by felling these this should preserve and allow the Oak to expand and thrive.

## Hopkiln Meadow

Long view from Hopkiln into Limekiln shaw – taken mid August



Along the fence line between Hopkiln and Limekiln is this style which we have decided is not fit for purpose and will be removed. There are two kissing gates in the fence line so plenty of access points.



## Limekiln Meadow

Long view of Limekiln Meadow



Sadly to the left of this view are 5 Ash trees which have significant Die-back, we have decided after taking some professional advice to fell these trees before they deteriorate further.

Ian Greenfield and Pip Terry