

<http://tptcv.btck.co.uk/>

Workday at St John's Community Centre, Penistone.

Sunday 6th May 2012

We were not actually at St John's Community Centre of course, but on the stretch of the Trail between the community centre access and the Bridge Street bridge. In April we began at the Eastfield Avenue access, and worked between there and the community centre; this time we picked up from where we left off.



The weather was delightful – sunny and warm, with blue skies and little wind. The sun brought a lot of people out, including several volunteers – some new. The Trail was busy, particularly with l-o-n-g groups of cyclists who all seemed keen to say hello (hello, hello, hello, hello, hello!) and who were, as usual, impressed and pleased by the fact that we were working on the Trail and hoped that we would keep it up!

Although there didn't look to be too much litter, we actually managed to collect five bagfuls, including a few dozen, full, small bottles of bitter lemon and tonic. Matthew (9) wondered rather wistfully whether it might be alright to drink one of these, but we assured him it would not!

We also removed several young, leafless, saplings which have grown in a line on the left hand side of the Trail, and removed overhanging and broken branches, creating habitat piles under the trees. We remove only the specific branch which is growing onto the Trail, and are obviously very careful to make sure that there is no evidence of bird activity before we start.



We have been investigating the idea of working intensively in one relatively small area, leaving it pretty much sorted and working on from there the next time – rather than covering a greater area, less well. The idea was sparked off by Ian Jelley (Yorkshire Wildlife Trust) but seems quite popular. We'll have to balance this with the need to deal with particular areas which are causing problems of course.



Come and join us on our next workday - **Saturday 9th June** - we hope to be painting a bridge!
Meet on the Trail at St John's Community Centre access at 10am

Please visit the website for further information, and to see more pictures of this and previous workdays.

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Kate Dobson

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Before...



...and after

Lopping, chopping, and chatting; Litter-picking, Painting, and Polishing!
Free tea, coffee, and biscuits ☺