

## Report on the Ramblers Holidays Grant to Erewash Ramblers

Location: Morley FP12 at the Gripps

Date: 11 June 2018

Following the purchase of tools and timber with the grant of £350 this was the first working party at which some of them were put to good use.

Nine volunteers turned out on what proved to be a lovely day, dry and sunny but not too warm.

There were three tasks for the day:

- a) to begin the replacement of the rotted side sloped boards of the second section of steps from the southern end of this path using some of the tanalised barge board timber that was bought. The aim is to recreate the 8 enclosed steps as a narrower section of steps.



Before....

... and after replacing top riser and placing new side boards

b) to begin construction of boxes to retain limestone chips on the lower part of the southern section steps.



Before



After

The boxes would be cleared of some of the soil prior to adding the limestone chips in due course.

Drill in use:



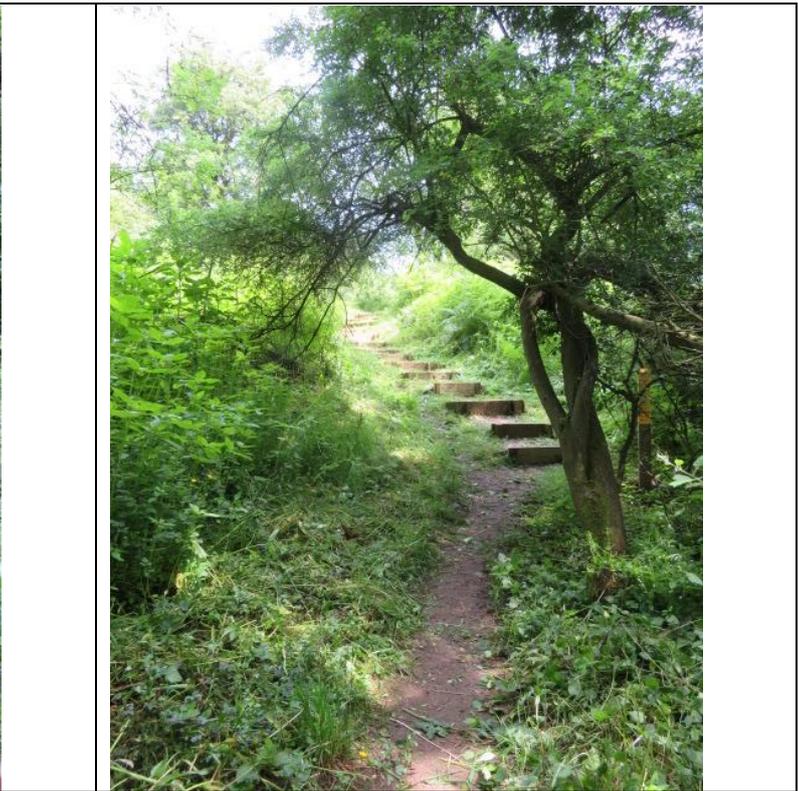
The new Makita drill and drill bits were put to good use as the box sections are put together with screws requiring both the use of the drill facility as well as using the screwdriver facility.

There is a total of approximately 39 steps on two sides of a stream of which over half still need new risers and the majority still need to be boxed or enclosed.

The drill will be much used.

It is at this site that we will position a Ramblers Holidays plaque.

c) Continued clearance of Himalayan Balsam and other undergrowth from the line of the path.

	
<p>Southern end entry to the Gripps the grass and weed at this section cleared to show a clear post and entry to steps</p>	<p>Northern end steps after clearance this section has in previous years been heavily covered with Himalayan Balsam.</p>

While the Himalayan Balsam is pulled, the grass and weed as shown on the left would be ideal for the brushcutter purchased. We hope to have a training session with the use of this soon from our one trained operative but look to get the Council to offer more of our team training.

All three tasks are ongoing for each section of steps until all risers have been replaced and are boxed.

The Erewash Ramblers Working Party Group appreciate the help of Ramblers Holidays.

While we were either heading for the work site, working or packing up (3 hours) we were passed by three walkers with dogs so this path is worth the effort.

Report compiled by  
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