



Aims of the task were:

- to clear the pond enclosure of mainly bramble overgrowth to make the area more accessible for the school to use, and
- to re-cover the bird hide roof with felt to make it waterproof once more.



Before: ponds obscured by overgrowth



... hide roof in disrepair

Task report:

15 adults and 5 children took part in the afternoon session to clear the weed growth from around the ponds. Part of the area is soon to be surfaced permanently to ensure access in all seasons is possible. The rest of the area will remain a wildlife habitat with various self sown herbaceous plants. We made sure that as much of the brambles' roots system was removed as possible here to prevent a quick re-growth in the spring.



We found some plants that were worth transplanting including ox-eye daisy and bluebell. These were moved to more appropriate locations in the grounds; the bluebells will help to diversify the woodland ground layer.

A fig tree was discovered in the corner of the enclosure and work was carried out to cut back surrounding shrubs to give more it light.

**Kings Worthy Primary School
Pond Enclosure Clearance and Hide Re-felting
Sunday 18th February 2007**



A newt (possibly smooth newt) was found in the first pond, the second one had a lot of frogspawn, and the third provided a marsh type habitat, although the lining was cracked.

The hide was tackled by four of the adults, taking off the remnants of previous roofing felt, closing the gap in the ridgeline through which water had been pouring and securing new felt in position. The viewing flaps were also repaired.



After: another job well done



... a dry place to hide!

Altogether the afternoon saw a very satisfying transformation of this corner of the grounds as the photos show.

Charlotte Smith

Weather: fairly mild 10C, and dry.

Task Leaders: Charlotte and Jonathan Smith



Volunteers