

# Friends of WARTON CRAG

17<sup>th</sup> April 2021

## IT'S OUR FIRST TASK BACK ON WARTON CRAG!

We are emerging from the lockdown restrictions cautiously, it feels great to be getting together to carry out our green therapy (as one of our regular volunteers would put it).



The weather was warm and sunny and the wildflowers are starting to burst out. We spotted Orange tips, Brimstone and even a Speckled Wood.

Earlier this year we started to take on some essential woodland management in order to deal with ash dieback. Ash dieback is a disease caused by a fungus and is causing many trees to die in the area, for health and safety reasons we are concentrating on removing high risk trees on the main access paths within the Lancaster City Council nature reserve. Also this is to maintain the area's important biodiversity by allowing in some light, encouraging a mosaic of habitats. Some of the deadwood will be left for the benefit of birds, insects and fungi.

We carried out some work around Geds gate on the east side of the nature reserve. It was our task to tidy up the area in a way that would benefit the wildlife. We created a lovely dead hedge which is prime habitat for small mammals and birds as it creates shelter from the weather and predators, but also great for insects.

It feels great to be acting for wildlife again and looking forward carrying out more positive work this year.

**Next task 15<sup>th</sup> of May- Watch this space for more information**

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