

## Saving snails at Brockadale Nature Reserve



**Date** November 2002

**Location** Brockadale Nature Reserve, Yorkshire

Partnership between the Yorkshire Wildlife Trust & Carillion Highway Maintenance, Area 15

**Parts of Brockadale Nature Reserve have become overgrown, damaging the habitats, in particular that of a rare snail. A team of volunteers from Carillion joined Yorkshire Wildlife Trust staff and volunteers to work on the Reserve, clear invasive species and help protect and preserve habitats.**

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Conservation day to help the snail population of Brockadale Nature Reserve. A combined effort between Yorkshire Wildlife Trust and Carillion volunteers.

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### Mutual Benefits

- **Environmental contribution via Carillion Habitats Fund**
- **Cash and in-kind support approx £6000**
- **Volunteers helped deliver the project, gaining team working skills**
- **Environmental / Biodiversity training for Carillion staff**
- **Positive community relations**

Yorkshire Wildlife Trust's Brockadale Nature Reserve, a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), is a haven for birds such as woodpeckers and home to the rare snail *Truncatellina cylindrica*. Brockadale's south-facing valley forms a warm microclimate where such a vulnerable species can survive. The geology of Brockadale also means that many plants that are rare in Yorkshire can flourish here.

However, over time an old quarry on the reserve was becoming overgrown, resulting in young trees blocking the light from getting to more rare plant species and also damaging the habitat for the rare snail, *Truncatellina cylindrica*, found nowhere else in Yorkshire.

The Carillion Natural Habitats Fund donated £4,500 to improve Brockadale Nature Reserve and help protect the rare snail.

The company has also donated its time, with volunteers from the Highway maintenance team keen to put something back into the local communities in which they operate.

In November the team set about clearing the overgrown scrub and secondary woodland from areas where it was causing habitats to flounder. With their help the snail will continue to survive on the Reserve, an important part of the Reserve's future as Tony Senior, Yorkshire Wildlife Trust's Field Officer, explains..."We're grateful for Carillion's financial support and practical help. The company is funding work to protect wildlife habitats at Brockadale and the team has achieved a great deal today. It's important that walls of the quarry are kept clear of scrub. After a few hours work we can see a real difference".

The trust will now go on to monitor and continually improve the habitat surroundings.