



# Himalayan Balsam Removal

**Date: Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> June**

Our volunteers tried a new type of task today - Himalayan balsam bashing. Although really it's more about pulling it up with its roots intact rather than knocking it down. We have a few locations identified and will make a way around them throughout the month of June. Most plants are found growing amongst high density patches of nettles - so lots of care must be taken to avoid getting stung repeatedly.

We cleared one area by the riverbank - pulling approx 100 fairly mature plants and after recording location, quantity, size etc, we made a few small piles of them just off the path for them to decompose safely.

A second area, under the A6, was a bigger challenge and we think we pulled over 800 plants from here - half fairly mature, but half a lot smaller. Hopefully we got most of them, but know we need to return and possibly pull again!

Our next area will be by One Man bridge. There is lots growing here and we will initially be tackling the areas between the footpath and the riverbank. There is lots growing in an adjacent field if anyone know who owns it so we can ask permission to start removing it before it takes over.

Thanks to Nick, Karen and Brian



Balsam growing in the nettles



Approx 100 fairly mature plants pulled from the riverside.



After pulling hundreds from under the A6.

**Next Event: Monday 9<sup>th</sup> June 2pm**