



Ringwood Natural History Society Programme Autumn 2023 ~ Winter ~ Spring 2024

27/10/2023



Grayling Butterfly by Gerry Traves

- Indoor meetings are held at Greyfriars in Ringwood from September until April, on the 2nd and 4th Thursday in the month, at 7.30pm
- We also have an extensive programme of walks.
- Short walks (**SW**) approximately 1 to 3 miles
- Walk (**W**) approximately 3 to 4 miles
- Long walks (**LW**) approximately 4 to 6 miles
- Field study walks (**FS**) approximately 0 to 1 mile
- Social gatherings (**G**) approximately 0 to 1 mile plus picnic
- Unless otherwise stated well-behaved dogs on leads where necessary are welcome with owners that adhere to the New Forest code and land owner requirements relating to dogs.
- Dogs must be covered by their owners own Third Party Liability Insurance
- In the event of adverse weather, **please check with the walk leader**
- Keep green, so please arrange to car share where possible
- Those not walking can often meet the walkers for a picnic or a pub lunch

Please read this programme in conjunction with the notes on the previous page. The programme on our web site (see last page) will be updated regularly with any changes.

October

Thu 12th **(W) Throop** with Judy and Sonia. Meet at 10.30am in the Throop Mill Car Park, (map OL22, ref: SZ 112 957, post code BH8 0DN) for a 3 mile partly river walk. on level paths. **Bring lunch**

Thu 12th ***Evening Meeting at Greyfriars. Mike Read presents his latest talk. 'Scotland's Western Isles' From Winter visits to Islay in the south to Summer visits to Lewis in the north, this brand new talk shows much of the wildlife of these beautiful but windswept islands. Barnacle geese, White-tailed Eagles, Otters killing sharks (!), breeding seabirds and crexing Corncrakes all feature.***

Sat 14th **(FS) Fungus Foray** with Bill. Meet at Blashford Lakes CP (visitor centre), (map OL22, ref SU 151 080) at 11:00am. **Bring lunch**

Tue 17th **(W) Bolderwood** with Pat. Walk from Bolderwood of about 4miles. Meet at Bolderwood CP (map OL22, ref: SU 242 086 at 10:30am. It is hoped that we will see Autumn colours, and probably some fungi. **Bring lunch**

Wed 25th **(W) Ibsley Common** with Yve & Maz. Meet at Moyles Court (Map OL22, ref: SU 162 084) at 10:30am for a walk. **Bring lunch**

Thu 26th ***Evening Meeting at Greyfriars. Members Evening. This is your chance to share some of your special memories with fellow members.***

November

Thu 2nd **A walk with Martin**, Walk from Broomy Walk car park, map ref SU 197 099. Walk about 4 miles can be longer or shorter if required. Will be muddy and wet in places. **Bring lunch, Dogs on leads please**

Mon 6th **(LW) Abbots Well** with Bill. Meet at Abbots Well CP (map OL22, ref: SU 177 129) at 10.30. We shall head down to Ogdens, across Latchmore Bottom and up the Witches to Hasley Inclosure, skirt round it, across heathland towards Sloden Inclosure. Lunch somewhere there. Then through Alderhill Inclosure. Steep climb up to Hampton Ridge then back to Abbott's Well. About 5 miles. **Bring Lunch**

November

(cont'd)

- Thu 9th** *Evening Meeting at Greyfriars. Bob Lord "Helping wildlife in New Milton"*
Bob has managed various National Nature Reserves during his 35 year career, including Natural England. He is currently the Chairman of the Friends of Ballard Water Meadows.
- Wed 15th** **(SW) Gorley Common, Hyde** with Jean. With Potting Shed Tearooms on your left travel a short distance to a sharp left bend. Do not go round bend but take gravel track straight ahead of you to the CP (map OL22, ref SU 168 124). Meet at 11:00am morning only. A good picnic spot, weather permitting, or Potting Shed Tearooms for refreshments.
- Thu 23rd** **(W) Stanpit Marsh to Christchurch Harbour** with Judy and Sonia. Meet in the Stanpit Marsh Car Park (SZ 172 924) at 11.00 for a 3 mile walk on dry paths with no stiles or hills. The marsh can be viewed from the walk. **Bring Lunch**
- Thu 23rd** *Evening Meeting at Greyfriars. Steve Oakes "Bird Migration"* Steve leads bird walks for the New Forest Bird Group and the South Wiltshire RSPB.
- Mon 27th** **Skittles Evening at East Christchurch Sports & Social Club**, Details to follow.

December

- Wed 6th** **(SW) Mockbegger** with Yve. Meet in the lay-by opposite Cross Lanes Chapel on the Gorley Road (map OL22, ref: SU 160 093) at 11:00am for a walk of 2–3 miles. Parking is limited so please car share where possible. **Bring Lunch**
- Thu 14th** *Evening Meeting at Greyfriars. Christmas Social. This year we will enjoy live music from the Flaming Ukes. Due to the costs for the evening, we are asking a fee of £5 per person to cover our costs.*
- Tue 19th** **Chairmans Christmas Walk & Lunch** with Theresa, Venue & details to follow.

January

- Tue 9th** **(SW) Coy Pond & Bournemouth Gardens** with Pat & Jean. Meet at Coy Pond (map OL22, ref: SZ 067 922, postcode BH12 1HX) at 11:00am, Take a gentle stroll through the Gardens and enjoy lunch in the Lower Gardens, or at a pub / cafe in the vicinity of Bournemouth Gardens.

January
(cont'd)

- Thu 11th** *Evening Meeting at Greyfriars. Clive Chatters "The interconnectedness of everything" Clive is a conservationist who has held various roles in the Hants and IOW Wildlife Trust and is also a New Forest Verderer.*
- Wed 17th** **New Year Lunch at the Old Beams, Ibsley.** Menu & details to follow.
- Wed 24th** **(SW) An Afternoon Seaside Walk** with Audrey & Hal. Meet by Cafe Riva on Southbourne Overcliff Drive; there is plenty of on street parking (map OL22, ref: SZ 130 913, post code BH6 3PJ) at 1:00pm, for a walk along the cliff top to Boscombe pier and back along the promenade. Optional afternoon tea at Cafe Riva.
- Thu 25th** *Evening Meeting at Greyfriars. Dr Manuel Hinge. Currently no info*
- Wed 31st** **(SW) Bolderwood** with John. Meet at Bolderwood CP (map OL22 ref: SU 242 086) at 11:00am. Lunch in the car park following the walk. **Bring Lunch**

February

- Wed 7th** **(SW) A Walk around Poulner** with Maz & Will. Meet at Ackworth, Linford Road, at 11:00am for a walk around Poulner, returning to Ackworth for soup and rolls for lunch. **Numbers limited to 20, please book with Maz on 01425 489495.**
- Thu 8th** *Evening Meeting at Greyfriars. Nik Knight "Bats: Superheroes of the Night" Nik is the chairman and county bat recorder for the Hampshire bat group.*
- Thu 15th** **(W) Moors Valley Country Park** with Lyn & Gerry. Meet at Potterne Way CP (map OL22, ref: SU 095 074) at 10:30am. A walk through the various habitats in Moors Valley Country Park. **Bring Lunch**
- Thurs 22nd** **(W) Hengisbury Head** with Judy and Sonia. Meet in the Hengisbury Head Car Park (SZ164 910) at 11.00 (charges apply). A short walk mostly on dry paths depending on weather conditions. **Optional lunch in the Hiker Café or bring lunch**
- Thu 22nd** *Evening Meeting at Greyfriars. Catherine Chatters "The New Forest Non Native Plant Project" Catherine runs the project which aims to control the spread of invasive non-native plants.*

February
(cont'd)

Thu 29th (LW) **RSPB Arne** with Pete. Meet at the RSPB CP (map OL15, ref: SY 972 878) at 10:30am, for a heath, woodland and waterside walk catering for all interests with the opportunity of afternoon tea at the walk end.

Car park charges apply for non-members. Bring Lunch

March

Wed 6th **WWT Arundel Wetlands Centre** with Jean. A coach trip leaving Ringwood Meeting House Lane at 09.00am and back in Ringwood approx. 5.30pm. Cost approx. £30 to include coach, entry fee to the Wetlands and boat trip.

Further details to follow.

Tue 12th (W) **Holmsley Inclosure** with Maz & Will. Meet at CP near Holmsley campsite (map OL22, ref SZ 209 993) at 11:00am. An easy walk with the odd slight climb, mainly on gravel and concrete tracks. **Bring Lunch**

Thu 14th **Evening Meeting at Greyfriars. Bill Syratt. "Ecosystems of the World Second Instalment!"**

Tue 19th (W) **Hatchet Pond** with Theresa. Meet at Hatchet Pond CP (map OL22 ref SU 369 016) at 10:30am for a walk of 3-4 miles. **Bring Lunch**

Wed 27th (FS) **Liverworts & Lichens study day.** with Bill. Meet at Millyford Bridge CP (map OL22, ref: SU 267 078, the car park just past the Portuguese Fireplace of the left coming from Bolderwood) at 11:00am. **Bring Lunch**

Thu 28th **Evening Meeting at Greyfriars. Andy Page "Birds of the New Forest"**
Andy is the Head Keeper for the New Forest.

April

Wed 3rd (LW) **Holt Heath** with Lyn & Gerry. Meet at West Moors Memorial Hall CP Station Road BH22 0HZ (map OL2, ref: SU 078 032) at 10:30am for a walk of about 4.5 miles over Holt Heath. **Bring Lunch**

Thu 11th **Evening Meeting at Greyfriars. Prof Catherine Gale "Hampshire Swifts and the work they do"** Catherine is a trustee of the Hampshire swift group which was set up in 2016 to help reverse the decline of the county's swifts.

April
(cont'd)

Fri 12th **(W) Tyneham** with Derek. Park in Tyneham village (map OL 15, SY 882 802). Carpark now £ 4 in coins only @ 10.30am. 3 options: a) Worbarrow bay and back along coastal cliff (not very high hill) then down to Tyneham (2½ mile); b) continue up cliff to Tyneham cap for spectacular views then back to Tyneham (3½ - 4 mile); c) stay in Tyneham where extensive museum buildings and displays. No styles. Note: Tyneham has toilets and many benches (many benches enroute as well) and popup café (cash only). **Bring lunch**

Wed 17th **(W) Brook** with Judy and Sonia. Meet at 10.30 round the corner from the Green Dragon Inn, Brook S043 7HE, parking on the side of the road. The Green Dragon Inn is off the B3079 (SU 273 140). The walk is approximately 4 miles on level ground with a mix of quiet tracks and woodland with no stiles. **Bring lunch**

Tue 23rd **(SW & G) Nea Meadows Nature Reserve** with Theresa. Meet at Nea Meadows Nature reserve, Christchurch at 11:00am for a short walk and back for lunch on the reserve at about 12.30pm. Nea meadows is a small reserve close to Highcliffe on Smugglers Lane South BH23 4NF. **Bring Lunch & Chair**

Thu 25th **AGM & Evening Meeting at Greyfriars. Martin King Details to follow.**

May

Thu 2nd **(W) Garston Wood** with Pat. Meet at the RSPB car park (map Explorer 118, ref: SU 003 195) at 10.30am for an easy varied walk through this ancient woodland including oak, coppiced hazel and maple along with mixed woodland spring flowers including orchids. **Bring Lunch**

Tue 7th **(SW) Broadstone Nature Reserve** with Rosemary & Derek. Meet at Rosemary's house, 8 Badbury Close, Broadstone, BH18 8LR at 10:30pm (plenty of on street parking). We will be looking at nesting birds on camera or bushes in the garden, followed by a short 40 min walk around Broadstone Nature Reserve. **Bring Lunch which we will eat in Rosemary & Derek's garden.**

May
(cont'd)

- Tue 14th** (W) **Bolderwood** with Liz & Mike. Meet at the Canadian Memorial near Bolderwood (map OL22, ref: SU 240 092) at 10.30am for a birdwatching and wildlife watching gentle walk around Bolderwood Farm Deer Sanctuary and return to the car park for lunch by about 12.30. We hope to see fallow deer, firecrests, migrants that have arrived and we won't be seeing those that have not arrived!! There is an uphill section along the southern side of Bolderwood Farm and there may be ice creams available in the Bolderwood car park. These can be consumed on the way back to our parking area. **Bring Lunch**
- Wed 22nd** (G & SW) **Hale Purlieu** with Maz & Will. Meet at National Trust car park at Lady's Mile Road (map OL22, ref: SU 188 177) at 11:00am for a short walk and gathering. **Bring Lunch & Chair**
- Thu 30th** (W) **Abbotts Well** with Audrey & Hal. Meet at Abbotts Well CP (map OL22, ref: SU 177 129) at 10:30am for a walk of about 3 miles exploring different parts of the surrounding area and stopping off at the Potting Shed for an optional lunch.

Please note, along with our seasonal programme, our weekly walk notes / species lists are available to view on our web site at ringwoodnaturalhistorysociety.co.uk.

Within the New Forest. In an emergency key code will be needed to open the security gates & barriers for the emergency services. Call the Forestry Keepers on 03000 674 420 for the codes. It is essential all walk leaders carry this number when leading a walk in the New Forest.

Walk Leader Telephone Numbers:

Jean Crawford	07742 357 891	Will Russell	07437 982 219
John Gurney	07395 855 404	Bill Syratt (Home)	01425 658 085
Theresa Holden	07811 781 760	Liz & Mike Read (Home)	01425 475 008
Yve Prior	07905 017 956	Judy Thomas (Home)	01425 839 877
Pat Holder	07712 334 526	Gerry Traves	07980 881 996
Martin King	07714 338 705	Lyn Traves	07906 570 360
Derek Roberts	07784 330 209	Audrey Walker	07798 502 011
Rosemary Roberts (Home)	01202 602 470	Pete Wellstead	07941 613 334
Maz Russell	07957 413 612	Sonia Wilkinson	07714 882 732

Walk Organisers: Lyn & Gerry Traves Tel: 01202 871 881, email: gerrytraves@outlook.com

Speakers organised by: Position Vacant email:

Secretary: John Gurney Tel: 01425 471 362, email: johngurney774@gmail.com