



RINGWOOD NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Bolderwood (Highland Water) Walk

Date: 31st January 2024
 Weather: Sunny Spells
 Walk Leader: John Gurney
 Attendees: 16

We met at Bolderwood car park near the Canadian Memorial. It is found beside the minor road leading from Emery Down and is not too far from the A31 underpass (from where there is no access), its reached from the other direction on the same minor road via Linwood or Fritham. We left the car park turning left and walking along the road to enter Highland Water Inclosure from the Canadian War Memorial entrance. The memorial is a simple wooden roadside cross overlooking sloping ground, it commemorates the Canadian forces stationed in the New Forest before the D-Day invasion of Normandy on 6 June 1944. Before the invasion, Canadians would gather here for church services.

Walking on gravel cycle tracks we reached Holmhill Inclosure, first planted in 1815 and features mature oak and beech trees as well as a variety of conifers, including larch. Then back into Highland Water Inclosure, once the site of an old Stag Park, earthwork remains can still be seen. We crossed Highland Water, having to wade across it as the bridge is currently closed, it flows over gravel beds on its way to merge with the Lymington River and then onto the sea. Returning back to the same entrance at the memorial to the car park, we had lunch in the picnic area under the shelter of the Douglas Fir trees. There is also a Forestry England Information Centre there.

Birds	Flowering plants
Chaffinch	Common Gorse
Robin	Fruits
Coal Tit	Holly Berries
Siskin	
Blue Tit	Fungi
Treecreeper	Turkeytail
Firecrest	Blushing Bracket
Raven	
Redwing	Mammals
Buzzard	Roe Deer
Crossbill	
Great Spotted Woodpecker (drumming)	



Highland Water Inclosure by Lyn Traves