## RINGWOOD NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

## **Burley Walk**



Date: 22nd September 2021

Weather: Mostly sunny with light cloud in afternoon

Walk Leaders: Jayne and Martin O'Reilly

Attendees: 11

Burley is a village and a civil parish, it is located towards the western edge of the New Forest, 5 miles (8.0 km) south-east of Ringwood. The village is surrounded by the open heathland of the New Forest, containing a mix of woodland, heathland and acid grassland, shrub and valley bog, supporting a richness and diversity of wildlife. The village practices the tradition of commoning, allowing animals to graze on the open forest and ponies and cattle roam freely around the village. Burley Fire Station is thought to be the only fire station in the country with a cattle grid at the entrance.

Our walk started from Burley car park on School Hill opposite the cricket pitch where we walked down Moorhill Road which led to Shappen Hill and onto the disused railway line, which we walked along it to Burbush car park. The railway was part of the former Southampton and Dorchester Railway line which ran from Brockenhurst to Hamworthy Junction via Ringwood. It was promoted by Charles Castleman of Wimborne and became known as Castleman's Corkscrew because of the meandering route it followed.

We crossed Pound Lane where we had lunch sitting beside a pond. Afterwards, passing by Long Pond, then walking northwards to reach a steep climb to Castle Hill, the site of an Iron Age Hill Fort. Then onwards to Burley Street where we returned back to Burley.

Flowering Plants	Flowering Plants cont	Birds	Others
Common Figwort	Water Figwort	Robin	Grey Squirrel
Ling	Devilsbit Scabious	Wood Pigeon	Common Wasp
Chamomile	Bramble	Stonechat	Red Admiral Butterfly
Water Pepper	Hedge Bindweed	Blackbird	Small White Butterfly
Lesser Spearwort	Stinging Nettle	Pied Wagtail	Common Lizard
Creeping Buttercup	Scented Mayweed	Chiffchaff	Honey Bee
Tormentil	White Water-lily	Swallow	White-tailed Bumblebee
Bell Heather	New Zealand Pigmyweed	House Martin	Devil's Coach-horse Beetle
Cross-leaved Heath	Nodding Bur-marigold	Meadow Pipit	Common Harvestman
Sheepsbit	Gorse	Kestrel	Crane Fly
Common Cotton Grass	Black Nightshade	Goldfinch	Common Darter Dragonfly
Honeysuckle	Enchanter's Nightshade	Bullfinch	Pondskater
Catsear	Petty Spurge	Wren	Small Copper Butterfly
Yarrow	Common Fleabane	Dunnock	
Marsh Ragwort	Hedge Woundwort	Carrion Crow	Fungi
Dwarf Gorse	Groundsel	Raven	Turf Mottlegill
Wood Sage	Fruits	Stock Dove	Birch Polypore
Water Mint	Rowan	Grey Heron	Common Earthball
Marsh St John's Wort	Holly	Jackdaw	Chicken of the Woods
Lesser Skullcap	Blackberry	Rook	Beech Tarcrust
Marsh Willowherb	Haws	Kingfisher	

Redleg	Rose Hip	Nuthatch	
Mouse-ear Hawkweed			
Dandelion			
Daisy			



Newly emerging Chicken of the Woods at Burley by Gerry Traves