



RINGWOOD NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Hale and Woodgreen Walk

Date: 30th July 2019
 Weather: 19 degrees, heavy showers, windy
 Walk Leader: Jayne O'Reilly
 Attendees: 9

On a very wet and windy day nine members braved the elements. We left the National Trust car park at Hale Purlieu on the far north-western side of the New Forest, which is made up of dry and wet heathland, comprising of mires, bogs, scrub and woodland. The word Purlieu means deafforested or no longer subject to forest law. This came after 1280 when the common was taken out of the New Forest area, and was reinstated back within the boundary in 1964 under the New Forest Act. After skirting the heath our path wended along a rhododendron fringed bridleway to Hatchet Green, where we stopped to admire the Millennium Statue by Paul Wilson. We followed the Avon Valley Path for a couple of miles, the 34-mile Avon Valley Path follows the River Avon from Salisbury in Wiltshire, heading south through Hampshire to Christchurch Priory in Dorset. Then down the Lime Tree lined drive to Hale House dating back to 1538 originally an Elizabethan manor house and replaced around two hundred years later with a Georgian one, onto St Mary's church and a junction with Moot Lane where the River Avon can be viewed. On the recce lots of Beautiful Demoiselle Damselflies were seen here along with Meadow Brown, Gatekeeper and Blue butterflies along the way. Still following the Avon Valley Path to Woodgreen with its cricket pitch, thatched cottages, pub and tea rooms, crossing a series of styles then returning back to our cars along a wooded path edging the heathland. In a break from the rain we managed to have a picnic lunch in the car park before it started raining again.

Flowering Plants	Flowering Plants cont.	Birds	Fungi
Ling	Red Campion	Mute Swans with Cygnets	Hairy Curtain Crust
Bell Heather	White Dead-nettle	Carrion Crow	Leaf Parachute
Cross-leaved Heath	Common Vetch	Swallow	Birch Polypore
Dwarf Gorse	Yarrow	Mistle Thrush	Southern Bracket
Creeping Jenny	Groundsel	Wood Pigeon	
Water-pepper	Hemp Agrimony	Magpie	Butterflies
Foxglove	Common Comfrey	House Martin	Meadow Brown
Wood Dock	Goatsbeard		Gatekeeper
Bittercress	Cleavers		Large Skipper
Autumn Hawkbit	Honeysuckle		
Enchanter's Nightshade	Agrimony		
Common Ragwort	Common Fleabane		
Daisy	Water Crowfoot		
Chamomile	Harebell		
Hogweed	Field Forget-me-not		
Herb Robert	Stinging Nettle		
Herb Bennet	Wood Sage		
Nipplewort	Tormentil		
Hedge Mustard	Common Cow-wheat		
Rosebay			