



## **RINGWOOD NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY**

### **Millyford Bridge Walk**

Date: 6<sup>th</sup> November 2025  
 Weather: Overcast and damp  
 Walk Leaders: Maz and Will Russell  
 Attendees: 17

Millyford bridge car park is located on Bolderwood Road which runs between Bolderwood and Emery Down and crosses Highland Water. The stream meanders through the forest towards Brockenhurst and eventually becomes the Lymington River. Opposite the car park there is an unusual sight of a fireplace close to the road known as the Portuguese Fireplace, it is all that is left of a cookhouse used by Portuguese soldiers stationed to work as lumberjacks in the New Forest during World War I. It is retained as a memorial to the men who worked and lived there. During the war, the New Forest was a source of wood for props in the trenches and many ponies were rounded up and taken to France as working animals. We passed the memorial to follow a footpath to the New Forest Reptile Centre located in Holiday Hill Enclosure, its just off the A35 two miles west of Lyndhurst. Run by Forestry England in partnership with Amphibian and Reptile Conservation Trust (ARC), its a seasonal centre housing a unique collection of all the native lizards, snakes, frogs and toads. Unfortunately rats managed to infiltrate some of the pods the animals were kept in a year ago, some were killed and others rescued and relocated to other sites. The centre remains closed until a decision is made on the way forward. We had our lunch at the picnic area and then returned back to our cars. On the way we saw some carved wooden creatures.

<b>Fungi</b>	<b>Birds</b>	<b>Flowering Plants</b>	<b>Others</b>
Trooping Funnel	Chaffinch	Daisy	A very large Frog
Beechwood Sickener	Wren	Tormentil	A very large Rabbit
Crust fungus poss. Tear dropper	Robin	Catsear	Woodland Dor Beetles
Cauliflower Fungus	Long-tailed Tit		
Spotted Toughshank	Goldcrest	<b>Fruits</b>	
Sickener	Raven	Crab Apples	
Fly Agaric		Blackberries	
False Deathcap			
Tawny Grisette			
Honey Fungus			
Jelly Rot			
Birch Mazegill			
Porcelain Fungus			
Chanterelle			
Yellow Stagshorn			
Dogs Vomit Slime Mould			
Bay Bolete			
White Fibrecap			
Cep or Penny Bun			
Humpback Brittleghill			

Ochre Brittlegill			
Hanging Slime Mould			



*Spotted Toughshank by Gerry Traves*



*Portuguese Fireplace by Gerry Traves*



*Pannage Pigs at the Reptile Centre by Lyn Traves*



*Fly Agaric mushroom by Gerry Traves*