



RINGWOOD NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

The Rufus Stone and Lower Canterton Walk

Date: 15th October 2019
 Weather: Dry but very soggy underfoot due to previous days rain
 Walk Leaders: Sonia Wilkinson and Judy Thomas
 Attendees: 11

The Rufus Stone is a three sided cast iron pillar which stands over the original stone, it marks the place where King William II (aka William Rufus due to his red hair and beard) was hit and killed by a stray arrow from Sir Walter Tyrrell's arrow whilst out hunting. Ever since there has been an argument as to whether it was an accident or not.

Eleven people took part in what was a delightful walk. Before we left the car park we were rewarded with a sighting of a male and female fallow deer. Whilst wet underfoot, the previous days torrential rain produced conditions perfect for fungi. The group progressed slowly as everywhere we found a wide variety of fungi in good condition. The open heath also yielded a large number of flowers.

| Flowering Plants | Birds | Mammals | Fungi |
|-------------------------|-----------------|----------------|----------------------------|
| Devilsbit Scabious | Pied Wagtail | Fallow Deer | Clustered Brittlestem |
| Dwarf Gorse | Mistle Thrush | Rabbit | White Saddle |
| Lesser Spearwort | Coal Tit | Grey Squirrel | Common Puffball |
| Hairy Bittercress | Long-tailed Tit | Pig | Parasol Mushroom |
| Common Ragwort | Wood Pigeon | | Small Stagshorn |
| Bell Heather | Starling | | Cep or Penny Bun |
| Milkworts | Carrion Crow | | Turkeytail |
| Tormentil | Skylark | | Orange Peel Fungus |
| Ling | Goldfinch | | Nail Fungus |
| Cross-leaved Heath | | | Porcelain Fungus |
| Gorse | | | Birch Polypore |
| | | | Fly Agaric |
| | | | Panthercap |
| | | | False Deathcap, var. alba |
| | | | Amethyst Deceiver |
| | | | Destroying Angel |
| | | | Yellow Swamp Brittlelegill |
| | | | Upright Coral |
| | | | Rosy Bonnet |



Rosy Bonnet (Mycena rosea)' by Derrick Holder



Yellow Swamp Brittle Gill (Russula claroflava)' by Derrick Holder