



## **RINGWOOD NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY**

### Wareham Walls Walk

Date: 15<sup>th</sup> May 2018  
 Weather: Warm and sunny  
 Walk Leaders: Sonia Wilkinson  
 Attendees: 14

Wareham is an historic market town and under the name Wareham Town, a civil parish in the county of Dorset. The town is situated between the Rivers Frome and Piddle eight miles southwest of Poole.

Wareham Town Walls are a Scheduled Ancient Monument, owned by the Rempstone Estate and managed by Purbeck District Council. Originally built in Saxon times to defend the town from Viking attacks they surround the heart of the town on three sides and date from the 9th century. The Walls (now grassy, earth mounds) are managed to improve the local wildlife with 21 species of butterfly, 7 species of grasshopper and bush cricket, 4 species of reptile, 17 notable Dorset plant species all recorded along with many bird species.

The walk started from Church Lane car park following the signposted Walls Walk passing the parish church of Lady St Mary and the Quay along West Walls then North Walls enjoying views of the Common, the River Piddle and beyond to Wareham Forest, continuing past the church of St Edward the Martyr then onto East Walls and returning back to the Car Park.

After lunch by the Wareham Quay the group had a very enjoyable boat ride on the River Frome.

<b>Flowering Plants</b>	<b>Flowering Plants</b>	<b>Birds</b>	<b>Butterflies</b>
Wavy Bittercress	Alexanders	House Sparrow	Small White
Daisy	Black Medick	Jackdaw	Green-veined White
Prickly Sow-thistle	Star of Bethlehem	Black-headed Gull	Large White
Bulbous Buttercup	Stinging Nettle	Starling	Holly Blue
Herb Robert	Hawthorn	Collard Dove	Speckled Wood
Ground Ivy	Rowan	Mallard	Peacock
Seaside Daisy	Aquilegia (red escapee)	Herring Gull	
Germander Speedwell	Common Comfrey	Blackbird	
Thyme-leaved Speedwell	Small-flowered Cranesbill	Wood Pigeon	<b>Mammals</b>
Chickweed	Shepherds Purse	Carrion Crow	Sika Deer
Herb Bennet	Charlock	Goldfinch	
Ivy-leaved Toadflax	Bluebell	Mute Swan	
Groundsel	Greater Stitchwort	Cetti's Warbler	
Dandelion	Pellitory of the Wall	Rook	
Hedge Mustard		Red Kite	
Cut-leaved Cranesbill		Reed Warbler	
Red Clover		Little Egret	
Common Sorrel		Reed Bunting	
Cow Parsley		Long-tailed Tit	
Wild Clary		Swallow	
Common Mouse-ear		Sparrowhawk	
Ribwort Plantain		Buzzard	
White Dead-nettle			



*Sika Deer Wareham Walk by Lyn Traves*