



RINGWOOD NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Wild Woodbury Walk

Date: 16th June 2026
 Weather: Overcast
 Walk Leaders: Lyn and Gerry Traves
 Attendees: 19

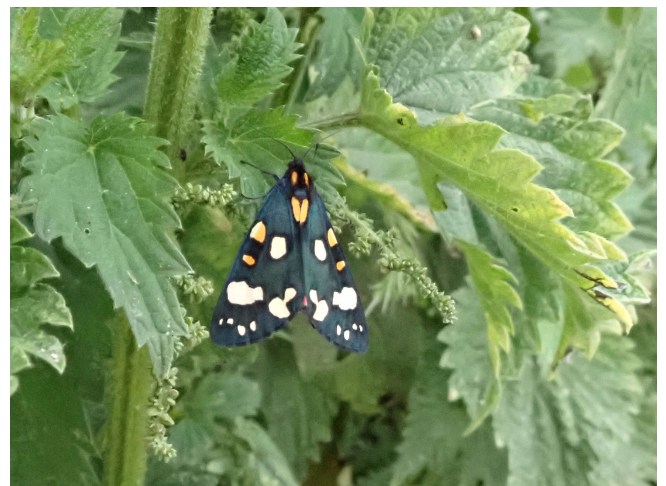
This was a return visit to Wild Woodbury located in Bere Regis Dorset. The former farm was acquired in 2021 by Dorset Wildlife Trust for a large scale re-wilding project involving the local community. Dorset Wildlife Trust received donations and a land purchase grant from BCP Council and Dorset Council for land management changes to remove nitrogen inputs. This was achieved in the second year of the project by a landscape changing river restoration project to restore the headwaters of the River Sherford to allow it to take its natural course across the site. The land had been drained with a deep ditch and field drain system and the river could no longer be seen. By filling in the ditches to push the water out onto the land, blocking up the field drains and creating leaky dams, the once dry cracked landscape is now a mixture of large flows, pools and delta like areas, making the land more resilient to drought and filtering out excess nutrients out of the water and to help alleviate flash flooding downstream. This enabled the Councils to meet their duties to mitigate for impacts of increases in nitrates from development in Poole Harbour catchment and ensure there is no further deterioration of water quality in the harbour. A neighboring farmer helps graze the site, Hereford Cattle, Exmoor Ponies and two Mangalitsa/Berkshire cross pigs have been introduced, their presence has contributed to nature recovery. These changes have increased the amount of wildlife found throughout the 170 hectare site, we followed the two and a half mile way marked route around some of it.

Flowering Plants	Flowering Plants	Birds	Others
Common Comfrey	Southern Marsh Orchid	Buzzard	Scarlet Tiger Moth
Stinging Nettle	Privet	Sedge Warbler	Cinnabar Moth
Cut-leaf Cranesbill	Chalk stream Water Crowfoot	House Martin	Harlequin Ladybird form succinea+larva & pupa
Ox-eye Daisy	Hemlock Water Dropwort	Wood Pigeon	7 spot Ladybird
Hedge Bindweed	Water Speedwell	Blackbird	Small White Butterfly
Large Bindweed	Forgetmenot	Wren	Large Skipper Butterfly
Nipplewort	Field Bindweed	Chaffinch	Meadow Brown Butterfly
White Clover	Ground Elder	House Sparrow	Marbled White Butterfly
Hogweed	Wild Pear	Carrion Crow	Small Skipper Butterfly
Elder	Mugwort	Reed Warbler	Grizzled Skipper Butterfly
Common Dock	Great Horsetail	Whitethroat	Comma Butterfly
Cleavers	Dog Rose	Little Egret	Peacock Butterfly Larva
Field Poppy	Perforate St Johns Wort	Swallow	Roesel's Bush-cricket
Dandelion	Grasses etc.	Swift	Dark Bush-cricket
Creeping Buttercup	Yorkshire Fog	Goldfinch	German Wasp
Cleavers	False Oat Grass	Yellowhammer	Bumblebee Plumehorn Hoverfly
Common Broomrape	Rye Grass	Stonechat	Marmalade Hoverfly
Meadow Vetchling	Timothy	Sparrowhawk	Hebecnema spec./A true fly spec.
Spotted Medick		Herring Gull	Golden-ringed Dragonfly

Dog Rose		Red Kite	Banded Demoiselle Damselfly
Perforate St Johns Wort		Tree Pipit	Beautiful Demoiselle Damselfly
		Linnet	Azure Damselfly
		Skylark	Blue-tailed Damselfly
			Common Red Soldier Beetle
			Red-headed Cardinal Beetle
			Swollen Thigh Beetle
			Green Dock Beetle
			Potato Capsid
			Green Shieldbug
			Brown Trout
			Minnow
			Dung Roundhead Fungus
			White Lipped Snail
			Kentish Snail
			Roe Deer



Golden-ringed Dragonfly by Lyn Traves



Scarlet Tiger Moth by Lyn Traves