



## **RINGWOOD NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY**

### **Acres Down Walk**

Date: 17<sup>th</sup> February 2022  
Weather: Broken sunshine turning overcast and breezy  
Walk Leaders: Will and Maz Russell  
Attendees: 17

Acres Down Car park is situated off the road which runs between the A35 at Emery Down, just west of Lyndhurst towards Stoney Cross on the A31, near the village of Minstead. The lane to Acres Down car park is narrow and has a ford, which can get deep after heavy rain. Leaving the car park we passed through mixed open woodland with beech, oak, silver birch, holly and some coniferous trees where fungi could still be found. The path takes you to Highland Water Inclosure, with ditches draining rain water downhill each side of the gravelled path towards Highland Water. Walking though the inclosure we passed some Larch trees with last years cones attached. After bearing left we returned back through ancient and ornamental woodland. Just as you return to the car park a path goes up to a viewpoint over Highland Water and Acres Down Inclosures. It is a popular spot with birdwatchers looking for birds of prey soaring on the thermals, we saw a Raven circling. Lesser Spotted Woodpecker and Goshawk were reported as heard but not seen.

<b>Birds</b>	<b>Fungi</b>	<b>Flowering Plants</b>
Siskin	Sulphur Tuft	Gorse
Crossbill	Turkeytail	Hard Fern
Blue Tit	Southern Bracket	Larch (cones)
Great Tit	Hairy Curtain Crust	
Coal Tit	Witches Butter	
Long-tailed Tit	Bitter Oysterling	
Greater Spotted Woodpecker	Beech Woundwort	
Robin		
Raven		
Carrion Crow		
Goshawk (2 heard)		
Lesser-spotted Woodpecker (4 heard)		



*Acres Down by Lyn Traves*