



RINGWOOD NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

An afternoon seaside walk

Date: 15th January 2025
Weather: Sunny and warm for the time of year
Walk Leaders: Audrey Walker and Hal Jones
Attendees: 16

Fisherman's Walk is a small park located between Southbourne and Boscombe, both are suburbs situated to the east of Bournemouth town centre. Fisherman's Walk Beach is accessed from Southbourne Overcliff Drive, by way of the zig-zag or the Fisherman's Walk Cliff Lift opened in 1935 and is still operational from Easter to end of October, offering a direct route from the cliff top to the beach. It is owned and managed by BCP (Bournemouth, Poole and Christchurch) Council. The beach has mostly sand, with some shingle and has safe swimming, deckchair hire, beach huts and a cafe. Due to its distance from central Bournemouth, this beach is usually less crowded and less hectic than the main beaches and possesses a coveted Blue Flag.

Our walk, which has become an annual event, started by Fisherman's Walk Cliff Lift at Cafe Riva, following Boscombe Overcliff footpath westwards passing through Boscombe Cliff Gardens and descending down to Boscombe Pier. The pier was built in 1888/9, the pier head was added in 1926, it was partially demolished during WWII to combat the threat of invasion. The pier remained derelict for a number of years and was only fully reopened in 1962.

We returned walking along Boscombe Promenade, the cliffs within Bournemouth Bay are designated SSSI and have been subject to cliff falls due to erosion. After walking along the seafront we reached Fisherman's Walk Zigzag, which we ascended back to our start point, finishing with afternoon tea at Cafe Riva. We sat outside to appreciate the lovely sunny afternoon.

Birds	Flowering Plants
Starlings	Seaside Daisy
Magpie	Common Gorse
Herring Gull	Daisy
Black-headed Gull	Wild Radish
Carrion Crow	Smooth Sow-thistle
House Sparrow	Pot/Common Marigold
Wood Pigeon	Sweet Alison
Feral Pigeon	Lesser Celandine
Pied Wagtail	Dandelion
Stonechat	Groundsel
Chaffinch	Teasel (seed heads)
Robin	Hebe



The beach at Fishermans Walk by Lyn Traves