



Ringwood Natural History Society

Arne Walk

Date: 23rd May 2017
 Walk Leader : Lyn Traves
 Weather: Overcast, warm with sunny spells
 Temperature: 20 degrees
 Attendees: 11 on walk and 2 around the car park area

Arne RSPB reserve is a 563.4-hectare (1,392-acre) nature reserve and Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) notified in 1986, maintained by the RSPB and located near Wareham in Dorset. The reserve occupies the Arne Peninsula, which protrudes into Poole Harbour. Adjacent to the site is the village of Arne. The reserve opened in 1966 and is chiefly lowland heath, noted for the rare heather known as Dorset heath (*Erica ciliaris*) and for its breeding Dartford Warblers. It also has acid grassland, tidal salt marsh and woodland, with reed beds adjoining the mudflats of the harbour. Other important species include Nightjar, Wood Lark, Spoonbill, and Sika Deer plus all six species of British reptile. Over 500 species of plants have been recorded on the reserve since 1966. Our walk took us on the Shipstal route. Lunch was on Shipstal Beach which overlooks the Wych Channel, with a beautiful view of Long and Round Islands together with Brownsea Island in the distance.

Flowering Plants	Flowering Plants cont.	Birds	Butterflies
Bluebell	Hawthorn	Carrion Crow	Red Admiral
Herb Bennet	White Bryony	Grey Heron	Small Tortoiseshell
Red Campion	Common Vetch	Little Egret	Green-veined White
Guelder-rose	Common Mouse-ear	Blue Tit	Common Blue
Germander Speedwell	Gorse	Great Tit	Small Copper
Herb Robert	Hogweed	Swallow	Painted Lady
Garlic Mustard	Small-flowered Cranesbill	Shelduck	
Creeping Buttercup	Creeping Cinquefoil	Redshank	Other Insects
Stinging Nettle	White Clover	Black-headed Gull	Four-spotted Chaser Dragonfly
Wood Dock	Greater Stitchwort	Oystercatcher	Various Bumblebees
Holly	Sheep's Sorrel	Wren	Southern Wood Ants
Honeysuckle	Southern Marsh Orchid	Chiffchaff	
Foxglove	Marsh Thistle	Canada Goose	Fungi
Bramble	Thyme-leaved Speedwell	Cormorant	Beech Bark Spot
Cow Parsley	Cross-leaved Heath	Mallard	Turkeytail
Cleavers	English Scurvygrass	Great Black-backed Gull	Birch Polypore
Cut-leaved Cranesbill	Bell Heather	Herring Gull	
Ribwort Plantain	Yellow Iris	Jackdaw	Mammals
Pignut	Lesser Stitchwort	Chaffinch	Sika Deer
Greater Celandine	Ground Ivy	Goldfinch	
Rhododendron	Tormentil	Pied Wagtail	
Daisy	Black Medick	Buzzard	
Elderflower	White Campion	Wood Pigeon	
Dandelion	Birdsfoot Trefoil		Rushes & Sedges
Alexanders	Red Clover		Soft Rush
Dog Rose	Ox-eye Daisy		Pendulous Sedge



Southern Marsh Orchid at Arne by Lyn Traves



Four-spotted Chaser Dragonfly, Arne by Marsha Partridge