



RINGWOOD NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Bolderwood Walk

Date: 17th October 2023
 Weather: Cold and Sunny
 Walk Leader: Pat Holder
 Attendees: 18 plus 3 visitors

Bolderwood is situated in the heart of the New Forest along the Ornamental Drive, west of Lyndhurst on the minor road leading from the A35 to Linwood, it is an important part of the New Forest history. Over the centuries it has been the site of several hunting lodges visited by kings, nothing of them exists today, the area was planted with Douglas Firs. The two remaining properties there today, Bolderwood Farm and Bolderwood Cottage behind the picnic area is thought to be built from parts of the old hunting lodge.

From Bolderwood car park we crossed the minor road leading from Emery Down, alongside the road we saw some piglets turned out for pannage. Pigs are released onto the forest in the autumn to eat fallen acorns, beechmast, chestnuts and other nuts, green acorns in particular are poisonous to the New Forest ponies and cattle which roam the forest the majority of the year. After the pigs were chased off by some ponies we entered Highland Water Inclosure, walking on gravel cycle tracks to reach Holmhill Inclosure, first planted in 1815 and features mature oak and beech trees as well as a variety of conifers, including larch. We returned back into Highland Water Inclosure, once the site of an old Stag Park, earthwork remains can still be seen. We crossed Highland Water which flows over gravel beds on its way to the sea, to reach the Canadian Memorial, it is a simple wooden roadside cross overlooking sloping ground. The Memorial commemorates the Canadian forces stationed in the New Forest before the D-Day invasion of Normandy on 6 June 1944. Before the invasion, Canadians would gather here for church services.

After a picnic lunch on the green beside Bolderwood car park there was a second walk, returning to the war memorial we took the footpath on the opposite side of the road to walk a circular route around the deer sanctuary at Bolderwood Lodge, returning back up Bolderwood Hill. Unfortunately no deer were seen.

Fungi	Flowering Plants	Birds	Butterflies
False Deathcap	Cross-leaved Heath	Meadow Pipit	Red Admiral
Fly Agaric	Bell Heather	Siskin	Speckled Wood
Common Earthball	Tormentil	Wren	
The Deceiver	Catsear	Jay	Mammals
Blusher	Daisy	Chaffinch	Piglets (being chased off by)
Slippery Jack	Creeping Buttercup	Blackbird	New Forest Ponies
Deathcap	Marsh Thistle	Buzzard	
Bay Bolete	Pale Butterwort	Pied Wagtail	
Yellow Stagshorn	Bog Myrtle	Raven	
Saffron Milkcap	Common Gorse	Gosshawk	
Birch Polypore		Mistle Thrush	
Velvet Shank	Fruits		
Fairy Ring Champignon	Haws		
Velvet Webcap	Holly		
Purple Brittlepill	Chestnut		

Birch Knight	Crab Apples		
False Saffron Milkcap			
Orange Oak Bolete			
Honey Waxcap			
Meadow Waxcap			
Sulphur Tuft			
Panthercap			



Pigs turned out for pannage at Bolderwood by Lyn Traves



False Death Cap at Bolderwood by Lyn Traves