



RINGWOOD NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Chairman's Christmas Walk

Date: 15th December 2022
Weather: Overcast
Walk Leaders: Theresa Holden
Attendees: 13

This years Chairman's Walk started from the Crown Stirrup pub at Clay Hill Lyndhurst which is on the Lyndhurst to Brockenhurst Road. We left the pub car park and walked directly into Pondhead Inclosure. We passed William's Copse where 900 Sessile Oaks were planted in 1979 to commemorate the creation of the New Forest in 1079 by William I. We also passed the site where Pondhead Conservation Trust produce charcoal. The Trust uses a Charcoal Retort, a kiln on wheels, allowing removal from the site after a burning thus leaving no 'footprint' on the woodland. The wood used is mainly hazel with birch and holly cut from within the woodland by volunteers. Their aim is to restore the hazel coppice, woodland understorey and ride (track) network of Pondhead Inclosure in order to improve its biodiversity. It is a unique area of woodland in the Forest, being the only remaining area of hazel coppice with oak standards on the Crown land. After walking a circular route through the inclosure we returned back to the pub, where we had lunch.

Birds	Others
Robin	Chestnuts
Blackbird	
Great-spotted Woodpecker	
Blue Tit	



Carved Dragons Head as seen in 2017 by Lyn Traves



Carved Dragons Head as seen in 2022 by Martin King