



## **RINGWOOD NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY**

### Edmondsham Walk

Date: 16<sup>th</sup> August 2022  
 Weather: Rain, 21 Degrees  
 Walk Leader : Judy Thomas  
 Attendees: 18

After the prolonged period of this summers heatwave, it came as bit of a surprise to find it raining today. Edmondsham House is a stately Tudor home with Georgian additions. In 1563 Thomas Hussey bought Edmondsham Manor and it has been owned by his family ever since. Today it is owned and run by Mrs Julia Smith who met us after our very wet and soggy walk and provided us with tea and cake, she explained more of the houses history. A previous house built on this site was mentioned in the Domesday Book of 1086 and the foundations are still to be found in the existing buildings cellars. The site features an organic walled garden, and 6 acre garden with unusual trees and spring bulbs. There is a 12th-century church nearby. Our walk took us to Castle Hill within the estate. It was thought to be a Norman type of Motte and Bailey Castle, the motte being the hillock or mound with a wooden or stone keep, accompanied by a walled courtyard or bailey and surrounded by a protective ditch and palisade. It has fairly recently been revealed as a much earlier earthworks constructed in Neolithic time around 4,500n years ago (late Stone Age). Our thanks to Mrs Smith for her hospitality and providing our tea and cake and to Sonia Wilkinson for organizing.

Unfortunately, there was not much to report for the walk because of the heavy and persistent rain.

<b>Flowering Plants</b>	<b>Birds</b>
Chicory	Mistle Thrush
Wood Dock	Rook
Wood Sedge	Starling
Lesser Knapweed	Jackdaw
Marsh Thistle	Wood Pigeon
Creeping Thistle	Bullfinch
Birdsfoot Trefoil	Buzzard
Red Clover	Wren
White Clover	Great Spotted Woodpecker
Yarrow	Firecrest
Perforated St. John's Wort	Swallow
Self-heal	Stock Dove
Stemless Thistle	
Common Fleabane	
Autumn Hawkbit	
Nipplewort	
Dandelion	
Enchanter's Nightshade	
Stinging Nettle	
Knotgrass	
Ribwort Plantain	
Catsear	
Daisy	



*Edmondsham in the rain by Martin King*