



## Ringwood Natural History Society Edmondsham Walk

Date: 30th August 2017  
 Walk Leader: Sue McLachlan  
 Weather: Overcast with light rain to begin with  
 Temperature: 15 degrees  
 Attendees: 8

Edmondsham is situated in East Dorset between Verwood and Cranborne. A quaint village with old brick houses and cottages, a pretty church and a charming Manor House, the grounds of which include a wonderful walled organic garden and an unusual octagonal Victorian dairy. The surrounding estate and associated beech woodlands provide a number of attractive walks. Our walk started by the village pump, up until the 1950s it would have been the village's main water supply. It has a cast iron mechanism with a fly-wheel and pump spout set in a stone. It is dated 1884, and is inscribed 'HEM', a reference to Hector Edmond Monro, the then squire. The pump house of four timber posts and a pyramidal tiled roof, was built in 1931. It was designed by 'HEM's' grandson. Our walk took us through fields and woodland until we reached Cranborne Castle. Nothing is known of its history, a motte and bailey earthwork just south of the village. It was probably abandoned at the beginning of the thirteenth century. The Dorset Countryside Service together with the Edmondsham Estate have undertaken extensive clearance work as the castle was almost lost in the undergrowth until recently.

| Flowering Plants, etc. | Flowering Plants cont. | Insects                       | Fungi                    |
|------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Common Fleabane        | White Clover           | Meadow Grasshopper            | Parasol Mushroom         |
| Stinging Nettle        | Creeping Thistle       | Butterflies seen on Reece     | Sulphur Tuft             |
| Smooth Sow-thistle     | Field Scabious         | Speckled Wood                 | Pale Brittlestem         |
| Bramble                | Goldenrod              | Silver-washed Fritillary      | Ivory Coral              |
| Dandelion              | Enchanter's Nightshade |                               | Bay Bolete               |
| Ribwort Plantain       | Common Ragwort         | <b>Birds</b>                  | Common Bonnet            |
| Great Plantain         | Eyebright              | Buzzard                       | Velvet Shank             |
| White Dead Nettle      | Wild Parsnip           | Swallow                       | Southern Bracket         |
| Betony                 | Lesser Stitchwort      |                               | Turkeytail               |
| Birdsfoot Trefoil      | Wild Basil             | <b>Mammals</b>                | Hairy Curtain Crust      |
| Red Campion            | Spear Thistle          | Roe Deer                      | Slime Mould              |
| Hogweed                | Black Medick           |                               | Oakbug Milkcap           |
| Meadow Buttercup       | Lesser Burdock         |                               | Common Stump Brittlestem |
| Creeping Buttercup     | Honeysuckle            |                               |                          |
| Agrimony               | Common Hemp-nettle     |                               |                          |
| Lesser Knapweed        | Foxglove               |                               |                          |
| Herb Robert            | Wood Sage              | <b>Flowering Plants cont.</b> |                          |
| Water Mint             | Hop Trefoil            | Pineappleweed                 |                          |
| Rough Chervil          | Red Bartsia            | Wood Spurge                   |                          |
| Meadow Vetchling       | Common Fumatory        | Rosebay                       |                          |
| Tormentil              | Yellow Pimpernel       | Tutsan                        |                          |
| Common Mouse-ear       | Herb Bennet            | Knotgrass                     |                          |
| Red Clover             | Black Horehound        | Daisy                         |                          |



*Speckled Wood Butterfly Edmondsham Walk recce by Sue McLachlan*