



RINGWOOD NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Gorley Common Walk

Date: 15th November 2023
 Weather: Sunny
 Walk Leader: Jean Crawford
 Attendees: 11

Hampshire County Council's Western New Forest Commons are four areas of common on the north western fringe of the New Forest National Park, consisting of Hyde, Gorley and parts of Ibsley and Rockford Commons. Just half a mile south of Hyde Common is the slightly smaller Gorley Common (100 acres), its part of the civil parish of Hyde. The majority of the site is a former gravel pit which now supports a mosaic of scrub and acid grassland with seeping mires, interspersed with gorse bushes which are shaped by the ponies who roam there. Our short morning walk took us on a circular walk from the car park around the common, the south-west corner of which was once an iron-age hill fort. The earthworks were destroyed in the 1950's when the commons owners carried out large scale gravel extraction. The quarry owners sold the quarry to Hampshire County Council and since 1955 the Common has been owned and managed by them.

Fungi	Birds	Flowering Plants	Butterflies
Ugly Milkcap	Buzzard	Bell Heather	Red Admiral
Common Earthball	Blackbird	Common Gorse	
Rollrim	Robin	Smooth Sow-thistle	
Deceiver	Red Kite	Groundsel	
Fly Agaric			
Clouded Funnel			
Curry Milkcap			
Lichens			
Reindeer Lichen			



Red Admiral at Gorley Common by Lyn Traves