



## **RINGWOOD NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY**

### Hale and Woodgreen Walk

Date: 7<sup>th</sup> October 2022  
 Weather: Warm and mainly sunny  
 Walk Leaders: Maz and Will Russell  
 Attendees: 12

We left the National Trust car park at Hale Purlieu Common on the far north-western side of the New Forest, which is made up of dry and wet heathland, comprising of mires, bogs, scrub and woodland. The word 'Purlieu' means 'deafforested' or 'no longer subject to forest law'. This came after 1280 when the common was taken out of the New Forest area, it was reinstated back within the boundary in 1964 under the New Forest Act. After skirting the heath our path wended along a rhododendron fringed bridleway passing by Hale to Hatchet Green. We then followed the Avon Valley Path for a couple of miles, the 34-mile Avon Valley Path follows the River Avon from Salisbury in Wiltshire, heading south through Hampshire to Christchurch Priory in Dorset. Then down the Lime Tree lined drive to Hale House dating back to 1538 originally an Elizabethan manor house and replaced around two hundred years later with a Georgian one. Onto St Mary's church and a junction with Moot Lane where the River Avon can be viewed. Still following the Avon Valley Path to Woodgreen with its cricket pitch, thatched cottages, and pub. During the walk we crossed a series of 8 styles, we returned back to our cars along a wooded path edging the heathland. There were also many fungi seen on the walk, along with a large herd of 50 fallow deer (approximately).

<b>Flowering Plants</b>	<b>Birds</b>	<b>Fungi</b>	<b>Mammals</b>
Ling	Robin	Cortinarius sp. (Webcap sp.)	Fallow Deer (50 approx)
Bell Heather	Chiffchaff	Purple Brittlegill	Grey Squirrel
Common Hawkbit	Carrion Crow	Penny Bun/Cep	
Dandelion	Blue Tit	Turkeytail	<b>Insects</b>
Redleg	Great Tit	Common Inkcap	Common Darter Dragonfly
White Dead Nettle	Nuthatch	Porcelain Fungus	Southern Hawker Dragonfly
Wall Lettuce	Goldcrest	Tawny Funnel	Hornet
Feverfew	Raven	Black Bulgar	Speckled Wood Butterfly
Black Nightshade	Blackbird	Stump Puffball	
Black Horehound	Starling	Sulphur Tuft	
Greater Celandine	Pied Wagtail	Birch Polypore/Razor strop	
Smooth Sow-thistle	Wood Pigeon	Egghead Mottlegill	
Nipplewort	Kestrel	Bovine Bolete	
Daisy	Pheasant	The Charcoal Burner	
Soapwort (garden escapee?)	Mute Swan	Small Stagshorn	
Tansy	Mallard	Slippery Jack	
Yarrow	Gadwall	Red-cracking Bolete	
Herb Robert	Little Grebe		
Groundsel	Marsh Tit		
Hemp Agrimony	Moorhen		
Common Vetch	Magpie		
Hedge Woundwort	Rook		
Autumn Hawkbit			
Red Clover			

Creeping Buttercup			
White Clover			
Common Mouse-ear			
Meadow Buttercup			
Common Dog Violet			



*Hale and Woodgreen photo by Maz Russell*