



RINGWOOD NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Hale Purlieu Walk

Date: 22nd May 2024
 Weather: Overcast with light rain showers
 Walk Leader: Maz and Will Russell
 Attendees: 16

Hale Purlieu is situated on the northern side of the New Forest around 3 miles north east of Fordingbridge. It comes under the civil parish of the village of Hale. We left the National Trust car park on Lady Mile Road at Hale Purlieu Common, it is part of their Northern Commons which is made up of dry and wet heathland, comprising of mires, bogs, scrub and woodland. The word 'Purlieu' means 'disafforested' 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 under the Verderers jurisdiction in 1964, along with commoners rights under the New Forest Act. After skirting the heath our path wound along the rhododendron flowered fringed bridleway of Strickland Plantation, then returning back walking alongside the heath again. We had a picnic lunch overlooking the common with commoners ponies wondering around, that is until heavy rain stopped play.

Flowering Plants	Flowering Plants	Birds	Fungi
Rhododendron	Cinquefoil	Swallow	Scarlet Waxcap
Broome	Catsear	Chiffchaff	Hairy Curtain Crust
Daisy	Birdsfoot	Robin	
Meadow Buttercup	Lesser Trefoil	Wood Pigeon	Slugs and Snails
Creeping Buttercup	Common Water Starwort	Blackcap	Brown Lipped Snail
Heath Speedwell	Large Bittercress	Goldcrest	
Thyme-leaved Speedwell	Wavy Bittercress	Song Thrush	Amphibians
Sheep's Sorrel	Foxglove	Willow Warbler	Common Frog
Cow Wheat	Herb Robert	Curlew	
Gorse	Wild Strawberry	Treecreeper	
Tormentil	Lousewort	Blackbird	
Bluebell	Heath Milkwort	Stonechat	
Bramble	Hawthorn	Pied Wagtail	
Dandelion		Possible sighting of a Hobby	



Lousewort at Hale Purlieu Common by Lyn Traves