



RINGWOOD NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Hatchet Pond Walk

Date: 9th August 2024
 Weather: Sunny Spells
 Walk Leader: Mike and Liz Read
 Attendees: 10

Unfortunately our planned walk at Kimmeridge was cancelled. Mike and Liz stepped into the breach and arranged a circular walk around Hatchet Pond in the New Forest. It is reached on the B3055 from Brockenhurst at the junction with the B3054 Lymington Road, near Beaulieu. Managed by Forestry England, it is the New Forest's largest body of freshwater and home to some of the rarest wetland plants and freshwater animals. As such it has the highest conservation status as both a Site of Special Scientific Interest and a Special Area for Conservation. A major restoration plan has been put in place, with changes made to protect the pond for future generations. The toilets have been removed to reduce the risk of pollution along with no swimming or dogs allowed into the water. Our quest was to find Hampshire Purslane only found in the New Forest, which was successful. We also found Lesser Bladderwort and Unbranched Burweed both rare plants of the New Forest along with our first sighting of Autumn Lady's Tresses.

Flowering Plants	Flowering Plants	Butterflies etc.	Birds
Bell Heather	Water Mint	Gatekeeper	Black-headed Gull
Ling	Cotton Grass	Large White	Pied Wagtail
Cross-leaved Heath	White-beak Sedge	Small White	Sand Martin
Marsh St. John's Wort	Dwarf Gorse		Greenfinch
Lesser Spearwort	Lesser Bladderwort	Dragonflies etc.	Long-tailed Tit
Water Forget-me-not	Tormentil	Common Blue Damselfly	Wren
Birdsfoot Trefoil	Lesser Hawkbit	Blue-tailed Damselfly	Mistle Thrush
Round-leaved Sundew	Lesser Spotted Bike Wort	Common Hawker	Kestrel
Oblong Sundew	Common Fleabane	Black-tailed Skimmer	Mute Swans and cygnets
Bog Asphodel	Agrimony		Canada Geese
Hampshire Purslane	Greater Birdsfoot Trefoil	Others	Starlings
New Zealand Pigmyweed	Yarrow	Carder Bumblebee	Wood Pigeon
Reedmace	Wall-rue		Carrion Crow
Water Plantain	Ribwort Plantain		Meadow Pipit
Water-lily	Common Knapweed		Herring Gull
White Clover	Great Willowherb		
Catsear	Bittersweet		
Self-heal	Daisy		
Unbranched Bur-read	Autumn Lady's Tresses		



Hampshire Purslane by Lyn Traves



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