



# Ringwood Natural History Society

## Holt Heath Walk

Date: 31st May 2017  
 Walk Leaders: Pauline Mathews and Marion Wilson  
 Weather: Warm and sunny  
 Temperature: 22 degrees  
 Attendees: 16

Holt Heath NNR and SSSI is one of Dorset's largest remaining areas of lowland heathland, part of the Kingston Lacy Estate, owned and managed by the National Trust. Dry heath, wet heath and mire communities are all represented at the site. Local plants include common heather, bell heather, cross-leaved heath, bog asphodel, sundews and marsh gentian. Birds include Dartford warbler, stonechat and nightjar. The heath is Dorset's only site for breeding curlew and all six of Britain's reptile species are found here. Our walk started from Newman's Lane, West Moors following the footpath over a boardwalk and across the heath to Holt Road which we crossed to Cock's Moor Pond. After lunch we returned skirting the bottom of Summerlug Hill and following the fence line, through a wooded area back to our cars.

Flowering Plants, etc.	Flowering Plants cont.	Flowering Plants cont.	Insects
Rhododendron	Oblong-leaved Sundew	Petty Spurge	Mother Shipton Moth
Yellow Iris	Common Catsear	Thyme-leaved Speedwell	Cinnabar Moth
Columbine	Heath Bedstraw	Common Groundsel	Blue-tailed Damselfly
Cow Parsley	Common Mouse-ear	Common Dog Violet	Emperor Dragonfly (f)
Round-leaved Water-crowfoot	Bramble	Heath Speedwell	Broad-bodied Chaser Dragonfly (m&f)
Common Cow Wheat	Foxglove	Pignut	Large Red Damselfly (m&f)
Herb Robert	Lesser Stitchwort	Wood Speedwell	Common Blue Damselfly
Silverweed	White Campion	Dog Rose	Painted Lady Butterfly
Tormentil	Slender Trefoil	Spanish Broom	Brimstone Butterfly (m&f)
Dandelion	Subterranean Clover	Ox-eye Daisy	Small White Butterfly
Red Clover	White Clover	Pink Sorrel	Red Admiral
Cuckoo Flower	Dovesfoot Cranesbill	Common Vetch	Common Blue
Herb Bennet	Buckshorn Plantain	Hard Fern	Spiked Shieldbug
Wood Dock	Ribwort Plantain		
Hemlock Water Dropwort	Trailing St John's Wort	<b>Birds</b>	<b>Pond Life</b>
Cleavers	Sand Spurry	Curlew	Pond Skater
Stinging Nettle	Meadow Buttercup	Meadow Pipit	Water Boatman
Creeping Buttercup	Germander Speedwell	Wood Pigeon	Common Newt
Daisy	Birdsfoot Trefoil	Stonechat	
Gorse	Red Clover	Swallow	<b>Reptiles</b>
Lesser Stitchwort	Lesser Trefoil	Pheasant	Sand Lizard
Cross-leaved Heath	Scarlet Pimpernel	Dunnock	
Bell Heather	Prickly Sow-thistle	Great Spotted Woodpecker	<b>Spiders</b>
Sheep's Sorrel	Bogbean	Blackbird	Pardosa genus of Wolf
Heath Milkwort	White Water-lily	Raven	Spider carrying young
Round-leaved Sundew	Spreading Yellow Sorrel	Song Thrush	

<b>Grasses</b>	<b>Rushes, etc.</b>		<b>Fungi</b>
Common Couch	Compact Rush		The Blusher
Rough Meadow-grass	Soft Rush		Tawny Grisette
Cocksfoot	Deergrass		Birch Polypore
False Oat-grass	Common Cotton Grass (fruiting heads)		Meadow Waxcap
Common Fescue			<b>Lichenised Fungi</b>
Early Hair-grass			<i>Cladonia Floerkeana</i>
Sweet Vernal-grass			(Bengal Matchstick)
Yorkshire Fog			<i>Cladonia Portentosa</i>
Purple Moor-grass			(Reindeer Lichen)
Soft Brome			<b>Slime Mould</b>
Perennial Ryegrass			<i>Lycogala terrestre</i>
Bristle Bent			(Wolf's Milk)



*Mother Shipton Moth on Holt Heath by Bill Syratt*



*Female Emperor Dragonfly Egg Laying on Holt Heath Walk - by Bill Syratt*