



Ringwood Natural History Society Moors Valley Country Park Walk

Date: 22nd February 2017
Walk Leader: Sue McLachlan
Weather: Overcast
Temperature: 11 degrees
Attendees: 14 plus Sasha and Jamie, Pat And Derrick's grandchildren

Moors Valley Country Park is situated in Ashley Heath, Dorset and is managed in partnership by the Forestry Commission and East Dorset District Council. It features miles of walking and cycling paths and tracks signposted by different coloured bands, along with a tree top walkway, a Go Ape course, high ropes course, cycle hire, Forest Segway and a children's natural play trail. There is also a narrow gauge steam railway, golf course and a visitor centre and cafe currently exhibiting the British Wildlife Photographic Awards, stunning wildlife photography from some of the best photographers in the UK. A ranger service provides a wide range of events and an educational programme.

Our walk started at Potterne Park, Verwood which houses sports arenas and a pavilion and leads into Moors Valley Country Park. We walked alongside the River Crane, passed by Crane Lake and into the Forest which lead us to the Look Out with magnificent views, then onwards to the Visitor Centre. After a short break we returned to Potterne Park via Moors Lake, King's Farm, Moors, and Ebblake Bridges to Crane Lake.

Birds	Flowering Plants
Black-headed Gull	Daisy
Carrion Crow	Groundsel
Jackdaw	Gorse
Goldfinch	Lesser Celandine
Mute Swan plus a juvenile	Reedmace
Mallard	Goat Willow/Sallow/Pussy Willow
Dunnock	Alder Catkins (m&f)
Great Tit	Hazel Catkins (m&f)
Teal	Snowdrop
Common Buzzard	Daffodil
Little Egret	
Moorhen	
Coot	
Tufted Duck	
Wren	
Robin	
Wood Pigeon	
Blackbird	
Gadwall	
Wigeon	
Cormorant	
Magpie	



Pussy Willow at Moors Valley Country Park by Lyn Traves