

Ringwood Natural History Society Walk

Ogdens Gathering and short walk



Date: 3rd April 2017
 Walk Leaders: Bob and Gill Collins
 Weather: Overcast with a cold wind
 Temperature: 12 degrees
 Attendees: 14g

Ogdens is a small hamlet south of Frogham in the civil parish of Hyde near Fordingbridge, situated in the valley of Latchmore Brook which is a tributary of the River Avon. It rises in Picket Corner and Crow's Nest Bottom (north of Fritham), draining west towards Ogdens where it becomes known as the Huckles Brook. The Brook extends through three forested inclosures: Islands Thorn Inclosure, Amberwood Inclosure and Alderhill Inclosure before entering the open forest. From the car park at Ogdens we took a short walk alongside Latchmore Brook and the surrounding countryside, accompanied by horses, ponies and deer. As this walk was a gathering, we had a picnic lunch alongside the brook, unfortunately cut short by the cool north-easterly wind making it feel unseasonably cold for the time of year.

Birds	Flowering Plants	Others
Cuckoo	Gorse	Fallow Deer
Chiffchaff	Hawthorn	Grey Squirrel
Chaffinch	Rowan	Dung Roundhead fungus
Wood Pigeon	Daisy	
Swallow	Petty Whin	
Mallard	Lousewort	
Dunnock	Thyme-leaved Speedwell	
Carrion Crow	Blinks	
Stonechat	Creeping Buttercup	
Great Spotted Woodpecker	Common Dog Violet	
Green Woodpecker	Tormentil	
Meadow Pipit	Lesser Spearwort	
Redstart	Wood Spurge	
Song Thrush	Bugle	
Siskin	Sheep's Sorrel	
	Common Milkwort (white)	
	Goat Willow	
	Bluebell	
	Heath Speedwell	
	Greater Stitchwort	
	Meadow Buttercup	
	Common Mouse-ear	
	Dandelion	



Latchmore Brook by Lyn Traves



Petty Whin growing alongside Latchmore Brook by Lyn Traves

According to the New Forest NPA web site, Petty whin grows in moist open grasslands and heathland on acid soils. It likes areas where the ground does not get too dry and where the soil is a little richer. The drier fringes of bogs and acid pasturelands are ideal for it, and it is found throughout the New Forest, but it is often scattered and not common.

Petty whin has decreased drastically across the UK, and it is found outside Hampshire only in eastern Scotland, south Wales and Devon. This is a species that definitely requires grazing, the lack of which is one of the main reasons for its decline in many places where it used to grow.