



Ringwood Natural History Society Old Sarum, Salisbury Walk

Date: Tuesday October 24th 2017
 Walk Leaders: Sonia and Jean
 Weather: overcast, brightening later,
 Attendees: 10, including 4 new members

The hilltop site has been used since about 3000BC during the Neolithic period. An Iron Age fort was erected about 400BC. The Romans occupied the area from the 1st century AD until 552 when the hill was captured by the saxon King of Wessex. After the Norman Conquest a motte and bailey was erected. The Bishop of Salisbury instigated the building of the first Salisbury Cathedral on the site, which was completed in 1092. The cathedral was relocated to its present site in the 13th century. Henry V 111 sold the land in 1541. In 1832 Old sarum became part of the borough of Wilton.

We set off round the site, soon dropping down towards the river. There was a surprising number of wild flowers, which we enjoyed. Once over the river we skirted along it towards Salisbury. At the second crossing, which was to take us back to Old Sarum, we paused to rest and eat lunch whilst looking at the beautiful view down the river occupied by the little egrets and the swans. After lunch we continued, through the hamlet of Stratford sub Castle, up the hill back to the car park. It was a very pleasant walk with exceptional views of the countryside.

Flowering Plants		Insects	Birds
Field scabious	Germander speedwell	Red admiral	Grey wagtail
Common ragwort	Small flowered cranesbill	Bees on ivy	Little egret
Mugwort	Wild parsnip	Hover flies on ivy	Mute swan
Hogweed	Greater knapweed		Buzzard
Wild basil	Herb robert		Rook
White campion	Wild carrot		Kestrel
Bramble	Hedge bedstraw		
Hedge woundwort	Common hemp nettle		
Hedge mustard			
Shepherds' purse	Fungi		
Ivy	Very few seen, not identified		
Chickweed			
Hedgerow cranesbill			
Nipplewort			
Yarrow			
Agrimony			
Hemp agrimony			
Commn groundsel			
Red deadnettle			
Rough chervil			
Meadow buttercup			
Common field speedwell			
White clover			
Herb Bennet			
Stinging nettle			