



## **RINGWOOD NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY**

### Throop Walk

Date: 12<sup>th</sup> October 2023  
 Weather: Dry and pleasant, the threatened rain did not materialise  
 Walk Leaders: Sonia Wilkinson and Judy Thomas  
 Attendees: 13

The village of Throop lies on the edge of Bournemouth in between Muscliffe and Holdenhurst Village. One of the oldest local historical landmarks is a watermill known as Throop Mill. The River Stour runs directly through the location of Throop Mill and provides the perfect habitat for plenty of wildlife to thrive in. There is a weir that runs over the River Stour to control the flow of the river and has been through recent restorations. The watermill in Throop village has been present in some regard from the 12th century passing through various ownership's including monks from Quarr Abbey and was mentioned in the Domesday Book because of the tales that surround it. It is a grade II listed building. Unfortunately the Throop Flour Mill has been closed for business since it stopped operating in 1972, although rundown it still attracts many visitors on a daily basis. Leaving the car park we crossed the sluice gate footbridge behind the mill then onto the weir over the River Stour, turning left along a green path leading to woodland, along Dales Lane and passing the Dorset Smokery, along Pig Shoot Lane leading to Leaden Stour a meandering stream which connects with the River Stour at both ends, crossing a footbridge where there used to be a ford. We then followed the river bank back to the footbridges and the mill. Everyone enjoyed the river and the peaceful atmosphere even though the route is close to an airport and is on the edge of a large ton.

<b>Flowering Plants</b>	<b>Birds</b>	<b>Insects</b>
Cow Parsley	Moorhen	Hornet
Water Mint	Kingfisher	Red Admiral Butterfly
Water Forget-me-not	Cetti's Warbler	Common Darter Dragonfly
Creeping Thistle	Cormorant	Hawker Dragonfly sp.
Sow Thistle	Blackbird	
Tansy	Goldfinch	
Pineappleweed	Robin	
Wild Teasel	Wren	
Common Comfrey	Dunnock	
Stitchwort	Jay	
Common Field Speedwell	Long-tailed Tit	
Hedge Bindweed	Blue Tit	
Hogweed	Goldcrest	
White Dead-nettle	Jackdaw	
Yarrow	Carrion Crow	
	Little Egret	
	Mute Swan	



*Throop Mill*