



RINGWOOD NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Turf Hill Walk

Date: 10th September 2024
 Weather: Overcast with a cold wind
 Walk Leader: Martin King
 Attendees: 8

From the car park at Turf Hill, on the B3080 Hale Purlieu road in the northern New Forest, we started our walk along the tracks of Turf Hill enclosure, passing through open heath where pine trees have recently been felled, restoring it back to heathland. We followed the track walking parallel with the Roger Penny Way the B3078 road and Godshill Ridge, before dropping down into the valley of Millersford Plantation, its also been cleared to return it back to heathland. Lunch was in a clearing, afterwards we returned by crossing the brook that runs through the bottom of the valley, then up a slope to the open heathland of Hale Purlieu Common, it is part of the National Trust's Northern Commons which is made up of dry and wet heathland, comprising of mires, bogs, scrub and woodland. The word 'Purlieu' means 'disafforested' or 'no longer subject to forest law'. This came after 1280 when the common was taken out of the New Forest area, it was reinstated back within the boundary under the Verderers jurisdiction in 1964, along with commoners rights under the New Forest Act. Once over the common we returned back walking through Turf Hill enclosure again to the car park.

Flowering Plants	Flowering Plants	Birds	Fungi
Common Ragwort	Lesser Spearwort	Carrion Crow	Egg-head Mottlegill
Catsear	Rose hips	Starling	Common Earthball
Autumn Hawkbit	Bramble plus fruits	Meadow Pipit	Chanterelle
Daisy	Rowan fruits	Stonechat	Beefsteak Fungus
Bell Heather	Common Whitebeam fruits	Swallow	Yellow Swamp Brittle-gill
Ling		Wood Pigeon	Fairy Ring Champignon
Cross-leaved Heath		Hobby	
Dwarf Gorse		Peregrine	Butterflies
Round-leaved Sundew		Robin	Speckled Wood
Bog Bean		Kestrel	Large White
Marsh St. John's Wort		Nuthatch	
Lesser Spearwort			Others
Bog Bean			Fallow Deer
Round-leaf Sundew			Southern Wood Ant Nests



Turf Hill Walk Beefsteak Fungus by Lyn Traves