



RINGWOOD NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Vereley Walk

Date: 30th December 2024
 Weather: Overcast
 Walk Leader : Peter Sparkes
 Attendees: 12

Our walk started from Vereley car park found on the road leading from Picket Post turn off from the A31 to Burley. A path lead us through Vereley Wood then past Vereley Farm and onwards crossing a small bridge over Mill Lawn Brook, then over heathland to reach Ridley Wood. This ancient wood is a glorious woodland, with lots of fine oak, birch and beech trees. From medieval times the wood was used for coppicing, the traditional method of woodland management in which young tree stems are periodically cut down to near ground level. The wood was also an ancient haunt of smugglers, who brought their wares up from the coast and sold the contraband in a gully close to the southern tip of the wood. After walking through the wood we walked towards Old House, then circled round across Ridley Plain, to return to Ridley Wood and then across Picket Plain back to the car park.

We were pleasantly surprised to find 25 species of fungi in late December. Many thanks to Bill Syrratt for his help with identification.

Fungi Common Name	Fungi Scientific Name
Oakbug Milkcap	<i>Lactarius quietus</i>
Ringless Honey Fungus	<i>Armillaria tabescens</i>
Grooved Bonnet	<i>Mycena polygramma</i>
Drab Bonnet	<i>Mycena aetites</i>
Sulphur Tuft	<i>Hypholoma fasciculare</i>
Dung Roundhead	<i>Stropharia semiglobata</i>
Bent Brittlestem	<i>Psathyrella prona</i>
Hairy Curtain Crust	<i>Stereum hirsutum</i>
Common Jellyspot	<i>Dacrymyces stillatus</i>
Small Stagshorn	<i>Calocera cornea</i>
Birch Polypore	<i>Piptosporus betulinus</i>
Bitter Bracket	<i>Postia stiptica</i>
Turkeytail	<i>Trametes versicolor</i>
Bleeding Porecrust	<i>Physisporinus sanguinolentus</i>
Southern Bracket	<i>Ganoderma australe</i>
Pestle Puffball	<i>Lycoperdon excipuliforme</i>
Common Earthball (rotted)	<i>Scleroderma citrinum</i>
Beefsteak Fungus	<i>Fistulina hepatica</i>
Willow Bracket (on birch)	<i>Phellinus igniarius</i>
Yellow Brain	<i>Tramella mesenterica</i>
Jelly Rot	<i>Phlebia tremellosa</i>
Gellatinous Cushion Fungus	<i>Hypocrea gelatinosa</i>
Beech Woodward	<i>Hypoxyton fragiforme</i>
Birch Woodward	<i>Hypoxyton multiforme</i>

Beech Tarcrust	Biscognauxia nummularia
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Nomenclature and Order after Sterry and Hughes, Collins Complete Guide to British Mushrooms and Toadstools.

Other sightings:

Birds	Flowering Plants
Goldcrest	Common Gorse
Song Thrush	Creeping Buttercup
Blackbird	Holly
Robin	Butcher's Broom
Stock Dove	Rose Hips (fruits)
Green Woodpecker	
Meadow Pipit	Mammals
Wood Pigeon	Grey Squirrel
Stonechat	Fallow Deer
Dartford Warbler	
Firecrest	
Marsh Tit	
Coal Tit	
Treecreeper	
Jay	
Buzzard	
Redwing	



Ridley Wood by Lyn Traves