



RINGWOOD NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Verelev Walk

Date: 31st August 2021
 Weather: Overcast
 Walk Leaders: Pat Holder
 Attendees: 14

Our walk started from Verelev Wood car park on the road leading from Picket Post turn off from the A31 to Burley. A path lead us past Verelev Farm and through Verelev Wood, then onwards crossing a small bridge over Mill Lawn Brook and passing heathland to reach Ridley Wood. This ancient wood is a glorious woodland, with lots of fine oak, birch and huge beech trees. From medieval times the wood was used for coppicing, the traditional method of woodland management in which young tree stems are repeatedly cut down to near ground level. The wood is 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. This gully is now home to a colony of Mining Bees, Heather Colletes I believe, we stopped to watch them buzzing in and out of their own individual burrow on the bank of the gully. After walking through the wood we reached Little Wood and then Ridley Plain, turning sharply to return to Ridley Wood and then across Picket Plain back to the car park.

Flowering Plants	Flowering Plants cont	Birds	Butterflies
Catsear	Round-leaved Sundew	Carrion Crow	Dor Beetle
Common Ragwort	Foxglove	Buzzard	Speckled Wood Butterfly
Yarrow	Heath Milkwort	Stonechat	Fox Moth Caterpillar
Ribwort Plantain	Wood Sage	Nuthatch	Mining Bee-Heather Colletes
Daisy	Eyebright	Blue Tit	Pond Skater
Bramble	Cow Wheat	Robin	
Ling	Self-heal	Blackbird	
Bell Heather	Devilsbit Scabious		
Redleg	Coral Necklace	Reptiles	Fungi
Enchanter's Nightshade	Marsh St John's Wort	Slow Worm	Common Earthball
Tormentil	Water-pepper		Beechwood Sickener
Creeping Buttercup	Autumn Hawkbit		Birch Polypore
Lesser Spearwort	Bog Myrtle		Beech Woodwart
Cross-leaved Heath	Chamomile		
Thyme-leaved Speedwell	Ivy leaved Crowfoot		
Wavy Bittercress	Water Mint		
Dwarf Gorse	Water Plantain		
Fairy Flax	Marsh Cudweed		
Bog Asphodel	Marsh Pennywort		



Heather Colletes Mining Bee, VereleyWood by Lyn Traves



Slow Worm, Vereley Wood Walk by Audrey Walker