



Ringwood Natural History Society

Vernditch Chase Walk

Date: 1st August 2017
 Weather: Heavy rain in morning, sunny in afternoon
 Temperature: 16-20 degrees
 Attendees: 13

Vernditch Chase is situated within Cranborne Chase and West Wiltshire downs area of outstanding natural beauty, on the county boundaries of Wiltshire, Hampshire and Dorset and is maintained by the Forestry Commission. This mixed woodland is on the edge of (but not part of) Martin Down NNR and shares an entrance and car park with the extensive downs. There is also a neolithic long barrow on the main path into the wood on the left and Grim's Ditch an ancient boundary network running through the site, only a low mound remains, overgrown with trees in open beech woodland. A Roman Road also runs along the eastern boundary of Vernditch. Unfortunately it started to rain very heavily just as we started our walk, so after getting completely soaked we cut the walk short. After lunch we had a walk across Martin Down in pleasant sunshine.

Flowering Plants, etc.	Flowering Plants cont.	Birds	Butterflies
Marjoram	Nipplewort	Bullfinch	Gatekeeper
Yarrow	Greater Knapweed	Linnet	Silver-washed Fritillary
Agrimony	Red Clover	Goldfinch	Meadow Brown
Great Willowherb	Harebell	Stonechat	Red Admiral
White Clover	Scarlet Pimpernel	Skylark	Common Blue
Common Ragwort	Yellow Rattle	Yellowhammer	Peacock
Mugwort	Lady's Bedstraw	Green Woodpecker	Brown Argus
Birdsfoot Trefoil	Hedge Bedstraw		Chalkhill Blue
Wild Carrot	Musk Thistle		Large White
Red Bartsia	Fairy Flax	Fungi	Small White
Common Toadflax	Traveller's Joy	Lurid Bolete	Dark Green Fritillary
Wild Basil	Wild Angelica	Common Earthball	Small Heath
Lesser Knapweed	Squinancywort		Brimstone
Hemp Agrimony	Dwarf Thistle		
Eyebright	Creeping Buttercup	Others	
Daisy	Reedmace	Common Toad	Other Insects
Mignonette	Stinging Nettle	Roman Snail	Magpie Moth
Field Scabious	Dandelion	Harvestman	7-spot Ladybird
Pignut	Rosebay		Common Mourning-bee (Cuckoo Bee)
Self-heal	Honeysuckle		
Silverweed	Pineappleweed	Flowering Plants cont.	Ground Beetle
Trailing St John's Wort	Hop Trefoil	Knotgrass	Six-spot Burnet Moth
Creeping Thistle	Black Medick	Vervain	
Smooth Sow-thistle	Sainfoin	Knapweed Broomrape	
Goatsbeard	Tufted Vetch	Common Rock-rose	
Rough Hawkbit	Great Mullein	Fleabane	



Roman Snail by Gerry Traves