

Warwickshire Flora Group

FIELD MEETINGS 2016

All botanical meetings will start at 10 a.m. and finish at about 3.30 p.m. or when everybody has had enough. Please bring sandwiches and drinks. Walking will be limited to a couple of miles. You do not need to be member of the BSBI or anything else to come along. You can be a beginner or an expert, and just interested in identifying and finding plants. Please bring field guides and a lens if you have one. If you want any more information ring us on 01827-712455 or e mail johnwalton46@tiscali.co.uk.

Friday 18 March SPRING WILD DAFFODIL WALK

Meet at 10 a.m. in the lay-by on the corner of the B4098 Tamworth Road and Daw Hill Lane (SP263899). This is a three and a half mile walk around the lanes of Shawbury, near Fillongley visiting one of the best sites in the county for Wild Daffodils, but unfortunately there are no suitable car parking places near to the wood. We plan to survey tetrad SP28P as we go, but not very intensively and should be back at the cars by just after 1 p.m. After lunch we plan to visit Corley churchyard, Tamworth Road, south of Fillongley, CV7 8BB, (SP381851). This is in another poorly recorded tetrad.

Sunday 17 April How to use a Vegetative Key or "POLAND DAY"

Meet at 10 a.m. at Brandon Marsh Nature Reserve, Brandon Lane, CV3 3GW, (SP386761) We realize that quite a few of the Flora Group have invested in copies of The Vegetative Key to the British Flora by John Poland and Eric Clement (BSBI) and this workshop is to encourage you to use it more and share expertise. There will be an indoor session in the morning followed by an afternoon one in the field. If you haven't a copy, the current price is about £23 but second hand copies are available a bit cheaper. You do not need a copy to come to the workshop. Numbers will be limited so e mail us on johnwalton46@tiscali.co.uk or ring us on 01827 712455 if you would like to come. Bring lunch or eat in the cafe at the nature centre.

Saturday 30 April COCK ROBIN WOOD NATURE RESERVE and HILLMORTON, RUGBY

Cock Robin Wood, one of the Wildlife Trust's smaller reserves, was planted as mitigation for the building of the Sainsbury's supermarket near Dunchurch. The car park is off the Dunchurch Road, at SP493724. The postcode for the supermarket is CV22 6HU. In the afternoon we will walk the bridleway that runs up towards the A5 north of the old Radio Station. We have permission to park in the Hillmorton Church car park in The Locks, Rugby, CV21 4PP. Both of these tetrads have plant lists in single figures.

Thursday 5 May HALFORD

We will spend the morning recording in SP24S on the east side of the road and then moving across the road and visiting the church and the village in the afternoon for S24M. There is a car park belonging to the pub and on the opposite side of the road to pub (The Halford) next to the petrol station. As the pub is currently changing owner I have been unable to contact them to get permission to use it. The piece of tarmac on the same side and right in front of the pub is public parking so please park there unless I tell you otherwise. There is room for about ten cars.

Sunday 29th May WARMINGTON

Meet at 10 a.m. by the pond on the green in the middle of the village (SP41234770). This is in Mollington Lane, which is accessed by either Village Road, from the north or Church Hill to the south. There are many routes to walk from this village including a strenuous one towards Edge Hill, so there will be plenty to keep us busy.

Friday 3rd June COOMBE ABBEY COUNTRY PARK

Coombe Abbey Country Park is in four different tetrads and is in need of an up-to-date wild flower survey. Paul Hodges has invited us there and should be able to join us for at least part of the day. There is a 1980's record of *Viola canina* (Heath Dog-violet) from a small area of heathland, which rumour has it may still be there, and we have chosen this time of year to coincide with its flowering time. We will also visit an area of acid grassland with anthills without public access that looks promising. There are toilets, a café and a parking charge of £3.70p or £1.90 with a Coventry PTL. The address is Brinklow Road, Binley, Coventry, CV3 2AB, SP

Sunday 19 June (DATE FIXED) KINGSWOOD FARMHOUSE, KENILWORTH

Meet at 10 a.m. Jenny Buckley from the WFG put us in contact with Fred Pauling who has invited us to survey his fields before HS2 is built across his land. The entrance is in on Dalehouse Lane, with a postcode of CV8 2JZ, park at SP313730. If you are approaching from the A46, take the Stoneleigh/University junction south of Coventry and go towards the University. Turn left into Dalehouse Lane at the next rather offset roundabout, and the drive to the farm is the second one on the left.

Friday 1 July WINDMILL NAPS SSSI

Windmill Naps is an area of ancient woodland near Forshaw Heath in the west of the county which has not been surveyed for a while. Parking is quite difficult. The footpath to the wood is through a gate off Poolhead Lane, Forshaw Heath just south of the M42 (SP098725). There is really only room for one car here. The verge to the south of the gate is fairly hard and is OK if you have a car with a high clearance. The other, and probably better alternative, is to park on the wide verge and the concrete of the bridge over the motorway and walk. In the afternoon we will either walk some of the footpaths of Forshaw Heath to increase our species list or visit Lion Wood, a Worcestershire Wildlife Trust Wood nearby.