

Warwickshire Flora Group

SPRING FIELD MEETINGS 2018

All botanical meetings will start at 10 a.m. (unless otherwise stated) 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 30 March Kingsbury MoD Rifle Range and Kingsbury Wood SSSI.

We have been granted permission to visit these two MoD sites. We will survey the Rifle Range in the morning (SP29H and SP29I). The entrance is on the B4098 Coventry Road, south of Kingsbury Village on the left hand side just past the railway bridge over the road. Please meet at the hut. In the afternoon we will visit Kingsbury Wood SSSI, meeting outside Wood End School, Wood Street, Wood End, CV9 2QL (SP239979). **Currently March 30 is a "no firing" day. I will have to ring them a few days before we visit to check that their programme hasn't changed. If there is a problem, we will meet at Wood End School at 10 a.m. instead. Please check your e mails before setting out.**

Sunday 22 April Salford Priors

We are here to tetrad bash two squares in the far south-west of the county. We will meet on the corner opposite St. Matthew's Church, Station Road, Salford Priors, WR11 8UX, (SP077510). Please park nearby taking care not to block the church entrance, as there may be a service. We will spend the morning walking the footpaths of SP05Q, and visiting the churchyard. We may move to SP05K after lunch. Targets; *Rumex pulcher*, *Potentilla argentea* and *Myosurus minimus*.

Saturday 5th May Shipston on Stour

Although the tetrads around Shipston have been reasonably well covered, the one where the town is has not been. We will be concentrating on SP24K in the morning and moving about six miles north to SP24D after lunch to look at the very rural Admington area. We will park in the public car park (small charge) in Telegraph Street, Shipston, CV36 4HD, where there are toilets.

Sunday 27th May Barnrooden Farm

Barnrooden Farm is a farm that has been planted with trees by its owner Michael Bond as a forestry project. Within this plantation he has excavated around thirty ponds. We visited the site in September 2017 and only managed to survey half of them and are looking forward to going back to increase our species list, and to finish off the rest of the ponds. Expect Water-crowfoots.

Barnrooden Farm entrance is well signposted about a mile north of Priors Marston on the Shuckburgh Road at SP48875837. Drive down the long drive and park near the house.

Friday 8 June Middleton Lakes RSPB

The RSPB are organising a Bioblitz and would like us to take part. As we have not been here as a group for a few years, come and join us, meeting in the main car park. We will probably not find many new plant records, but this is the high season for wildlife so bring your binoculars and camera and enjoy. The entrance to Middleton Lakes is off Bodymoor Heath Road, B78 2AE, (SP194982), off the A4091 south of Tamworth. We have been asked to visit the Dosthill site so be prepared for some walking in the afternoon.

Sunday 17 June BSBI meeting at Marton. We aim to cover tetrads SP46D and SP46E, spending the morning looking at the limestone grassland and scrub of the disused railway that WFG visited in October, and the afternoon surveying the village.

We will meet at 10 a.m. at Tithe Barn, (it is marked Tithe Farm on orange OS maps). Going south on the A423, turn right in the village into North Street and continue to the church where you have to turn left into High Street. Stay on this road until you come to a fork where you take the left hand branch, Field Farm Lane, and carry on until you reach the end of the road which is close to Tithe Barn and the railway. (SP402676). Boots are necessary as the trackbed is clay and it can be very slippery after rain. **As this is a BSBI meeting with a limited number of participants priority will be given to BSBI members. Please e mail us to book a place. I will circulate an e mail a week before the meeting and will open the meeting up to non-BSBI members if there is any room.**

Friday 22 June Hoar Park Farm and Astley Castle. In the morning we will be surveying SP29R. We will park at Hoar Park Farm Craft Centre (SP271923, CV10 0QU), which is off the B4114 between Furnace End and Church End. Please park in the oval shaped overflow car park which is on the right hand side at the bottom of the drive. In the afternoon we will take advantage of the Open Day at nearby Astley Castle (SP 311894). The castle is owned by the Landmark Trust and won the Stirling Prize for architecture in 2013 and is well worth a visit. Apart from the moat to peer into, there is a churchyard and a fishing lake nearby.

Sunday 8 July Marston Doles

We will be exploring Oxford Canal north and south of Marston Doles and the adjacent footpaths. There is room for a few cars by the canal bridge (SP464583) on the Southam to Prior Marston Road (Welsh Road East) or park carefully nearby. We will be concentrating on tetrad SP45U, but may wander into SP45P as we happen to be on the canal.

We hope to be able to visit a short feeder canal which contained both *Oenanthe fistulosa* and *Groenlandia densa* in the 1990's. The nearby farmland held *Euphorbia exigua* and *Scandix pecten-veneris* in the 1970's so expect good plants.