

Warwickshire Flora Group

SPRING AND SUMMER FIELD MEETINGS 2022

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, or 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 jomowalton@gmail.com

Wednesday 30 March ARLEY AND DAFFERNS WOOD

In the morning we will visit Arley Wood, near Nuneaton and in the afternoon the small ancient woodland site of Daffern's Wood which contains the largest Toothwort colony in the county as well as the most northerly Sanicle in Warwickshire. Daffern's Wood is on clay and it can be very slippery after rain.

Park in the road opposite the Arley Sports Centre. Since it is now a private concern, do not use their car park as it is reserved for patrons. Arley Sports Centre is in Oak Avenue, Old Arley, CV7 8FN, SP281905 and for Daffern's Wood, park in Collier Road near Jackson's camping shop, where there is a cafe and toilets, at CV7 8HN.

Sunday 24 April BRUETON PARK AND PURPLE TOOTHWORT SITE.

Not just one Toothwort this year but two teethworts! We will meet in the car park on the Warwick Road, Solihull B91 3HW, SP161790 and walk down to the Parkridge Centre. At the back of the cafe is a small nature reserve which is one of the final ones to be surveyed in our project to cover all Trust reserves since 2020. We held a Conifer workshop there a few years ago and it is a mixture of wild and planted species, so please bring a tree book. We will then walk across the park to visit the real "nature reserve" near the lake, (nothing to do with the Trust) and go and look for the Purple Toothwort. Depending how the day goes, after lunch we may explore the footpath through wet woodland on the other side of the river, perhaps making it into a 3 mile circular walk back through the park. There are toilets and a cafe at the Parkridge Centre. Parking has been free in the past, but check the machines in the car park just in case.

Friday 6 May BURTON DASSETT HILLS COUNTRY PARK

This early spring meeting is to check rarities such as *Stellaria pallida*, *Cerastium semidecandrum*, *Trifolium striatum* and *T. scabrum*, and hope to find Spring Sedge, Meadow Saxifrage and Rue-leaved Saxifrage. Crested Hair-grass (*Koeleria micrantha*) may also be in flower. We visited the site seven years ago and it would be useful to find out if these species have survived the increased visitor numbers during COVID. Ben Coleman, WCC Grassland Manager, will lead us round and has promised us free parking permits. Travelling south on the B4100, the Leamington- Banbury Road, pass Gaydon and Temple Herdwyke and take the lane to Little Dasset and Northend on your left just before the BAD Kineton entrance. Follow the signs to the Country Park. (Postcode CV47 2AB, SP397520). When you have driven up the hill you will see a noticeboard. Turn to the left here and park about 50 metres further on in one of the parking areas opposite the path to the toilets.

Saturday 28 May SPERNALL PARK AND MORGROVE COPPICE

Sam MacVie from the Heart of England Forest has promised us access to Sperrall Park which has not been surveyed for many years. We will also visit another of the Forest's sites, Morgrove Coppice which is a mixture of ancient woodland and plantation. There is a big visitor car park in Burford Lane, where we will meet at SP0990262401 (what3words:///control.gives.indicated). Expect to carry lunch and there are no toilets. Be prepared for a parking fee.

Monday 13 June EATHORPE MARSH NATURE RESERVE AND UFTON FIELDS RESERVE

Eathorpe Marsh is one of the lesser known Trust Reserves and hasn't been surveyed by us recently. It is the only current site in the county for *Oenanthe fluviatilis* River Water-dropwort which often can appear without flowers, but is still identifiable. Expect sedges and wetland grasses.

The small village of Eathorpe is off the Fosse Way. Park by the Pumping Station and reserve entrance at SP389687, CV33 9DF. In the afternoon we will visit Ufton Fields to monitor the Man Orchid and Herb Paris. The car park is off Ufton Fields Lane, south of Ufton village at SP378615, CV33 9PU.

Monday 20 June BRANDON MARSH AND BRANDON REACH

This is a joint meeting with The Wild Flower Society. We already have WFS members booked on this trip from places as far away as Suffolk and London so numbers will be limited.

You must email us to book a place. Meet at **10.30 a.m.** in the car park, Brandon Lane, CV3 3GW, SP386761.

Saturday 25 June WOLSTON FIELDS NATURE RESERVE

Please meet outside St. Leonard's Church, Ryton-on-Dunsmore (CV8 3ET, SP385745) to walk just under a mile to the reserve. As this is a new Trust reserve there is no formal parking at present and as Ryton Organic Gardens is also closed, this is the easiest way for a group to access the site.

Please park considerately as the road is narrow and it is easy to block drives unintentionally.

Wolston Fields is a collection of small lakes and reedbeds that were formed by sand and gravel extraction and look good for water plants (and probably dragonflies!). Part of the reserve overlooks the River Avon. You will need to carry lunch with you if you plan to stay for the afternoon. There are no toilets nearby.