

Fenland and Fenland Edge Field Meetings 2016

See also:

BSBI: http://www.bsbi.org/field_meetings/

Cambridgeshire Flora Group: <https://legacy.bas.ac.uk/met/jds/cnhs/vc29.htm>

Huntingdonshire Fauna & Flora Society: <http://www.hffs.org.uk/>

Lincolnshire Naturalists' Union: <http://www.lnu.org/events.php>

Norfolk Flora Group: <http://www.nnns.org.uk/content/specialist-interest-groups>

HFFS – Sunday 17th April at 2.30 p.m. - Woodwalton Fen NNR

Leader: *Philippa Crooke*. Woodwalton Fen is part of the Great Fen Project and will eventually be linked with Holme Fen. The plan is to look at how some of the newer areas are developing just outside the original fenland area. Meet at Jackson Bridge, at the bottom of Ramsey Heights Road. Grid Ref: TL235849

BSBI/South Lincolnshire Flora Group/LNU – weekend 23rd & 24th April

South Lincolnshire Recording Weekend (v.c. 53). Leaders: Sarah Lambert & Dr. Richard Jefferson.

The main purpose of this weekend is to gather records for the BSBI Atlas 2020, and we will be concentrating on the northern and eastern part of the vice-county, between Sleaford and Lincoln, where there are relatively few post-2000 records. Although much of this area is under arable cropping, there are a number of interesting habitats to explore, including large semi-natural ancient woodlands dominated by *Tilia cordata* (Small-leaved Lime) with a rich ground flora supporting a range of indicator species such as *Oxalis acetosella* (Wood Sorrel), *Adoxa moschatellina* (Moschatel) and *Paris quadrifolia* (Herb-paris). There are also areas of developing and established limestone grassland, and we will spend some time recording the flora of one or more villages, which support their own characteristic assemblage, including a number of neophytes. We would welcome both experienced botanists and those who may not have been on a BSBI field meeting before. There will be up to 5km of walking each day, but this will generally be on level ground.

- To book, or for further details, please contact Sarah Lambert, preferably by email sarah.lambert7@ntlworld.com or by post (with S.A.E. please) 21 Grafton Avenue, Peterborough, PE3 9PD. Further details will be provided on booking.

Norfolk Flora Group – Tuesday 24th May, 10.30 a.m., Little Ouse Path, Brandon

Meet at the free car park at Bury Road, Brandon, TF78448638.

Cambridge Flora Group - Sunday, June 5th, 11.00 a.m., Witcham and The Corkerets

The main target of this visit is an old hay meadow which is still traditionally managed. It has several plants of more acidic ground, such as *Rumex acetosella*, but we would like to make a more comprehensive list, so this visit is timed to be before the hay cut. Witcham church at TL464800 provides a convenient meeting point for a 7km circular walk.

Norfolk Flora Group – Saturday 18th June, 10.30 a.m., Foulden Common & village

Meeting place to be confirmed

Norfolk Flora Group – Saturday 23rd July, 10.30 a.m., West Dereham Village and Fen Park at TF65910095 (space limited, so please car-share)

BSBI/Cambridge Flora Group - Saturday 6th August -Kingfishers Bridge, Cambridgeshire

The Kingfishers Bridge Project has transformed 120 hectares of farmland into a mosaic of wildlife habitats. Many plants have colonised the site naturally, but a few have been introduced, most notably *Teucrium scordium* (Water Germander). Participants will learn about the habitat creation and the management of the site, and will see some of the fenland specialities. Participants will also be encouraged to find species to add to the over 300 known from the site. Papers describing the Project have appeared in Nature in Cambridgeshire, most recently in <http://www.natureincambridgeshire.org.uk/volumes/vol-57.htm> The meeting starts at 10.00 and will finish by 16:00. Contact Jonathan Shanklin, 11 City Road, Cambridge CB1 1DP or email jdsh@bas.ac.uk

Norfolk Flora Group – Saturday 13rd August, 10.30 a.m., Southery

Park at the recreation ground TL61879475 (please try to lift-share so as not to clog parking)

HFFS – Sunday 11th September at 2.30 p.m. - Fen Drayton

Leader: *Chris Hudson*. This complex of lakes and traditional riverside meadows next to the River Great Ouse used to be gravel workings. It is a fantastic place to explore and watch birds with huge numbers of ducks, swans and geese on the lakes in winter. In summer, terns, hobbies and a variety of dragonflies are regularly seen. Take J28 off the A14 and follow the signs for Swavesey and the brown RSPB Nature Reserve signs to the main car park. Grid ref: TL339690.

Cambridge Flora Group/South Lincolnshire Flora Group - Saturday, September 24th, 10.00 a.m., Tydd St Giles, Tydd St Mary and Sutton St James.

In a joint meeting we visit the northern reaches of vc29 and the southern reaches of vc53 to record some fenland tetrads. Tydd St Giles itself has been fairly well recorded, but the church provides a convenient meeting point at TF427164. We will then head east along the county border in a roughly 10km circular walk returning via several "Gates". For those less energetic there is an option for a shorter walk starting at 13:00, meeting the rest of the group after their lunch at Nutwalk Corner.