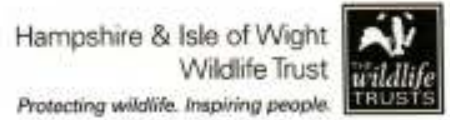




Newsletter No.49B
June 2014
(Update of April NL49a)



Welcome to the South Down Group newsletter which gives details of meetings from now until December 2014, plus a few nature notes and local activities with some brief news from the Horndean Bio Group. Our next newsletter will be produced in October 2014. The editor (JV) welcomes your comments and pictures etc by 31st September. 2014.



Since April the weather has improved considerably. May has lived up to its name and it has been a good year for may blossom, enjoyed by the bees. This picture was taken at Dell Piece on the 4th May and shows a Grey-haired Mining Bee, which took me some time to identify as *Andrena cineraria*.

Meetings and Events in the South Down Group area from
June to November 2014

Wednesday 11th June "Oxenbourne Down" Evening Walk 7.00pm

Search for woodland and downland plants and insects in this 2 mile walk. There is one steep ascent. Meet in the Queen Elizabeth Country Park visitor centre car park (Map Ref. SU 718 186). Contact: Andrew Powling on 023 9225 8457

Thurs. to Sat. 3 to 5 July "National Moth Night" For those interested in moth trapping events contact JV on 023 92592647 or J.Nundy on 9235 0922

Wednesday 9th July "Old Winchester Hill" Evening Walk 7.00pm

Enjoy a walk on this hilly site to look for flowers and birds. Meet and park in the NNR car park off Old Winchester Hill Lane (Map Ref: SU 646 213). Contact: John Goodspeed on 07811 435252.

Wednesday 30th July "Hazleton Common" Evening walk 7.00pm

Explore Hazleton Common and Dell Piece West for summer flowers and birds. Meet and park at the end of Padnell Rd., Cowplain (Map Ref: SU 700 113) Contact John Goodspeed on 078 1143 5252. Dogs on leads welcome.

Saturday 2nd August "The Catherington Nature Trail" Follow a circular route around Catherington Down and Catherington Lith to see the summer flowers and butterflies. Meet Catherington car park opp school at 9.30am (M Ref: SU 695 144) Finish by lunchtime with pub lunch or picnic on the Down. Contact John on: 92592647

Wednesday 15th October "The Natural Science Collections" 7.30 to 9.30pm

An introduction by Christine Taylor, Keeper of Natural Sciences at Hampshire County Council, who will bring along examples of their very interesting Biology and Geology collections and talk about the services provided at Chilcombe. Venue: St Wilfrid's Church Hall, Padnell Rd., Cowplain, PO8 8DZ (M.Ref: SU 694 112). Contact Peter on 92592711

Wednesday 19th November "Our Wonderful Heritage of Hedgerows" 7.30 to 9.30pm

Jon Stokes of the Tree Council will talk about our heritage of hedgerows and what they contribute to our enjoyment of the countryside and how they create shelter, food and natural corridors for so many wildlife species. Held at St Wilfrid's Hall (details above). Parking at the back of the Hall via the road to the left of the hall.

Suggestions for talks and events next year welcomed, please contact a group member listed below or tell us at one of the meetings.

Group contacts

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John Telford	<i>Snr. Countryside Ranger HPC</i>	02392597766	john.telford@horndeanpc-hants.gov.uk
(Late News: John Telford will be leaving the area for new pastures in July 2014)			
Deryn Hawkins	<i>HBG Secretary</i>	02392598000	deryn.hawkins1@gmail.com

See over page for NATURE NOTES and news from Horndean Biodiversity Group.