

Field Trip Programme for 2023

April 2023

Wednesday 19th April 2023

Broxhead Common (SU805376) Meet at 10:30am

Target Species: Emperor Moth, Orange Tip, Green Hairstreak

Leader: Ashley Whitlock Tel: 02392 731266 Mob: 07752 182340

Directions: Follow the main road A 325 north or south until you reach Bordon camp go right follow the Lindford road signposted Lindford /Headley. Broxhead Common can be found the first left as you go along the B3004.

Wednesday 26th April 2023

Danebury Hill Fort (SU323376) Meet at 10:30am

Target Species: Possible Wall Brown, good flora and fauna

Leader: Ashley Whitlock Tel: 02392 731266 Mob: 07752 182340

Directions: A Old Ancient Hill Fort West of Stockbridge: If approaching from the east on the B3049 find Stockbridge or the A3057 from the south or north, follow signs for the A30 west until you see a sign for Danebury Hill, follow Kentsboro Road heading North West and turn west for the car-park. ***Please bring lunch***

May 2023

Sunday 7th May 2023

Little Butser Hill/Pillow Mound (SU720205) Meet at 10:30am

Target Species: Duke of Burgundy, Grizzled Skipper, Cuckoo

Leader: Ashley Whitlock Tel: 02392 731266 Mob: 07752 182340

Directions: From the (A3) motorway, Butser Hill is well signposted, come off of motorway at Clanfield; look for the telecommunications tower on top of the hill, meet at the Butser Hill car-park where there is a charge. A chance to visit another area of Butser Hill where there is a substantial colony of Duke of Burgundies, a walk from the car-park with Skylarks and Buzzards, this has spectacular views over towards Ashford Hill and the Meon Valley. Very steep in places, and bring Lunch as we will be visiting another part of Butser in the afternoon.

Wednesday 10th May 2023

Beacon Hill at Exton Meet at 10:30am

Target Species: Duke of Burgundy, Brown Argus & Green Hairstreak

Leader Ashley Whitlock Tel: 02392 731266 mob 07752 812340

Directions: Located just off the A32 the Wickham road from the south drive through Droxford village, and Corhampton Villages, then turn immediately left into the village of Exton (Easily missed) Past the public house called the Shoe Inn and along the narrow tracks up to Beacon Hill, to where the car-park is.

Sunday 14th May 2023

Old Winchester Hill (SU640208) Meet at 10:30am

Target Species: Duke of Burgundy, Adonis Blue, and Green Hairstreak

Leader Ashley Whitlock Tel: 02392 731266 mob 07752 812340

Directions: The reserve can be found from the north through West Meon on the A32 well-marked as a NNR Reserve, also from the south throughout the village of Droxford, again along the A32, very steep hillsides in places. **Please Bring Lunch**

Wednesday 17th May 2023

New Forest: New Copse Inclosure and Lymington River (SU315024)

Meet at 10:30am Target species: Pearl Bordered Fritillary

Leader Ashley Whitlock Tel: 02392 731266 mob 07752 812340

Directions: Follow the A337 from Lyndhurst approaching Balmerlawn go left and follow the B3055 underneath Railway Bridge for about a mile. Car Park for Ivy Wood is clearly marked as you head south east, close to the Pig Hotel. We can walk along the Lymington River in the afternoon for dragonflies and other invertebrates.... **Please Bring Lunch**

Sunday 21st May 2023

(West Wood/Pitt Down)(SU435295) Meet at 10:30am:

Target Species: Duke of Burgundy rare flora and fauna

Leader: Ashley Whitlock Tel: 02392 731266 Mob: 07752 182340

Directions: Well signposted along the old Roman Road known as the Sarem Road from Winchester, the area has many car-parks, but park at the Pitt Down car-park known as Spindle Tree Car-Park. **Please Bring Lunch**

Wednesday 24th May 2023

Stockbridge Down (SU380350) Meet at 10:30am

Target Species: Duke of Burgundy, Possible Pearl-Bordered Fritillary,

Leader Ashley Whitlock Tel: 02392 731266 mob 07752 812340

Directions: On the A272 from Winchester in the East, Stockbridge Down is 6 miles from the city centre. Good parking on both sides of the road. Please if you can park in the Eastern car-park nearest to Winchester, if possible. If not we will meet by the side of the road between the car parks. Good walks around the area. **Please Bring Lunch**

Sunday 28th May 2023

Martin Down & Kitts Grave (SU045195) Meet at 10:30am

Target Species: Marsh Fritillary, Adonis Blue, and good Flora & Fauna

Leader: Ashley Whitlock Tel: 02392 731266 Mob: 07752 182340

Directions: Approach the site from the A354 look for the signpost for Blandford Forum; car-park is a mile or so from the turning off from Martin village on the Fordingbridge road along the B3078. A large tract of open chalk-grassland, with good species of butterflies and moths, including Adonis Blue, Small Blue, with good flora and fauna and excellent birds, and wildflowers. **Bring Lunch** we may well look for the Duke of Burgundy near to the other car-park in the afternoon.

Sunday 4th June 2023

Bentley Wood (SU260300) Meet at 10:30am

Target Species: Possible Marsh Fritillary, Argent and Sable Moth, Good flora and fauna

Leader Ashley Whitlock Tel: 02392 731266 mob 07752 812340

Directions: from the West Dean Village from Romsey in the East, approach from the West via Salisbury to East Grimstead, from the north and south can be found from the M3 via Winchester/Stockbridge, along the A30 to Winterslow all well signposted. Good invertebrates and birdlife. **Please Bring Lunch**

Wednesday 7th June 2023

Queen Elizabeth Country Park (Coulters Dean) (SU747230)

Meet at 10:30am

Target Species: Green Hairstreak, excellent Orchids

Leader- Ashley Whitlock [Tel:02392 731266](tel:02392731266) Mob: 07752 182340

Directions: The site is the same car-park as for Head Down or Holt down, follow the A3 signposted Buriton, and follow the road known as Greenway lane to the Village Inn then turn sharply right into Kiln Lane (narrow road) under Railway Bridge and car-park is in front of you. A small reserve within the confines of Queen Elizabeth Country Park, no parking at the site but park at Head Down car-Park with a walk to the site, excellent Cowslip and good Dingy and Grizzled Skipper with Green Hairstreak. **Please bring lunch**

Sunday 25th June 2023

Old Winchester Hill (SU640208) Meet at 10:30am

Target Species Chalkhill Blue, possible White Letter Hairstreak

Leader- Ashley Whitlock [Tel:02392 731266](tel:02392731266) Mob: 07752 182340

Directions: The reserve can be found from the north through West Meon on the A32 well-marked as a NNR Reserve, also from the south throughout the village of Droxford, again along the A32, very steep hillsides in places. **Please Bring Lunch**

Wednesday 28th June 2023

Beaulieu Heath (New Forest) (SU355000) Meet at 09:30am

**Target Species: Silver Studded Blue, Early Grayling, Clouded Buff Moth,
Common Lizard, Dartford Warbler, Nightjar**

Leader - Ashley Whitlock Tel- 02392 731266 Mobile 07752 182340

Directions: Along the M27 Motorway look for junction (1) come off of the motorway here towards Lyndhurst. Through Lyndhurst (A very busy market town allow for plenty of time) Look for signs to Brockenhurst along the A337, from Brockenhurst and Lyndhurst follow the B3055 with the car-park on the left hand side in Hawkhill Inclosure, and Hatchet Moor on the right hand side. Meet at the car-park in Hawkhill Inclosure: With easy walking in the tranquil New Forest. (Explorer Map OL22). **Please Bring Lunch**

Sunday 2nd July 2023

Alice Holt Forest (Abbotts Wood Inclosure) (SU815480)

Meet at 09:30am

Target Species: Purple Emperor, White Admiral, Silver Washed Fritillary

Leader- Ashley Whitlock [Tel:02392 731266](tel:02392731266) Mob: 07752 182340

Directions: From the North along the A325 go through Farnham through Wrecclesham/Birdworld fork left at the Public House called the Half-Way House. Meet at the Abbots Wood Inclosure car-park on the right hand side at 1030. From the South follow the A3 until the junction with the A325, follow this through Whitehill and Frith End, then turn right at Goose Green Farm, follow road all the way around, called High Thicket Road, then onto Dockenfield Street. Car-park will be on your left, bring lunch (OS Map Explorer 14). **Please Bring Lunch**

Wednesday 5th July 2023

West Wood & Pitt Down (SU435295) Meet at 09:30am

Target Species: Dark Green Fritillary, Purple Emperor, Purple Hairstreak

Leader- Ashley Whitlock [Tel:02392 731266](tel:02392731266) Mob: 07752 182340

Directions: Well signposted along the old Roman Road known as the Sarem Road from Winchester, the area has many car-parks, but park at the Pitt Down car-park known as Spindle Tree Car-Park. **Please Bring Lunch**

Sunday 9th July 2023

Micheldever Wood – (SO24 9UB) OS Grid Ref (SU53013753)

**Meet at 09:30am: Target Species: Purple Emperor, Silver-Washed Fritillary,
and White Admiral**

Leader Ashley Whitlock Tel: 02392 731266 mob 07752 812340

Directions: Postcode SO24 9UB will get you on to Chillandham Lane but please note this postcode is for a private property further along and on the opposite side of the lane to the car park. SU 5301 3753 Micheldever Wood is five miles northeast of Winchester, bordering the M3. . Please Bring Lunch

Wednesday 12th July 2023

Basingstoke Canal (part)/ Odiham Common (SU752526)

Meet at 09:30am

Target Species: Purple Emperor, White Admiral, good flora and fauna

Leader- Ashley Whitlock [Tel:02392 731266](tel:02392731266) Mob: 07752 182340

Directions: Parking is in Odiham at the end of London Road (Colt Hill) car park next to the Canal on the northern side of the canal. This can be reached by M3 Motorway Junction 5 then down the A287 towards Odiham or the B3349 from the south-east. Please bring lunch

Sunday 16th July 2023

West Harting Down (SU737157) Meet at 09:30am:

**Target Species: Purple Emperor, Silver-Washed Fritillary, Dark-Green
Fritillary, and Hummingbird Hawk Moth**

Leader Ashley Whitlock Tel: 02392 731266 mob 07752 812340

Directions: Follow signs from the A3 motorway for the Village of Chalton, turn left at the Red Lion Inn and then over Railway bridge where there is limited parking at the side of the road going up to Ditchem Park School. Following on from the success in the 2015, 2018, 2021 and 2022 season where the Purple Emperor was seen plenty of good flora and fauna for the wildflower connoisseur. Buddleias on the ride side verges were packed with Comma, Peacock, and Small Tortoiseshells on past field trips. . Please Bring Lunch

Sunday August 13th 2023

Shipton Bellinger (SU222465) Meet at 09:30am

Target Species: Wall Brown, Brown Hairstreak good flora and fauna

Leader: Ashley Whitlock Tel: 02392 731266 Mob: 07752 731266

Directions: Meet at the Village Hall car-park, and then it is straight walk up to the Blackthorn thickets, where hopefully Brown Hairstreaks will be observed. From the A303 (T) the main Amesbury to Andover road, look for the A338 Shipton Bellinger/Tidworth road, this road goes underneath the main road of the A303 (T). The village of Shipton Bellinger is 2-3 miles on the left on the A338. **Bring lunch as we will visit another site in the afternoon**

Wednesday 16th August 2023

Noar Hill (SU745316) Meet at 10:30am

Target Species: Brown Hairstreak, Clouded Yellow

Leader: Ashley Whitlock Tel: 02392 731266 Mob: 07752 731266

A look around the Noar Hill site for the elusive Brown Hairstreak, and other interesting invertebrates, especially in the set-aside fields on the North-East side of Noar Hill, in the morning and **please bring lunch**

Wednesday 23rd August 2023

Idsworth Down/Charlton Down (SU735151) Meet at 10:30am

Target Species: Clouded Yellow, Brown Argus, Dark Green Fritillary, poss. Silver Spotted Skipper

Leader: Ashley Whitlock Tel: 02392 731266 Mob: 07752 731266

Directions: Follow signs from the A3 motorway for the Village of Chalton, turn left at the Red Lion Inn and then over Railway bridge where there is limited parking at the side of the road going up to Ditchem Park School. **Please Bring Lunch**

Sunday 27th August

Butser Hill (SU712205) Meet at 10:30am

Target Species: Adonis Blue, Silver Spotted Skipper

Leader: Ashley Whitlock Tel: 02392 731266 Mob: 07752 731266

Directions: Follow the signs from the A3 turnoff for Clanfield and then on towards signs for Butser Hill. There is a large mast on the top of the hill, park in the car-park where there is a charge. . **With very uneven steep slopes not for the feint hearted. . Please Bring Lunch**

Wednesday 30th August 2023

Beacon Hill NNR (SU605227) Meet at 10:30am

Target Species: Silver-Spotted Skipper, Brown Argus, Clouded Yellow spectacular views

Leader Ashley Whitlock Tel: 02392 731266 mob 07752 812340

Directions: Located just off the A32 the Wickham road from the south drive through Droxford village, and Corhampton Villages, then turn immediately left into the village of Exton (Easily missed) Past the public house called the Shoe Inn and along the narrow tracks up to Beacon Hill, to where the car-park is.

Sunday 3rd September 2023

Old Winchester Hill (SU640208) Meet at 10:30am

Target Species: Adonis Blue, Silver-Spotted Skipper, & Clouded Yellow

Leader Ashley Whitlock Tel: 02392 731266 mob 07752 812340

Directions: The reserve can be found from the north through West Meon on the A32 well-marked as a NNR Reserve, also from the south throughout the village of Droxford, again along the A32, very steep hillsides in places. **Please Bring Lunch**

Message from the field trip co-ordinator

Footnote: If the weather looks inclement then please phone the leader of the field trip advertised. I will personally change the date of my field trips if the long range weather suggests the weather is going to be wet and windy, on the Hants Butterfly website page a few days before and also on the Hampshire Butterfly Facebook page also my website www.purple-emperor.co.uk