

## I am to 4.30pm Garden Bioblitz, Hardy's Cottage

In 2014 over 200 species were recorded. Come and see or use your expertise to add to the list. Moth-trapping. Bat-recording. Craft demonstrations.

Park at Thorncombe Wood, map ref. SY 725921. DCC car park charges apply. National Trust members free.

Leader: John Newbould.

Enquires: tel. 01305 837384.

Hardy's Cottage visitor charges apply. National Trust members free.

### Saturday 2nd June

#### 10.30am Nea Meadows

Habitats include a meadow, scrubby woodland, and pond with characteristic aquatic vegetation; 340 species have been recorded on the site, including seven species of sedge, orchids such as Green-winged and Pyramidal, Corky-fruited Water-dropwort and Bog-bean. Meet at car park off of Smuggler's Lane South, Christchurch BH23 4NF, map ref. SZ 200937.

Leader: Phil Budd.

Bookings: e-mail preferred: Countryside@christchurchandeastdorset.gov.uk, or tel. 01425 470721.

Adults £3, children £1.50.

#### 2pm Stanpit Marsh

This is a two and a half hour walk. Site with interesting species in the recreation ground and rich flora on the marsh/saltmarsh, including plenty of members of the sedge family, Celery-leaved Buttercup, Bulbous Foxtail grass and Marsh Mallow. The ground can be wet in places. Exposed site.

Meet at car park in Stanpit Lane, Christchurch BH23 3NE, map ref. SZ 171924.

Leader: Phil Budd.

Bookings: e-mail preferred: Countryside@christchurchandeastdorset.gov.uk, or tel. 01425 470721.

Adults £3, children £1.50.

#### 2pm Lorton Meadows

Discover these wonderful wildflower meadows. See Pale Flax, Bird's-foot Trefoil, Grass Vetchling and many more species. Please wear suitable footwear for the weather and ground conditions. Meet at the Dorset Wildlife Trust Conservation Centre, Lorton Lane, Weymouth DT3 5QH, map ref. SY 674826.

Leader: Samantha Dallimore, Community Conservation Officer.

Bookings: 01305 816546 or e-mail: sdallimore@dorsetwildlifetrust.org.uk.

Adults £3.

### Sunday 3rd June

#### 2pm Bere Regis and Black Hill

A walk around the new Bere stream local nature reserve, May's Wood, and part of Black Hill Heath SSSI. There will be interesting plants and an opportunity to see a valuable conservation initiative. Meet at Elder Road, map ref. SY 845947.

Leader: Jon Crewe.

Bookings: tel. 07970 847344.

Donation of £3 to Dorset Flora Group welcome, children free.

Common Spotted-orchid. Bob Gibbons

# Dorset Wild Flower Week

## 26th May to 3rd June 2018

**D**ORSET IS ONE OF THE RICHEST COUNTIES IN BRITAIN FOR ITS RANGE OF WILD FLOWERS. The Dorset Flora Group was formed in 2007 to encourage residents and visitors to discover the flower-rich areas of the county and to learn more about their wild flowers.

Each year there is a programme of field meetings, of which Dorset Wild Flower Week is just a part. Meetings usually centre on gentle walks through countryside of great botanical interest. Membership of Dorset Flora Group is free; membership forms can be collected or obtained by post from Carolyn Steele, Dorset Environmental Records Centre, Dorset History Centre, Bridport Road, Dorchester, Dorset DT1 1RP; email: [derc@dorsetcc.gov.uk](mailto:derc@dorsetcc.gov.uk).

Beginners, improvers and experts are all welcome. Please wear sturdy footwear and clothing appropriate for the weather. Please do not bring dogs to the meetings. Each person attending does so on the understanding that he/she attends at his/her own risk.

Dorset Flora Group is linked to the Dorset Environmental Records Centre, Dorset Wildlife Trust, the National Trust, the Botanical Society of Britain and Ireland, Natural England and The Wild Flower Society.

# Dorset Wild Flower Week

## 26th May to 3rd June 2018

Discover some of Dorset's most spectacular sites for wild flowers with a special programme of guided walks



# Dorset Wild Flower Week

The Dorset Flora Group has organised this week, for the eighth year, in which residents and visitors can enjoy some of the beautiful wild flowers for which Dorset is famous.

The programme mostly consists of a series of guided walks, each one led by a local naturalist, who will help beginners and others to appreciate the plants and landscape of the county. Unless indicated, the walks will last about two hours. In some cases an afternoon walk is planned not far from a morning walk, to make it easy to join in both.

Come and enjoy as many walks as you like!

## Saturday 26th May

### 10am Winfrith Heath

Flowers of heathland and acid grassland. There will be a good range of flowers, rushes and sedges. Highlights might include Small-flowered Buttercup, Bird's-foot and Petty Whin. Some uneven ground. Walking boots or wellingtons advised.

Meet at roadside, map ref. SY 805863 on minor road.

Leaders: Jean and Tom Smith.

Bookings: tel. 01305 567537.

Donation of £3 to Dorset Flora Group welcome, children free.

### 2pm Wareham Common

A walk to see plants of grazed wet meadow and heathy grassland close to the River Piddle.

Meet at entrance to Common, Streche Rd, Wareham, map ref. SY 917875. Park in road, not on Common.

Leader: Jim White.

Bookings: tel. 01929 481535.

Donation of £3 to Dorset Flora Group welcome, children free.

## Sunday 27th May

### 2.30pm Durlston, Swanage

Flower-rich hay meadows at their best – downland flowers, too. A few slopes.

Meet at Country Park National Nature Reserve Castle Visitor Centre (car park charge), BH19 2JL, map ref. SZ 033772.

Leader: Ted Pratt.

Further information: tel. 01929 424443.

Adults £3, Friends of Durlston/children £2.

## Monday 28th May

### 10am Cogden Beach

Flowers of coastal grassland and fine, typical shingle flora at the west end of Chesil Bank.

Meet at National Trust car park off B3157, map ref. ST 502886.

Leader: Jim White.



Jim White with walkers at Kilwood in 2017.

Bookings: tel. 01929 481535.

Donation of £3 to Dorset Flora Group welcome, children free.

### 2pm Brackett's Copse

A walk through several flowery meadows and riverside woodland.

May be wet in places.

Meet at Dorset Wildlife Trust Reserve, Ryewater Lane,

map ref. ST 515107.

Very limited parking.

Leader: Jim White.

Bookings: tel. 01929 481535.

Donation of £3 to Dorset Flora Group welcome, children free.

## Tuesday 29th May

### 11am Brownsea Island

A walk round the eastern end of this National Trust island, including Dorset Wildlife Trust nature reserve, looking at the many species of trees and also the plants of grassland, woodland and marshland.

Meet by Public Hide, map ref. SZ 031877.

Leader: David Leadbetter.

Enquiries: tel. 01929 426988.

No charge, but boat fare payable from Sandbanks or Poole and National Trust landing fee (latter free to National Trust and Dorset Wildlife Trust members on production of cards).

### 2.30pm Corfe Common

A walk around the western side of Corfe Common to see the variety of wild flowers and other plants growing on grassy slopes and in damp ground.

Meet at West Street car park, Corfe Castle (charge applies), map ref. SY 958818.

Leader: Jonathan Cox.

Enquiries: tel. 07766 133696.

Donation of £3 to Dorset Flora Group welcome, children free.

## Wednesday 30th May

### 10.30am Kingcombe

A walk through the Dorset Wildlife Trust reserve, taking in some of Dorset's finest hay meadows and pasture, looking at the flowers and hearing folklore and history.

Café open afterwards for lunch or cream tea.

Meet at Kingcombe Centre DT2 0EQ, map ref. SY 554990.

Leader: Nick Gray.

Bookings: e-mail preferred: ngray@dorsetwildlifetrust.org.uk, or tel. 01300 320684.

Donation £3 to Dorset Flora Group welcome, children free.

### 2.30pm Studland dunes and Little Sea

Walk across the Studland dunes from the shore through to mature dune heath, finishing with some of the wetland plants in the dunes and Little Sea.

Meet: Studland Knoll Beach National Nature Reserve Discovery Centre car park, map ref. SZ 033836 (car parking charges unless you are a National Trust member).

Leader: David Brown.

Bookings: tel. 07768 846954 or 01929 452308.

Donation of £3 to Dorset Flora Group welcome.

## Thursday 31st May

### 10.30am Ballard Down

Rich variety of early summer downland flowers. Some slopes.

Meet at Ulwell lower lay-by, map ref. SZ 021809.

Leader: Ted Pratt.

Bookings: tel. 01929 427229 (Maximum 20).

Donation £3 to Dorset Flora Group welcome, children free.

### 2.30pm Three Barrows

Pretty miniature flowers in the fields opposite Three Barrows; larger ones, too, but be prepared to kneel down!

Meet on Soldiers Road by Three Barrows, map ref. SY 940844.

Leader: Ted Pratt.

Bookings: tel. 01929 427229 (Maximum 20).

Donation of £3 to Dorset Flora Group welcome, children free.

## Friday 1st June

### 10am Upton Heath

A short walk to see typical plants of dry & wet heath on one of the larger patches of Dorset heathland.

Meet at Dorset Wildlife Trust Reserve, Beacon Hill Road, map ref. SY 975950.

Leader: Jim White.

Bookings: tel. 01929 481535.

Donation of £3 to Dorset Flora Group welcome, children free.