

# **Hampshire Field Trips 2024**

**April 2024**

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Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> April 2024

Park Hill (afternoon only) **(SU685225)**

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

**Meet at 13:30 pm. Target Species: Orange Tip, Speckled Wood, early Invertebrates, Hares and good raptor watching**

**Directions:** From A3 follow signs for East Meon, the church is very prominent and the car-park is also signposted in Workhouse Lane (next to the Allotments). The large hillside behind East Meon church, nice pleasant walks around the village and onto Park Hill behind the church where there are good views of the Meon Valley.

**May 2024**

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Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> May 2024

Butser Hill **(SU712205)**

**Meet at 10:30am. Target Species: Duke of Burgundy, Grizzled Skipper,**

**Dingy Skipper, Emperor Moth, Red Kite and Cuckoo**

**Leader Ashley Whitlock Tel: 02392 731266 Mob 07752 812340**

**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. This will be a strenuous walk taking in a few Duke of Burgundy colonies. **With very uneven steep slopes not for the faint hearted. Please Bring Lunch.**

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Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2024

Broughton Down (**SU294327**)

**Meet at 10:30am. Target Species: Green Hairstreak Dingy & Grizzled Skippers  
Possible Duke of Burgundy**

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

**Directions:** From Romsey follow the A3057 north for signs to Spearywell, from B3084 follow north until you see a sign for Broughton. Turn left along a rough track. Broughton Down is in front of you. Or from A343/A30 from the north follow A30 until you see a sign for the B3084 for Broughton. **Please Bring Lunch.**

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Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> May 2024

Farley Mount (**SU435295**)

**Meet at 09:30am. Target Species: Duke of Burgundy and Pearl-Bordered Fritillary**

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

**Directions:** Well signposted along the old Roman Road known as the Sarum Road from Winchester, the area has many car-parks, but park at the Pitt Down car-park known as Spindle Tree Car-Park. This is a long day so bring lunch, in the morning we will circumnavigate West Wood and look in on Crab Wood, and then in the afternoon look at Pitt Down. **Please Bring Lunch.**

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Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> May 2024

Morning - Standing Hat (**SU314035**)

Afternoon - Pig Bush (**SU362049**)

**Meet at 10:30am. Target Species: Pearl-Bordered Fritillary, Speckled Wood, Cuckoo & Emperor Moth**

**Leader - Ashley Whitlock Tel- 02392 731266 Mobile 07752 182340**

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, turn left at Bulmer Lawn Hotel and follow the track up to the car-park known as Standing Hat. A circular walk, taking in many wildflowers and normally the sound of the Cuckoo, It is very muddy at this time of the year. **Please bring lunch** and appropriate walking boots. **(OS Map OL22)** If just coming for the afternoon then please find the M27 Junction 1, come off there at Cadnam then the A337 south and then the B3056 through Lyndhurst. Find Beaulieu Railway Station and then the large car park opposite Culverley Farm.

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Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> May 2024

Martin Down (**SU045195**)

**Meet at 09:30am. Target Species: Adonis Blue, Small Blue, Marsh Fritillary, Brown Argus, rare invertebrates, with possible Duke of Burgundy, and good flora and fauna**

**Leader Ashley Whitlock Tel: 02392 731266 mob 07752 812340**

**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, turn left into Sillens Lane. Park at the end of the road/track, we are going to look at Martin Down from a different angle. Note the time please as the site is quite large, and we can look at the site where the Duke of Burgundy has been reported. **Please Bring Lunch.**

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Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2024

## Danebury Hill Fort (SU323376)

**Meet at 10:30am. Target Species: Possible Wall Brown**

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

**Directions:** An 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.**

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**(Wood White Field Trip with Surrey group) T.B.A. Please watch Facebook and Website for more Information**

## June 2024

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Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> June 2024

## Broxhead Common (afternoon only) (SU805376)

**Meet at 13:30pm. Target Species: Silver-Studded Blue**

**Leader: Ashley Whitlock [Tel:02392 731266](tel:02392731266) Mobile: 07752 182340**

**Directions:** Follow the main road A325 north or south until you reach Bordon camp, go right and follow the Lindford road signposted Lindford /Headley. Broxhead Common can be found the first left as you go along the B3004. See signpost for Broxhead Common Nature Reserve Park in the cricket ground.

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Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> June 2024

## Abbotstone Down (**SU583364**)

**Meet at 09:30am. Target Species: Marbled White, Dark-Green Fritillary, possible Purple Emperor and other good flora and fauna**

**Leader Ashley Whitlock Tel: 02392 731266 mob 07752 812340**

**Directions:** On the M3 motorway come off at Junction 9 Winchester By-pass take the A33 Basingstoke Road, B3047, follow signs to Itchen Abbas, then on to Itchen Stoke. Arriving at New Alresford at church head north into Old Alresford (B3046) signposted Abbotstone Down & Oliver's Battery Settlement Car-Park. An old field trip site good flora and fauna, with woodland and chalk downland. **Please Bring Lunch.**

## July 2024

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Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2024

## Abbotts Wood Inclosure (**SU810422**)

**Meet at 09:30 am. Target Species: Purple Emperor, White Admiral,**

**Silver-Washed Fritillary, Possibly Red Kite, and Buzzard**

**Leader - Ashley Whitlock Tel- 02392 731266 Mobile 07752 182340**

**Directions:** From the North along the A325 go through Farnham, through Wrecclesham/Bird World. 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 0930. 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 on to Dockenfield Street. Car-park will be on your left, bring lunch (OS Map Explorer 14). **Please Bring Lunch.**

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Friday 5<sup>th</sup> July 2024

## West Walk (**SU601125**)

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

**Leader: Ashley Whitlock Tel: 02392 731266 Mob 07752 812340**

**Directions:** Find Wickham Village just north of Fareham and find the turning B2177 next to the church opposite the old railway bridge. Drive for a couple of miles and see the sign for hundred acres and turn left and the road will undulate before you get to the car-park close to the caravan park. There is a fee for the car-park, but there is an exceptional coffee and cake van on site! **Please bring lunch.**

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Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> July 2024

## Whiteley Walk & Botley Wood (**SU530095**)

**Meet at 09:30am. Target Species: Purple Emperor, Purple Hairstreak, and White Admiral**

**Leader - Ashley Whitlock Tel- 02392 731266 Mobile 07752 182340**

**Directions:** Approach from the West or East on the M27, and at Junction 9 (Solent Business Park) drive towards the Whiteley Outlet Village. At the Solent Business Park meet in the car-park (Marks and Spencer's) opposite (3 hours maximum free-before payment) of the Whiteley Outlet Village. A walk around one of the best woods in Hampshire for Silver-Washed Fritillary and White Admiral butterflies. **Please bring lunch.**

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Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> July 2024

## Carpenters Down Wood/Basing Wood (RG249NA)

**Meet at 09:30am. Target Species: Purple Emperor, Purple Hairstreak &**

**White Letter Hairstreak**

**Leader: Ashley Whitlock Tel: 02392 731266 mob 07752 812340**

**Directions:** On the M3 Motorway going north or south come off at Junction 6 and at first roundabout A339 north then to the 3<sup>rd</sup> roundabout Crockford Roundabout/Carpenters Down Road find the A33 Reading Road, first roundabout along the Reading Road take the first left. The wood should be on your right hand side. **There are parking changes at Basing Wood. Parking is at Popley Community Centre car park.**

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Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> July 2024

## Swanwick Lakes (SO31 7AY)

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

**Leader: Ashley Whitlock Tel: 02392 731266 mob 07752 812340**

**Address: Sopwith Way, Swanwick Lane, Swanwick SO31 7AY**

Swanwick Lakes is a 35-hectare nature reserve in Swanwick in Hampshire. It is managed by the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust. Most of this site is woodland, and there are also meadows and lakes in former clay pits. The north-east meadow has many orchids and butterflies.

**Directions:** M27 Junction 9 go south over three roundabouts find A3051/Park Gate go back over motorway along Botley Road go left at next turning Swanwick Lane past Elm Tree Public House Swanwick Nature Reserve is at the bottom of Sopwith Way (MARKED).

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Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> July 2024  
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.**

## **August 2024**

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Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> August 2024  
Shipton Bellinger (SU222465)

**Meet at 09:30am. Target Species: Brown Hairstreak, Wall Brown**

**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. **Please bring lunch.**

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Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> August 2024

Noar Hill (**SU745316**)

**Meet 10:30am. Target Species: Brown Hairstreak, Purple Hairstreak,**

**Brown Argus, Clouded Yellow, good flora and fauna**

**Leader - Ashley Whitlock Tel- 02392 731266 Mobile 07752 182340**

*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. Please bring lunch as in the afternoon we walk over to Selbourne Common, on the way looking at the Blackthorn hedges for any indication that the Brown Hairstreak is not confined to Noar Hill. Park on the small road alongside Charity farm marked on the OS Map Explorer 133. **Please bring lunch.***

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Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> August 2024

Beacon Hill (**SU605227**)

**Meet at 10:30. 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 village, 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. **Please bring lunch.***

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Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> August 2024

## Soberton Down/River Meon (**SU612165**)

**Meet at 10:30am. Target Species: Possible Brown Hairstreak**

**Leader Ashley Whitlock Tel: 02392 731266 mob 07752 812340**

**Directions:** This site has been a good area now for several years where Brown Hairstreak eggs have been found, so chances of seeing a female laying may well be possible. Found along the Wickham Road (A32). Park in the car-park almost opposite the site, where the Town Hall is situated. We can also walk along the river Meon where there is another site where Brown Hairstreak eggs have been found, also Kingfisher, Dragonflies and other interesting flora and fauna. **Please Bring Lunch.**

## **September 2024**

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Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> September 2024

## 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 through the village of Droxford, again along the A32, very steep hillsides in places. **Please Bring Lunch.**

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Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2024

## Portsdown Hill (PO6 3LS)

**Meet at 10:30am. Target Species Brown Hairstreak, Common Blue, Clouded Yellow & Wall Brown**

**Leader: Ashley Whitlock: Tel 02392 731266 mob: 07752 182340**

**Directions:** Please find The Churchillian Pub, Portsdown Hill Rd, Cosham, Portsmouth PO6 3LS. Directions are very similar to Portsdown Hill but instead of turning into the Fort Widley Car-Park drive further along the James Callahan Drive until you see the Churchillian Public House, where there is a separate car-park other than the car-park for the public house.

**Date to be announced September/October 2024**

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**Dependant on weather and target species being observed**

## Portchester Common & Portsdown Hill

**Meet at 10:30am. Target Species Long-Tailed Blue**

**Directions:** From the (A3) south into Portsmouth look for sign for Queen Drive towards Fort Widley. From the M27 find Junction 12 Southampton road (A3) then signposted to Queen Alexandra Hospital along London Road turn left at traffic lights, past Alexandra Hospital. Southwick Hill Road very steep up to B2177 onto James Callahan Drive roundabout then head east where the car-park is situated on the left hand side as you steep hill. Look for James Callahan Roundabout and follow signs for Fort Widley where the car park is on the left hand side.

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## ***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.*

*<http://www.purple-emperor.co.uk>*