

2016 Field Trips Programme – Isle of Wight

For mothing evenings, bring a torch and warm clothing and a flask of something hot to drink; insect repellent is advisable in the summer. Please contact the named leader for each event for more information.

Monday 18 April, meet at 7:30pm

Windy Gap, St Catherine's Point (SZ494758), site: National Trust

Leader: James Halsey, Email: jameshalsey1@hotmail.co.uk

Directions: meet at the National Trust car park at the end of Old Blackgang Road. If the weather is bad on the day, this event will be rescheduled for 19, 20 or 21 April. Please contact James.

Moth trapping and search for Sloe Carpet Moth (not yet recorded from this site).

Saturday 14 May, meet at 1:00pm

Mount Joy, Newport (SZ485877)

Leader: Stuart Read, Tel: 07877 333734, Email: s.jread@btinternet.com

Directions: meet in front of Carisbrooke Castle gatehouse. Free parking available in Carisbrooke Castle car park.

Aiming to see: Small, Adonis and Common Blue

Friday 27 May, Meet at 10:30am

Compton (SZ367854), site: National Trust

Leader: Sue Davies, Tel: 07702 151312

Directions: meet in the Afton Down chalk-pit car park beside A3055. On the No. 12 bus route. Some steep steps and uneven ground so wear sturdy footwear.

Aiming to see: Glanville Fritillary, Wall, Green Hairstreak, Small Blue

Wednesday 1 June, meet at 9:00pm

Oaks Cottage, Hillisgate, Parkhurst (SZ475924), site: Ian Merrifield

Leader: Ian Merrifield, Tel: 01983 297132

Directions: meet in Ian's garden a little before 9pm. At the traffic lights on Horsebridge Hill, turn west on to Noke Common Road. Continue to Hillisgate entrance to the forest; at this junction proceed towards Marks Corner. Oaks Cottage is the second entrance on the right at the beginning of the road. Parking available in paddock in garden.

Moth trapping

Thursday 23 June, meet at 10:30am

Shide Chalk Pit, Pan Hill Meadows and Pan Country Park (SZ503881), site: Isle of Wight Council LNR

Leaders: Matthew Chatfield and Carol Flux, Gift to Nature, Tel: 01983 296244, Email: info@naturalenterprise.co.uk

Directions: meet at Shide Meadows Centre, Shide Road, Newport PO30 1HR. Turn alongside National Tyres to reach the centre and car park behind.

Butterfly survey: these sites have lots of potential but have not been surveyed properly before.

Wednesday 6 July, meet at 10:30am

St Catherine's Point (SZ500757), site: National Trust

Leader: Andy Butler, Tel: 01983 854925

Directions: meet at the top of Lighthouse Road, where roadside parking is available. Please note that this walk is fairly strenuous with some steep slopes.

Aiming to see: High-summer butterflies and search for White-letter Hairstreak

Sunday 17 July, meet at 10:30am

Northwood Cemetery (SZ493948)

Leader: Friends of Northwood Cemetery,

Email: historian@friendsofnorthwoodcemetery.org.uk

Directions: meet in the Cowes Medical Centre car park, 200 Newport Road, Cowes PO31 7ER. Parking for this event is with kind permission of the medical centre but is at your own risk. Also note that there may be restoration work going on in the cemetery and therefore be careful around any equipment that may be lying around.

Aiming to see: Purple Hairstreak and other summer butterflies

Saturday 23 July, meet at 1:00pm

Carisbrooke Castle, Newport (SZ485877), site: English Heritage

Leader: Stuart Read, Tel: 07877 333734, Email: s.jread@btinternet.com

Directions: meet in front of Carisbrooke Castle gatehouse. Free parking available in Carisbrooke Castle car park.

Aiming to see: Chalkhill Blue, Marbled White and skippers

Thursday 11 August, meet at 10:30am

Mottistone Down (SZ420845), site: National Trust

Leader: Caroline Dudley, Tel: 01983 754935

Directions: meet at the NT Jubilee car park, Mottistone Down.

Aiming to see: Grayling and other downland butterflies

Caroline Dudley, IoW Events Organiser