

Surrey Botanical Society - Field Meetings Programme 2023

Unless otherwise stated, meetings will start at 10.30. Please arrive by 10.15 so that we can make a prompt start. Each meeting will contain a strong educational component to help new or less experienced members. Bring packed lunch as all-day meetings. Many will be on uneven or wet ground so please ensure that you wear appropriate clothes and footwear.

Date	Field meeting details
Thursday 27 th April	<p>Reigate, The Clears, Colley Copse for spring flora in privately-owned ancient woodland on Gault Clay. If time permits, we shall also record in nearby Colley Wood. There is very limited parking in The Clears so please park considerably at the west end of Manor Road and meet by the junction with Coppice Lane. (TQ 2453 5106). N.B. Manor Road should be approached from the east via Somers Road (just north of the level crossing on the west side of the A217) and not via Coppice Road which is unmetalled and very rutted.</p> <p>Leader: Caroline Bateman</p>
Saturday 6 th May	<p>Pirbright Junction, Camping Ground/Hodge Brook for dry acid grassland, some heath and damp woodland by brook. Meet at a small MOD car park on south side of B3012 Gapemouth Road (SU 9225 5623). Potential further parking if needed by the railway bridge a short distance to the west (SU 9208 5618).</p> <p>Leader: Bill Stanworth</p>
Friday 12 th May	<p>Reigate Heath Sports Pitch for spring ephemerals of acid grassland. Use car parks on either side of Flanchford Road just south-west of the sports pitch (TQ 2386 5024).</p> <p>Leader: Susan Medcalf</p>
Sunday 28 th May	<p>Wishmoor Bottom (joint meeting with Berkshire) for unusual wet valley mire and drier edges with highlights including <i>Dryopteris cristata</i> (Crested Buckler-fern) and spring ephemerals. Park on King's Ride (SU 8753 6206). This is a residential road so please be considerate when parking.</p> <p>Leaders: Isobel Girvan & Mick Crawley</p>
Saturday 17 th June	<p>Headley Heath for recording in several areas of species-rich chalk grassland. Meet at the National Trust Headley Heath car park opposite the cricket ground in Headley Common Road (TQ 2051 5383). Parking free for NT members. Others will need to pay at the pay and display machine or by "paybyphone". £4 for up to 4 hours; £6 for 5 hours and more.</p> <p>Leader: Peter Wakeham</p>
Sunday 25 th June	<p>Painshill Park Space4Nature Bioblitz for baseline recording of C18th landscaped gardens with a lake, woodland, vineyard and grassland. Meet at the main car park off Between Streets - the name of the road! (TQ1027 6010). Recorders will have free entry so if you wish to join the SBS recording group, please let Isobel Girvan know by Thursday 22 June at the latest. (isobel.girvan@surreywt.org.uk).</p> <p>Leader: Space4Nature/SWT</p>
Saturday 1 st July	<p>Crowhurst Place and Ardenrun Farm for baseline recording of approximately 100ha (250 acres) of former farmland that is being 'rewilded'. There is some ancient woodland with <i>Sorbus torminalis</i> (Wild Service-tree) and possible <i>Pyrus pyraeaster</i> (Wild Pear) as well as orchards and shaws to explore. The fields and meadows have patches of native species where <i>Lathyrus nissolia</i> (Grass Vetchling) and <i>Hordeum secalinum</i> (Meadow Barley) are widespread. Meet at Ardenrun Farm RH7 6LN (TQ 3780 4597). To get there, follow the long driveway (Ardenrun) east of Tandridge Lane, past Moat farm where the track turns north to Ardenrun Farm.</p> <p>Leader: Hattie Baber & John Madden</p>
Saturday 15 th July	<p>Blindley Heath for general recording in damp Wealden Clay grassland with a small woodland area, several ponds and a stream. Notable species are <i>Genista anglica</i> (Petty Whin), <i>Achillea ptarmica</i> (Sneezewort), <i>Menyanthes trifoliata</i> (Bogbean) and a good number of sedges and grasses. Meet in the Red Barn pub car park (TQ 3705 4516) corner of Ray Lane and Tandridge Lane and we have agreed to partake of their refreshments afterwards.</p> <p>Leader: Jon Wilson</p>
Thursday 20 th July	<p>Effingham Common for general recording, following on from last year's field meeting. Meet at Effingham Cricket Club off Effingham Common Road. The driveway is sign posted. Limited</p>

	<p>parking at the rear of the clubhouse (TQ 1053 5524), so car share if you can or come by train as it is a ten-minute walk from Effingham Junction train station.</p> <p>Leader: Honor Gay</p>
<p>Wednesday, 9th August</p>	<p>Basingstoke Canal for botanical interest. Suitable for beginners. Meet at car park on the north side of Gapemouth Rd by the railway bridge (SU 9208 5618), west of Pirbright. Waterproof footwear is advisable. Potential further parking is small MOD car park on south side of Gapemouth Road (SU 9225 5623).</p> <p>Leader: George Hounsome</p>
<p>Thursday 24th August</p> <p>[Note the 11.00am start.]</p>	<p>Putney for urban botany in a range of habitats. Meet outside Putney Station on the east side of Putney High Street (TQ 2398 7509) at 11.00am. Parking could be difficult, so it is advisable to travel by public transport using off-peak tickets.</p> <p>Leader: Clare Million</p>
<p>Wednesday 27th September</p> <p>[Note the 11.00am start.]</p>	<p>Greenland Dock/North Greenwich for a circular route (two to three miles on flat surfaced ground) with the Kent Botanical Recording Group. Meet at 11.00am at Surrey Quays Overground Station (Lower Road exit TQ 3562 7897). Canada Water Station is a short walk away if this station is more convenient for travelling. Parking could be difficult, so it is recommended that you travel by public transport using off-peak tickets. During our circuit we expect to encounter an interesting variety of ruderals and aliens. For the pteridologists among us, some interesting ferns have been recorded on dock and river walls.</p> <p>Leaders: Caroline Bateman & Geoffrey Kitchener</p>

All those attending SBS field meetings do so at their own risk