

# SBS Field Meetings Programme 2025



**Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> April** **Ottershaw, Homewood Park** for acid grassland recording after a positive change in management. Andi Roy - Biodiversity Officer for Runnymede Borough Council will provide a short introduction to the site and lead the group around the park. Meet in the main Homewood Park car park, off Stonehill Road. Note: SBS members need not pay for parking. See <https://www.tbhpartnership.org.uk/greenspace/homewood-park> for background information. TQ02006509, KT16 0AP, ///pouch.agrees.deflection  
**Leader:** Andi Roy & Isobel Girvan

**Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> May** **Buckland, Tapwood Lake** for early spring flora in this former sand quarry and surrounding woodland. If you would like to attend this meeting **booking is essential**. To book your place, please contact Caroline on [caroline.bateman@outlook.com](mailto:caroline.bateman@outlook.com) who will provide detailed instructions on where to meet. TQ23385076, RH2 9RG, ///spaces.impose.diner  
**Leader:** Caroline Bateman

**Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> May** **Farleigh, Greatpark Wood** (& if time Littlepark Wood) for 18 hectares of ancient woodland recording. Park and meet at Elm Farm by farm buildings, with a short walk south on paths to the woods. TQ36286049, CR6 9PE, ///cute.door.boil  
**Leader:** Scott Wood & SWT

**Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> May** **Chertsey, Sandgates to Barrsbrook Farm** for general recording. We will be looking out for grassland species including Changing Forget-me-not, Early Forget-me-not and Bee Orchid at Sandgates. Then across the road from Sandgates is the large, abandoned Barrsbrook Farm which has degraded to rank grassland but still holds some interest due to its extensive ditch system and aged hedgerows. Park in residential road leading up towards Sandgates residential area (car park marked on maps is closed) south side of A320 Guildford Road, just east of M25 or Barrsbrook Farm Road. Meet by closed Sandgates car park. TQ03396611, KT16 9LT, ///reap.drops.socket  
**Leaders:** Andi Roy & Bill Stanworth

**Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> June** **Wisley Car Park 5 and fields adjacent** for recording in rough previously unrecorded grassland, scrubby woodland and an old orchard. After lunch we will return to record car parks 1, 2 and 3. Park and meet in main Wisley car park off Wisley Lane in car park 3 as far north as you can go, and we will walk up to car park 5. TQ06575871, GU23 6QA, ///lies.notes.this  
**Leaders:** James Alvarez & Jon Wilson

**Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> June** **Bletchingley, Quarry Hangers** for chalk grassland recording session at a Surrey Wildlife Trust nature reserve. Please note the **terrain is very steep** in places. Meet in the SWT parking area off Spring Bottom Lane and opposite Rockshaw Cottage. Car sharing is to be encouraged, email Ava Marley [avasplanet@hotmail.com](mailto:avasplanet@hotmail.com) TQ31545359, RH1 4QZ, ///amuse.olive.hails  
**Leaders:** Ava Marley & Peter Wakeham

**Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> June** **Elstead, Weyburn Meadows** for botanical interest. This site is on the edge of River Wey we will look at both wet and dry grassland. Meet in the car park at the end of Water Meadow Close. Additional parking is possible on the verges of Shackleford Road near Somerset Bridge. Wellingtons advised. SU92054387, GU8 6LB, ///lungs.geese.punctuate  
**Leader:** George Hounsome

**Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> June** **Lower Puttenham Common** for general recording on acid heathland and woodland with some steep gradients. Meet at the Britty Wood car park south of Littleworth Road. The common is owned by the Hampton Estate who are a partner of Heathland Connections and clearance work has been done to restore the former more open heathland and wetter areas. It will be interesting to see what species have reappeared as well as perhaps new ones such Smooth Cat's-ear and Sand Spurrey. SU90474560, GU10 1JJ, ///broken.giggle.heartburn  
**Leader:** Jon Wilson

**Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> June** **Witley woodland** for botanical goodies such as Lesser Skullcap and Bird's-nest Orchid. Meet opposite the houses on Culmer Lane to the east of the railway bridge. There is some parking here, with additional parking a three-minute walk away at junction of Culmer Lane and Sweetwater Lane. Meet opposite the houses. We will spend half the day in the surrounding woodlands and heathland where the terrain is fairly flat. After lunch we will record the wet woodlands where the terrain is more difficult, with wellies essential, as parts of the woodland are very wet. SU95193899, GU8 5SR, ///warm.soggy.doses with additional parking at ///beards.rob.es.rejoiced  
**Leader:** James Alvarez

<b>Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> July</b>	<b>BSBI EVENT Mitcham Common, Merton, Surrey</b> Joint with the London Natural History Society. Meet at the junction of Commonsides East and Cedar's Avenue (TQ284686) at 11:00 (11:00–16:00). This urban common was once home to the now Critically Endangered Starfruit which was last seen in 1940; sadly, recent reintroduction attempts appear to have failed. Suitable for beginners and experts. <b>Leader:</b> Mark Spencer
<b>Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> July</b>	<b>Lingfield Nature Reserve</b> for general recording. John Madden will guide us around this site which supports a mixture of meadows, hedges, woodland, an orchard, as well as a wetland area with a number of ponds and small pools. Park carefully on Vicarage Road south of the reserve, meet by the entrance next to Glebe Close. TQ3870 4386, RH7 6AX, ///lime.hang.cattle <b>Leaders:</b> John Madden & Caroline Bateman
<b>Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> July</b>	<b>Polesden Lacey</b> to continue recording areas of chalk grassland within the estate. Park in the main car park and meet in the courtyard just beyond the main gate. Emily from National Trust will take non-members through a private gate. TQ1346 5246, KT23 4PZ, ///weedy.blur.jazzy <b>Leader:</b> Jon Wilson
<b>Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> August</b>	<b>Reigate Heath</b> aimed at <b>beginners and new members</b> , although all levels are welcome to join in a relaxed teaching session. We will be taking a gentle walk through dry heathland to learn how to identify some of the common species. Some slopes involved. Park in the two car parks on Flanchford Road (north and south). TQ23855023, RH2 8AB, ///risk.meant.modest <b>Leaders:</b> Jon Wilson and Isobel Girvan
<b>Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> August 10.45 for an 11 start</b>	<b>Shirley and West Wickham.</b> Joint meeting with Kent Botanical Recording Group to explore the Surrey/Kent botanical border which partly follows one of the tributaries of the River Pool. As well as woodland and streamside habitats, we shall be focusing on the urban flora of the area. Meet at <b>south</b> end of Eresby Drive by the junction with Monks Orchard Road. There is free parking along Monks Orchard Road and in neighbouring streets. If using public transport, West Wickham Station is a short walk away and there are regular bus services from East Croydon and Elmers End. The SL5 Superloop bus service from East Croydon is a frequent and rapid service taking approximately 15 mins. Get off at Bethlem Royal Hospital. <b>Please note that we shall be meeting at 10.45 for an 11.00 start.</b> TQ37356635, BR3 3SL, ///simple.camp.actual <b>Leaders:</b> Caroline Bateman and Geoffrey Kitchener
<b>Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> August</b>	<b>Tilford, Farnham Heath &amp; Bourne Woods</b> for recording open rides, acid grassland and heathland. Parking in RSPB car park, at the back of Rural Life Museum, Tilford. SU85814330, GU10 2DL, ///boils.reform.scoring <b>Leaders:</b> Isobel Girvan & Bill Stanworth
<b>Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> August</b>	<b>BSBI EVENT Old Deer Park, Richmond upon Thames</b> Joint with the London Natural History Society. Meet on the north side of the bridge crossing Twickenham Road (TQ17797531) at 11.00 (11:00–16:00). Joint LNHS and BSBI recording session. This site on the Thames Floodplain is currently being restored by the Rewilding Arcadia project and is showing promising signs of recovery. It contains naturally flooding areas as well as recently dug ephemeral ponds. Suitable for beginners and experts. <b>Leader:</b> Henry Miller
<b>Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September</b>	<b>Streatham Common</b> for woodland and urban botany. LNHS will also be invited to join us. This visit will explore Streatham Common woodland, then through Norwood Grove to Biggin Wood, part of the Great North Wood complex. We will return via quiet roads in search of pavement weeds. Meet at Streatham Common South car park (free of charge). Regular buses serve the area with Streatham and Streatham Common train stations being a short walk away. TQ30907095, SW16 3BZ, ///sharp.gift.zebra <b>Leader:</b> Jane Lowe
<b>Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> October</b>	<b>Social, Box Hill Village Hall.</b> An opportunity to meet up with fellow members and enjoy the raffle, quiz and a slideshow of botanical photographs. The hall is on Boxhill Road 1 mile east of the Box Hill Viewpoint. TQ1952 5149, KT20 7JS, ///many.spin.minus

Please note: postcodes for general area only, GR and /// are more precise. With /// take care with plurals. 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.