

Stratfield Brake East Woodland, south of The Triangle Survey of Plants, Invertebrates and Fungi

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For Friends of Stratfield Brake

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Summary

Species records are presented for this site. There is sufficient evidence from tree structure and flora present to conclude this is Ancient Woodland. A wood bank or old raised trackway at the southern margin on a parish boundary provides further evidence.

Aim

To make a preliminary assessment of the biodiversity of this woodland and look for features and species indicative of Ancient Woodland habitat in this land which is directly adjacent and to the south of the 'Triangle'.

Introduction

I am an experienced Freelance Ecologist who has lived in Kidlington since 1984. I have been employed on species survey work in Oxfordshire by Natural England, BBOWT, Oxford City Council, private landowners and Local Wildlife Groups. I am very familiar with the habitats in the general Stratfield Brake area, especially the hedgerows and verges (I have assisted in botanical verge survey of Frieze Way with a local Natural History Society). My particular expertise is identification of plants, invertebrates and fungi, I have 45 years of experience of the first group and 30 years of experience in identifications of the other groups. I am a regular voluntary species recorder in these groups for Thames Valley Environmental Records Centre (TVERC) and I am a member of the Biodiversity Strategy Steering Group for Oxford City.

Visits

This woodland strip was visited twice: on 12.08.2023 and 09.08.2023, to record what plants, invertebrates and fungi might be found. Time spent was three hours in total in good warm sunny weather. Two visits are adequate to record the majority of plants on this small site except for spring flowering species which die back by midsummer. More than two visits would be needed to get any reasonable assessment of the diversity of mammals, birds, invertebrates and fungi on site. Some photographs of species and habitats of this site are in Appendix I. Tables of species found are in Appendix II.

History

The site is marked as woodland **with almost the same outline as today** on the earliest maps available to view from 1882-1887 (1) and this indicates this East section of woodland was once continuous with the current Stratfield Brake West section woodland. USAAF Aerial photos show the two halves connected until at least 1944 (2). The two East and West strips of woodland were obviously separated and isolated by the construction of Frieze Way, now a dual carriageway road. The construction of the A34 chopped off part of the easternmost end of the woodland. If this woodland once belonged to nearby Frieze Farm, this reference to coppices (3) may be the earliest to detail woodland on site (my emphasis):

'In 1730 and 1783 Fries farm comprised the Mead (10 a.), two coppices (1 1/2 a.), and 6 grounds and 2 closes (c. 186 a.), at least one of which, Wheat close (11 a.), may have been arable.....By 1863 the farm had been reduced to 160 a., of which c. 120 were arable, c. 37 a. grass or meadow, and 1 1/2 a. wood''

Conservation Designation

This strip of woodland is part of the designated Cherwell District Wildlife Site (DWS) ‘**Stratfield Brake**’ (both sections either side of Frieze Way) Code 41V21, area 20.98ha. The main part of this wildlife site is Stratfield Brake West on the western side of Frieze Way. The whole of Stratfield Brake Woodland either side of this road is mapped as **dark green** i.e. part of a ‘Core zone’ of valuable wildlife area in the proposed **Nature Recovery Network for Oxfordshire** by Thames Valley Environmental Record Centre (4).

Site Margins

Deep drainage ditches surround the Stratfield Brake East woodland on all sides. On the north side, two wire fences approximately 1-2m apart separate the woodland ditch from the open area of the Triangle. On the southern side a **raised bank** (5-6m wide), or possibly an **old raised trackway** (in light of the width) is apparent on the inside of the woodland on the inside of the drainage ditch separating the site from the arable field to the south (see photo in Appendix I). This is in the location of Kidlington Parish Boundary according to the most recent O.S. map. A wire fence separates the drainage ditch from the arable field on higher ground to the south.

Topography and Soil Conditions

The land in the Triangle to the north slopes gently down towards this woodland strip at the south. The arable field to the south slopes gently down northwards to this woodland. Thus this strip of **woodland would appear to occupy a shallow valley** between the southern arable field and the Triangle. Water would thus have tended to move towards the site and pool, making a very wet site, before the marginal deep drainage ditches were dug. The soil is obviously heavy, even today sometimes waterlogged, mainly clay. At the visits, the clayey soil still showed cracking despite recent summer rainfall.

The woodland may have survived the arable cultivation that all surrounding fields were under because the clay soil here was regularly too wet to plough (before the ability to insert land drains as today). In running through this woodland, Frieze Way had to be on raised ground, 1.0-1.5m at least higher than the adjacent woodland.

Trees

Relatively few species of full-sized trees are present. The most impressive feature of this woodland on entering is the remaining large mature Pedunculate Oak trees and Ash trees still standing. Some of these are ‘maiden’ single trunk trees (standards), others show evidence of past pollarding (major limbs branching at head height) or are **outgrown coppice stools** with multiple trunks arising from a single base. Some of these coppice stools are likely very old. One Ash coppice stool of 2m basal diameter and one large Oak coppice stool of 3m basal diameter are present (see photos in the Appendix). Historically coppice shoots were cut on a **10 to 25 year cycle** to provide small diameter poles for building and fencing. For Oak, one source suggests an increase in diameter of **0.3m per 100years**, which would put this **3m diameter Oak stool at 1000years old** (5). Of course growth rates may vary and not all coppice stools of this size may be that old, but certainly several hundred years is probable.

The other prominent trees are one large, and some smaller, Sycamores. Obviously the woodland has been harvested for wood products in the past. Smaller tree species include Field Maples and Hawthorn. It is possible that some of the dead standing trees might have been Ash affected by Ash Dieback (*Chalara*). English Elm trees (*Ulmus procera* – not actually a native elm but an ancient introduction from Italy, possibly by the Romans) must

have once been common on the southern margin, but these are now represented mostly by fallen dead trunks and young sucker growth due to the effects of Dutch Elm Disease, which kills young trees above a certain trunk diameter. Live English Elm is therefore present mostly only as young growth in the understory. One Horse Chestnut and one Crab Apple tree are also present. Common Ivy is present as a climber with dense foliage growth on the trunks of two of the mature oak trees, this ivy covering may provide roosting sites for bats.

At least four mature maiden or standard Oaks have died and fallen and are now dead large horizontal trunks which have mostly lost their bark but one still has bark on. The presence of English Elm on the south side is typical of the fact that the raised trackway there is along the parish boundary as such ancient boundaries are commonly where English Elm was planted; likely originally as a hedge next to the deep ditch to the arable field at the very wood edge.

Shrub layer (Understory)

The shrub layer includes areas with occasional Elder, Dewberry, Bramble or locally abundant suckers of Blackthorn and suckers of English Elm with some Common Hawthorn, a Midland Hawthorn, occasional Dog Rose, Wild Privet, one Spindle and a Grey Willow on the southern margin. Unusually, big patches of Wild Honeysuckle (normally a climber) carpet the soil in a couple of areas rather than growing up the trees.

Ground Flora (Field Layer)

The field layer comprises 22 species including locally frequent Wood False Brome, Wood Meadow-grass, Herb Robert, Ground Ivy, Garlic Mustard and small amounts of Tufted Hair Grass, Cuckoo Pint, Wood Sedge, Hairy Brome, Wood Avens, Dog's Mercury, Enchanter's Nightshade, Three-nerved Sandwort and two fern species (Male Fern and Broad Buckler Fern). Native Bluebells had obviously been present in spring but only dead stalks and empty pods were apparent by August. A small area on the south side has a big patch of Common Nettle, Cleavers and Hemlock indicating local nutrient enrichment. The presence of small numbers of Foxglove in the centre of the woodland indicates slightly acid soil conditions; as sometimes occurs with waterlogged clay. An unidentifiable (at this time of year) violet species is present. Wood Avens and Red Campion are present but rare.

Ash regeneration was evident as a swarm of less than 50cm high saplings towards the eastern end of the wood. No regeneration of Oak was seen, this is a very common situation in rather shady woods. Oak seedlings need the higher light levels of glades or open ground.

Eight moss species and one liverwort species were found either on the woodland floor or on tree boles and bark. All are common. It is unusual to find a lot of **Foxtail Feather-moss** on the soil either as characteristic mounds or detached 'balls' in the western section. This moss indicates more mildly base-rich conditions than in the centre of the wood where the Foxgloves are growing.

All these species mentioned are very typical of deciduous woodland. In the context of the Oxfordshire flora, good numbers of Native Bluebells and the abundant swathes of Wood Meadow Grass are indicative of Ancient Woodland, as are smaller amounts of Hairy Brome, Pendulous Sedge, Three-nerved Sandwort and Wood Sedge. Dog's Mercury, Enchanter's Nightshade and Foxglove are moderately indicative of old woodland locally, in combination with the stronger indicators. Altogether the floral assemblage is good evidence that this strip is Ancient Woodland.

However it is to be noted that this woodland is suffering from a degree of nutrient enrichment, possibly from fertilizer drift from arable fields or NOX deposition from traffic on nearby roads as indicated by the presence of the ground flora species Nettles, Cleavers and Hemlock.

Deadwood

In any natural valuable biodiverse woodland, as well as the living trees and understory and ground plants **50% of trees should be dead** (standing or fallen deadwood) and of the **overall biodiversity of any wood** (even including all the birds, bats, mammals, insects on leaves and butterflies etc.), **90% of the total biodiversity will be associated with the deadwood** (mostly saproxylic beetles, flies & fungi). Elton (1966) estimated that 20% of British fauna depends on dead or dying wood (6). Deadwood is essential to the ecological integrity of woodland (7).

The site is notable for the amount of standing dying trees and fallen deadwood of all sizes as well as dead stumps and rotting coppice stools. This means that there is a lot of habitat for fungi specific to deadwood and for saproxylic (deadwood-breeding) insects contributing to a potentially high biodiversity of those insect types. Standing, dying trees exhibited some rot holes or possible woodpecker holes and flaking peeling bark on standing dead trees was commonly encountered, likely providing good potential for roosting bats. (For examples see Appendix I). It is critical for maximum biodiversity that **deadwood of all sizes should not be removed or burnt.**

Fungi

A high diversity of fungi is typical of Ancient Woodland. Unusually 2023 has had a rainy July and early August. This rain stimulated fungal fruiting much earlier than would be expected i.e. in the autumn. Only fungal fruitbodies (caps, brackets, toadstools) are identifiable and they are commonly ephemeral, lasting only a week or so. Fruiting may not occur every year and some species go many years between appearances. Thus 20 species of fungi could be recognised on the two visits, although some old woody bracket fungi were past being identifiable. Relatively common fungi associated with the roots of the oak trees (mycorrhizal species) included two species of Earth balls, a Bluefoot Bolete and numerous caps of the bright red-capped Scarlet Brittle gill. Common fungi on deadwood included Turkey tail, Smoky Bracket, Blueing Bracket, Oak Curtain Crust, Tripe Fungus and the Wrinkled Peach (on dead elm). Leaf litter species were represented by White-laced Shank and some Tufted Wood Mushrooms. The star find however was a number of caps of the large **Medusa Mushroom *Agaricus bohusii***, sprouting from a pile of deadwood. This is a very rarely recorded fungus and possibly a first record for Oxon (first time I or any other member of the Fungus Survey of Oxfordshire Group have ever seen it) although I have heard this August of it being found locally in Whitecross Green Wood, Bucks. The odd weather pattern this summer obviously stimulated its fruiting.

The characteristic black 'bootlaces' or rhizomorphs of **Honey Fungus *Armillaria* sp.** were seen under the loose bark of one of the large fallen trees. This probably means the tree was killed by this parasitic fungus. Honey Fungus colonisation could be the reason other mature oaks and other trees have died, along with other current tree diseases. The presence of this fungus could be negatively affecting natural regeneration.

This looks as though it may well be a site with rich other fungal diversity with further survey work needed after appropriately wet weather in the autumn. Fungal fruitbodies (caps brackets toadstools) are important as food for a number of specific insects, especially flies and beetles. A good fungal diversity means a good insect diversity in these groups.

Vertebrates

Two juvenile (3cm) Common Frogs were encountered whilst surveying. I consider it likely these may have crossed Frieze Way from the wetlands complex on the other side of the road. Roe deer have been seen in the general area on other occasions than these visits.

Invertebrates

A small number of species were swept from the ground flora and shrub layer in the woodland. This will be the mere beginning of a full species list for the site. It is notable that a number of fungus gnats (breed only in fungi and not yet identified due to time constraints) were swept, reflecting the quite rich fungal diversity on site. Deadwood-breeding (saproxylic) insects, mostly beetles and flies, will be more recordable offsite outside the woodland as they travel out from their breeding site to the margins and to nearby open areas such as exist in the Triangle. Here they will search for pollen and nectar on flowers of ground flora or shrubs like hawthorns to build up reserves to complete their life cycles. They will therefore depend on plants outside this woodland, showing how the woodland species are connected to surrounding green diverse habitat of flowering hedgerows and the Triangle.

Discussion and Conclusions

This is a strip of valuable Lowland Mixed Deciduous Woodland, a Priority UK BAP habitat. It has a small suite of plants which are ancient woodland indicators and a good range of fungi associated with the roots of the oak trees and with the deadwood of the variety of tree species present. It therefore readily fits the species criteria for Ancient Woodland. It is somewhat affected by nutrient enrichment. An old raised track way (wood bank) is present in the wood along the southern margin which is along Kidlington Parish boundary next to a ditch. Such wood bank features are also typical of Ancient Woods.

References

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4. Proposed Nature Recovery Network for Oxfordshire:
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5. Calculating age of old coppice stools:
<https://www.westberks countryside.org.uk/media/other/39803/10a.VeteranTreesonAshampsteadCommon.pdf>
6. Elton C.S. (1966) the Patterns of Animal Communities. John Wiley, New York.

7. <https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/media/49219/ancient-woodland-restoration-maximising-ecological-integrity.pdf>

Appendix I Photographs



Mature maiden (standard) oak tree with fallen deadwood and young hawthorn trees in glade behind



Oak tree showing evidence of past pollarding at head height



Multi-trunked oak showing an outgrown old coppice stool – base of this one is 3m in diameter, meaning it is very old, 100s, possibly 1000years. Adjacent to Frieze Way.



Very old Ash coppice stool, base 2m in diameter



Understory shrubs, bramble and Honey suckle



Carpet of Ground Ivy leaves with Elm sucker in centre



Area of dead Elm on south side with privet scrub regenerating in foreground



Mature oaks along raised old wood bank or trackway 5-6m wide to south margin of site

Deadwood



Fallen oak, bark still on



Long fallen, debarked oak trunk, now moss covered



Standing dead tree with much loose bark, ideal bat roosting habitat

Fungi



The rare Medusa Mushroom *Agaricus bohusii* growing from deadwood



Earth ball *Scleroderma verrucosum* associated with the roots of oaks



Three species of fungi found associated with the roots of oak trees, red-capped **Scarlet Brittle Gills** (left) an **Earth Ball** (centre) and two **Bluefoot Boletes** (right).



Shaggy Polypore bracket on an Ash tree trunk



Wrinkled Peach, bracket fungus on dead Elm



Blueing Bracket on unidentified fallen dead log

Appendix II Tables of Species Records

(YELLOW highlighting indicates notable or rare species)

Stratfield Brake East woodl	centre SP4985 1191	J A Webb 2023					
Scientific name	Common name	group	date	Abundance	Method	Habitat	Comment
<i>Acer campestre</i>	Field Maple	flowering plant	19.08.2023	occasional	field observation	deciduous woodland	
<i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>	Sycamore	flowering plant	19.08.2023	occasional	field observation	deciduous woodland	
<i>Aesculus hippocastanum</i>	Horse Chestnut	flowering plant	19.08.2023	1	field observation	deciduous woodland	
<i>Anthriscus sylvestris</i>	Cow Parsley	flowering plant	19.08.2023	occasional	field observation	deciduous woodland	
<i>Arum maculatum</i>	Cuckoo-pint	flowering plant	12.08.2023	occasional	field observation	deciduous woodland	
<i>Brachypodium sylvaticum</i>	Wood False Brome	flowering plant	12.08.2023	occasional	field observation	deciduous woodland	
<i>Bromopsis ramosa</i>	Hairy Brome	flowering plant	12.08.2023	occasional	field observation	deciduous woodland	
<i>Carex sylvatica</i>	Wood Sedge	flowering plant	12.08.2023	locally frequent	field observation	deciduous woodland	
<i>Carex pendula</i>	Pendulous Sedge	flowering plant	12.08.2023	rare	field observation	deciduous woodland	
<i>Circaea lutetiana</i>	Enchanter's Nightshade	flowering plant	19.08.2023	rare	field observation	deciduous woodland	
<i>Conium maculatum</i>	Hemlock	flowering plant	19.08.2023	occasional	field observation	deciduous woodland	south side
<i>Crataegus laevigata</i>	Midland Hawthorn	flowering plant	19.08.2023	2	field observation	deciduous woodland	
<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	Common Hawthorn	flowering plant	12.08.2023	frequent	field observation	deciduous woodland	
<i>Deschampsia cespitosa</i>	Tufted Hair Grass	flowering plant	19.08.2023	occasional	field observation	deciduous woodland	
<i>Digitalis purpurea</i>	Foxglove	flowering plant	12.08.2023	occasional	field observation	deciduous woodland	
<i>Euonymus europaeus</i>	Spindle	flowering plant	12.08.2023	rare	field observation	deciduous woodland	
<i>Festuca gigantea</i>	Giant Fescue	flowering plant	19.08.2023	rare	field observation	deciduous woodland	
<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	Ash	flowering plant	12.08.2023	frequent	field observation	deciduous woodland	
<i>Galeopsis tetrahit</i>	Common Hemp Nettle	flowering plant	12.08.2023	rare	field observation	deciduous woodland	
<i>Geranium robertianum</i>	Herb Robert	flowering plant	12.08.2023	frequent	field observation	deciduous woodland	
<i>Geum urbanum</i>	Wood Avens	flowering plant	19.08.2023	occasional	field observation	deciduous woodland	
<i>Glechoma hederacea</i>	Ground Ivy	flowering plant	12.08.2023	frequent	field observation	deciduous woodland	
<i>Hedera helix</i>	Ivy	flowering plant	19.08.2023	on 2 oaks	field observation	deciduous woodland	
<i>Holcus lanatus</i>	Yorkshire Fog	flowering plant	19.08.2023	rare	field observation	deciduous woodland	
<i>Hyacinthoides non-scripta</i>	Bluebell	flowering plant	19.08.2023	locally frequent	field observation	deciduous woodland	s dead stalks with seed pod
<i>Ligustrum vulgare</i>	Wild Privet	flowering plant	19.08.2023	occasional	field observation	deciduous woodland	
<i>Lonicera periclymenum</i>	Wild Honeysuckle	flowering plant	12.08.2023	locally frequent	field observation	deciduous woodland	
<i>Malus sylvestris</i>	Crab apple	flowering plant	19.08.2023	1	field observation	deciduous woodland	
<i>Mercurialis perennis</i>	Dog's Mercury	flowering plant	12.08.2023	rare	field observation	deciduous woodland	
<i>Moehringia trinervia</i>	Three-nerved Sandwort	flowering plant	12.08.2023	occasional	field observation	deciduous woodland	
<i>Myosotis sp.</i>	a Forget-me -not	flowering plant	19.08.2023	occasional	field observation	deciduous woodland	
<i>Poa nemoralis</i>	Wood Meadow-grass	flowering plant	12.08.2023	locally abundant	field observation	deciduous woodland	mostly dead at survey time

Scientific name	Common name	group	date	Abundance	Method	Habitat	Comment
<i>Prunus spinosa</i>	Blackthorn	flowering plant	12.08.2023	occasional	field observation	deciduous woodland	
<i>Quercus robur</i>	Pedunculate Oak	flowering plant	12.08.2023	frequent	field observation	deciduous woodland	
<i>Rubus cespitosus</i>	Dewberry	flowering plant	12.08.2023	locally frequent	field observation	deciduous woodland	
<i>Rubus fruticosus agg</i>	Blackberry	flowering plant	19.08.2023	locally frequent	field observation	deciduous woodland	
<i>Rumex sanguineus</i>	Wood Dock	flowering plant	12.08.2023	occasional	field observation	deciduous woodland	
<i>Salix cinerea</i>	Grey Willow	flowering plant	19.08.2023	rare	field observation	deciduous woodland	south side
<i>Sambucus nigra</i>	Elder	flowering plant	12.08.2023	occasional	field observation	deciduous woodland	
<i>Silene dioica</i>	Red Campion	flowering plant	19.08.2023	rare	field observation	deciduous woodland	
<i>Stachys sylvatica</i>	Hedge Woundwort	flowering plant	12.08.2023	rare	field observation	deciduous woodland	
<i>Ulmus procera</i>	English Elm	flowering plant	19.08.2023	locally frequent	field observation	deciduous woodland	mostly southern side, dying
<i>Urtica dioica</i>	Common Nettle	flowering plant	19.08.2023	one patch	field observation	deciduous woodland	
<i>Viola sp</i>	a Violet	flowering plant	12.08.2023	rare	field observation	deciduous woodland	
<i>Dryopteris dilatata</i>	Broad Buckler Fern	fern	19.08.2023	rare	field observation	deciduous woodland	
<i>Dryopteris filix mas</i>	Male Fern	fern	19.08.2023	rare	field observation	deciduous woodland	
<i>Atrichum undulatum</i>	Common Smooth-cap	moss	19.08.2023	rare	field observation	deciduous woodland	on soil, east end
<i>Brachythecium rutabulum</i>	Rough-stalked Feather-moss	moss	19.08.2023	occasional	field observation	deciduous woodland	on soil & logs
<i>Homalothecium sericium</i>	Silky Wall Feather moss	moss	19.08.2023	rare	field observation	deciduous woodland	on tree bases
<i>Hypnum cupressiforme</i>	Cypress-leaved Plaitmoss	moss	19.08.2023	rare	field observation	deciduous woodland	on trees & fallen trunks
<i>Kindbergia praelonga</i>	Common Feather-moss	moss	19.08.2023	occasional	field observation	deciduous woodland	on soil & logs
<i>Plagiommium undulatum</i>	Hart's-tongue Thyme-moss	moss	19.08.2023	rare	field observation	deciduous woodland	on soil
<i>Rhynchostegium confertum</i>	Clustered Feather-moss	moss	19.08.2023	rare	field observation	deciduous woodland	on tree bases
<i>Thamnobryum alopecurum</i>	Fox-tail Feather-moss	moss	19.08.2023	locally frequent	field observation	deciduous woodland	on soil west end
<i>Frullania dilatata</i>	Dilated Scalewort	liverwort	19.08.2023	rare	field observation	deciduous woodland	on tree bark
FUNGI							
<i>Agaricus bohusii</i>	Medusa Mushroom	fungus	12.08.2023	5 caps	field observation	deciduous woodland	in bunch on dead wood
<i>Agaricus impudicus</i>	Tufted Wood-mushroom	fungus	12.08.2023	7 caps	field observation	deciduous woodland	on soil with leaf litter
<i>Armillaria sp</i>	Honey Fungus	fungus	19.08.2023	morphs - one fallen	field observation	deciduous woodland	on fallen oak trunk
<i>Auricularia auricula-judae</i>	Jelly Ear	fungus	12.08.2023	rare	field observation	deciduous woodland	on dead elder
<i>Auricularia mesenterica</i>	Tripe fungus	fungus	19.08.2023	rare	field observation	deciduous woodland	on deadwood
<i>Bjerkandera adusta</i>	Smoky Bracket	fungus	19.08.2023	rare	field observation	deciduous woodland	on deadwood
<i>Chlorophyllum rhacodes</i>	Shaggy Parasol	fungus	19.08.2023	3 caps	field observation	deciduous woodland	on soil under trees
<i>Gymnopus dryophilus</i>	Russet Toughshank	fungus	19.08.2023	4	field observation	deciduous woodland	on soil under trees

Scientific name	Common name	group	date	Abundance	Method	Habitat	Comment
<i>Hymenochaete rubiginosa</i>	Oak Curtain Crust	fungus	19.08.2023	rare	field observation	deciduous woodland	on dead oak wood trunk
<i>Inonotus hispidus</i>	Shaggy Polypore	fungus	19.08.2023	rare	field observation	deciduous woodland	on live ash tree trunk
<i>Megacollybia platyphylla</i>	White-laced Shank	fungus	12.08.2023	1 cap	field observation	deciduous woodland	on leaf litter
<i>Pluteus salicinus</i>	Willow Shield	fungus	12.08.2023	2 caps	field observation	deciduous woodland	on dead wood
<i>Postia subcesia</i>	Blueing Bracket	fungus	19.08.2023	1 bracket	field observation	deciduous woodland	on deadwood
<i>Psathyrella candoleana</i>	Common Brittlestem	fungus	19.08.2023	3	field observation	deciduous woodland	on deadwood
<i>Rhodotus palmatus</i>	Wrinkled Peach	fungus	19.08.2023	2	field observation	deciduous woodland	on dead fallen elm wood
<i>Russula pseudointegra</i>	Scarlet Brittlegill	fungus	19.08.2023	numerous caps	field observation	deciduous woodland	on soil under oak trees
<i>Scleroderma areolatum</i>	Leopard Earthball	fungus	19.08.2023	1	field observation	deciduous woodland	on soil under trees
<i>Scleroderma verrucosum</i>	Scaly Earthball	fungus	12.08.2023	6 fruitbodies	field observation	deciduous woodland	on soil under trees
<i>Trametes versicolor</i>	Turkey tail	fungus	19.08.2023	rare	field observation	deciduous woodland	on deadwood
<i>Xerocomellus cisalpinus</i>	Bluefoot Bolete	fungus	12.08.2023	3 caps	field observation	deciduous woodland	on soil under trees
INVERTEBRATES							
<i>Bryocoris pteridis</i>	Fern bug	hemiptera	19.08.2023	3	swept	deciduous woodland	from ground flora & shrubs
<i>Cameraria ohridella</i>	Horse chestnut leaf miner	moth	19.08.2023	numerous	field observation	deciduous woodland	from ground flora & shrubs
<i>fungus gnats</i>	fungus gnats	true fly (Diptera)	19.08.2023	several different	swept	deciduous woodland	from ground flora & shrubs
<i>Limonia nubeculosa</i>	a cranefly	true fly (Diptera)	19.08.2023	1	swept	deciduous woodland	from ground flora & shrubs
<i>Lonchoptera lutea</i>	Yellow Spear-winged Fly	true fly (Diptera)	19.08.2023	3	swept	deciduous woodland	from ground flora & shrubs
<i>Meiosimyza decempunctata</i>	a lauxaniid fly	true fly (Diptera)	19.08.2023	3	swept	deciduous woodland	from ground flora & shrubs
<i>Pentatoma rufipes</i>	Forest Bug	hemiptera	19.08.2023	1	swept	deciduous woodland	from ground flora & shrubs
<i>Stenodema calcaratum</i>	a bug	hemiptera	19.08.2023	3	swept	deciduous woodland	from ground flora & shrubs
VERTEBRATE							
<i>Rana temporaria</i>	Common Frog	amphibian	19.08.2023	2 juvenile	field observation	deciduous woodland	