



Friends of Ashenground and Bolnore Woods

Conservation – Protection – Enhancement – Enjoyment

Early Autumn Update – October 2023

On Saturday 8th October, Daniel Greenwood led our fungi walk through Ashenground Wood, the children amongst the group proved to be the fungi finding experts!

From Daniel: “The walk took place on an eerily hot October morning. Recent spells of warm weather meant it might be a challenge to find the typical autumn mushrooms, which did prove to be the case. However, the group 'got their eye in' and found stump puffball, lots and lots of earthballs, suede bolete, blushing bracket, turkeytail, green elfcup, birch polypore, Ganoderma bracket, and glistening inkcaps.



Daniel (with cap) sharing the resources and books he like to use for fungi ID

The next few weeks should be more fruitful in the fungal sense, as the temperatures begin to drop, and more rain comes into the forecast. People returning to the woods should look out for the bright red beefsteak, red-capped russulas on the woodland floor, and the iconic fly agaric near birch trees.

I would like to say thanks to everyone for their patience, enthusiasm, and good humour. Special thanks are due to the kids who found the fungi that were out of reach of the large adult group!”



Daniel leading the group - photos by Michelle Thomasson

Daniel runs a fungi website focused on mushrooms in southern England if you'd like to see more:

<https://fungifriday.co.uk/>

He also recommends using **iNaturalist** to build your knowledge and observations of wildlife generally.

Please note, some of our common fungi are toxic so please be careful.



Comparing fungi - puffball and earthball



NEXT EVENT - SUNDAY 21ST JANUARY 2024 12.30PM - 2.30PM

Meet at the Railway Bridge 12.30pm, Ashenground Road, Haywards Heath

Free woodland art class led by Laura from Mindfull Art Sussex, only 15 places available, contact Laurafoabw@gmail.com to secure your spot.

Meet at Ashenground Railway Bridge, easels, equipment, acrylic paint, brushes and an A4 canvas will be provided for free on the day, equipment will be returned at the end of the session, but you can take your artwork home. *If you would like to bring other mediums or your own canvas, you are welcome to do so. Please note adults only.*



Conservation Volunteers have received an 'Outstanding' Britain in Bloom Award!



The Conservation Volunteers meet at 10.00 am on the 3rd Saturday of each month, we meet at the Thatched Cottage in Bolnore Village, where the Bridle Way crosses the road called Renfields, members and non-members are very welcome, but please note under 18s and vulnerable adults must be accompanied by an adult.

If you would like to become a member of FoABW and support our conservation activities, please contact Laura (Treasurer) Laura's email: laurafoabw@gmail.com membership is only £5 per year, per family.