

## Friday 3rd June

### 10.30am Hod Hill, near Stourpaine

Spectacular National Trust-owned hill fort, rich in chalk grassland wild flowers and butterflies. There are some steep hill climbs. Meet at small car park by Child Okeford road, map ref. ST853112. Leader: Andrew Branson.

Booking essential because of limited parking: tel. 01747 838223. Donation of £2 to Dorset Flora Group welcome.

## Saturday 4th June

### 10.30am Hilfield Friary Meadows and Woods

Species-rich neutral hay meadow, ancient woodland assemblage along hedgerow, both on slopes. Then a visit to wet woodland for those who can cope with challenging terrain. Toilets available. Meet in the Friary car park, map ref. ST631044.

Leader: Richard Thornbury.  
Enquiries: tel. 01300 341345.

Donation of £2 to Dorset Flora Group welcome.

### 2pm Kingcombe

Folklore, Flowers and Fields. Join conservationist and folklore enthusiast Nick Gray on a guided walk around the famed wild flower meadows.

Meet at Kingcombe Centre, map ref. SY554990.

Booking essential: tel. 01300 320684.

£8, including refreshments.

## Sunday 5th June

### 10.30am Powerstock Common

Rich and varied grassland and woodland. Discover the wild flowers and rare Marsh Fritillary butterflies. Some slopes and rough ground. Meet at entrance to nature reserve, map ref. SY547974. Limited parking.

Leaders: Jim White and Maurits Fontein.

Enquiries: tel. 01929 481535.

£7.50, including refreshments at nearby Kingcombe Centre.

### 2.30pm Chesil Beach, near Abbotsbury

A walk along the landward side of Chesil Beach to see the shingle and coastal plants, including scarce species.

Meet at Abbotsbury Beach car park, map ref. SY560846.

Leader: Jonathan Cox.

Enquiries: tel. 07766 133696.

No charge except for car park..

Donation of £2 to Dorset Flora Group welcome.

## Saturday 28th May – Sunday 12th June

### Dorset Arts Weeks exhibition at Kingcombe

A celebration of art through sculpture, painting, textiles, photography and more inspired by Dorset's nature, landscape and wildlife. Programme of demonstrations, talks and more. Full details are on the Kingcombe Centre website: [www.kingcombe.org](http://www.kingcombe.org).

Leaflet sponsored by Dorset Natural History and Archaeological Society



# Dorset Wild Flower Week

# Dorset Wild Flower Week

28th May to 5th June 2016

28th May to 5th June 2016

**D**ORSET IS ONE OF THE RICHEST COUNTIES IN BRITAIN FOR ITS RANGE OF WILD FLOWERS. The Dorset Flora Group was formed in 2007 to encourage residents and visitors to discover the flower-rich areas of the county and to learn more about their wild flowers.

Each year there is a programme of field meetings, of which Dorset Wild Flower Week is just a part. Meetings usually centre on gentle walks through countryside of great botanical interest. Membership of Dorset Flora Group is free; membership forms can be collected or obtained by post from Carolyn Steele, Dorset Environmental Records Centre, Dorset History Centre, Bridport Road, Dorchester, Dorset DT1 1RP; email: [derc@dorsetcc.gov.uk](mailto:derc@dorsetcc.gov.uk).

Beginners, improvers and experts are all welcome. Please wear sturdy footwear and clothing appropriate for the weather. Please do not bring dogs to the meetings. Each person attending does so on the understanding that he/she attends at his/her own risk.

Dorset Flora Group is linked to the Dorset Environmental Records Centre, Dorset Natural History and Archaeological Society, Dorset Wildlife Trust, The Botanical Society of Britain and Ireland, Natural England and The National Trust.

Discover some of Dorset's most spectacular sites for wild flowers with a special programme of guided walks

# Dorset Wild Flower Week

The Dorset Flora Group has organised this week, for the sixth year, in which residents and visitors can enjoy some of the beautiful wild flowers for which Dorset is famous.

The programme mostly consists of a series of guided walks, each one led by a local naturalist, who will help beginners and others to appreciate the plants and landscape of the county. Unless indicated, the walks will last about two hours. In some cases an afternoon walk is planned not far from a morning walk, to make it easy to join in both.

Come and enjoy as many walks as you like!

## Saturday 28th May

### 10.30am – 1pm St. Catherine's Hill, Christchurch

Habitats include dry heath, scrub, dry woodland and valley mires. Some moderate hill climbs.

Meet at junction of Suffolk Avenue and Marsh Lane, map ref. SZ151946. Free on-street parking.

Leader: Phil Budd.

Bookings: email (preferred):

Countryside@christchurchandeastdorset.gov.uk  
or tel. 01425 470721.

Adults £3, Children £1.50.

### 2pm Coward's Marsh, Christchurch

Freshwater marsh with grazing meadows, standing water, sedge beds, rush pasture and scrub habitats. Access via a stile. Wellingtons advised unless dry period.

Meet at junction of Suffolk Avenue and Marsh Lane, as above.

Leader: Phil Budd.

Bookings: as above.

Adults £3, Children £1.50.

## Sunday 29th May

### 10.30am Townsend Reserve, Swanage

Flowers of downland and scrub edges. Some steep areas.

Meet at west entrance to reserve towards top of Panorama Road, parking close by, map ref. SZ022781.

Leader: David Leadbetter. Bookings: tel. 01929 426988.

Donation of £2 to Dorset Flora Group welcome.

### 10.30am New Ground and Kingbarrow, Portland

New Ground has a varied flora. Kingbarrow Quarry, where invasive Cotoneaster has been removed, has a recovering flora in an attractive site. Some steep slopes and uneven surfaces.

Meet at New Ground, map ref. SY689730. Free roadside car parks.

Leader: Jon Crewe.

Bookings: tel. 07989 777757.

Donation of £2 to Dorset Flora Group welcome.



Walkers at Powerstock Common in 2015.

### 2pm – 4.30pm Ferrybridge

A walk on Hamm Beach and the Chesil Bank at Ferrybridge to look at the shingle and saltmarsh flora.

Meet at Chesil Centre car park, map ref. SY668755.

Leader: Bryan Edwards. Enquiries: tel. 01305 206191.

No charge except for car park.

### 2.30pm Durlston, Swanage

Flower-rich hay meadows at their best – downland flowers, too. No slopes.

Meet at Castle Visitor Centre (car park charge), map ref. SZ033772.

Leader: Ted Pratt.

Enquiries: tel. 01929 424443.

Adults £3, Friends of Durlston/Children £2.

## Monday 30th May

### 10am – 1pm Kilwood and Stonehill Down

Kilwood (Kilwood) Reserve has deep pools, mature oaks and mixed wet woodland and small flower-rich meadows. Then a half-mile walk to Stonehill Down Reserve for downland flowers. Optional: bring packed lunch.

Meet at map ref. SY933825. Parking limit to 10 vehicles, so please share transport.

Leader: Jim White.

Enquiries: tel. 01929 481535.

Donation of £2 to Dorset Flora Group welcome.

## Tuesday 31st May

### 10.30am Slepe Heath

A former conifer plantation, now reverting to heath, Slepe also contains botanically rich mires and wet heath areas. This is the first public walk on site. Wellingtons recommended.

Meet on Soldiers Road at map ref. SY945859.

Leader: David Brown.

Bookings: tel. 07768 864954 or

email: david.brown4@nationaltrust.org.uk.

Donation of £2 to Dorset Flora Group welcome.

### 2.30pm Hilfield Friary Meadows and Hendover Coppice

Species-rich neutral hay meadow, ancient woodland assemblage along hedgerow, both on slopes. Then a visit to wet woodland for those who can cope with challenging terrain. Toilets available.

Meet in the Friary car park, map ref. ST631044.

Leader: Richard Thornbury.

Enquiries: tel. 01300 341345.

Donation of £2 to Dorset Flora Group welcome.

## Wednesday 1st June

### 10.30am Kingcombe

A walk through the reserve, taking in some of Dorset's finest hay meadows and pasture, looking at the flowers and hearing about local folklore and history.

Café open afterwards for lunch or cream tea.

Meet at Kingcombe Centre, map ref. SY554990.

Leaders: Nick Gray and Emily Newton.

Bookings: tel. 01300 320684.

Donation of £2 to Dorset Flora Group welcome.

### 2.30pm Lorton Meadows, Weymouth

Wild flowers of the meadows. Refreshments after the walk.

Meet at Lorton Meadows Conservation Centre, at the end of Lorton Lane (DT3 5QH), map ref. SY674826.

Leader: Samantha Dallimore.

Bookings: tel. 01305 816546.

Donation of £2 to Dorset Flora Group welcome.

### 6.30pm Corfe Common, Corfe Castle

Herb-rich acidic and neutral grassland and flushes. Grazing animals.

Meet at West Street car park in Corfe village (car park charges), map ref. SY958818.

Leader: Jim White.

Enquiries: tel. 01929 481535.

Donation of £2 to Dorset Flora Group welcome.

## Thursday 2nd June

### 10.30am Corfe Mullen Meadows

These small meadows are managed traditionally for hay. The reserve supports many wild flower species including one of the largest populations of Green-winged Orchids in the county.

Meet at the Urban Wildlife Centre, Beacon Hill Lane, Corfe Mullen, BH21 3RX, map ref. SY978949 as there is limited space at the meadows. Minibus to the meadows.

Leader: Katie Wilkinson.

Bookings: tel. 01202 692033 or

email: kwilkinson@dorsetwildlifetrust.org.uk.

Donation of £2 to Dorset Flora Group welcome.

### 2.30pm Rollington Hill, Corfe Castle

Many pathside and downland flowers. Gentle slopes on upward route.

Meet at Challow car park, Sandy Hill Lane, map ref. SY964821.

Leader: Ted Pratt.

Enquiries: tel. 01929 427229.

Donation of £2 to Dorset Flora Group welcome.