# Warwickshire Fungus Group



# Newsletter 2021

Affiliated to the British Mycological Society

Contact: John and Monika Walton jomowalton@gmail.com

Website: http://wfs.bnhsoc.org.uk

Photo: Oyster mushroom (Pleurotus ostreatus) at Hartshill Hayes County Park/LWS, G.Hillier.

# Contents

1	IN	I KODUC I ION	1
	1.1	Notes for the data tables and WFG recording	1
2	FC	RAYREPORTS	4
	2.1	New Close Wood LWS, Binley Woods. 29 <sup>th</sup> August 2021	4
	2.2	Hay Wood LWS, Baddesley Clinton. 12th September 2021	6
	2.3	Hartshill Hayes Country Park/LWS, Nuneaton. 26th September 2021	8
	2.4	Gibbet Hill Wood and Tocil Wood LNR/LWS, Coventry. 10th October 2021	9
	2.5	Crackley Wood LNR/LWS, Kenilworth. 17 <sup>th</sup> October 2021	11
	2.6	Brandon Reach and Piles Coppice LWS, Brandon. 24 <sup>th</sup> October 2021	13
	2.7	Snitterfield Bushes SSSI, Snitterfield. 24th October 2021	16
	2.8	Stivichall Common LNR/LWS, Coventry. 15th November 2021.	17
	2.9	Hampton Wood LWS, Barford. 15th November 2021	19
	2.10	Bubbenhall Wood LWS, Bubbenhall. 5 <sup>th</sup> December 2021.	21
	2.11	Wappenbury Wood LWS, Princethorpe. 5 <sup>th</sup> December 2021.	23
3	NC	ON-FORAY RECORDS	26
4	FU	NGAL FOOTNOTES	31
	4.1	Fungi Around Bristol, by John R. Roberts	31
	4.2	My First Foray, by Tim Knight	33
	4.3	Seta Hunting in Cantabria, Spain, by Francesco Verenciano	34

### 1 INTRODUCTION

When the lockdown regulations were relaxed in August 2021, an extraordinary meeting of the *Warwickshire Fungus Survey* was held at the Roberts' household in Leamington Spa. The group was worried about its future as there were insufficient members to fill all the committee posts and there was also some concern about the future of the Birmingham Natural History Society (BNHS, to whom the group was affiliated) who were in a similar position. A decision was made to disassociate from BNHS and organise a season of forays run as an informal email group and the new name of *Friends of Warwickshire Fungi* was hastily agreed. However, the new name was subsequently voted on and changed to *Warwickshire Fungus Group*.

This, therefore, is the first Newsletter of the *Warwickshire Fungus Group* (WFG). It covers the programme of surveys undertaken by WFG during the 2021 season and presents the mycological records of the species found (Section 2). Independent 'non-foray records', not seen on WFG surveys including some interesting, unusual findings and species new to the county, are included in Section 3, and articles kindly written by participants have been included in Section 4.

Clare Hinchcliffe is kindly continuing with providing a WFG website (in development), which can be accessed at <a href="http://wfs.bnhsoc.org.uk">http://wfs.bnhsoc.org.uk</a>, along with historic information relating to the Warwickshire Fungus Survey.

This newsletter has been produced by Gary Hillier and John Walton, with other written, photographic and scientific contributions acknowledged on relevant pages and tables.

### 1.1 Notes for the data tables and WFG recording

• John Walton has kindly taken the responsibility of 'county recorder' and is now pursuing the advanced skills and learning of fungus microscopy and detailed scientific identification. John may confer with other more experienced/knowledgeable group members for some specimens, but if still unsure, the record won't be published in this newsletter or entered into the FRDBI¹. Hence all records that have been entered on to FRDBI, and subsequently transferred to WBRC², have a reasonable level of 'certainty'.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The Fungal Records Database of Britain and Ireland. http://www.frdbi.info/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Warwickshire Biological Record Centre https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/environment-ecology/warwickshire-biological-records-centre

- Hence all independent records to be submitted via WFG should be submitted to jomowalton@gmail.com in the first instance, noting BMS' guidelines on Collecting and Recording Fungi<sup>3</sup>.
- Fran Verenciano has kindly taken on the responsibility of entering all validated records on to FRDBI, including checking whether any species are 'notable' i.e listed as Section 41 'Species of Principal Importance'<sup>4</sup>, the British red list<sup>5</sup> or new to VC38/England/UK.
- There have been many recent taxonomic name changes, so we have taken the liberty of following those given in the two most comprehensive books recently published by Kibby<sup>6</sup> and Læssøe and Petersen (2019)<sup>7</sup>. One of the most difficult tasks when writing anything about natural history is finding the correct punctuation for English names. We have tried to follow the list of *English Names for Fungi* on the British Mycological Society (BMS) website<sup>8</sup>, but may have missed a hyphen or apostrophe here or there.
- Key to Forayers present at each foray: AD (Anna Dudley); CH (Clare Hinchliffe); DC (Dave Champion); DG (Dinah Griffin); DN (Di Napier); FV (Francisco Verenciano); GH (Gary Hillier); GT (Graham Thompson); HM (Hugh Matthews); JN (John Noble); JP (John Parkinson); JSW (John Walton); JDS (John Sells); JH (Jackie Hardie); JP (John Parkinson); JVR (John & Val Roberts); JW (John Williams); KR (Kay Reeve); MJR (Marie-Jane Roberts); MVW (Monika Walton); NM (Nicki Mottram); PP (Philippa Parkinson); RJS (Jane Sells); TK (Tim Knight); WTB (Bill Moodie).
- A total of 178 species were recorded on the forays, including the first county record of Plicaturopsis crispa (crimped gill, see Section 2.11.2) being the only notable<sup>9</sup> species recorded.
- A mean of 35 spp. per foray were recorded, with highest count of 55 from Brandon Reach/Piles Coppice LWS (probably due to transition of habitats from rough grassland to ancient woodland) and the lowest was 19 spp. from Hartshill Hayes Country Park/LWS (probably due to dry conditions early in the season).
- Additional non-foray records are provided in Section 3, including the first county record for *Gymnopus dilepis* (magenta rustgill) being the only notable species recorded.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> BMS Guidance Notes on *Collecting and Recording Fungi* (Illiffe, R. (ed), 2006).

https://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/ukgwa/20140712055944/http://www.naturalengland.org.uk/ourwork/conservation/biodiversity/protectandmanage/habsandspeciesimportance.aspx

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> https://www.britmycolsoc.org.uk/field\_mycology/conservation/red-data-list/rdl-taxa

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Kibby,G. (2017-2021) Mushrooms and Toadstools of Britain and Europe Vols. I - III Privately Published

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Læssøe, T. and Petersen. J.H. (2019). *Fungi of Temperate Europe Vols. I and 2*, Princeton University Press

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> www.britmycolsoc.org.uk/library/english-names - accessed Dec 2021

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Species listed under Section 41 of *the NERC Act, 2006* as "Species of Principal Importance" in England, or on the 'Red list of threatened British fungi', new to VC38, England and/or the UK.

### 2 FORAY REPORTS

# 2.1 New Close Wood LWS, Binley Woods. 29<sup>th</sup> August 2021

#### 2.1.1 Foray and site info

Forayers: CH, DG, FV, GH, HW, JDS, JRR, JSW, KR, MJR, MVW, RJS, VR, WTM.

New Close Wood Local Wildlife Site (LWS) is an ancient, semi-natural woodland which does not appear to be under any active management. The main canopy trees are birch and oak, with rowan, elder and abundant hazel in the understorey. "The woodland comprises: woodbanks, some dated; a possible early brickworks; and evidence of ancient coppicing. The woodland management may date back to the Medieval period or earlier" 10.

This was an encouraging turnout for the first meeting after lockdown of the newly named group. The highlight was the tuberous polypore (*Polyporus tuberaster*) which was found right at the end after some forayers had already departed. We surveyed the woodland from the footpath to the south of the parking spot. This was the final survey for John and Val Roberts who moved to Bristol to be with their family a few days later.

### 2.1.2 Species list - 35 species

Scientific name	Common name	Other notes (substrate etc.)
BASIDIOMYCETES		
Amanita vaginata	Grisette	
Armillaria mellea	Honey fungus	
Bjerkandera adusta	Smoky bracket	
Clitocybe odora	Aniseed funnel	
Coprinellus (Coprinus) micaceus	Glistening inkcap	
Daedaleopsis confragosa	Blushing bracket	On willow
Daldinia concentrica	Cramp balls	
Fistulina hepatica	Beefsteak fungus	
Fomes fomentarius	Hoof fungus	On birch
Hymenochaete corrugata	Hazel glue crust	
Hypholoma fasciculare	Sulphur tuft	
Hypoxylon fuscum	Hazel woodwart	
Laccaria amethystina	Amethyst deceiver	On hazel
Marasmius rotula	Collared parachute	
Mycena haematopus	Burgundydrop bonnet	
Mycena pura	Lilac bonnet	
Phallus impudicus	Stinkhorn	

https://www.ourwarwickshire.org.uk/content/catalogue\_her/birchley-and-new-close-woods-and-the-grove accessed Jan 22

4

Piptoporus betulinus	Birch polypore	
Pluteus cervinus	Deer shield	On birch
Polyporus tuberaster	Tuberous polypore	
Postia stiptica	Bitter bracket	
Russula ochroleuca	Ochre brittlegill	
Russula velenovskyi	Coral brittlegill	
Schizopora paradoxa	Split porecrust	
Scleroderma areolatum	Leopard earthball	
Stereum hirsutum	Hairy curtain crust	
Trametes versicolor	Turkeytail	
Tubaria furfuracea	Scurfy twiglet	
ASCOMYCETES, MILDEWS,		
RUSTS etc.		
Hypocrea gelatinosa		On rotting wood
Microsphaeria alphitoides	Oak mildew	On oak
Trochila ilicina	Holly speckle	On holly
Otidea onotica	Hare's ear	Beside path
Puccinia lagenophorae	Rust	On groundsel
MYXOMYCETES		
Fuligo septica	Flowers of Tan	
Arcyria oerstedtii		

### 2.1.3 Photographs



Blushing bracket (*Daedaleopsis confragosa*), on willow. G.Hillier



Fuligo septica, a slime mould, on fallen, dead birch. G.Hillier



Tuberous polypore (*Polyporous tuberaster*). J.R.Roberts.



Decurrent, large angular pores on *P.tuberaster*. J.R.Roberts.

# 2.2 Hay Wood LWS, Baddesley Clinton. 12<sup>th</sup> September 2021.

#### 2.2.1 Foray and site info

Forayers: CH, DC, FV, GH, JH, JP, JSW, JW, KR, MVW, PP, WTM.

Hay Wood LWS (Local Wildlife Site) is the "heavily coniferised remains of a Medieval wood. The woodland comprises woodbanks and evidence of ancient coppicing" and is owned/managed by Forestry Commission England<sup>11</sup>. The main canopy trees are birch, oak, beech pine and red cedar, with the understorey predominantly of dense bramble.

The dry weather during the previous few weeks limited the number of species seen, but there was plenty to keep us busy and engaged. The uncommon but impressive Dyer's Mazegill *Phaeolus schweinitzii* was seen at the base of a fallen conifer. We surveyed the area to the right of the entrance and continued up to the footpath and then followed it back to the entrance.

#### 2.2.2 Species list - 28 species

Scientific name  BASIDIOMYCETES	Common name	Other notes (substrate etc.)
BASIDIOWITCETES		
Amanita citrina	False deathcap	
Bjerkandera adusta	Smoky bracket	
Coprinellus disseminatus	Fairy inkcap	
Daedaleopsis confragosa	Blushing bracket	
Exidia glandulosa	Witches butter	
Ganoderma applanatum	Artist's bracket	On beech
Ganoderma australe	Southern bracket	
Gymnopus dryophilus (Collybia dryophila)	Russet toughshank	
Gymnopus peronatus (Collybia peronata)	Wood woolly-foot	
Heterobasidion annosum	Root rot	On conifer stump
Hypholoma fasciculare	Sulphur tuft	
Imleria badia (Boletus badius)	Bay bolete	
Phaeolus schweinitzii	Dyer's mazegill	On fallen conifer trunk
Phallus impudicus	Stinkhorn	
Piptoporus betulinus	Birch polypore	
Pluteus cervina	Deer shield	
Rhodocollybia (Collybia) maculata	Spotted toughshank	
Russula cyanoxantha	Charcoal burner	
Russula betularum	Birch brittlegill	
Russula ionochlora	Oilslick brittlegill	
Russula nigricans	Blackening brittlegill	
Russula vesca	The flirt	
Scleroderma citrinum	Common earthball	

<sup>11</sup> https://www.forestryengland.uk/hay-wood

\_

Stereum hirsutum	Hairy curtain crust	
ASCOMYCETES, MILDEWS, RUSTS etc.		
Hypomyces chrysospermum		Ascomycete on unidentifiable <i>Boletus sp.</i>
Hypoxylon multiforme	Birch woodwart	
Claviceps purpurea	Ergot	On purple moor-grass
Otidea onotica	Hare's-ear	Beside path
Puccinia lagenophorae	Rust	On groundsel
MYXOMYCETES		
Fuligo septica	Flowers of tan	

### 2.2.3 Photographs



Southern bracket (Ganoderma australe), on beech. K.Reeve

## 2.3 Hartshill Hayes Country Park/LWS, Nuneaton. 26<sup>th</sup> September 2021

### 2.3.1 Foray and site info

Forayers: DC, GH, JN, JSW, MVW, PP.

This Planted Ancient Woodland Site (PAWS)<sup>12</sup> and Local Wildlife Site (LSW) has oak, birch and pine as the main canopy trees, with a generally sparse understorey and ground-flora.

A small group travelled to the north where again the list was thwarted by dry weather. We surveyed the area behind the visitor centre and down a small gorge with the stream where the alder bracket and slime moulds were seen. A very large, white, spotless *Pleurotus* was collected (front cover photo) which only turned out to be *P.ostreatus* when spores were examined.

### 2.3.2 Species list - 19 species

Scientific name	Common name	Other notes (substrate etc.)
BASIDIOMYCETES		
Bjerkandera adusta	Smoky bracket	
Calocera viscosa	Yellow stagshorn	
Daedaleopsis confragosa	Blushing bracket	
Exidia glandulosa	Witches butter	
Hypholoma fasciculare	Sulphur tuft	
Mensularia (Inonotus) radiatus	Alder bracket	
Lycoperdon perlatum	Common puffball	
Piptoporus betulinus	Birch polypore	
Pleurotus ostreatus	Oyster	
Polyporus tuberaster	Tuberous polypore	
Postia subcaesia	Blueing bracket	
Stereum hirsutum	Hairy curtain crust	
Stereum subtomentosum	Yellowing curtain crust	
ASCOMYCETES, MILDEWS, RUSTS etc.		
Hypoxylon multiforme	Birch woodwart	
Nectria cinnabarina	Coral spot	
Rhytisma acerinum	Sycamore tar-spot	
MYXOMYCETES		
Arcyria denudata		
Ceratiomyxa fruticulosa		

<sup>12</sup> https://countryparks.warwickshire.gov.uk/hartshillhayes

## 2.4 Gibbet Hill Wood and Tocil Wood LNR/LWS, Coventry. 10<sup>th</sup> October 2021

#### 2.4.1 Foray and site info

Forayers: AD, DG, FV, GH, JH, JP, JSW, MVW, PP.

Gibbet Hill Wood has young birch and oak in "a new woodland created as part of the millennium 'Woods on Your Doorstep' project in 1999'"13. This is adjacent to the ancient, semi-natural Tocil Wood Local Nature Reserve and Local Wildlife Site<sup>14</sup>, which is managed by the Wildlife Trust and has some more mature oaks.

The car parking arrangements had to be changed as the University Car Park was not available to the public at weekends. Parking in The Shrubberies, we walked across some grassland, through Gibbet Hill Wood and then into Tocil Wood. Being enthusiastic mycologists, we spent too much time looking at the fungi on the way to Tocil Wood and only arrived there at about 12.30 where we discovered that there was plenty to see and no time left. It would be worth revisiting this site in 2022. There was much discussion about the difference between dead man's (Xylaria polymorpha) and dead Moll's fingers (X.longipes); specimens were collected and samples confirmed by spore size.

### 2.4.2 Species list<sup>15</sup> - 27 species

Scientific name	Common name	Other notes (substrate etc.)
BASIDIOMYCETES		
Armillaria mellea	Honey fungus	
Calocera cornea	Small stagshorn	
Gymnopus (Collybia) dryophila	Russet toughshank	
Gymnopus (Collybia) fusipes	Spindleshank	
Infundibulicybe (Clitocybe) gibba	Common funnel	
Laccaria amethystina	Amethyst deceiver	
Laccaria laccata	The deceiver	
Lactarius quietus	Oakbug milkcap	Under oak
Lycoperdon perlatum	Common puffball	
Mycena pura	Lilac bonnet	
Mycena stylobates	Bulbous bonnet	Tiny, with holdfast on rotting twig
Mycena vitilis	Snapping bonnet	
Paxillus involutus	Brown rollrim	Under birch
Pluteus chrysophlebius (chrysophaeus)	Yellow shield	Cellular cap cuticle
Psathyrella pseudogracilis		With red gill edges
Rickenella fibula	Orange mosscap	
Stereum hirsutum	Hairy curtain crust	
Trametes versicolor	Turkeytail	

<sup>13</sup> https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/visiting-woods/woods/gibbet-hill-wood/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> https://www.warwickshirewildlifetrust.org.uk/TocilWood

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> Some *Hebelomas* and *Inocybes* were found but left unidentified due to difficulty of these genera

Tricholoma fulvum	Birch knight	
Tubaria furfuracea	Scurfy twiglet	On fallen debris
ASCOMYCETES, MILDEWS, RUSTS etc.		
Auricularia auricula-judae	Jelly ear	
Calycina (Bisporella) citrina	Lemon disco	
Hypoxylon fragiforme	Beech woodwart	
Rhytisma acerinum	Sycamore tar-spot	
Xylaria hypoxylon	Candlesnuff fungus	
Xylaria polymorpha	Dead man's fingers	Spores 20- 30 microns
Xylaria longipes	Dead Moll's fingers	Spores about 14 microns in length

### 2.4.3 Photographs



# 2.5 Crackley Wood LNR/LWS, Kenilworth. 17<sup>th</sup> October 2021.

#### 2.5.1 Foray and site info

Forayers: DC, DG, DL, FV, GH, H, HM, JH, JP, JSW, JW, KR, MJR, MVW, PP, plus six members of the Leamington Photographic Society.

Crackley Wood LNR/LWS (Local Nature Reserve and Local Wildlife Site) is a Wildlife Trust ancient, semi-natural woodland: "Years ago this wood was coppiced but this was abandoned during the last century and sweet chestnut, sycamores and conifers were introduced. There are lots of grand oak trees and silver birch plus some ash and beech alongside" 16.

Despite the virtually continuous rain, 21 enthusiasts had a good day; the photographers appearing not to worry about the effect of the rain on their equipment. There were some fine examples of parasitic bolete (*Pseudoboletus parasiticus*) growing on its usual host of (common earthball (*Scleroderma citrinum*), which had not been seen at the site before. A varied list was the result of many pairs of eyes.

### 2.5.2 Species list - 46 species

Scientific name	Common name	Other notes (substrate etc.)
BASIDIOMYCETES		
Amanita rubescens	The blusher	
Ampuloclitocybe (Clitocybe) clavipes	Clubfoot	
Bjerkandera adusta	Smoky bracket	
Calocera cornea	Small stagshorn	
Calocera viscosa	Yellow stagshorn	
Chlorophyllum rhacodes	Shaggy parasol	
Clitocybe odora	Aniseed funnel	
Coprinellus (Coprinus) micaceus	Glistening inkcap	
Coprinus comatus	Shaggy inkcap	
Daedaleopsis confragosa	Blushing bracket	
Ganoderma australe	Southern bracket	
Gymnopus (Collybia) fusipes	Spindleshanks	
Hapalopilus nidulans	Cinnamon bracket	
Hypholoma fasciculare	Sulphur tuft	
Infundibulicybe (Clitocybe) gibba	Common funnel	
Kuehneromyces mutabilis	Sheathed woodtuft	
Laccaria amethystina	Amethyst deceiver	
Laccaria laccata	Deceiver	
Lactarius tabidus	Birch milkcap	
Lactarius turpis	Ugly milkcap	
Lycoperdon perlatum	Common puffball	
Macrolepiota procera	Parasol	<u> </u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> https://www.warwickshirewildlifetrust.org.uk/reserves/CrackleyWood

Megacollybia (Collybia) platyphylla	Whitelaced shank	
Mycena galericulata	Common bonnet	
Mycena inclinata	Clustered bonnet	
Mycena pura	Lilac bonnet	
Mycena speirea	Bark bonnet	
Phallus impudicus	Stinkhorn	
Piptoporum betulinus	Birch polypore	
Pluteus cervinus	Deer shield	
Pseudoboletus parasiticus	Parasitic bolete	On Scleroderma citrinum
Rhodocollybia (Collybia) butryacea	Buttercap	
Russula cyanoxantha forma peltereaui	Charcoal burner	
Russula ochroleuca	Ochre brittlegill	
Scleroderma areolatum	Leopard earthball	
Scleroderma citrinum	Common earthball	
Skeltocutis nemoralis (nivea)	Hazel bracket	
Trametes versicolor	Turkey tail	
Xerocomellus (Boletus) cisalpinus	Red-cracked bolete	
ASCOMYCETES, MILDEWS, RUSTS etc.		
Ascocoryne sarcoides	Purple jellydisc	Abundant conidia but no asci
Cudoniella acicularis	Oak pin	Spores 19 x 5, simple and 1
		septate
Hypoxylon multiforme	Birch woodwart	
Nectria cinnabarina	Coral spot	
Trichila ilicina	Holly speckle	
Xylaria hypoxylon	Candlesnuff fungus	
MYXOMYCETES		
Ceratiomyxa fruticulosa		

### 2.5.3 Photographs



Parasitic bolete (Pseudoboletus parasiticus) on common earthball (Scleroderma citrinum). G.Hillier.

# 2.6 Brandon Reach and Piles Coppice LWS, Brandon. 24<sup>th</sup> October 2021.

### 2.6.1 Foray and site info

Forayers: DC, DG, DN, FV, GH, JSW, MW, KR, MJR.

Brandon Reach grassland and Piles Coppice are Local Wildlife Sites (LWS)/Wildlife Trust reserves opposite Brandon Marsh SSSI. "Brandon Reach is a rich mix of ancient, post-industrial woodland that has given rise to a rich mosaic of habitats from grassland, scrub and early successional woodland through to the mature, ancient woodland of Piles Coppice" 17.

We met at Brandon Marsh and walked about two miles into Piles Coppice and Brandon Reach. The route allowed us to sample some good grassland, a habitat that was somewhat lacking in the 2021 programme. Dave Champion visited the site a few years ago when it was fantastic, and as we only visited a small area of the reserve, we will probably go back next year. The uncommon but impressive Dyer's mazegill (*Phaeolus schweinitzii*) was seen at the base of a fallen conifer. The porcelain fungus *Oudmansiella muscida* was seen ten foot up a large ash tree and was a new species for many of the group.

### 2.6.2 Species list – 55 species

Scientific name	Common name	Other notes (substrate etc.)
BASIDIOMYCETES		
Agaricus silvaticus	Blushing wood mushroom	
Amanita citrina	False deathcap	
Amanita muscaria	Fly agaric	
Amanita rubescens	The blusher	
Bolbitius titubans	Yellow fieldcap	
Clavariopsis laeticolor	Handsome club	
Clitocybe fragrans	Fragrant funnel	
Infundibulicybe (Clitocybe) geotropa	Trooping funnel	
Clitocybe nebularis	Clouded funnel	
Coprinus comatus	Shaggy inkcap	
Coprinellus (Coprinus) micaceus	Glistening inkcap	
Cuphophyllus virgineus	Snowy waxcap	
Ganoderma australe	Southern bracket	
Gymnopus (Collybia) fusipes	Spindleshanks	
Hygrocybe psittacina	Parrot waxcap	
Hypholoma fasiculare	Sulphur tuft	
Infundibulicybe (Clitocybe) gibba	Common funnel	
Laccaria amethystina	Amethyst deceiver	
Laccaria laccata	Deceiver	
Lacrymaria lacrimabunda	Weeping widow	
Lactarius tabidus	Birch milkcap	

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> https://www.warwickshirewildlifetrust.org.uk/BrandonReach

Lepiota cristata	Stinking dapperling	
Lycoperdon excipuliformis	Pestle puffball	
Lycoperdon molle	Soft puffball	
Lycoperdon perlatum	Common puffball	
Lycoperdon pyriforme	Stump puffball	
Lyophyllum decastes	Clustered domecap	
Mycena aetites	Drab bonnet	
Mycena galericulata	Common bonnet	
Mycena haematopus	Burgundydrop bonnet	
Mycena pura	Lilac bonnet	
Oudemansiella mucida	Porcelain fungus	
Paxillus involutus	Brown rollrim	
Phallus impudicus	Stinkhorn	
Pholiota squarrosa	Shaggy scalycap	
Piptoporus betulinus	Birch polypore	
Polyporus badius	Bay polypore	
Postia subcaesia	Blueing bracket	
Psathyrella multipedata	Clustered brittlestem	
Rhodocollybia (Collybia) butryacea	Buttercap	
Russula ochroleuca	Ochre brittlegill	
Schizopora paradoxa	Split porecrust	
Stereum hirsutum	Hairy curtain crust	
Tricholoma scalpturatum	Yellowing knight	
Xerocomellus cisalpinus	Bluefoot bolete	
Xerula radicata	Rooting shank	
ASCOMYCETES, MILDEWS, RUSTS etc.		
Auricularia auricula-judae	Jelly ear	
Chlorociboria aeruginascens	Green elfcup	
Hypoxylon fragiforme	Beech woodwart	
Hypoxylon multiforme	Birch woodwart	
Nectria cinnabarina	Coral spot	
Phragmidium violaceum	Rust on bramble	
Trochila ilicina	Holly speckle	
Xylaria longipes	Dead Moll's fingers	Spores 13 x 6 microns
MYXOMYCETES		
Mucilago crustacea	Slime mould	





Beech woodwart (Hypoxylon fragiforme). G.Hillier



Porcelain fungus (*Oudemansiella mucida*). G.Hillier



Shaggy scalycap (Pholiota squarrosa). G.Hillier



Phragmidium violaceum, a bramble rust. D.Napier



*Phragmidium violaceum* microscopy. Majority of the teliospores (sexual spores) with 3-4 cells. (Rather than 5-7 in the similar *P bulbosum*. D.Napier.

# 2.7 Snitterfield Bushes SSSI, Snitterfield. 24<sup>th</sup> October 2021.

#### 2.7.1 Foray and site info

Forayers: DC, DG, FV & TK.

An ancient, semi-natural woodland that is notified as a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) for its woodland habitat, invertebrate assemblages of arboreal canopy and grassland/scrub matrix, hibernating bats and population of the nationally-scarce wood white butterfly<sup>18</sup>. While its history has seen disturbance for agriculture, timber and wartime airfield, the Wildlife Trust have restored and manage it carefully to maintain its current "favourable condition" <sup>19</sup>.

A small but hardy group ignored the weather warnings that were issued for the storm the previous night and produced a good list despite the wind. We may try this site again next year.

### 2.7.2 Species list – 28 species<sup>20</sup>

Scientific name	Common name	Other notes (substrate etc.)
BASIDIOMYCETES		
Armillaria mellea	Honey fungus	
Boletus chrysenteron	Red cracking bolete	
Crepidotus mollis	Peeling oysterling	
Coprinellus disseminatus	Fairy inkcap	
Ganoderma australe	Southern bracket	
Hebeloma sinapizans	Bitter poisonpie	
Hypholoma fasiculare	Sulphur tuft	
Lacrymaria lacrymabunda	Weeping widow	
Lactarius pubescens	Bearded milkcap	
Lactarius vellereus	Fleecy milkcap	
Lycoperdon pyriforme	Stump puffball	
Melanoleuca polioleuca	Common cavalier	
Mycena galericulata	Common bonnet	
Mycena haematopus	Burgundydrop bonnet	
Phleogena faginea	Fenugreek stalkball	
Pholiota gummosa	Sticky scalycap	
Russula betularum	Birch brittlegill	
Schizophyllum commune	Split-gill	

<sup>18</sup> 

https://designatedsites.naturalengland.org.uk/sitedetail.aspx?SiteCode=S1002251&SiteName=Bush&countyCode=&responsiblePerson=&unitId=&SeaArea=&IFCAArea=

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> https://www.warwickshirewildlifetrust.org.uk/SnitterfieldBushes

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> See Section 3 for some further non-foray records from this site

Trametes versicolor	Turkeytail
Trichaptum abietinum	Purplepore bracket
Tricholoma cingulatum	Girdled knight
ASCOMYCETES, MILDEWS, RUSTS etc.	
Bisporella citrina	Lemon disco
Daldinia concentrica	King Alfred's cakes
Exidia thuretiana	White brain
Helvella crispa	White saddle
Hypoxylon multiforme	Birch woodwart
Xylaria hypoxylon	Candlesnuff fungus
MYXOMYCETES	
Trichia decipiens	Determined by DG

# 2.8 Stivichall Common LNR/LWS, Coventry. 15<sup>th</sup> November 2021.

### 2.8.1 Foray and site info

Forayers: GT, JP, JSW, MVW, NM, PP, TK.

Stivichall Common Local Wildlife Site (LWS) is mixed woodland with "oak, beech, sycamore, ash and sweet chestnut, of which there are some fine specimens over 200 years old" and is part of Coventry City Council's Wainbody Wood and Stivichall Common, Kenilworth Road Spinney LNR<sup>21,22</sup>.

This meeting was moved from the Sunday to the Monday because of Remembrance Day in the nearby Coventry War Memorial Park. With some of the more experienced members of the group absent, there was a lot of discussion over Sterry<sup>23</sup> and a reasonable list eventually emerged. Like most mycologists we covered only a very small area of the site which could well benefit from another visit. The *Dictydiaethalium plumbeum* slime mould looked just like a sticking plaster.

### 2.8.2 Species list - 34 species

Scientific name  BASIDIOMYCETES	Common name	Other notes (substrate etc.)	
Amanita rubescens	The blusher		
Chlorophyllum rhacodes	Shaggy parasol		

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> https://www.coventry.gov.uk/nature-conservation/kenilworth-road-woodlands

Designated as a Local Nature Reserve. https://designatedsites.naturalengland.org.uk/SiteLNRDetail.aspx?SiteCode=L1009184&SiteName=stivichall&countyCode

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup> Sterry, P. and Hughes, B. (2009). *Collins Complete Guide to British Mushrooms and Toadstools*. HarperCollins, London.

Clitocybe nebularis	Clouded funnel	
Coprinellus (Coprinus) micaceus	Glistening inkcap	
Ganoderma australe	Southern bracket	
Hypholoma fasiculare	Sulphur tuft	
Laccaria amethystina	Amethyst deceiver	
Laccaria laccata	The deceiver	
Lactarius quietus	Oakbug milkcap	
Lepista flaccida	Tawny funnel	
Lepista nuda	Wood blewit	
Lycoperdon excipuliforme	Pestle puffball	
Lycoperdon perlatum	Common puffball	
Mycena polygramma	Grooved bonnet	
Mycena pura	Lilac bonnet	
Mycena vitilis	Snapping bonnet	
Piptoporus betulinus	Birch polypore	
Psathyrella corrugis		Interrupted red-edged gills, spores checked.
Rhodocollybia (Collybia) butryacea	Buttercap	CHECKEU.
Rhodotus palmatus	Wrinkled peach	
Russula ochroleuca	Ochre brittlegill	
Sclerodermum citrinum	Common earthball	
Stereum hirsutum	Hairy curtain crust	
Trametes (Lenzites) betulina	Birch mazegill	
Trametes (Echizites) betaining  Trametes versicolor	Turkeytail	
Tubaria furfuracea	Scurfy twiglet	
ASCOMYCETES, MILDEWS, RUSTS	county img.or	
etc.		
Hypoxylon multiforme	Birch woodwart	
Nectria cinnabarinna	Coral spot	
Phragmidium violaceum	Rust on bramble	Spores 4-celled (see photo in 2.6.3).
Rhytisma acerinum	Sycamore tar-spot	
Trochila ilicina	Holly speckle	
Xylaria hypoxylon	Candlesnuff	
MYXOMYCETES		
Ceratiomyxa fruticulosa	Slime mould	Determined by DG
Dictydiaethalium plumbeum	Slime mould	

## 2.9 Hampton Wood LWS, Barford. 15<sup>th</sup> November 2021.

### 2.9.1 Foray and site info

Forayers: DG, FV, GH, GT, JH, JSW, MJR, MVW, NM, TK.

Part of Hampton Wood and Meadow Warwickshire Wildlife Trust reserve: this ancient, seminatural woodland is designated as a Local Wildlife Site (LWS) for its woodland flowers and butterflies<sup>24</sup>. There are many fallen trees, a valuable habitat that needs to be left to provide a substrate for a healthy fungal community.

A good list despite the sub-zero temperatures. Identification was not easy as some species change colour when frozen and do not shed their spores when later thawed.

### 2.9.2 Species list - 35 species

Scientific name  BASIDIOMYCETES	Common name	Other notes (substrate etc.)
Bjerkandera adusta	Smoky bracket	
Infundibulicybe (Clitocybe) geotropa	Trooping funnel	
Crepidotus variabilis	Variable oysterling	
Dacrymyces stillatus	Common jelly-spot	
Daedalea quercina	Oak mazegill	
Daldinia concentrica	Cramp balls	
Exidia thuretiana	White brain	
Fomes fomentarius	Hoof fungus	
Gymnopilus penetrans	Common rustgill	
Hypholoma fasciculare	Sulphur tuft	
Laccaria amethystina	Amethyst deceiver	
Laccaria laccata	The deceiver	
Lepista flaccida	Tawny funnel	
Lycoperdon perlatum	Common puffball	
Lycoperdon pyriforme	Stump puffball	
Meripilus giganteus	Giant polypore	
Mycena arcangeliana	Angel's bonnet	
Mycena galericulata	Common bonnet	
Mycena inclinata	Clustered bonnet	
Mycena polygramma	Grooved bonnet	
Mycena vitilis	Snapping bonnet	
Peniophora quercina		
Piptoporus betulinus	Birch polypore	
Pleurotus ostreatus	Oyster	
Rhodotus palmatus	Wrinkled peach	
Schizopora paradoxa	Split porecrust	
Stereum hirsutum	Hairy curtain crust	
Trichaptum abietinum	Purplepore bracket	On dead pine tree

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup> https://www.warwickshirewildlifetrust.org.uk/HamptonWood

ASCOMYCETES, MILDEWS, RUSTS etc.		
Auricularia auricula-judae	Jelly ear	
Auricularia mesenterica	Tripe fungus	
Bisporella citrina	Lemon disco	
Dasycyphella nivea		White hairy asco on oak wood, spores
		7.5 x 1.8 microns
Hypoxylon multiforme	Birch woodwart	
Nectria cinnabarina	Coral spot	·
Xylaria hypoxylon	Candlesnuff	

### 2.9.3 Photographs



# 2.10 Bubbenhall Wood LWS, Bubbenhall. 5<sup>th</sup> December 2021.

### 2.10.1 Foray and site info

Forayers: DC, DG, FV, GH, GT, JH, JSW, KR, MVW.

Part of Warwickshire Wildlife Trust's Bubbenhall Wood and Meadow LWS (Local Wildlife Site), this ancient semi-natural woodland "has been here since at least 1600 and is mentioned in the Domesday Book of 1086". Follow the link on the reserve page<sup>25</sup> for an oral history from some familiar faces!

This meeting was moved from the Sunday to the Monday because of Remembrance Day in the nearby Coventry War Memorial Park. As some of the more experienced members of the group were not present, there was a lot of discussion over Sterry<sup>26</sup> and a reasonable list eventually emerged. Like most mycologists we covered only a very small area of the site which could well benefit from another visit. The slime mould with the long name beginning with "D" looked just like a sticking plaster.

#### 2.10.2 Species list - 45 species

Scientific name	Common name	Other notes (substrate etc.)
BASIDIOMYCETES		
Clitocybe nebularis	Clouded agaric	
Clitocybe vibecina	Mealy funnel	Confirmed by FV
Rhodocollybia (Collybia) maculata	Spotted toughshank	
Coprinellus (Coprinus) micaceus	Glistening inkcap	
Daedalea quercina	Oak mazegill	On oak
Daedaleopsis confragosa	Blushing bracket	
Daldinia concentrica	Cramp balls	
Exidia nigricans (plana)	Warlock's butter	
Fomes fomentarius	Hoof fungus	On birch
Gymnopilus penetrans	Common rustgill	Confirmed by FV
Hapalopilus nidulans	Cinnamon bracket	On birch
Helvella crispa	White saddle	
Hymenochaete corrugata	Glue crust	On hazel
Hymenochaete rubiginosa	Oak curtain crust	Oak stump
Hypholoma fasciculare	Sulphur tuft	
Infundibulicybe (Clitocybe) geotropa	Trooping funnel	
Lycoperdon excipuliforme	Pestle puffball	
Lycoperdon perlatum	Common puffball	
Marasmiellus ramealis	Twig parachute	On bramble

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>25</sup> https://www.warwickshirewildlifetrust.org.uk/BubbenhallWood

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>26</sup> Sterry, P. and Hughes, B. (2009). *Collins Complete Guide to British Mushrooms and Toadstools*. HarperCollins, London.

Mycena galericulata	Common bonnet	On stump
Mycena rosea	Lilac bonnet	
Mycena vitilis	Snapping bonnet	
Paralepista (Lepista) flaccida	Tawny funnel	
Peniophora quercina		
Phlebia radiata	Wrinkled crust	On birch
Phleogena faginea	Fenugreek stalkball	On fallen oak tree
Piptoporus betulinus	Birch polypore	On birch
Psathyrella piluliformis	Common stump brittlestem	Confirmed by FV
Pseudoclitocybe (Clitocybe) cyathiformis	The goblet	
Rhodocollybia butyracea	Butter cap	
Rhodotus palmatus	Wrinkled peach	
Rickenella fibula	Orange mosscap	Mosses
Scleroderma verrucosum	Scaly earthball	
Stereum hirsutum	Hairy curtain crust	
Phaeotremella frondosa (Tremella foliacea)	Leafy brain	
Tremella mesenterica	Yellow brain	
Tubaria furfuracea	Scurfy twiglet	Confirmed by FV
ASCOMYCETES, MILDEWS, RUSTS etc.		
Ascocoryne sarcoides	Purple jellydisc	
Auricularia auricula-judae	Jelly ear	
Bisporella citrina	Lemon disco	
Chlorociboria aeruginascens	Green elfcap	
Hypoxylon fuscum	Hazel woodwart	
Hypoxylon multiforme	Birch woodwart	
Trochila ilicina	Holly speckle	
Xylaria hypoxylon	Candlesnuff	
MYXOMYCETES		
Trichia varia		Confirmed by DG

### 2.10.3 Photographs



Super close-up of green elf cup (Chlorociboria aeruginascens). D.Champion

# 2.11 Wappenbury Wood LWS, Princethorpe. 5<sup>th</sup> December 2021.

#### 2.11.1 Foray and site info

Forayers: DC, DG, FV, GH, GT, JH, JSW, KR, MVW.

Part of Warwickshire Wildlife Trust's *Dunsmore Living Landscape*, this Plantation on Ancient Woodland Site (PAWS) woodland is of county importance as a Local Wildlife Site (LWS). "By the end of the 15th Century, the wood was known by its present name and provided a source of fuel, building materials and hunting opportunities for the local community. Medieval ridge and furrow plough markings found to the north of the woods, ancient bank boundaries, and the age-old pathway known as Nunwood Lane all provide further evidence of the woods' age. Nearly clear-felled twice in the 1940s and 1950s, the wood was left to regenerate naturally, helping to increase diversity and contributing to its ecological excellence today"<sup>27</sup>.

An additional meeting to the original programme, this survey was one of the most interesting. A new county record of the crimped gill bracket (*Plicaturopsis crispa*) and some beautiful spring hazelcup (*Encoelia furfuracea*) were the highlights. A large fruited Ascocoryne growing in a patch turned out to be the rarer *A.cylichnium* when the spores were examined and the miniscule *Mycena* growing on an oak leaf, with a cap of just over a millimetre, was identified as *M.smithiana*. Even a week before Christmas there was still plenty to see.

### 2.11.2 Species list – 34 species

Scientific name	Common name	Other notes (substrate etc.)
BASIDIOMYCETES		
Byssomerulius corium	Netted crust	
Chondrostereum purpureum	Silverleaf fungus	
Coprinellus (Coprinus) micaceus	Glistening inkcap	
Crepidotus variabilis	Variable oysterling	
Daedaleopsis confragosa	Blushing bracket	
Daldinia concentrica	Cramp balls	
Entoloma rhodopolium	Wood pinkgill	Confirmed by FV
Exidia glandulosa	Witches butter	
Fomes fomentarius	Hoof fungus	
Fomitopsis betulina	Birch polypore	
Hymenochaete corrugata	Hazel glue crust	
Hypholoma fasciculare	Sulphur tuft	
Laccaria amethystina	Amethyst deceiver	
Laccaria laccata	The deceiver	

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>27</sup> https://www.warwickshirewildlifetrust.org.uk/WappenburyWood

Lycoperdon perlatum	Common puffball	
Lycoperdon pyriforme	Stump puffball	
Mycena arcangeliana	Angel's bonnet	
Mycena galopus	Milking bonnet	
Mycena smithiana		1 mm. across, cheilocystidia checked
Phlebia radiata	Wrinkled crust	
Phleogena faginea	Fenugreek stalkball	
Plicaturopsis crispa	Crimped gill	Found by GT, identified by DC. New to VC38
Polyporus tuberaster	Tuberous polypore	
Stereum hirsutum	Hairy curtain crust	
Trametes versicolor	Turkeytail	
Tubaria furfuracea	Scurfy twiglet	
Typhula fistulosa	Pipe club	
ASCOMYCETES, MILDEWS,		
RUSTS etc.		
Ascocoryne cylichnium		
Chlorociboria aeruginascens	Green elfcap	
Encoelia furfurarcea	Spring hazelcup	
Hypoxylon fuscum	Hazel woodwart	
Mollisia cinerea	Grey disco	
Trochila ilicina	Holly speckle	
Xylaria hypoxylon	Candlesnuff	
MYXOMYCETES		
Arcyria sp.	·	

### 2.11.3 Photographs from Wappenbury Wood LWS



Silverleaf (Chondrostereum purpureum). G.Hillier



Spring hazelcup (Encoelia furfurarcea). G.Hillier



Super close-up of *Ascoryne cylichnium*. D.Champion



County-first record of crimped gill (*Plicaturopsis crispa*). D.Champion



Super close-up of Fenugreek stalkball (*Phleogena faginea*). D.Champion

## 3 NON-FORAY RECORDS

This section contains additional fungus records that have been sent to the WFG but not validated or entered on to FRDBI by WFG. The recorders may have entered them on to FRDBI themselves. Therefore, WFG have not necessarily validated these records, but we have included them in the newsletter for interest.

Photographs of species highlighted in **bold** are provided on the pages following the table.

Site	Scientific name	English name	Other info	Recorder/s	Date
Alvecote Pools SSSI	Lactarius glyciosmus	Coconut milkcap	Spoilheap, under birch	J&VR, JSW, MVW, GT	25/10/2020
Alvecote Pools SSSI	Puccinia phragmites	Rust on broad-leaved dock		JSW/MVW	12/10/2021
Alvecote Pools SSSI	Russula aeruginea	Green brittlegill		JSW/MVW	12/10/2021
Alvecote Pools SSSI	Thelophora terrestris	Earthfan	Spoilheap, under birch	J&VR, JSW, MVW, GT	25/10/2020
Alvecote Pools SSSI	Xerocomus ferrugineus	Rusty bolete		JSW/MVW	12/10/2021
Atherstone Golfcourse	Cystoderma amianthinum	Earthy powdercap		JSW/MVW	15/11/2020
Atherstone Golfcourse	Hygrophorus aurantiosplendens	Orange waxcap		JSW/MVW	15/11/2020
Atherstone Golfcourse	Lactarius turpis	Ugly milkcap		JSW/MVW	15/11/2020
Atherstone Golfcourse	Mycena luteoalba	Ivory bonnet		JSW/MVW	15/11/2020
Atherstone Golfcourse	Peziza badia	Bay cup		JSW/MVW	15/11/2020
Atherstone Golfcourse	Stropharia semiglobata	Dung roundhead		JSW/MVW	15/11/2020
Brandon Marsh SSSI	Calocybe gambosa	St. George's mushroom	In moss.	J&VR, JSW, MVW, GT	19/05/2021
Brandon Marsh SSSI	Helvella crispa	Common white saddle	Woodland	J&VR, JSW, MVW, GT	30/10/2020
Brandon Marsh SSSI	Helvella elastica	Elastic saddle	Woodland	J&VR, JSW, MVW, GT	30/10/2020
Brandon Marsh SSSI	Mycena adonis	Scarlet bonnet		J&VR, JSW, MVW, GT	19/05/2021
Brandon Wood LWS	Arrhenia retiruga	Small moss oysterling	On moss	J&VR, JSW, MVW, GT	17/12/2020
Cliff, Kingsbury	Crucibulum laeve	Common bird's-nest		JSW/MVW	22/08/2021
Dordon Spoilheap LWS	Calvatia gigantea	Giant puffball		JSW/MVW	05/01/2021

Finham Sewage Works, Coventry	Lactarius semisanguifluus			FV	02/11/2021
Finham Sewage Works, Coventry	Tricholoma terreum	Grey knight		FV	31/10/2020
Grendon Churchyard	Hygrocybe calyptriformis	Pink waxcap		JSW/MVW	15/12/2020
Grendon Heath LWS	Stropharia coronilla	Garland roundhead	In meadow	JSW/MVW	07/10/2021
Hay Wood LWS	Boletus subtomentosus	Suede bolete		J&VR, JSW, MVW, GT	14/12/2020
Hay Wood LWS	Lactarius blennius	Beech milkcap		J&VR, JSW, MVW, GT	14/12/2020
Hay Wood LWS	Pseudoclitocybe cyathiformis	The goblet		J&VR, JSW, MVW, GT	14/12/2020
Kingsbury Water Park	Gymnopus dilepis	Magenta rustgill	On woodchip	JSW/MVW	29/09/2021
Kingsbury Water Park	Hygrophorus hypothejus	Herald of Winter	Near pine trees close to entrance	J&VR, JSW, MVW, GT	13/11/2020
Kingsbury Water Park	Russula claroflava	Yellow swamp brittlegill	Near pine trees close to entrance	J&VR, JSW, MVW, GT	13/11/2020
Longbridge Sewage Works, Warwick	Lepista saeva	Field blewit		FV	10/11/2021
Longbridge Sewage Works, Warwick	Marasmius oreades	Fairy ring champignon		FV	15/07/2020
Merevale Park Estate, Atherstone	Caloboletus radicans	Rooting bolete		JSW/MVW	21/08/2021
Middleton Lakes RSPB Reserve	Pluteus aurantiorugosus	Flame shield		JSW/MVW	27/08/2021
Miller & Carter pub, Coventry	Tapinella atrotomentosa	Velvet rollrim		FV	02/11/2021
Nuneaton Parish Churchyard	Volvariella gloiocephela	Stubble rosegill		JSW/MVW	17/11/2020
Oakley Wood LWS	Clitocybe odora	Aniseed funnel		DN	08/10/2021
Oakley Wood LWS	Pseudoboletus parasciticus	Parasitic bolete	on Scleroderma citrinum	DN	08/10/2021
Paddy Line, Atherstone	Hericium coralloides	Coral tooth	On ash log	JSW/MVW	22/10/2021
Paddy Line, Atherstone	Mycena pseudocorticola		Mossy branch	JSW/MVW	11/12/2021
Piccadilly, Kingsbury	Agrocybe rivulosa	Wrinkled fieldcap	On woodchip	JSW/MVW	22/08/2021
Polesworth, by Coventry Canal	Agaricus xanthodermus	Yellow stainer		JSW/MVW	08/11/2020
Snitterfield Bushes SSSI	Armillaria mellea	Honey fungus		Nick Williams	01/11/2021
Snitterfield Bushes SSSI	Bisporella citrina	Lemon disco		Nick Williams	01/11/2021
Snitterfield Bushes SSSI	Bjerkandera adusta	Smoky bracket		Nick Williams	01/11/2021

Snitterfield Bushes SSSI	Chondrostereum purpureum	Silverleaf fungus	Nick Williams	01/11/2021
Snitterfield Bushes SSSI	Infundibulicybe (Clitocybe) geotropa	Trooping funnel	Nick Williams	01/11/2021
Snitterfield Bushes SSSI	Coprinus disseminatus	Fairy inkcap	Nick Williams	01/11/2021
Snitterfield Bushes SSSI	Cortinarius infractus	Bitter webcap	Nick Williams	01/11/2021
Snitterfield Bushes SSSI	Cortinarius violaceus	Violet webcap	Nick Williams	01/11/2021
Snitterfield Bushes SSSI	Crepidotus mollis	Peeling oysterling	Nick Williams	01/11/2021
Snitterfield Bushes SSSI	Fomitopsis betulina	Birch bracket	Nick Williams	01/11/2021
Snitterfield Bushes SSSI	Gleophyllum sepiarium	Conifer mazegill	Nick Williams	01/11/2021
Snitterfield Bushes SSSI	Hebeloma crustulineforme	Poisonpie	Nick Williams	01/11/2021
Snitterfield Bushes SSSI	Helvella crispa	White saddle	Nick Williams	01/11/2021
Snitterfield Bushes SSSI	Hygrocybe quieta	Oily waxcap	Nick Williams	01/11/2021
Snitterfield Bushes SSSI	Hypholoma fasciculare	Sulphur tuft	Nick Williams	01/11/2021
Snitterfield Bushes SSSI	Inocybe geophylla	White fibrecap	Nick Williams	01/11/2021
Snitterfield Bushes SSSI	Inocybe geophylla var. Iilacina	Lilac fibrecap	Nick Williams	01/11/2021
Snitterfield Bushes SSSI	Inocybe maculata	Frosty fibrecap	Nick Williams	01/11/2021
Snitterfield Bushes SSSI	Laccaria laccata	Deceiver	Nick Williams	01/11/2021
Snitterfield Bushes SSSI	Lacrymaria lacrymabunda	Weeping widow	Nick Williams	01/11/2021
Snitterfield Bushes SSSI	Lactarius pubescens	Bearded milkcap	Nick Williams	01/11/2021
Snitterfield Bushes SSSI	Leccinum versipelle	Orange birch bolete	Nick Williams	01/11/2021
Snitterfield Bushes SSSI	Lycoperdon perlatum	Common puffball	Nick Williams	01/11/2021
Snitterfield Bushes SSSI	Lycoperdon pyriforme	Stump puffball	Nick Williams	01/11/2021
Snitterfield Bushes SSSI	Mycena galericulata	Common bonnet	Nick Williams	01/11/2021
Snitterfield Bushes SSSI	Mycena galopus	Milking bonnet	Nick Williams	01/11/2021
Snitterfield Bushes SSSI	Mycena inclinata	Clustered bonnet	Nick Williams	01/11/2021
Snitterfield Bushes SSSI	Mycena maculata	Stained bonnet	Nick Williams	01/11/2021
Snitterfield Bushes SSSI	Mycena polygramma	Grooved bonnet	Nick Williams	01/11/2021
Snitterfield Bushes SSSI	Mycena vitilis	Snapping bonnet	Nick Williams	01/11/2021

Wormleighton Reservoir	Gymnopus dilepis	Magenta rustgill	DC	05/08/2020
War Memorial Park, Coventry	Laetiporus sulphureus	Chicken of the Woods	FV	07/10/2021
Wappenbury Wood LWS	Hydnum repandum	Wood hedgehog	FV	08/12/2020
Wappenbury Wood LWS	Grifola frondosa	Hen of the Woods	FV	04/10/2021
Wappenbury Wood LWS	Amanita phalloides	Deathcap	FV	05/11/2021
Tilehill Wood SSSI/LWS	Volvariella bombycina	Silky rosegill	JSW/MVW	25/08/2021
Tilehill Wood SSSI/LWS	Panellus stipticus	Butter oysterling	J&VR, JSW, MVW, GT	06/12/2020
Tilehill Wood SSSI/LWS	Mycena stiptica	Clustered pine bonnet	J&VR, JSW, MVW, GT	06/12/2020
Tilehill Wood SSSI/LWS	Hohnebuehelia atrocoerula		J&VR, JSW, MVW, GT	06/12/2020
Sydenham, Leamington Spa	Lactarius semisanguifluu	s	DN	05/10/2021
St Martin's Rd, Coventry	Tricholoma lascivum	Aromatic knight	FV	02/11/2021
St Martin's Rd, Coventry	Agaricus augustus	The prince	FV	08/10/2021
SP35	Ramariopsis pulchella	Lilac coral	DN	05/11/2021
Snitterfield Bushes SSSI	Tricholoma scalpturatum	Yellowing knight	Nick Williams	01/11/2021
Snitterfield Bushes SSSI	Tricholoma fulvum	Birch knight	Nick Williams	01/11/2021
Snitterfield Bushes SSSI	Trametes versicolor	Turkeytail	Nick Williams	01/11/2021
Snitterfield Bushes SSSI	Schizophyllum commune	Splitgill	Nick Williams	01/11/2021
Snitterfield Bushes SSSI	Russula heterophylla	Greasy green brittlegill	Nick Williams	01/11/2021
Snitterfield Bushes SSSI	Russula betularum	Birch brittlegill	Nick Williams	01/11/2021
Snitterfield Bushes SSSI	Russula atropurpurea	Purple brittlegill	Nick Williams	01/11/2021
Snitterfield Bushes SSSI	Postia subcaesia	Blueing bracket	Nick Williams	01/11/2021
Snitterfield Bushes SSSI	Paxillus involutus	Brown rollrim	Nick Williams	01/11/2021



## 4 FUNGAL FOOTNOTES....

This section contains articles and other fungal material from WFG regulars and irregulars. Please send any contributions, including any photos, for next year to <a href="mailto:jomowalton@gmail.com">jomowalton@gmail.com</a>. Please try to limit to 1-2 pages including any photos, thanks.

### 4.1 Fungi Around Bristol, by John R. Roberts

After a few weeks from 1<sup>st</sup> September 2021 physically settling into our new, Bristol apartment, the lure of natural history and especially autumn fungi soon took us out and about. We began exploring local grassland and woodland sites evident on OS maps, Avon Wildlife Trust NRs, and some of the splendid parks and cemeteries in the city.

The main contact was of course *North Somerset and Bristol Fungus Group*, which covers vice-county (VC) 06. They are affiliated to the British Mycological Society (BMS) and Michael Jordan's *Fungus Conservation Group*, with all confirmed records being submitted to both. We met Foray insurance again, with joining costing us £35.

This Group's main activities are forays for paid-up members, which are free initially to individuals with a beginner's interest in mycology. Ordinarily 8-10 forays are organised through the year, both in spring and autumn. Forays are sometimes shared with neighbouring Fungus Groups. Covid arrested all activities for 2020, but resumption began with five outings spread between 26 September 2021 and 28 November 2021. The Group has one special area for continuous visiting: the extensive estate of Tyntesfield National Trust property; 1,150 species have been identified there since 2005.

The Group welcomed us very warmly, finding our enthusiasm and knowledge dovetailed well with theirs. They flatteringly including us in their 'inner circle'. At 87 and 83 we just missed being the eldest. Most members are in their middle years. Echoes of WFS and your new Warwickshire Fungus Group threaded through this Group's organization and practice. In recent years, leading members have died, and new faces have volunteered for specific posts. The foray organiser, for instance, said he would take this role for a year to tide things over: he has just completed his fifth year and continues!

Forays proceed in the Warwickshire fashion, with a named leader, who knows and has previsited the site, selecting the route. We meet on a Sunday at 10.00 and the meeting ends after a couple of hours or so, with a display and discussion of named finds; then sandwiches are eaten. A core of about a dozen people seem to attend regularly, expanding to 20+ with visitors, often University students. Participants search in a loosely gathered group, endeavouring to ensure all present see most finds, common, uncommom and unknown species. English and scientific names are used equally. Much, quick photography takes place, which, alongside a few, remaining collected specimens, are taken away for subsequent, off-site determination (or not) by one trusted, expert member. On the foray, suspected rare specimens are collected singly or not at all; nothing is gathered for eating. Probably a third of the core members regularly use microscopes and microscopic features are usually stated in published, Foray reports.

One member formally acts as Recorder in the field, speaking agreed names into a handheld device. Examples for later checking are kept if there are possible look-alikes or more members in the same family. She notes the finder, the confirmer and the habitat. A

temporary site list is circulated to all Members within a day or two. Pictures are subsequently published alongside notable finds. As examples, I noted a tiny *Scutellinia trechispora* and the mould *Paecilomyces marquandii* on *Hygrocybe virginea*, both new species for this VC.

Non-foray finds can also be submitted to the same expert for inclusion in the VC total. Val and I submitted *Tarzetta cupilaris* and *Lepiota fuscovinacea*, both firsts to the area (see photos below). Our most amazing discovery was a group of *Ganoderma lucidum* in a baker's shop window in Clifton Village, growing from a plastic sack of spawn in a bucket! The baker coincidentally came to the last foray of the season: he joint-owns a fungus business, retailing a wide range of species at farmer's markets in Bristol and Bath. The Bristol one we had already found and photographed, congratulating the seller (the other joint-owner) on his fabulous range of edible species.

Individuals have willingly suggested other areas we could visit on our own and the listing of previous forays highlights still more places. We shall have to live second lives to encompass everything our new area offers!!



Tarzetta cupularis (Toothed cup). J.R.Roberts



Lepiota fuscovinacea. J.R.Roberts



Ganoderma lucidum (lacquered bracket) growing from a plastic sack of spawn in a bucket, in a baker's shop in Clifton, nr Bristol. J.R.Roberts

### 4.2 My First Foray, by Tim Knight

I was delighted to discover the Warwickshire Fungus Group (WFG) in late 2021. Having become frustrated by my inability to distinguish between anything other than the most unmistakable mushrooms (using photographs and a phone app), I was keen to tap into the expertise of experienced mycologists. I followed up a reference to WFG on the British Mycology Society website and within a flash received an email from John Walton with an invitation to the next Foray.

On a very unpromising autumn Sunday morning, I ventured out to Snitterfield Bushes, driving though torrential rain and listening to news reports of flash floods on the radio. I assumed I would be the only one there but was amazed to find several doughty souls standing in a muddy car park as the sun broke through the clouds.

I was instantly made to feel very welcome, but was puzzled when one member of the group produced a Tupperware box containing a mixture of 'toadstools'. It seemed a little early for lunch. However, an earnest discussion quickly erupted around the finds. After a quick introductions we crossed the road and entered the Nature Reserve.

I assumed there would be a march into the woods before we got down to business, but instantly my companions were crouching over wood piles and poking into crevices. Books were pulled out of bags and knives brandished, and before I knew it, I had learnt the names of numerous new fungi. Previously anonymous-looking brown things acquired mellifluous Latin names. I was alarmed to see a learned member poke a piece of mushroom into his mouth and start nibbling before quickly announcing that the morsel was 'hot'. At this moment I began to realise that there is far more to the identification of fungi than a quick squint with the naked eye.



Earthfan (*Thelephora pencilatta*). T.Knight

My previous personal forays had involved furtive and self-conscious wanderings from the footpaths of local woods, convinced that passers-by would suspect my motives. To be in the company of like -minded individuals all with their noses to the ground and oblivious to everything other than what was growing on old logs was truly liberating. I had such a good time, that I returned to Snitterfield Bushes a week later and found, amongst other specimens, the earthfan (*Thelephora pencilatta*).

I have since joined two further forays, and met more members of the WFG, all exceedingly friendly and helpful.

I thought it might be of interest to elaborate on the aforementioned app. Having nursed a lifelong

interest in all things natural, a trip to Costa Rica three years ago suddenly lit up my passion for recording and identifying flora and fauna. I recall a particular moment one evening in our holiday apartment, when I was hit in the face by a giant grasshopper. After the initial shock, I was very keen to find out its name. I picked up my phone and started Googling and soon came across a website called *iNaturalist* (https://uk.inaturalist.org/) This is the user-friendly face of a huge international database of amateur and professional nature observations managed by the California Academy of Sciences and National Geographic. It provides a quick way of uploading a photograph or sound recording of a field observation. With most phones and many modern cameras, the photo will automatically have date and location data attached. If you are sure you know what you have found,

then you can enter your identification. Alternatively, an increasingly accurate artificial intelligence program will suggest an ID. The heavy reliance on visual information means that naming fungi is sometimes rather off the mark, but can be helpful at the Order, Family or Genus level. The real beauty of *iNaturalist* is that once you have posted an observation, it is exposed to a community of several million observers and several hundred thousand experts, including university professors, who will help identify your discovery or gently correct your misdiagnosis. Furthermore, the app provides a permanent record of your nature observations which can be sorted by date, place or taxonomic level.

The shortcomings of the app in the field of mycology mean that, as previously mentioned, I am delighted to have found the WFG. I look forward to many more opportunities to soak up the knowledge and expertise of the members and, equally importantly, enjoy the company of kindred spirits.

# 4.3 Seta Hunting in Cantabria, Spain, by Francesco Verenciano

Let's start by saying that 'seta' is the Spanish word for 'mushroom' and that mushroom hunting-picking-foraging-mushrooming are all similar terms used to describe the activity of gathering mushrooms in the wild, usually for culinary purposes. This is a popular activity embedded in the culture of Spain.

In this post, I will share my personal experience with mushroom hunting in the region of Cantabria (northern Spain), where I grew up, and how it compares to Warwickshire, UK.



Typical coastal area in Cantabria. Islares-Oriñon villages.

Historically, mycology used to be a mysterious science in Cantabria, as very few people knew about the topic and hardly any were willing to share the knowledge. I remember being a kid and seeing elders in my village going in search of mushrooms in total secrecy. Such was the level of mystery that some people would not reveal their mushroom spots even to their descendants. In addition,

there was a code to follow. It felt a bit like the Fight Club movie, where the first rule is that you cannot talk about the fight club. This foraging code included:

- 1. Never reveal where you pick your mushrooms and if you were ever asked to say "in the field"
- 2. If asked "how many did you pick?", to say "only a few", and
- 3. Never give mushrooms away to friends in case they don't sit well with them.

Most people only knew of a few species that they consistently collected and getting into this selective club was not easy. Only years later, when I was already living in the UK, I started my real

learning path with what we know as forays.

Many things have changed since then and now learning about fungi is much more accessible with websites, books, foraging courses and outstanding mycological societies in each city. In Cantabria, members from the public are welcome every Monday at the societie's venues to help them out identifying the mushrooms that have been collected during the previous weekend. Also, each mycological society carries out an annual mushroom exhibition, in autumn.

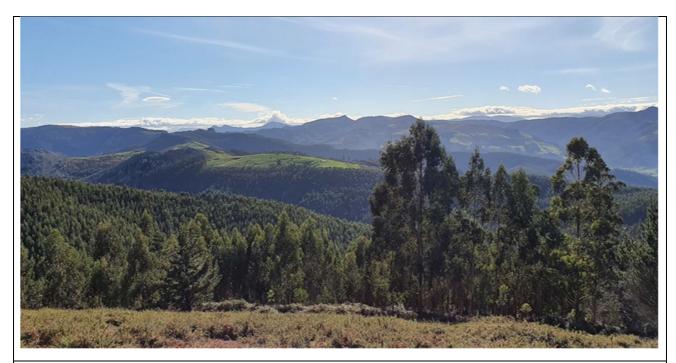
The culinary aspect continues to be of high importance for many of the people related to this world. In Spain we like things we can eat, and if we cannot eat them then they don't interest us that much.



Typical annual mushrooms exhibition. Cantabria.

Cantabria is a coastal region of outstanding beauty in the north of Spain. It combines sea and mountains in very close proximity to each other. The fungi and plant species are very similar to the ones in the UK. Thinking about those great environmental conditions of Cantabria you would expect an abundance of fungi. However, sometimes reality surpasses fiction and the UK is not alone in loss of biodiversity due to humans changing the environment (land-use change).

In Cantabria, as in the UK, the ancient deciduous woodlands that previously covered the whole territory were transformed over centuries into fields. On top of that, in Cantabria, around the end of the last century, much of the remaining indigenous woodlands (beech, oak, chestnut, alders, holly etc.) and many of the already converted meadows were transformed into massive eucalyptus plantations for the benefit of the cellulose industry. Public mountains were used for timber production without any sort of planning. High humidity and mild weather made Cantabria an ideal place to grow this Australian tree species, to the detriment of biodiversity. Eucalyptus plantations are not friendly environments to most other species and only after many years some fungi are starting to colonise this habitat. The trees rob the soil of water and minerals and now they now are the second most widespread species in the territory, second only to beech woodlands. Nearly all coastal areas under 400m of altitude are occupied by them. Only in the interior part of the region, larger areas of indigenous tree species and good biodiversity persists. The only reason being that eucalyptuses don't cope well with the frost. However, lately, genetic engineering has created subspecies resistant to the altitude. Moreover, this cellulose industry has also formed part of the industry that has polluted Cantabria the most. Environmental campaigns are applying pressure for these plantations to be stopped and for mountains to be reverted back to indigenous species, but the future remains uncertain. This loss of habitat makes mushroom hunting as challenging as it is in Warwickshire, UK.



Typical Eucalyptus plantations. Cantabria

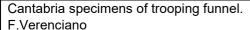
The interior of the Cantabrian region is the richest area in fungi. In spring you can find edible species like morels, saddles and Saint George's mushrooms. In summer, after the storms, chanterelles, boletes, charcoal burners, etc. Autumn, as in the UK, is the most productive time of the year, with an explosion of many species like horn-of-plenty, saffron milkcaps, boletes, trumpet chanterelles, parasols, slippery jacks, fairy-ring champignons etc. Finally, in winter, we can find wood hedgehogs, wood and field blewits, coalman mushrooms and the March mushrooms.

A recent mycological study on the interior of the region found that most mushroom picking enthusiasts have not seen any reduction in the number of mushrooms over the years. If, for example, we compare this with another popular activity in the region, like sea fishing, most enthusiasts see a large reduction in the fish population over the years.

To finalise, a couple of peculiar things that differentiate Cantabria with Warwickshire. First, some species tend to grow in slightly different shapes, which initially confused me while identifying well-known species e.g the trooping and clouded Funnels sometimes grow thicker and shorter in Cantabria than in Warwickshire (see photographs below). Secondly, the common fungus names, although sometimes similar, tend to be different. For example, wood hedgehog is called 'cow tongue', wood/ field blewits are called blue/ violet feet, horn-of-plenty is called trumpet of the dead, etc. Finally, as discussed above, a common thing in both regions is the need to improve and care for our biodiversity if we want to reverse the loss of species.

To finalise, a couple of peculiar things that differentiate Cantabria with Warwickshire. First, some species tend to grow in slightly different shapes, which initially confused me while identifying well-known species e.g the trooping and clouded funnels sometimes grow thicker and shorter in Cantabria than in Warwickshire (see photograph below). Secondly, the common fungus names, although sometimes similar, tend to be different. For example, wood hedgehog is called 'cow tongue', wood/ field blewits are called blue/ violet feet, horn-of-plenty is called trumpet of the dead, etc. Finally, as discussed above, a common thing in both regions is the need to improve and care for our biodiversity if we want to reverse the loss of species.







Cantabria specimens of clouded funnel. F.Verenciano

#### Bibliography:

Estudio micologico en la comarca de Liebana. Ruben Galnares Enterria. Universidad de Oviedo. 2020. La historia de amor/odio al eucalipto. Maria Sanchez. The cambium design web. 6 Junio 2016. Retrieved on 29/12/21. Https://www.thecambiumdesign.com/the-cambium-design-blog/la-historia-de-amorodio-al-eucalipto/ Mushroom hunting. Wikipedia. Retrieved on 29/12/21. https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mushroom\_hunting UK has 'led the world' in destroying the natural environment. Josh Davis. Retrieved 29/12/21. https://www.nhm.ac.uk/discover/news/2020/september/uk-has-led-the-world-in-destroying-the-natural-environment. html

100 setas del sur de Cantabria. Carlos Carballeira Bañuelos. Ayuntamiento de Valderredible. 2014.