

WILD FLOWER SOCIETY AGM AND MEMBERS' WEEKEND 2024

**OLD HUNSTANTON VILLAGE HALL
36 OLD HUNSTANTON RD
HUNSTANTON, PE36 6HS
GRID REF: TF683422; WHAT3WORDS: snap.vaulting.either**

FRIDAY 6th TO MONDAY 9th SEPTEMBER

**Please send bookings by the end of July 2024 to:
Sheila Wynn, 17 Southfield Drive, West Bradford, Clitheroe, Lancashire, BB7 4TU
Email: wfs.gensec@gmail.com or Phone: 01200 425813
Mobile number for use at the event: 07875 284334**

Catering

When booking, please let Sheila know if you do NOT want to have the buffet lunch on Saturday and advise of any dietary requirements if you do. The cost of the buffet lunch is £19/person. Payment to WFS on booking, either by cheque made payable to The Wild Flower Society, posted to Sheila Wynn at the address above, or online. Bank details: Account: The Wild Flower Society; Sort Code: 40-52-40; Account Number: 00033156; Reference: your surname and AGM. N.B. This is not the account used for subscription payments.

You will need a packed lunch on Sunday and Monday.

Travel

Warning: Heavy traffic and delays are likely on the A149 between Kings Lynn and Hunstanton on Saturday 7th and Sunday 8th September as it is the weekend of the Sandringham Country Fair.

If you require transport to any of the field meetings, please tell Sheila and let her know where you are staying.

If you are coming by car and are willing to take passengers, please let Sheila know where you are staying and how many you can take.

Car sharing will be necessary for the field meetings as car parking is limited at most sites.

Arrival at Old Hunstanton Village Hall

The Village Hall is on the A149 North Norfolk coast road from Kings Lynn to Cromer. It is adjacent to the Post Office. Coming from the east, it is just after The Lodge hotel on your left. From the west, follow through from Hunstanton to Old Hunstanton on the A149 and the turning will be on your right just before the Post Office. There is a car park to the rear of the building which is accessed via the track between the Village Hall and the Post Office.

Programme

As all the field meeting sites we will visit over the weekend are also good for birds, you may wish to bring binoculars and a field guide.

Friday 6th September, 2 pm: Branch and Competition Secretaries' Meeting

The room will be available from 1pm. Bring a packed lunch to eat in the meeting room. Drinks will be available.

Saturday 7th September

Field Meeting: Holme Dunes, Norfolk Wildlife Trust

Leaders: Adrian Winnington, Gary Hibberd (Site Warden), Carol Hawkins

We will meet at 9:15 in the Old Hunstanton Village Hall car park (see above) and will car share from there. The toilets at the Village Hall will be available. If you are travelling from east of Holme and wish to make a different arrangement, please let Sheila know.

Meet at the reserve at 9:45 for a 10:00 start. There is an entrance fee of £3.50 for non-Norfolk Wildlife Trust members. Please bring cash. Postcode: PE36 6LQ; Grid Ref: TF 714 449; what3words: blink.rollover.advantage. Toilets will be available at the Information Centre.

From Old Hunstanton Village Hall, head north-east along the A149 coast road for approximately 1 mile, then turn left down Beach Road. Almost at the end of Beach Road turn right down Broadwater Road, which is unmade. The reserve is signposted. Please park in the NWT car park on the left-hand side, at the end of the track.

The area is a wildlife-rich coastal habitat. We will split into groups to see the dune and dune slack plants. Plants of interest include: Shrubby Sea-blite *Suaeda vera*, Prickly Saltwort *Salsola kali*, Knotted Pearlwort *Sagina nodosa* and Yellow-wort *Blackstonia perfoliata*.

We will be walking on rough ground, which may be uneven in places.

N.B. We need to be leaving by 12:15 (distance from Holme to Old Hunstanton is 2 miles – journey time 15 minutes. We need to aim to arrive at the Village Hall by 12:30 for lunch at 1pm.

1pm: Buffet Lunch

2pm: AGM followed by the announcement of the Presidents' Award

There will then be a short break followed by:

An illustrated talk by Simon Harrap: Wild Flowers of Norfolk

During the afternoon, entries to the Photographic Competition will be on display and the winners will be announced.

We will have a plant photo identification quiz provided by Gareth Bursnall and a plant identification quiz provided by Stephen Clarkson.

Sunday 8th September: Holkham Nature Reserve

Leaders: Jo Parmenter (Norfolk Botany Group), Carol Hawkins and Andy Bloomfield (site warden)

Meet at 9:45 for a 10:00 start in Holkham NNR car park, Lady Anne's Drive, nearest postcode NR23 1RG; Grid Ref: TF 89104467; what3words: rural.cooked.rotation. Parking is expensive - £7 for up to 4 hours and £13.50 all day. Some parking spaces will be reserved for us. Carry your packed lunch.

Car sharing: for those staying in the Hunstanton area, we will meet at 8:45 in the Old Hunstanton Village Hall car park and car share from there. Other arrangements will be made for those staying elsewhere.

We will divide into two groups to explore the reserve. Please let Sheila know which group you would like to join.

High water is 09:28 (5.5m) and low water 15:55 (1.7m) so we will be visiting on a receding tide but the sands will still be wet with saltwater pools.

Group 1: Leader: Jo Parmenter. This will be a shorter walk and will be mainly on level paths with some wet sand. Please wear sturdy footwear.

Group 2: Leaders: Carol Hawkins and Andy Bloomfield. This will be a longer walk to include the Norfolk Everlasting-pea. It will start on good paths through the woods but will also involve walking into an area of undulating sand dunes which are stabilised to different degrees and can provide challenging going. Please wear sturdy footwear.

This is England's largest NNR, managed by Natural England in conjunction with the Holkham Estate. It consists of a range of habitats from beautiful pine forest growing on undulating dunes, to open dunes and slacks and interesting saltmarsh growing largely over a sandy substrate.

Plants of interest include: Sea-heath *Frankenia laevis* and the unusual sea-lavenders, Matted Sea-lavender *Limonium bellidifolium* and Rock Sea-lavender *L. binervosum* ssp. *anglicum*. The longer walk will include Norfolk Everlasting-pea *Lathyrus heterophyllus*. Both groups should be able to see Creeping Lady's-tresses *Goodyera repens*.

Refreshments: The Lookout at the end of The Drive is open from 10:00 – 17:00 and provides drinks, cakes, ice creams and sandwiches. It might work for refreshments at the end of the meeting, if time allows. There are toilets here also.

Monday 9th September:

There will be two separate field meetings.

When booking, please let Sheila know which one you would like to attend.

Full details of meeting arrangements for Monday will be circulated to those who have booked.

Monday's meetings will finish after lunch. Bring a packed lunch.

Site 1: Snettisham

We will divide into two groups to explore the area.

Leaders: Steve Little and one other (to be confirmed)

Meet at 09:45 for a 10:00 start. There is a large car park at the end of Beach Road, Snettisham, nearest postcode: PE31 7PS; Grid ref: TF647335; what3words: laptop.comedy.tailed. Car park charge: £5 for 3 hours, £6 for more. There are no public toilets at the site.

This is another coastal reserve but this time on the edge of The Wash with vast expanses of mud at low tide. Part of the site is owned by the RSPB and is famous for its over-wintering birds. Habitats include shingle, brackish lagoons, saltmarsh, short turf and scrub. The area has a good saltmarsh and shingle flora. It is also the site for the rare Saltmarsh Goosefoot *Oxybasis chenopodioides*, which we hope to find.

Site 2: Dersingham Bog NNR

Leaders: Anne and Dennis Kell

Parking at the site is very limited and we will be in competition with dog-walkers. Car sharing will be arranged. Maximum number: 15 people. There are no public toilets at the site.

Meet at 09:45 for a 10:00 start at the car park on Station Road, nearest postcode: PE31 6HF; Grid ref: TF 6627 2840; what3words: surprised.oils.from.

Dersingham Bog NNR is part of the Sandringham Estate and comprises three distinct habitats: mire, heath and woodland. Acid valley mire is found over much of the low-lying part of the reserve, where the ground is waterlogged for most of the time. However, there is an excellent boardwalk through this mire, giving good views of the plants. The mire lies on shallow peat and is bordered on one side by a steep escarpment (which we will have to climb down and up!) which is covered in large areas of dry heath, hopefully with plants still in bloom, and woodland.

Plants of interest include: sundews *Drosera* spp., Cranberry *Vaccinium oxycoccos*, Bog Asphodel *Narthecium ossifragum* and White Beak-sedge *Rhynchospora alba*.

WILD FLOWER SOCIETY ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
7th SEPTEMBER 2024, 2PM
THE VILLAGE HALL, OLD HUNSTANTON, NORFOLK

AGENDA

1. Apologies for Absence
2. Minutes of the 2023 AGM
3. Matters Arising
4. Treasurer's Report and Financial Matters:
 - a) Adoption of the approved accounts for the year ending 31/12/2023
 - b) Election of Independent Examiner
5. Officers' reports: Editor, Meetings Secretary, Publicity Secretary, General Secretary
6. Photographic Secretary's report
7. Website Manager's report
8. Proposed changes to the Aims and Rules:
 - (i) Rule 6 to be changed so that the President is no longer a member of the Executive Committee and therefore a charitable trustee. After the words "the Officers of the Society" insert the words "other than the President".
 - (ii) Rule 7 to be changed so that the Website Manager is an Officer of the Society and therefore a member of the Executive Committee. Replace the word "and" before "Publicity Secretary" with a comma and insert "and Website Manager" after "Publicity Secretary".
 - (ii) Rule 8 to be changed so that Ordinary Members can serve for more than four consecutive years. Replace the following sentences: "They shall be elected to serve for a period of four years, one of them retiring each year in rotation by seniority. The retiring member shall not be eligible for re-election until one year has elapsed" with "They shall be elected to serve for an initial term of four years. After the end of that initial term, they shall be eligible for re-election each year for a further term of one year".
9. Re-election of Officers

Current Officers:	President:	Sir Ghillean Prance
	Chairman:	Peter Llewellyn
	Treasurer:	Robin Blades
	Meetings Secretary:	Janet John
	Editor:	Ken Southall
	Publicity Secretary:	Nichola Hawkins
	Website Manager:	Helen Dignum (see item 8(ii))
	General Secretary:	Sheila Wynn (not standing for re-election)
10. Election to Executive Committee of General Member
11. Any Other Business
12. Date and venue of next meeting: Saturday 6th September 2025 at the West Monkton Village Hall, Monkton Heathfield, near Taunton, Somerset, TA2 8NE.