

Lough Boora Field Trip 13th August 2016

18 Members took the bus to Lough Boora Parklands, Co Offaly. We were treated to an extra venue on the way, Charleville Castle Located in County Offaly, bordering the town of Tullamore near the Shannon River, which is situated in Ireland's most ancient primordial oak woods, once the haunting grounds of the druids. The weather was fairly good, so we got to see the wildflowers, insects, birds etc of Lough Boora, (list of species below), at their best, in bright sunshine. The café had a very varied menu and lovely staff, so everyone enjoyed their lunch there. There were a wide variety of habitats around the lake and in the surrounding countryside, there were lots of different walks which meant everyone's interests were satisfied.



Plants

Common Centaury
Yarrow
Wild Carrot
White Clover
Tufted Vetch
Spear Thistle
Wild Angelica
Silverweed
Selfheal
Rosebay Willowherb
Ribwort Plantain
Red Clover
Purple-loosestrife
Oxeye Daisy
Meadowsweet
Meadow Buttercup
Marsh Thistle
Greater Plantain
Great Willowherb
Daisy
Creeping Buttercup
Common Ragwort
Common Nettle
Common Knapweed
Common Bird's-foot-trefoil
Coltsfoot
Cat's-ear
Bramble
Bracken

Birds

Pied Wagtail
Common Kestrel
Wood Pigeon
Raven
Common Linnet
European Goldfinch
Grey Heron
Mallard
Meadow Pipit
Barn Swallow
Mallard
Eurasian Curlew
Mute Swan
Moorhen
Northern Lapwing
Eurasian Marsh Harrier

Dragonflies & Damselflies

Large Red Damselfly
Common Darter

Others

Eurasian Pygmy Shrew
Common Frog
European Rabbit

Butterflies

Large White
Meadow Brown
Peacock
Small Copper
Small Heath
Small Tortoiseshell
Small White
Brimstone

Bees

Large Red Tailed Bumble Bee
Common Carder Bee