

**Nippers Grove
18 October 2023**

Overcast skies and the threat of rain didn't dampen the spirits of the people who gathered at Nipper's Grove for a fungus walk. Professor Richard Fortey welcomed the group who ranged from beginners to more experienced mycologists. Expectations weren't high, but with so many eyes looking for fungi, we managed to find over 70 species in a few hours.



Two species of earthballs were found almost immediately: (left) *Scleroderma citrinum* (Common) and (right) *Scleroderma areolatum* (Leopard Earthball)



The edges of the footpath proved fruitful with many different species: *Inocybe geophylla* var. *lilacina* (Lilac Fibrecap) and *Inocybe geophylla* (White Fibrecap) lined the route.



As we walked along, this possible *Polyporus varius* was found on a branch; it is being parasitised by a white mycelium belonging to an unknown fungus.



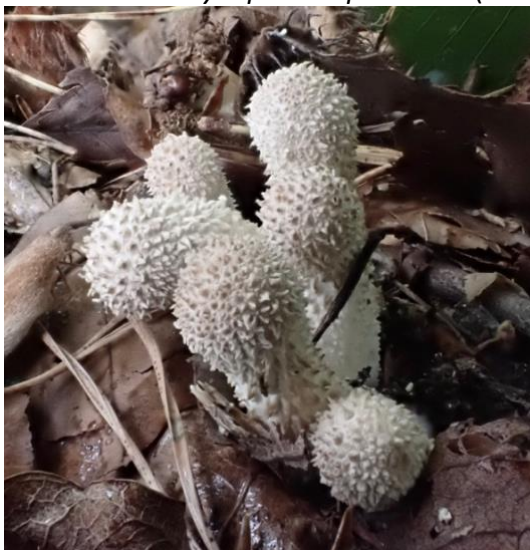
Three *Mycena* fungi were identified, including (below left) *Mycena Rosea* (Rosy Bonnet), (below right) *Mycena vitilis* (Snapping Bonnet) and *Mycena polygramma* (Grooved Bonnet).



Amanita citrina (False Deathcap) could be found all over Nipper's Grove.



Lycoperdon perlatum (Common Puffballs), both young and old.



Nine species of *Russula* were found, with *Russula ochroleuca* (Common Yellow Brittlegill) the most prolific.



Hidden in moss on a rotten stump were these tiny *Cantharellus tubaeformis* (Trumpet Chanterelles).

(Below) Springtails enjoying a *Russula* feast.



Just around the corner we noticed a magnificent display of *Amanita muscaria* (Fly Agarics).



Some of the group made a careful examination of these perfect specimens that were growing just on the edge of the path.



Further along was a fabulous display of many bright clumps of *Calocera viscosa* (Yellow Stagshorn) in a variety of delightfully twisted shapes.



The group noticed *Cladonia polydactyla* lichens in the beech woods.



Professor Richard Fortey and Caroline Jackson-Houlston confer on a particularly tricky fungus that had to be taken home for microscopic examination.



(Below) *Amanita fulva* (Tawny Grisette) found beside the path.



(Right) A large cluster of *Psathyrella piluliformis* (Stump Brittlestem) fungi was found on a stump on the way out of the woods.

(Below) *Daedaleopsis confragosa* Blushing Brackets, young and old.



Laccaria laccata
(Deceivers)



Tricholoma sulphureum
(Sulphur Knight)

Slugs were ubiquitous, feasting on every *Russula* in the woods

