

Nippers Grove  
16 October 2024



A murky day did not deter nine brave souls from finding their way to Nippers Grove near Gallowstree Common for an autumn survey.

The rain held out and species began popping up immediately just near the front entrance. *Tricholoma's* and *Mycena's* were much in evidence, with these *Tricholoma sciodes* (Beech Knights) making an early appearance.



*Mycena galericulata* (Common Bonnets, left) could be observed growing in long lines on the downed wood hidden in the hedgerows. *Marasmiellus ramealis* (Twig Parachute, right) covered many of the small branches.



Our President, Richard Fortey, had a close look at one that later turned out to be the delicate *Mycena corynephora*



when he studied it at home under the microscope.



Dimitri found *Cystolepiota hetierii* (Dapperling, left) that inspired close scrutiny to observe the pale powdery cap surface.

Mary spotted a gorgeous collection of *Mycena epipterygia* (Yellowleg Bonnets, right), looking suitably slimy in the damp conditions.





A slug-chewed *Xerocomellus pruinosus* (Matt Bolete) showed its characteristic yellow stem decorated with red dots. The slug actually did us a favour by allowing the depth of the pores and the pinkish cap flesh to become visible.

Julia spotted a *Crepidotus applanatus* (Flat Oysterling) on a cherry branch. It's a large oysterling with a bald cap and beautiful gills.



David brought several of his finds for Richard to identify. Meanwhile, these *Mycena rosea* (Rosy Bonnets) shone in the gloom of the leaf litter.



A large photogenic group of *Tricholomopsis rutilans* (Plums and Custard) was a welcome sight. They were so beautiful!



The cap is yellow beneath the tiny purple to red scales. The lemon-yellow gills are fairly crowded; their bright colour fades with age (below)





Several perfect *Lycoperdon perlatum* (Common Puffballs, left) were spotted on the forest floor by Mary. On the other side of the path, Dimitry noticed these *Gymnopus confluens* (Clustered Toughshanks, right). Julia picked up a *Gymnopus peronatus* (Wood Woolyfoot, below) growing on a cone.



Caroline debated the identity of a *Cortinarius*, and we all took a sniff of the aromatic *Lactarius glicosmus* (Coconut Milkcap, right), here showing some of its milky drops.



In the beechwood section of the site, the *Russula*'s began to make their presence known. The most ubiquitous were the *Russula ochroleuca* (Ochre Brittlegills, right) who provided a feast for the slugs.



Moss and lichens embellished the soil beneath the beech trees, showing off their lovely green colours against the autumn leaves. Here are some *Cladonia* species of lichens nestling in the moss and right are some wasp galls on a leaf.





*Calocera viscosa* (Yellow Stagshorn) is always a welcome sight in gloomy coniferous woods and these, discovered by Julia on conifer stumps, were no exception.



Linda noticed these crusts on a yew stump and Richard took a sample for microscopy. He later identified them as *Amylostereum areolatum* (Yew Duster).



Richard spotted the first group of these *Cortinarius cf lacustris* in the moss and many more were soon discovered in the vicinity. Caroline keyed these out to probable species, but will be sending a dried sample for DNA sequencing just to be sure. Note the dusting of spores covering the caps on the right.

Linda found the strangely named *Jackrogersella multiformis* (Birch Woodwarts) on a branch.





Leopard and Lemon Slugs had a field day on the fungi at Nippers Grove.

Dimitri and Richard conferring on a fruitbody.



The group disbanded and, on the way back to their cars, David and Richard spotted this gorgeous waterfall of fungi, later identified by Richard as *Irpex lacteus* (Milkwhite



Toothed Polypore). The group found around 75 different species which isn't bad for a morning's work.