

Nottinghamshire Fungi Group AGM Minutes 2025

Attendees: Ann Ward, Cathy Bundy, Agnieszka Kiely, Michael Clark, Tony Spratley, David Burton, Dorothy Burton, Andrew Przeslak, Jean Powley, Charles Harvey, Angela Ward, Di Mears, Karen Corbel, Graham Pearce, Lynn Culf, Ian Broomhall, Mavis Broomhall, Eric Mears

Held on Wednesday 26th March 2025 March 2022 Start 19:09

1. Apologies: Hugh Middleton and Howard Williams
2. Minutes from AGM 2024: Accepted IB/DM
3. Matters arising from AGM 2024: None
4. Group Constitution: Updated and Accepted MC/CH
5. Treasury Report: Full breakdown given by AK. Income and expenditure stable. Auditor signed off the accounts. British Fungi Conservation Trust covers insurance through NFG members who are members of BFCT. 38 paid members of NFG in 2024.
6. Website/ Social Media Report: Website updated by CB and AK. AK and CB to update Facebook in light of JP stepping down as committee member and moving away. Over 800 followers on Facebook.
7. Records report from Di Mears (Written speech as appendix)
8. Chairs Report from Ann Ward. (Written speech as appendix)
9. Voting in of Committee Members and Honorary Officers:

The following members are willing to continue:

Ann Ward Chairperson
Agnieszka Kiely Treasurer
Di Mears Recorder
Cathy Bundy Secretary
Dorothy Burton
Michael Clark
Charles Harvey

To stand down: Jean Powley

10. AOB: None

Meeting Ended: 19:40

Appendix:

Chairs Report 2025 AGM

Good evening all, thank you for joining us this evening.

We are pleased to be able to see our membership is stable after the boost seen by Covid lockdowns when people discovered the need to be out doors.
Some it seems have gone back to their old ways and gone back in doors.

Our forays have been quite well attended even if the web site seemed to have a mind of its own in the late autumn. Those determined to find out about our group used their heads and called or emailed the committee members anyway.

It is with some sadness that I have to announce the passing of Michael Jordan, who has been the lynch pin of the Fungus Conservation Trust and operator of the CATE data base.

His wife, Hazel, wishes to continue with his wishes to maintain the data base and the charity and we hope she receives help in this matter as it would be such a shame for it to fail after so many years of hard work.

Di has covered the forays thoroughly and as I say the attendance was quite stable and well attended.

Howard has sent a brief report which I'm sure will interest you...

"Since you are all together you might like to know that our group has over the past 5 years had 10 sites accepted as Local Wildlife Sites for fungi by the Records Office at Wollaton Hall : Barrow Hills, Bestwood CP, Carlton Wood C-in-L, Clumber Park, Daneshill Lakes, Gamston Wood, Hannah Park Wood, Worksop, Hundred Acre Wood nr Worksop, Ransom Wood and Sherwood Pines (Clipstone Forest). These have been evaluated according to laid down criteria. A tribute to the eagle eyes of our members on the forays and of individual contributions. There are probably more to be looked at too when Howard gets round to it."

For 2025 we are working on permissions for all the proposed forays and will post on our web page the dates when they have been confirmed.

We do however have the Spring dates confirmed and these are

SATURDAY 12th April at Boughton Brake

SUNDAY 18th May at Newstead and Annesley Country Park

Both starting at 10.00hr and membership will be collected then if tonight is not convenient.

Recorder's Report for 2024

In 2024 we held two spring forays and nine autumn forays and visited a variety of sites.

Both spring forays visited sites we had been to in 2023. In April we revisited Long belt at Bilsthorpe. We identified 32 species on this foray and notable finds were *Hydropus subalpinus* (1st Notts record) and *Peroneutypa scoparia* ((RDL). Both are small species but were spotted by Agnieska Kiely and identified by Howard Williams. Our second foray was to Eaton Wood where we identified 28 species of fungi. Parts of the site were quite wet but it was an enjoyable walk.

Our first foray in autumn was to Hill Holt Wood and, as it was a warm sunny morning I didn't anticipate finding many species and our final list was twenty-four. However, it was a pleasant walk followed by refreshments. I was particularly pleased to see *Rigidoporus ulmarius* growing from a stump in the chicken pen, Blushing Rosette (*Abortiporus biennis*) and the Cauliflower fungus (*Sparrasia cripisa*). On a cold windy day later in September we visited a new site at Cotgrave, Hollygate Memorial Woodland. It has wide rides and patches of mixed woodland which are between 15 and 20 years old. However, it's an interesting site and we recorded 25 species.

There were lots of small field mushrooms (*Agaricus campestris*) and Meadow Waxcap (*Hygrocybe pratensis*) in some of the rides and Agnieska found Alder Tongue (*Taphrinia alni*) which I don't remember seeing before. A visit later in the season would be worthwhile. Our final foray in September was to Boughton Brake and we were not disappointed with a final list of seventy-five species. A rare crust fungus was found by Tony Spratley and identified by Howard Williams: a first Notts record of *Tomentella terrestis*. The Pine Bolete (*Boletus pinophilus*) was found by Agnieska Kiely and identified by Howard Williams: another 1st Notts record. In early October we celebrated UK Fungus Day again at Sherwood Forest NNR. Thanks to all members who helped with this day, it wouldn't be successful without your input. The display table was excellent and generated a lot of interest from the public. The wind was troublesome and our display boards went over several times so I must remember more string next year! The RSPB had advertised the day for us and had publicized 4 walks which was a little ambitious but we did manage it! Recording on these walks is difficult but we did produce a list of fifty-nine species. I'm not sure that this event generates new membership of the group but it certainly engages the public in an area of natural history that warrants more interest. Our next foray was to Kirton Wood. Parking was a little difficult and I was surprised at how overgrown the site was but there was plenty to see and we listed seventy-three species. It was interesting to see the Wrinkled Peach (*Rhodotus palmatus*) which has declined with the demise of the Elm and three species of *Crepidotus*. We only recorded one species of *Lactarius*, the Fiery Milkcap (*L. pyrogallus*) and no species of *Russula* which I thought was unusual. Our visit to Bestwood Park at the end of October was aimed at recording waxcaps but the management hadn't cut the grass so they were more difficult to find. We did however record six different waxcaps. A highlight was the view of a deer running across the field! Our walk around the woodland was more productive and our final list was forty-five species. As at Kirton Wood, no species of *Russula* were recorded at Bestwood. In early November we were going to visit Budby South Forest but there had been a mix up and we couldn't access the site so re-visited Sherwood Forest NNR. This was one of our best attended forays. We recorded seventy-five species but again *Lactarius* and *Russula* species were low in numbers. There were some unusual species: *Phlebia cornea*, *Phyllosticta plantaginis*, *Hypsizygus ulmarius* and *Lepiota cortinarius* (RDL). This is only the second time that we have recorded these species in Nottinghamshire. Our foray at Hannah Park Wood, Worksop was well attended and we recorded seventy-seven species. Here we found the Piggyback Rosegill (*Volvariella surrecta*) growing on a decaying fungal fruit body. Unlike previous sites we recorded five species of

Russula and three species of *Lactarius*. On a Beech trunk we found the Beech Jellydisc (*Neobulgaria pura* var. *foliacea*), a bracket fungus *Tyromyces chioneus* and the Porcelain fungus (*Oudemansiella mucida*). Other interesting finds were Hare's Ear (*Otidea onotica*), Elfin Saddle (*Helvella lacunosa*) and the Bulbous Honey Fungus (*Armillaria gallica*). Our final foray was to a new site: Newsted Annesley Country Park. It is situated on the site of former colliery spoil tips and lagoons with isolated areas of woodland, both deciduous and coniferous so there are a variety of habitats to investigate. For mid-November the weather was lovely and it was an interesting well-attended foray. We recorded 59 species of fungi; this included six species of *Lactarius* which seem to have been less common this year. The uncommon bracket fungus, *Ganoderma resinaceum*, was found by Agnieska Keily and identified by Howard Williams. Three species of *Tricholoma* were also recorded: *T. argyraceum*, Girdled Knight (*T. cingulatum*) and Grey Knight (*T. terreum*). This site is worth another visit and should be even more fruitful when trees mature.

Average rainfall in 2024 was 5.8 percent less compared to 2023 and it was also one of the warmest years on record. This may have contributed to reduced species numbers at some sites but it is difficult to say how long-term weather changes affect fungi. Perhaps something we should be monitoring more closely.

With the passing of Michael Jordan the FCT needs to adapt. However, they are committed to CATE, the database on which we put our records, and we will continue to use this for recording species found in Nottinghamshire.

Di Mears (Recorder NFG)