

Worcestershire Recorders field recording days 2018.

Harry Green

Each year Worcestershire Recorders aim to hold three summer field recording days usually at sites either with few biological records or those where habitat change is expected in the near future.

In 2018 the following visits were made and we thank the owners for allowing recorders on to the sites. All the records are entered on to the Worcestershire Biological Records Centre database and the owners are also given a copy.

The booking form stated:

Saturday 2nd June 2018. Camp Farm, Great Witley. Limestone bank, grassland, scrub, woodland by kind permission of the owner Paul Hutton.

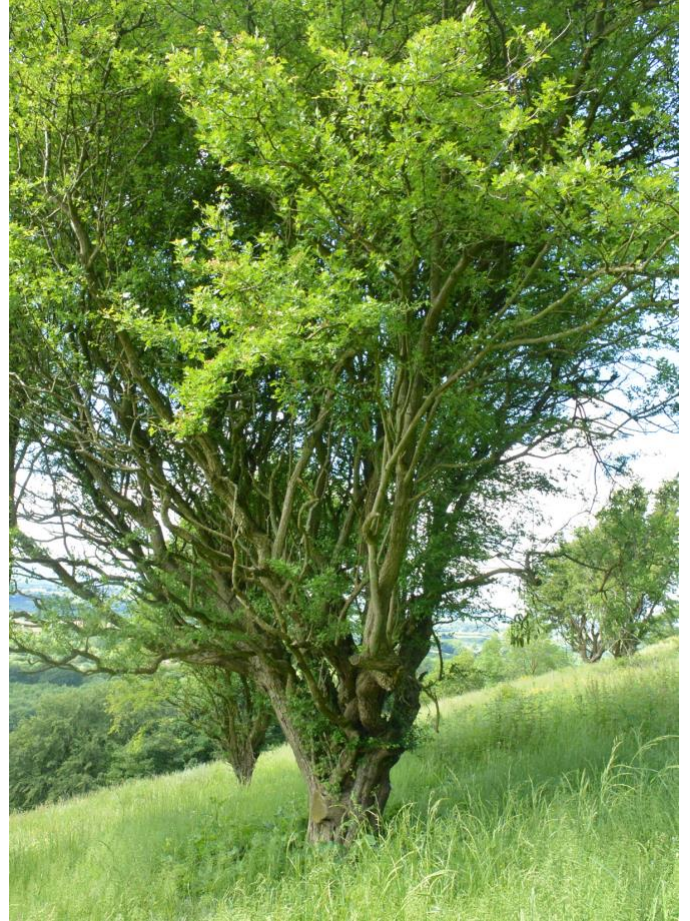
Saturday 7th July 2018. Lambswick Farm and Lambswick Orchard near Lindridge by kind permission of the owners. These adjacent old orchards were known to contain noble chafers, grasslands, woodland, and pools.

Saturday 4th August 2018. Hunthouse Wood wildlife reserve near Mable by kind permission of Worcestershire Wildlife Trust. Deep wooded valley with stream.

The visits:

Camp Hill 2nd June 2019 central grid reference SO741650

This bank was once grazed mainly limestone grassland with an excellent flora. It gradually scrubbed-up over many years. In recent years the owner has made great efforts to restore the grassland in some parts and on the visit there were patches of grassland, scrub of varying ages with a scattering of ancient hawthorns, dense scrub and woodland edge.



03. Camp Hill bank restored grassland with ancient hawthorn. Harry Green

Lambswick Wood Farm and Lambswick Orchard near Lindridge 7th July 2018. Central grid reference SO680691 for the main orchard; SO679692 for Wood Farm.

Lambswick Orchard extends round a central small hill and contains many old plum, apple and cherry trees in grassland. Wood Farm orchard is smaller and has many old cherry trees in grassland. The farm also contains a wooded track leading to a small lake surrounded by trees. Many of the fruit trees in both orchards contained Noble Chafer *Gnorimus nobilis* frass and a fallen cherry tree at Wood Farm contained frass, many larvae and beetle fragments. The tree had fallen across the entrance track and was sawn into logs before the contents were identified! They were then left *in situ* for the beetles.

The day of the visit was very hot somewhat curtailing recorders activities.



01. Camp Hill bank restored grassland. Harry Green.



02. Camp Hill bank restored grassland. Harry Green.



04. Lambswick Orchard with old plum trees and grassland. Harry Green.



05. Lambswick Orchard with old apple trees and grassland. Harry Green.



08. Hunthouse Wood heavily shaded track leading down the valley side. Harry Green



06. Lambswick Wood Farm lake covered with duckweed and surrounded by trees. Harry Green.



09. Recorders in Hunthouse Wood. Harry Green



07. Lambswick Wood Farm showing hollowed cherry logs occupied by Noble Chafer larvae, their frass and beetle fragments. Harry Green

**Hunthouse Wood wildlife reserve near Mable 4th August 2018.
Central grid reference SO704702.**

Hunthouse Wood lies on the steep side of a valley dropping down to a stream. It is an ancient woodland site with a rich variety of trees bordered beyond the stream by unimproved grassland which is not part of the reserve. It has long been known as a site for Land Caddis *Enoicyla pusilla* and has a rich fauna and flora. There was once a drift mine for coal near the top of the slope and there are remnants of mining infrastructure nearby.



10. Violet Helleborine in Hunthouse Wood. Harry Green