

Pinkham Wood Nature Reserve

(aka Former Friern Barnet Sewage Works site, off Pinkham Way)

Plant Surveys

Undertaken by David Bevan, Oliver Natelson, Anthony Clancy

Survey Dates:

30 April 2011, 07:40 – 10:50 hours

4 June 12:00 noon – 3 pm

10 June with David Bevan 11 am – 3 pm

Reference points:

Two rusty cars (end to end) at the north-east of the site: TQ 2896 – 9172 (photos)

Access and areas examined Access was difficult and our progress was slow owing to the rough terrain caused by lumps of concrete or abandoned vehicles - often obscured by vegetation. Our observations on vegetation were limited to parts of the central, northern and eastern areas within the site.

Abbreviations

DB	=	David Bevan
ON	=	Oliver Natelson
AC	=	Anthony Clancy
(fl)	=	Flowering
(fr)	=	Fruiting
(veg)	=	Vegetative state only

Shrubs and Trees

Ash	Abundant as saplings, also as young, maturing and mature trees (ON 30 Apr 2011) Maturing / Mature trees together with similarly aged Sycamores stretch in a line from TQ 289(3) – 915(4) to TQ 290(0) – 916(0) The last digits in () are approximate (10 June 2011 DB)
Aspen	Locally Common, Colony regenerating well in NE corner of site with a large number of saplings, and some mature specimens (ON 30 Apr 2011)
Bramble, native	small amounts (ON 30 Apr 2011)
Bramble, garden	Dominant in some areas. Early flowers on one bush (ON 30 Apr 2011)
Cherry	One small colony, trees had green fruits. (ON 30 Apr 2011) (only a few red fruits remain 10 June 2011 ON)

- Cherry-Plum One small group (ca 10 m long) of young trees, some with purplish leaves. *Prunus cerasifera var pissaridii* (edible fr) (10 June 2011 DB)
- Dogwood one bush only (ON 30 Apr 2011)
- Elder a few large specimens (ON 30 Apr 2011)
- False Acacia one sapling – possibly seeded from a large tree locally. (on 30 Apr 2011)
- Hawthorn Frequent, with all-white flowers. One near E boundary had faint pink edges on petals. (ON 30 Apr 2011)
- Hawthorn Distinct variety with deeply-coloured flowers – see photos
- Lime mature ca 10 mature trees along eastern boundary Ca 2 along northern boundary. (A Clancy 30 Apr 2011) Species not determined.
- Oak, maturing, mature, very occasional, scattered, Two old specimens near southern boundary with Golf Course (ON 30 Apr 2011)
- Sycamore Probably the commonest tree with numerous maturing and mature Some specimens had glossy leaves – probably derived from the large numbers of aphids feeding on abaxial surface of upper leaves. (30 Apr 2011 ON)
Mature / maturing multi-stemmed Sycamores grow in a line with some Ash of a similar height / age. The line goes from TTQ 289(3) – 915(4) to TQ 290(0) – 916(0)
The last digits in () are approximate (10 June 2011 ON)
- Willow Large, old trees along the northern boundary with the NCR. (ON 30 Apr 2011) Species not determined

Herbs

- Bird's-foot Trefoil one specimen (flr) on path (A. Clancy 30 Apr 2011) (fl) Rare. two small colonies (10 June 2011 DB)
- Broad-leaved Everlasting Pea (fl) x1 plant central area (10 June 2011 DB)
- Burdock, Lesser (almost in fl) >5 plants, (10 June 2011 DB)
- Cleavers Occasionally, in thick masses near damp area by NCR (30 Apr 2011)
- Clover, Red (fl) (10 June 2011 DB)
- Clover, White (fl) (10 June 2011 DB)

Clover, Alsike	(fl) Rare. (?)2 small colonies (10 June 2011 DB)
Coltsfoot	a small colony – leaves only (about 20 years ago here was a large colony here when the site was more open (ON 30 Apr 2011))
Creeping Buttercup	(flr) Rare (30 Apr 2011 ON), Frequent (fl) (June 2011 ON)
Creeping Thistle	a few isolated individual plants (30 Apr 2011 ON)
Cut-leaved Geranium	(fl) small colony (10 June 2011 DB)
Dandelion	(frt) occasional, pathsides (30 Apr 2011 ON)
Forget-me-not	(flr) occasional small patches. One large patch Approx. 3m x 3m (30 Apr 2011 ON)
Giant Hogweed	Many examples especially within about 50 m of the northern boundary. Recently most had been treated with herbicide as their stems were twisted and had fallen over. (30 Apr 2011 A. Clancy) By mid June none were seen (10 June 2011 ON)
Grasses	
Rough meadow Grass	Common (10 June 2011 DB)
Hairy Tare	(fl) x2 plants (10 June 2011 DB)
Hedge Garlic	(fr) one seen were there others??? (10 June 2011 DB)
Hemlock	Occasional (30 Apr 2011 ON) (fl) Frequent by mid June (10 June 2011 ON)
Herb Robert	(fl) one only (10 June 2011 DB)
Hogweed	rare, not yet in flower (30 Apr 2011) (fl) Abundant (10 June 2011 ON)
Horse Radish	(veg) Central area on “cleared track” 8 colonies (4, 10 June 2011 ON)
Ivy	covers ground on a large area shaded by mature Ash trees, little else growing on ground Frequent on bole of mature trees in Central / North area. Forms dense mat on bole of some mature Sycamores in central area – possible bat roost sites perhaps? (4 June 2011 ON)
Japanese Knotweed	small clumps in the centre of the site.

	(30 Apr 2011, 10 June 2011 ON)
Mayweed, Scentless	(one in flr) Frequent, scattered (fl) (190 June 2011 ON)
Mayweed, Scented	one specimen (10 June 2011 DB)
Mugwort	Frequent most open places (4, 10 June 2011 ON)
Ox-eyed Daisies	Patch of several dozen (fl) 4m x 2m Central area (10 June 2011 DB)
Ox-tongue, Bristly	occasional scattered specimens especially along bulldozer tracks near eastern boundary (30 Apr 2011, 10 June 2011 ON)
Plantain, Ribwort	(flr) frequent (30 Apr 2011, 10 June 2011 ON)
Plantain, Broad-leaved	occasional (30 Apr 2011 ON)
Rosebay Willowherb	(almost in fl) small group of <10 At TQ2898 – 9167 (10 June 2011 DB)
Russian Comfrey	(flr) Abundant, Large patches where it is <u>dominant</u> Occasionally, growing to a height of 1.5 m. Flowers were visited by bees of unknown spp. In many parts of the site to the east / central areas, it is not merely dominant, but is the <u>only species</u> growing in massed numbers (3 Apr, 4 June, 10 June 2011 ON)
Shepherd's Purse	(fl, fr) Rare. Three specimens, scattered (10 June 2011 DB)
Spear Thistle	one specimen only (30 Apr 2011 ON) More found (fl) (10 June 2011 DB)
Teasel	Several, near the car entrance, on a large open space (30 Apr 2011 A. Clancy) (fl) Abundant on rubble pile behind main entrance Elsewhere Frequent (10 June 2011 ON)
Toadflax, Purple	Occasional,(veg), (fl) one (10 June 2011 DB)
Vetch, Common	(?subspp nigra?) 10 June 2011 DB)
Weld	(fl) Rare Two plants, (10 June 2011 DB)
White Bryony	Rare, one plant only at north boundary fence, between roundabout and Hollickwood Park.(10 June 2011 DB)

Compiled by:
Dr S. Oliver Natelson