

No	14	Title	Wild orchids of East Kent	Date	Wednesday 2nd June 2010
No of students	5 - 15	Start time	10am	Finish time	3 – 4pm
Leader	Fred Booth, Warden of Woodland Reserves, Ecological surveyor, and David Johnson, Naturalist.				
Who should attend	The day is suitable for beginners and anyone who has a special interest in orchids and other flowers of chalk woodland and grassland				
Meeting Place	Meet at the Kent Farming and Wildlife Advisory Group offices at Coldharbour Farm, Wye (at the junction of Coldharbour Lane and Amage Road Ref TR 066465. The farm site is shown on OS maps. The entrance is in Amage Road.				
Other sites to be visited	Sites at the discretion of the leader but likely to include Wye Downs, Park Gate Down and Yockletts Bank KWT Reserves.				
Programme	<p>We shall begin with a brief outline of the life cycles, their pollination and habitat requirements. We shall be in the open and this outline may be dealt with en route round the various reserves.(Those who attended Study Day No 12 will already be aware)</p> <p>We shall then walk over part of the National Nature Reserve chalk grassland to view orchids and other chalk flowers. The general interest of Wye Downs may include some additional species such as grasshoppers and other insects.</p> <p>We shall then travel to other sites at the discretion of the leader in students' own cars (some car sharing would be helpful to reduce parking problems) to view other habitats and orchid species. A route map will be provided.</p> <p>The objective of the day will be to give students a broad experience of the diversity of wild orchids, their distribution in Kent, their habitat requirements and conservation.</p>				
Subjects to be covered	Life cycles, pollination, habitat requirements, mycorrhizal association with fungi and an indication of their national status, rarity and protection.				
What to bring	<p>Own favourite field guide to orchids (Wild Orchids of Britain by David Lang ISBN 1 – 903657 recommended). Hand lens important (some will be available for loan on the day)</p> <p>Clothing and footwear suitable for the weather conditions.</p> <p>Packed lunch.</p>				
Other information	Some steep slopes and rough ground. No toilets available on the reserves but facilities are available at Wye.				

