

MARTINSTOWN MILEEATERS

14 MAY 2026

It's not every walk that aims to take Mileaters to somewhere officially described as one of the "worst sites in Europe" – at least not deliberately. But parts of Wareham Forest, on the Sika Trail, were once waterlogged and described in this way by forestry experts – presumably for tree growth, rather than for wildlife.

But there are plenty of trees there now, along with plenty of tracks and paths on the map to choose from – something that twelve tolerant Mileaters and "Molly" soon discovered. Along with pine trees, and stumps, and gorse, there were meadows with fifty or more cows feeding contentedly with their calves – often on the path.

Overhead we were lucky to see a Seafire - the naval version of the iconic Supermarine Spitfire fighter. In the pools we saw sundews – a stunning carnivorous plant, and in the distance a Cuckoo was calling, the first of the year for most of us. The elusive "lookout" that hid from us on the way out, was visited by some on the way back.

Maybe we went slightly further than had originally been planned, but compensation came in the form of an excellent and tasty lunch at the Drax Arms in Bere Regis – served speedily after we arrived.

All in all, definitely not a "worst site" at all.

David and Barbara.



