

**Friday 25th. October 2018 (Cloudy, Brisk - Cold. SW wind)
Vealand and Burmsdon.**

Birds.

Small groups of **Redwing** and **Fieldfare** flew up from Sallows bounding the canal at Venn. Redwings call distinctive – “peep–peep” was noticeable. **Robin** and **Wren** sang from several points along the walk. A Heron flew over our heads at Vealand Bridge aiming for the ponds in DWT’s reserve, we thought. A party of **Blue** and **Great Tits** was busy in Sallow, Hazel and Beech near the old Water Treatment, Filterbed site. **Chaffinches** were also with them.



Fieldfare



Redwing

Flowers.

Red Champion in hedgerow bottoms with the odd **Buttercups**. **Hemp Agrimony** carrying tall stems crowned with fluffy seeds, ready to disperse, along the canal banks.

Shuttle-cock ferns in the canal bed near Burmsdon made an “architectural feature”! **Hard Ferns** grew with them and leaves of **Wood Sanicle** also very attractive. **Mosses** and **Liverworts** beginning to respond to damper weather.

Insects.

Very few to be seen – too cold and windy.

Mammals.

No sign of these. Scuffing through carpets of crackling dry leaves, had probably sent any animal off the tow path.

Storm Callum, 12th October had brought down several Sallows across the canal.