

Wednesday 7th August, 2019

I went on a Bushcraft weekend some years ago. There, I learnt about Wild Carrot, and how to identify it from other flowers of the same family, such as Cow Parsley. Flowers of this large family have little white flowers grouped together, a bit like an umbrella but flatter on top. The photo below will show that, with the Wild Carrot, there is a small dark flower in the centre of the white flowers of each flower-head. The dark flower in the middle is to attract flies to pollinate it. The root of the plant is edible and is carrot-like, though very thin and a bit tough. It is fun to know that our fat, orange carrots may have come from a similar plant.

Another name for the Wild Carrot is Bird's Nest. As you can see from the other picture below, as the flower heads 'go over', they begin to look remarkably like little bird nests, so it is a great alternative name for them. I don't profess to know the exact truths about plants, but it is good to learn bit by bit from listening and reading.



The ancient Wheat that we have grown again this year is looking splendid. We hope it will be left to show off its grandeur.

In the corner by the shed a new greenhouse has been put up. We are ensuring that it doesn't blow away by putting weights around it. Against the fence, Bridget's Potting Bench is going to be really useful as we grow cuttings and seeds taken from the garden. As the south-westerly wind blows hard across this corner, even the bench will need to be secured.



We look forward to chatting to you on a Wednesday morning soon.

The Hengistbury Head Wildlife Gardeners