

This was a day that started with rain showers but then remained dry. Our president, Rachel Jenkins, had arranged for experts to meet us there at several locations.

Bredwardine bridge



John Eisel described the history of this elegant bridge and a paper on the subject will be published in the 2019 *Transactions*. From there members walked via the footpath to the left of the picture to Bredwardine church, renowned as the last incumbency of Rev. Francis Kilvert who died in 1879 – see his grave below.





At **Bredwardine church** Paul Olver explained the geology of gravestones and the “Tufa” in the quoins of this church. It has a fine early font and decorated doorway.



Moccas church

Moccas church has been built mainly from tufa which is very light and strong for building and is rather equivalent to breeze blocks. Moccas is the site of an early Welsh church and extensive earthworks have been seen to the south.



Moccas Park

Members were accompanied by the owner of Moccas Court into the park. They inspected the large 'leech pool' and were sad to hear that no leeches have been seen for some time.





Invertebrate expert Will Watson dipped the pond and pointed out the various pond life.

We then set out to find the Woolhope Club oak, which has been monitored by members since it was first designated so in the mid 19th century. In 2009 it was found to be suffering from die-back in the crown, but even so members were upset to find that it is now completely dead. (Photo courtesy of Tom and ? Wall.

The health of other oaks in the park, of all ages, is also a matter for concern with Natural England and the park owner investigating. It seems to be a national problem for wood pasture (rather than woodland); this is not protected. (Photo: ©Giselle Wall)

