

Tyntesfield Audit 28 February 2019

A sparsity of fungi was balanced by one or two very interesting finds. The most frustrating were small (<1mm) pale yellow “cup-shaped” fungi found on a collection of a Xylariaceae, *Hypoxylon fuscum*, growing on a fallen hazel branch. These are illustrated below. Despite their appearance, many attempts to reveal asci in the samples has failed. Is it an Ascomycete? Or possibly a cyphelloid fungus? The samples live on and advice from others is being sought. One day.....



A second member of the Xylariaceae was found growing on a dead Ivy stem - *Rosellinia mammiformis*.

An indication of an early spring was seen from finding St George’s Mushrooms (*Calocybe gambosa*), one month earlier than its name implies.

Other spring fungi were *Melanoleuca cognata* and *Psathyrella spadiceogrisea* .

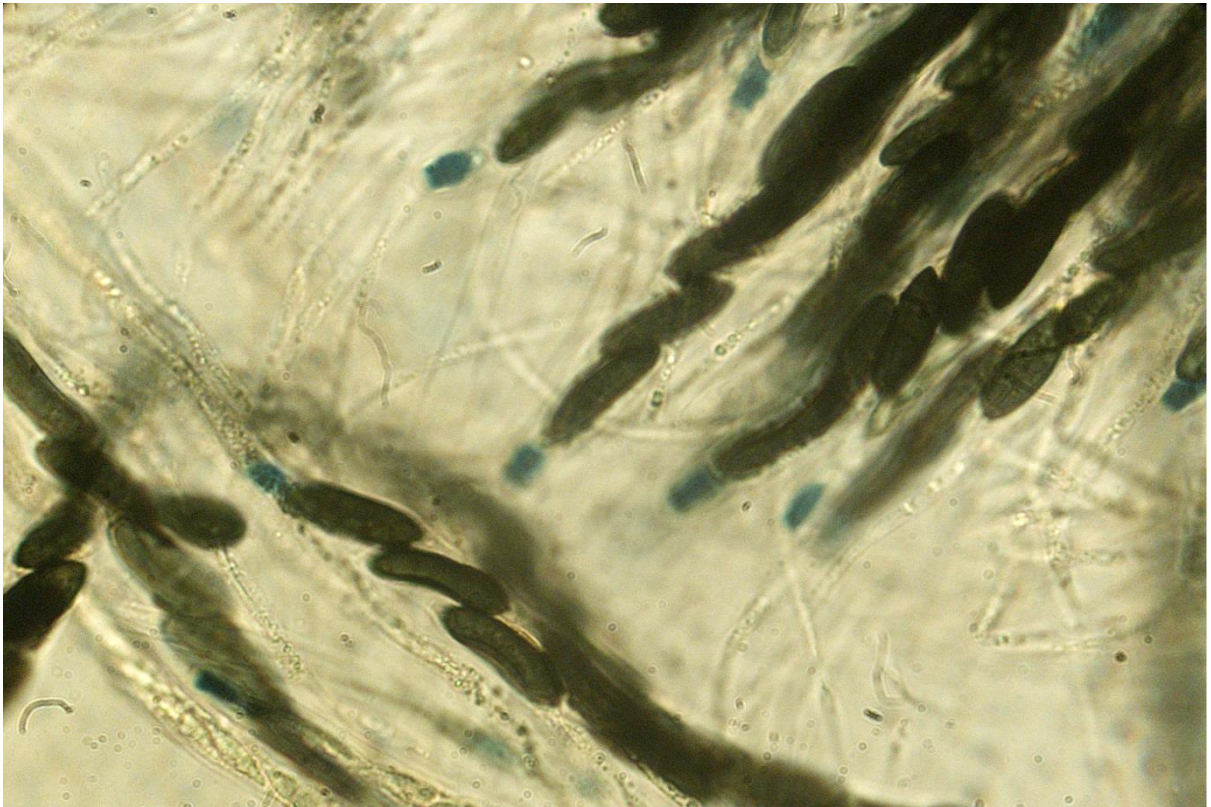
List of Fungi

Arcyria denudata
Cup Fungus on Hypoxylon fuscum
Auricularia auricula-judae
Byssomerulius corium
Calocybe gambosa
Calvatia gigantea
Chaetosphaerella phaeostroma
Coprinellus micaceus
Hymenochaete rubiginosa
Hypholoma fasciculare
Hypoxylon fuscum

Inocybe geophylla
Kretzschmaria deusta
Marasmius oreades
Melanoleuca cognata
Nectria cinnabarina
Panaeolus acuminatus
Polydesmia pruinosa
Polyporus brumalis
Psathyrella corrugis
Psathyrella microrhiza
Psathyrella spadiceogrisea

Ramularia ari
Ramularia rubella
Rosellinia mammiformis
Scutellinia scutellata
Trametes gibbosa
Trametes versicolor
Tubaria furfuracea
Ustulina deusta
Xylaria carpophila

Rosellinia mammiformis. Species of *Rosellinia* can be distinguished from other warty fungi by staining with Melzer's. A plug at the top of the ascus stains blue (see below). Whilst resembling *R. aquila*, these fruiting bodies had a prominent "nipple" with spores that were much larger (23-28 μ) and hence they were identified as *R. mammiformis*.



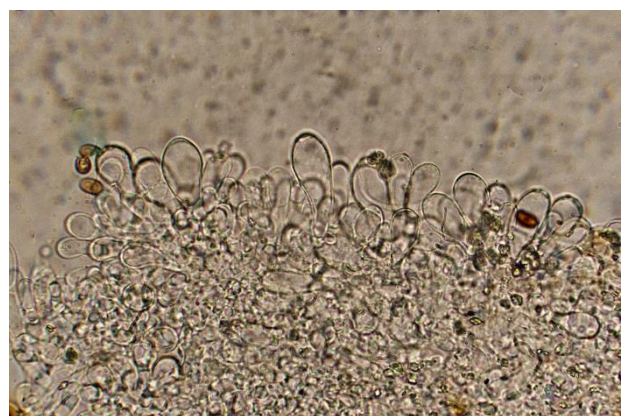
St George's Mushroom (*Calocybe gambosa*): although absent from several known sites for this fungus, we did find a developing ring near a *Sequoiadendron*. Only once before has this been found in March, on the 24th in 2014



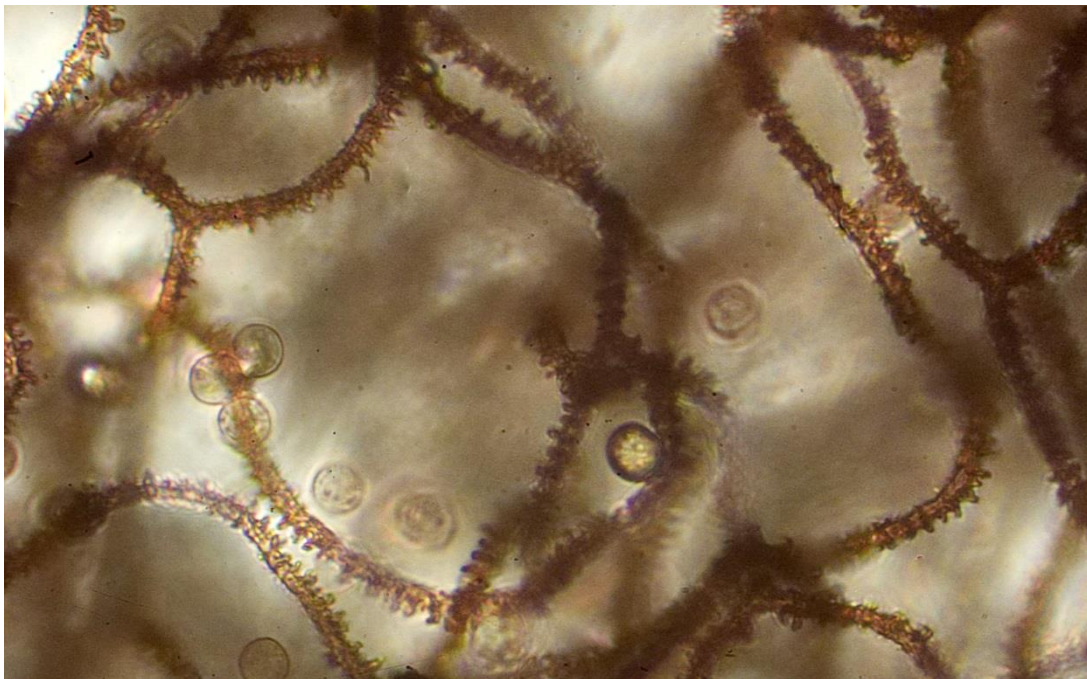
***Melanoleuca cognata*:** this is readily recognised in Spring from its large size and rich golden gills



***Psathyrella spadiceogrisea*:** another species typical of Spring and found widely distributed across the Estate. The swollen cystidia (below right) are diagnostic



Arcyria denudata: one of the commonest and most readily identified slime moulds (Myxomycete). Note the conspicuous salmon colour, along with a characteristic stalk and internal structure, the capillitium, bearing spines along their surface



The end of a magnificent Beech tree. This tree has stood for very many years supporting massive growths of *Ganoderma australe*. Children could even sit on the brackets because they were so large. Sadly the tree has slowly declined and this winter it collapsed completely. The cause: *Ustulina (Kretzschmaria) deusta*.

