

Tyntesfield Audit, 24 January 2023

Another frosty Audit. Although in contrast to December, most of the fungi found were not actually frozen. A few grassland fungi were present on the lawns, but predictably most of the fungi seen were found growing on logs or fallen branches. In December we reported finding the rare Earth Star *Geastrum britannicum* for the first time in the 20 years of surveying Tyntesfield, It was, therefore, more surprising to find a second example beneath a different, but adjacent yew bush (see below). We also found a second example of *Xylaria cinerea*, a species first found in the UK in Somerset, but now seemingly spreading rapidly across S. England (see Field Mycology 24 (1) pp 10-12.) The fungi growing on wood included excellent examples of *Auricularia auricula-judae* (Jelly Ear), *Polyporus brumalis* (Winter Polypore), *Psathyrella piluliformis* (Stump Brittlestem) and *Sarcomyxa serotina* (Olive Oysterling).

We also examined the Wollemi Pine in Paradise. This has shown symptoms of leaf infection for many years. The severity varies from year to year and we observed that the present crop of upper leaves seemed very healthy. However, detailed examination of the lower dead leaves confirmed the continued presence of *Pestalotiopsis funerea* (see below)



A list of fungi found and images of examples seen during the Audit are shown below

Auricularia auricula-judae
Bjerkandera adusta
Byssomerulius corium
Chaetosphaerella phaeostroma
Clitocybe fragrans
Coprinellus micaceus
Daldinia concentrica
Hypholoma fasciculare
Hypoxylon fragiforme
Kretzschmaria deusta
Pestalotiopsis funerea

Polyporus brumalis
Polyporus squamosus
Psathyrella piluliformis
Sarcomyxa serotina
Stereum hirsutum
Stereum subtomentosum
Trametes gibbosa
Trametes versicolor
Tubaria furfuracea
Xylaria cinerea
Xylaria hypoxylon

Jelly Ear (*Auricularia auricula judae*):



Winter Polypore (*Polyporus brumalis*):



Common Stump Brittlestem (*Psathyrella piluliformis*): flourishing on an old tree stump, where it was showing great variation in appearance as the fungus matured.



Pestalotiopsis funerea: a common disease-causing fungus on a range of conifers. On the Wollemi Pine in Paradise it is associated with premature death of the lower older leaves, where it produces black erumpent fruiting bodies. These fruiting bodies are filled with black septate spores that have long apical appendages (hairs)

