

# *Honeyguide*

## **WILDLIFE HOLIDAYS**

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**The Dordogne  
12 – 19 May 2011**

## The Dordogne, 12 – 19 May 2011

### Holiday participants

Steve and Kathy Kourik  
Christine Willey  
Alan George and June Lawrence  
Julian Lawrence

John and Jan Croft  
Rosie Smith  
Sue Smith  
David and Yvonne Buckland

### Leader

Chris Durdin

Report by Chris Durdin. Photos edged blue by Steve Kourik and edged green by Chris Durdin.

Bison photo on page 8 taken by Steve from the sign outside the Font de Gaume.

Cover photo – soldier beetle *Trichodes alvearius* on field scabious.

Our hosts at Castang: Cathy, Keith and Olivia Parker [www.castang.info](http://www.castang.info)



### Buffon on kites and buzzards

One of the books at Castang is *All the World's Birds, Buffon's Illustrated Natural History General and Particular of Birds* by George-Louis Le Clerc and Comte de Buffon. It was originally published in 36 volumes between 1749 and 1778; this edition was published in New York in 2008. On kites and buzzards, it says: "These ignoble, filthy and slothful birds ought to follow the vultures, which they resemble by their dispositions and habits ... In all ages, it has been common to compare a gross shameless man to a Kite, and a disgusting stupid woman to a Buzzard."

This holiday, as for every Honeyguide holiday, also puts something into conservation in our host country by way of a contribution to the wildlife that we enjoyed. The conservation contribution this year of £40 per person towards the 'Refuges LPO' project was supplemented by gift aid through the Honeyguide Wildlife Charitable Trust, leading to a total of £592.

This year there are also donations for LPO through holidays in the Camargue, Cévennes and in the French Pyrenees. These were combined and passed to our LPO friends in the French Pyrenees in June, a total of £2,390 / €2630.

This gives a running total for donations to LPO of £16,496 since 1991. The total for all conservation contributions through Honeyguide since 1991 was £72,591 in June 2011.



## The Dordogne 12 – 19 May 2011

### Thursday 12 May – Stansted to Castang

It was late afternoon as Julian and I met Keith from Castang at Bergerac airport. Yes, just two of us: the eleven others had touched down some five hours earlier, arriving at Bergerac from Southampton and Exeter at almost the same time, meeting Gilles and his coach.

The eleven had settled in, relaxed and explored, perhaps especially easily for John & Jan and Steve & Kathy for whom this was a return to Castang. They had stayed here en route from Portugal last year on the long overland trek after volcanic ash forced the cancellation of the Honeyguide group's return flight from Lisbon at the end of their holiday in central Portugal.

Jules and I heard about sightings including wryneck and red squirrel, plus a host of butterflies brought on by a long period of warm weather. But that, plus a dry winter, as Keith described to us, seemed to be behind a near absence of orchids in Castang's meadow where only pyramidal orchids were really obvious: about five orchid species had gone missing. Just over the road a lizard orchid was fully in flower – a plant not usually any more than an odd looking stump during the Honeyguide visit. All very strange, and plainly orchids were going to be a challenge this year.

After aperitifs, a relaxed group settled down to the first of Cathy's legendary 5-course meals: vegetable soup, cheese omelette, guinea fowl, cheeseboard with a choice of six cheeses and *framboisier* (raspberry cake). The last came with a candle, to mark either Norwich City's return to the premiership or Honeyguide's 20<sup>th</sup> birthday. A fox moth, drawn to the lights, joined us at the dinner table.

### Friday 13 May – local walks around Castang

Most of the group was up to gather at 7:45 for some pre-breakfast birdwatching. The early mist had cleared, while still remaining in the river valley below Castang. We heard a lot: golden orioles' fluty song in the oak woods, the persistent calls of hoopoes, cuckoo, melodious warbler and turtle dove, though for the most part birds did not show. Spiked star-of-Bethlehem (Bath asparagus) was a great find on the circuit around the local roads, a flower not usually out in early May and another sign of the unusual year. A hare appeared in Castang's meadow during breakfast.



Frog-watching in Lagrave

Our first morning's walk started in the direction of Lagrave, Julian wielding the butterfly net while I carried the telescope (managing both is tricky with one pair of hands). One of the first butterflies caught was an addition to the checklist, in the shape of a silver-studded blue. It seemed to be a good year for red admirals from what we saw all morning; brown argus and Cleopatra were two other nice species. The warm day had brought out any number of wall lizards and black kites floated past on several occasions. In Lagrave we puzzled over the frogs in the pond by the old walk-in bread oven, one large one in particular seeming to fit the description and size for

edible frog. Grizzled skipper was a fine addition to the butterfly list just after the village, as were our first swallowtail and pearly heath. We paused to listen to a singing nightingale; or, at close to noon, should that be a day-ingale? Rose chafers and red-and-black shield bugs *Graphasoma italicum* were easy to study on a green-flowered hogweed. All the lady orchids were well over in their usual corner meadow, but there were three woodcock orchids at their peak.

After an excellent salad lunch back at base we set off towards Le Coux, first stopping for very close views of Castang's firecrest and then to look at corky-fruited water dropwort. A greater butterfly orchid was in bud, then in the woodland some broad-leaved helleborines were close to being in flower. Passing a herd of rather excitable Limousin cattle – behind a fence – we were soon in Le Coux, where we stopped to look at a black restart and had an excellent view of a serin on a TV aerial. After briefly stopping at the church we took the road to *La Plage*. On a wall was a new flower for me, albeit tiny: fine-leaved sandwort, next to its close relative thyme-leaved sandwort. The river valley is rather intensively farmed and, sadly, here the kiwi espaliers had been grubbed up, but we were soon at the river's edge. Damselflies were dancing over the Dordogne, a heron fed in the shallows, Alan was alive to a dashing kingfisher and a little egret flew through.

Most were very happy to accept a lift and avoid the uphill return walk, but for three of us who did walk there was a huge surprise as a black woodpecker, closely followed by a hoopoe, dashed through from right to left in front of us.

Time for tea and checklists, before which Sue pointed out a lime hawkmoth on the arm of a chair, and during which a red squirrel appeared on the lawn. Appetites were then ready for lentil and pumpkin soup, smoked salmon, lamb with flageolet beans, cheese and strawberries.

### **Saturday 14 May – woodland walk and Limeuil**

A change in the weather with lightning and thunder during the night, so just four came at 7:30 for pre-breakfast birdwatching, quickly reduced to three due to rain, despite rounding up some umbrellas. The rain pretty quickly eased but those not there missed little as, apart from several cirl buntings, the birdwatching was uneventful.

Breakfast consumed, picnics gathered and we had soon taken the short hop with Gilles and the bus to Bigaroque. Almost immediately there were three red helleborines tucked in the semi-shade by the road, typifying this year's unusual season as it's an orchid not previously recorded on Dordogne holidays, not due to its absence but because typically it just isn't anywhere near being out. There were stacks of Nottingham catchfly including one patch in a deep pink colour. Yellow woundwort, swallowwort and wood bitter-vetch were on this first stretch as we struggled to even get out of sight of the bus, then another new orchid, namely some common twayblades. On the drier slope to the left was common fumana and small yellow foxglove, the latter another not normally yet in flower. A trill revealed a Bonelli's warbler, which responded quickly to a recording on my phone by coming close to us to investigate. Alan found a golden oriole; the rest of us had to be content with hearing them. There were then greater butterfly orchids in the shade of the some woodland plus another red helleborine by the roadside.



Red helleborine; ascalaphid *Libellodes coccajus*; and greater butterfly orchid, differentiated from lesser butterfly orchid by its diverging pollen sacs (the dark bits). On lesser these sacs are parallel.

By chance or good timing, we reached Gilles and his now relocated bus at exactly one o'clock. He took us to see a field gladiolus and then, with little rain all morning, it was dry enough for most to eat picnics on the roadside.



The meadows here are amazing and we spent some time in the one nearest the bus. Yvonne found a nice patch of adder's tongue ferns and Steve the first of a few tongue orchids still in flower, though the burnt-tip orchids were dried up save the very last tiniest lingering flowers. Interesting invertebrates included Roesel's bush-cricket and ascalaphids hanging on grass waiting for it to warm properly so they could go back to predatory patrols. But the strongest natural history presence was many scores of bright blue Adonis blues, mostly still or moving slowly due to the indifferent weather. There were woodcock orchids and a couple of bee orchids and a patch of yellow-wort in flower. With difficulty we dragged ourselves into the next meadows. In the field with all the clay pigeon pieces was the best show so far of pyramidal orchids (*below*) and in the third meadow, an almost over military orchid.



Walking the short distance back to the bus it was as if lightning could strike twice in the same place, two years running, when a black woodpecker called. Encouraged by a recording, two flew round us and, shortly after this, one was seen going into a nest hole in one of the big white poplars.

Apart from pausing for some almost gone over violet birdsnest orchids (Gilles was the finder), next stop was the beautiful village of Limeuil. Gilles dropped us at the top and we had an hour to see the church (run by a group of English ex-pats, we noted), meander through the village, see some tree sparrows and sand martins and have a beer by the confluence of the Dordogne and Vézères rivers.

After dinner - tomato soup, melon with port, pork in mustard sauce with carrots, cheeses and gateaux Basque – Steve reminded us that Saturn was in the night sky and, with the telescope trained on it, several of us enjoyed looking at its rings to the sound of distant calling midwife toads.

### **Sunday 15 May – the ‘two views’ walk at Berbiguières and Montalieu Haut**

Though the mist was hanging in the river valley, it was dry and fairly warm where we were, tempting out many of the group for some pre-breakfast birdwatching. In Lingle we found a melodious warbler that sat still for a long period, so allowing good telescope views. Approaching the Chateau at Cazenac there was a hoopoe on the recently cut grass. As we returned, a golden oriole called and several of the group (not including me!) were able to see it in a hedgerow in the middle distance, then June spotted a splendid male cirl bunting that we were all able to see well.

At Berbiguières, our one visit south of the Dordogne river, we first looked from the bridge and strolled a short way towards the church. A brief meander took us through this pretty and sleepy village before we went up the woodland path leading to the walk along the crest of the ridge. A nuthatch called and came to see us in response to a recording. At the corner as we reached the ridge walk there was a little clump of limadors, still with some purple coloration. Though the orchids here were far past their best, as might be expected in this strange season, there were still some to see, including man, pyramidal and woodcock. New shrubs included St Lucie's cherry and fly honeysuckle. On some disturbed ground we identified rough mallow, a write-in on the list and a mystery from yesterday solved. Sue searched some kidney vetch and found eggs that were probably those of little blue butterfly on its larval food plant. Later she introduced us to the fascinating nugget of information that a white pyramidal orchid smells of vanilla, unlike its pink counterparts, and had us on our bellies sniffing to see if we could detect this, with mixed success. Wall brown was a new butterfly for the holiday; scarce swallowtail and black-veined white nice

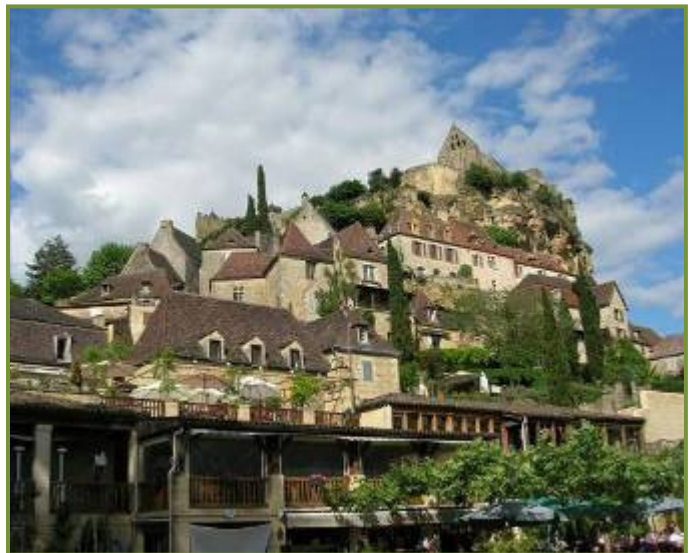
ones to see again. At the far western end of the path a French gentleman guessed we were looking for flowers and invited us to see a particularly fine red helleborine in his garden, leaving us to take photos (it's on page 4).

After finding Gilles, the bus and our picnic lunches, we popped into the adjacent wood to look at birdsnest orchids, greater butterfly orchids and butcher's broom before we set off. We paused in the bus along the way where hay was being cut, attracting at least seven black kites on the lookout for food.

At Montalieu Haut we looked at the more southerly or *causse* type shrubs, including Mediterranean buckthorn, Mediterranean coriaria and Montpellier maple, the last conveniently growing with field maple. Remembering plant names can be a challenge: somehow not for bastard balm. Wild candytuft and more red helleborines were noted. On a dry slope, among the lavender, Rosie and Sue stumbled on a fine mantis *Empusa pennata*, then Christine found a stunning cream-spot tiger moth. Descending the slope, further interesting plants included wild columbine and long-leaved lungwort, then the silvery-leaved pea called *argyrobium* on a stony slope. New butterflies were Oberthur's grizzled skipper, southern white admiral and Berger's clouded yellow, but these were overshadowed when, close to the end of the walk, two or three hundred bright blue Adonis butterflies were gathering salts on some damp soil. Blue gromwell was tucked under a hedge by the bus and opposite that a melodious warbler showed well for the benefit of those not on this morning's walk.



Adonis blues gathering mineral salts



Beynac, on the northern bank of the river Dordogne

We drove past the clifftop chateau of Castelnaud, then stopped at Beynac for photos and to see some crag martins, though sadly everyone apart from Julian missed the lesser spotted woodpecker by the coach parking slot.

Some of the tales were prompting raucous laughter at one end of the dinner table – where we had pea soup, pork terrine, beef and carrots, cheese and *vacherin*. Perhaps unconnected, Jan was persuaded to try Steve's suggestion of how best to see bats, namely to stand in the meadow waving a white hanky. None turned up, so the jury is out as to whether any passing bats also see the funny side.

### Monday 16 May – Keith's walk

There was great success this morning with wrynecks for the pre-breakfast birders. Approaching Lagrave, one called loudly, perched at first on a distant high dead branch, then flew over us into a small dead fruit tree where it continued with its loud 'pee-pee-pee'. A second started up so for a while we had a wryneck duet, before we went into the village and located a bright male common redstart. Two woodlarks proclaimed their lu-lu-lu song over a hay field that had been cut since last Friday, and the nightingale sang in its regular corner.

Keith took over as walk leader, as is our tradition for this day. Local building construction techniques were a keen point of interest for many in the group, though the old *pigeonnier* –



dovecote – down the hill from Castang is now, sadly, beyond even reconstruction. Steve found some owl pellets inside it and there was a bright, probably freshly-emerged, spotted fritillary in the meadow. We dropped into the wood and looked at a now overgrown *abreuvoir* – old sluice system – by the walnut grove, by which there were badger rootings on the path. We heard but didn't see golden orioles, and a hobby dashed past over a meadow. Wood white and, a little later, marbled white were more new butterflies for the week. Passing through a scattered settlement there was another wryneck behind some farm buildings and about three melodious warblers on various points along the way. There was also the distant call of a black woodpecker quite close to Castang.

After lunch and a siesta, it was a free afternoon. Alan and Christine had a good view of a cuckoo; others pottered, searched for butterflies or simply had a quiet time. At about 4 pm a select group left for a walk on this now hot afternoon in new territory east of the main road through Coux.

After dinner – the main course was salmon in hollandaise sauce – we walked under a full moon to Lagrave, finding two glow-worms and seeing about three midwife toads, but hearing many more.

### **Tuesday 17 May – Le Bugue and the cave walk**

Pre-breakfast, the blue tit nesting hole in the walnut was silent, the young presumably having fledged. Towards Cazenac there was a cirl bunting for Christine, the brightest yet melodious warbler and a crow hassling a black kite. No golden oriole this morning, but as every day great spotted woodpeckers seemed to be everywhere, gathering food and feeding young.

On the dry slopes of the hill above Le Bugue, white (or Pyrenean) flax was in flower. We had excellent views again of Bonelli's warblers and found many spikes of ivy broomrape as we descended towards the town. We split up to explore the market, a Honeyguide tradition in this part of France, later sharing strawberries and cherries and looking at various other purchases. The riverside walk to where Gilles's bus was parked was full of interest, the River Vézère thick with white water crowfoot over which countless demoiselles were dancing.



Banded agrion or demoiselle *Calopteryx splendens*, male. The species here appears less banded than in northern Europe as the black on the male's wing extends to the wing tip. The key thing is that the dark area starts at, not before, the 'nodus', like a little notch part way along the wing.

House martins were collecting mud and sand martins disappearing to establish nests into drainage pipes or holes in the walls. Gilles took us a few hundred metres to a quieter spot to picnic; here two cormorants were drying wings on a heavier clump of lodged vegetation in the river and a great spotted woodpecker moved busily around a nest hole.

It was a hot and still afternoon on which shade on much of the walk was welcome. We found our first fly orchids, albeit only two, perhaps surprisingly not entirely over, and several greater butterfly orchids and red helleborines. Bright Adonis blues and Cleopatras kept us company and Bonelli's warblers continued to sing in the heat of the afternoon. Emerging from the wood, an unusual floral find was sulphur cinquefoil, new to the checklist, and just one long-lipped serapias in the horse paddock. Here too was the strange looking scorpion vetch, a flower from the Mediterranean flower book, and it was curious to find several fine woodcock and bee orchids in flower; they seemed to be following the calendar rather than the weather, unlike many others.

After picking up an extra layer of clothing for the caves, everyone chose the optional visit to the 'crystal cathedral' of the Gouffre de Proumeyssac, before re-emerging for a drink in the warmth of the late afternoon. A tractor came to the lower part of the meadow at Castang to start a hay cut as we had tea and did checklists, and by aperitif time three black kites were attracted by the cut in progress to look for some easy feeding. Dinner was pumpkin soup, pastry parcels, *confit de canard*, cheeses and crème caramel.

### Wednesday 18 May – Roque St Christophe and Font de Gaume

A few of us retraced the last bit of 'Keith's walk' before breakfast. There was a roe deer and an easy-to-see melodious warbler in the early morning warmth, though nothing new.



The traditional order for this day was reversed on account of when Font de Gaume was available: in other words, today we were first at Roque St Christophe (*with troglodyte, left*). The majority of the group chose to visit the one-time cliff residences of troglodytes, and spoke very highly of the experience, as well as having good views of the nesting peregrines and numerous crag martins. The rest of us started with the walk through the woodland to a warm, dry slope where we searched in vain for bug orchid, though did find a tiny mantis (which I later realised I hadn't looked at closely enough to identify). A very hairy yellow composite found here was, after later research, identified as *Inula montana*, a species not in the conventional floras. Dropping down into the higher of two meadows there were two more new flowers in bloody cranesbill and rampion bellflower, but it was the butterflies that were particularly striking. Duke-of-Burgundy was the first, but better still was a handsome marbled fritillary, a new one for Honeyguide here. Then in the lower meadow there was a marsh fritillary, nectaring on

a wood scabious. Here too was common spotted orchid, and dozens of these in the shade near where the bus was parked alongside a large number of twayblades.

Gilles parked the bus under the cliffs round the corner and, even though we had just a short time here, there were two excellent fly-pasts of one of the local peregrines.



We arrived at Font de Gaume at one o'clock ready for a 1:30 tour – having last night come to the consensus to picnic after this. The walk up the hill to the cave entrance is always interesting with holm oak and maiden pink two new plants, plus two ferns seen for the first time, namely polypody and wall rue. But these are the side show and we were lucky to have a charming English-speaking guide who enthused about the polychromatic wall pictures of bisons (*left*), reindeer and auroch painted with manganese and iron oxide. Their purpose and even the number of artists remain a mystery but the sense of privilege to see them is strong.

We had a late picnic by the river in Les Eyzies and a short stroll between the cliffs and the river, mostly of limited interest for wildlife as there's rather too much amenity planting, but we did find our first small yellow foxgloves properly in flower and damselflies were abundant, notably female banded agrions with wings of translucent green. After an ice cream by the bridge with the nesting house martins – it was seriously hot by now – we returned to Castang.

We collected group members' highlights at the end of dinner – rocket soup, seafood terrine, chicken in tarragon sauce, cheese and pear tart – and they are noted below.

### Thursday 19 May – Bergerac and home

After breakfast and group photos (well done to Steve for his efforts on these), Gilles took most of the group to Bergerac for a safe and uneventful journey home. Julian and I explored lanes and fields east of Le Coux. Here we had a good view of a hobby, found heartsease pansies with the large Venus's looking-glass and added two new butterflies for the week, Glanville fritillary and large white, before we too returned to Bergerac and home.



### Group members' holiday highlights

June	Black-veined white butterfly; midwife toads and tripping over a prostrate Julian; the evening meals; Christine's stories.
Julian	Christine's stories; Chris's shriek as he dropped a field cricket; girls' group 'maternity exercises' on the ground (and he has the pictures to prove it).
Christine	The wryneck when on her own on the first day; hearing cuckoo, wryneck and hoopoe at the same time from the room; clouds of Adonis blues and other butterflies.
Yvonne	The warm welcome from Keith and Cathy; the feeling of privilege in a meadow on entering the world of the Adonis blue.
David	The hospitality and food here at Castang; seeing hoopoe for the first time; meadows full of butterflies.
Jan	The group gelling together so well; Adonis blues taking minerals; Chris running after butterflies.
Sue	Adonis blues on the mud; spiralling black-veined whites; marbled fritillary; Julian entertaining.
Rosie	Common redstart; black-veined white; roe deer in the early morning sun.
John	The camaraderie of the group; the mass of Adonis blues; cream-spot tiger moth; realising wryneck was smaller than expected; woodlark in song flight.
Kathy	Midwife toads; being with knowledgeable people; the food; Roque St Christophe.
Steve	The charm of this area; midwife toads, an 'honorary mammal' and their sound; the guide in the caves at Font de Gaume.
Alan	Getting up at 7:30 "and freezing my nuts off"; golden orioles; walking around the lanes; Roque St Christophe; Gilles.
Chris	Red helleborines; marbled fritillary just pips the Adonis blues; melodious warbler typifies the area.

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### SYSTEMATIC LISTS

#### BIRDS

Little egret	Green woodpecker	Bonelli's warbler
Cormorant	Black woodpecker	Chiffchaff
Grey heron	Great spotted woodpecker	Willow warbler
Mute swan	Lesser spotted woodpecker	Firecrest
Mallard	Woodlark	Long-tailed tit
Honey buzzard	Sand martin	Blue tit
Black kite	Crag martin	Great tit
Sparrowhawk	Swallow	Nuthatch
Buzzard	House martin	Short-toed treecreeper
Kestrel	Grey wagtail	Golden oriole
Hobby	White wagtail	Jay
Peregrine	Wren	Magpie
Pheasant	Robin	Jackdaw
Moorhen	Nightingale (heard)	Carrion crow
Feral pigeon	Black redstart	Starling
Woodpigeon	Common redstart	House sparrow
Collared dove	Stonechat	Tree sparrow
Turtle dove	Wheatear	Chaffinch
Cuckoo	Blackbird	Serin
Tawny owl (heard)	Song thrush	Greenfinch
Swift	Mistle thrush	Goldfinch
Kingfisher	Melodious warbler	Girl bunting
Hoopoe	Whitethroat	
Wryneck	Blackcap	
		<b>Total = 70 species</b>

## MAMMALS

Roe deer slots  
Rabbit  
Hare  
Red squirrel  
Badger (droppings)  
Mole  
Lesser horseshoe bats, pictured right.

Steve Kourik found two pellets, probably from a barn owl, in the pigeonier when we went on the walk with Keith. He examined the pellets and found skulls/jaws of one water shrew, two common shrews and three field voles.



## REPTILES AND AMPHIBIANS



Wall lizard  
Green lizard  
Palmate newt  
Pool frog  
Common frog  
Midwife toad *Alytes obstetricans*, pictured left. The male of this species is responsible for parental care, carrying the fertilised eggs twined around his body to keep them safe from predators until, after about 8 weeks, they are ready to hatch, when he takes them to shallow water where the tadpoles can emerge.

## FISH

Perch

Chubb

Roach

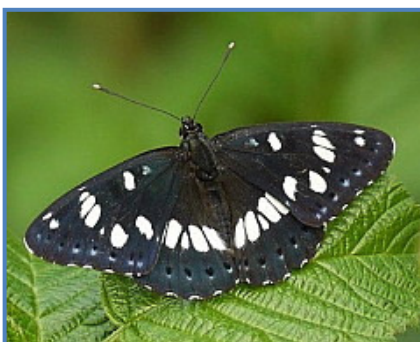
Gudgeon

## BUTTERFLIES

Swallowtail  
Scarce swallowtail  
Black-veined white  
Large white  
Berger's clouded yellow  
Cleopatra  
Wood white  
Sooty copper  
Brown argus  
Mazarine blue

Adonis blue  
Common blue  
Silver-studded blue  
Duke of Burgundy  
Southern white admiral (*left*)  
Red admiral  
Glanville fritillary  
Knapweed fritillary  
Meadow fritillary (*middle*)  
Marsh fritillary

Spotted fritillary (*right*)  
Marbled fritillary  
Meadow brown  
Small heath  
Pearly heath  
Speckled wood  
Wall  
Large skipper  
Grizzled skipper  
Oberthur's grizzled skipper





## DRAGONFLIES AND DAMSELFLIES

Banded demoiselle

Broad-bodied chaser

Club-tailed dragonfly

## MOTHS – mostly day-flying

British checklist numbers given from Waring & Townsend. \* = nocturnal

163 Forester

1894 Latticed heath

2058 Cream-spot tiger \*

169 6-spot burnet moth

1979 Lime hawkmoth

2441 Silver Y

170 5-spot burnet moth

1984 Hummingbird hawkmoth

2463 Burnet companion

1638 Fox \*

2021 Pine processionary (tent)

*Micro-moth* White plume moth

## OTHER INSECTS

Ascalaphid *Libelluloides coccajus*

Mantis *Empusa pennata*

Paper wasp *Polistes gallicus*

Hornet

Violet carpenter bee

Ichneumon fly sp

Glow-worm

*Trichodes alvearius* a red and black soldier beetle

Rose chafer *Cetonia aurata*

*Oxythyrea funesta* a chafer

Firebug

*Cercopis vulnerata* a red and black froghopper

*Graphosoma italicum* a black and red shield bug

*Corizus hyoscyami* a ground bug

7-spot ladybird

Field cricket

Roesel's bush-cricket

Mole cricket (heard)

Short-winged conehead

Water skater

Water boatman

Wood ant sp.

## SPIDERS AND OTHER INVERTEBRATES

House centipede *Scutigera coleoptrata*

Pill millipede

Crab spider *Misumena vatia*

Crab spider *Xysticus cristatus*

Roman (edible) snail

Slug *Arion ater*

## PLANTS

Most are in The Wild Flowers of Britain and Northern Europe by Fitter, Fitter & Blamey.

Others, in bold, are marked as follows - M: Mediterranean flora, A: Alpine flora.

*Inula montana* is in neither book.

nif = seen but not in flower. For some orchids that means gone over, this year.

### ACERACEAE (Maple)

*Acer campestre*

Field Maple

*Acer monspessulanus*

Montpelier Maple

*Acer pseudoplatanus*

Sycamore

### ARACEAE (Arum)

*Arum italicum*

Large (or Italian) lords & ladies

### ARALIACEAE (Ivy)

*Hedera helix (hibernica)*

Ivy

### ASCLEPIADACEAE (Milkweed)

*Vincetoxicum hirundinaria*

Swallow-wort

### BETULACEAE (Birch)

*Alnus glutinosa*

Alder

### BORAGINACEAE (Borage)

*Anchusa arvensis*

Bugloss

*Buglossoides purpureocaerulea*

Blue (or purple) Gromwell

***Cynoglossum creticum***

**Blue houndstongue M**

*Echium vulgare*

Viper's Bugloss

*Myosotis arvensis*

Field Forget-me-not

*Pulmonaria longifolia*

Narrow-leaved Lungwort

nif

*Symphytum tuberosum*

Comfrey

### BUXACEAE (Box)

*Buxus sempervirens*

Box

<b>CAMPANULACEAE (Bellflower)</b>		
<i>Campanula rapunculoides</i>		
<i>Legousia speculum-veneris</i>	Large Venus's looking-glass	
<b>CAPRIFOLIACEAE (Honeysuckle)</b>		
<i>Lonicera caprifolium</i>	Perfoliate Honeysuckle	
<i>Lonicera periclymenum</i>	Honeysuckle	
<i>Lonicera xylosteum</i>	Fly Honeysuckle	nif
<i>Sambucus ebulus</i>	Dwarf Elder	nif
<i>Sambucus nigra</i>	Elder	
<i>Viburnum lanata</i>	Wayfaring Tree	
<b>CARYOPHYLLACEAE (Pink)</b>		
<i>Arenaria serpyllifolia</i>	Thyme-leaved Sandwort	
<i>Cerastium fontanum</i>	Common Mouse-ear	
<i>Dianthus deltoides</i>	Maiden Pink	
<i>Lychnis flos-cuculi</i>	Ragged Robin	
<i>Minuartia hybrida</i>	Fine-leaved Sandwort	
<i>Silene alba</i>	White Champion	
<i>Silene nutans</i>	Nottingham Catchfly	
<i>Silene vulgaris</i>	Bladder Champion	
<i>Stellaria holostea</i>	Greater Stitchwort	
<b>CELASTRACEAE (Spindle)</b>		
<i>Euonymus europaeus</i>	Spindle	
<b>CISTACEAE (Cistus)</b>		
<i>Fumana procumbens</i>	Common Fumana	
<i>Helianthemum appenninum</i>	White Rockrose	
<i>Helianthemum nummularium</i>	Common Rockrose	
<b>COMPOSITAE (Daisy)</b>		
<i>Achillea millefolium</i>	Yarrow	
<i>Arctium minus</i>	Lesser Burdock	nif
<i>Artemisia vulgaris</i>	Mugwort	
<i>Bellis perennis</i>	Perennial Daisy	
<i>Carlina vulgaris</i>	Carline Thistle	nif
<i>Centaurea nigra</i>	Black Knapweed	
<i>Chamomilla suaveolens</i>	Pineapple Mayweed	
<i>Cirsium arvense</i>	Creeping Thistle	
<i>Cirsium eriophorum</i>	Woolly Thistle	
<i>Cirsium vulgare</i>	Spear Thistle	
<i>Hieracium maculatum</i>	Spotted Hawkweed	nif
<b><i>Inula montana</i></b>		
<i>Lactuca serriola</i>	Prickly Lettuce	
<i>Lapsana communis</i>	Nipplewort	
<i>Leucanthemum vulgare</i>	Ox-eye Daisy	
<i>Matricaria perforata</i>	Scentless Mayweed	
<i>Pilosella officinarum</i>	Mouse-ear Hawkweed	
<i>Senecio jacobea</i>	Ragwort	
<i>Senecio vulgaris</i>	Groundsel	
<i>Sonchus asper</i>	Prickly Sow-thistle	
<i>Sonchus oleraceus</i>	Smooth Sow-thistle	
<i>Taraxacum (group)</i>	Dandelion	
<i>Tragopogon pratensis</i>	Goatsbeard=Jack-go-to-bed-at-noon	
<b>CONVOLVULACEAE (Bindweed)</b>		
<i>Convolvulus arvensis</i>	Field Bindweed	
<b><i>Convolvulus cantabricus</i></b>	<b>Pink Bindweed M</b>	
<i>Fallopia (Bilderdykia) convolvulus</i>	Black Bindweed	
<b>CORIARIACEAE (Coriaria)</b>		
<b><i>Coriaria myrtifolia</i></b>	<b>Mediterranean Coriaria M</b>	
<b>CORNACEAE (Cornus)</b>		
<i>Cornus sanguinea</i>	Dogwood	



<b>CORYLACEAE (Hazel)</b>		
<i>Corylus avellana</i>	Hazel	
<b>CRASSULACEAE (Stonecrop)</b>		
<i>Sedum acre</i>	Biting Stonecrop	
<i>Umbilicus rupestris</i>	Navelwort/Wall Pennywort	
<b>CRUCIFERAE (Cress)</b>		
<i>Alliaria petiolata</i>	Garlic Mustard	
<i>Arabis turrita</i>	Towercress	
<i>Capsella bursa-pastoris</i>	Shepherd's-purse	
<i>Cardamine impatiens</i>	Narrow-leaved Bittercress	nif
<i>Iberis amara</i>	Wild Candytuft	
<i>Lunaria annua</i>	Honesty	
<b>CUCURBITACEAE (Gourd)</b>		
<i>Bryonia cretica</i>	White Bryony	
<b>CUPRESSACEAE (Cypress)</b>		
<i>Juniperus communis</i>	Juniper	
<b>DIOSCOREACEAE (Yam)</b>		
<i>Tamus communis</i>	Black Bryony	
<b>DIPSACACEAE (Scabious)</b>		
<i>Knautia arvensis</i>	Field Scabious	
<i>Knautia dipsacifolia</i>	Wood scabious	
<i>Dipsacus fullonum</i>	Teasel	
<b>EUPHORBIACEAE (Spurge)</b>		
<i>Euphorbia amygdaloides</i>	Wood Spurge	
<i>Euphorbia cyparissias</i>	Cypress Spurge	
<i>Euphorbia helioscopia</i>	Sun Spurge	
<i>Euphorbia hyberna</i>	Irish Spurge	
<i>Mercurialis perennis</i>	Dog's Mercury	
<b>FAGACEAE (Beech)</b>		
<i>Aesculus hippocastanum</i>	Horse Chestnut (planted)	
<i>Castanea sativa</i>	Sweet Chestnut	
<i>Quercus ilex</i>	Evergreen/Holm Oak	
<i>Quercus petraea</i>	Sessile Oak	
<i>Quercus pubescens</i>	Downy Oak	
<b>GENTIANACEAE (Gentian)</b>		
<i>Blackstonia perfoliata</i>	Yellow-wort	
<b>GERANIACEAE (Geranium)</b>		
<i>Erodium cicutarium</i>	Common Storksbill	
<i>Geranium columbinum</i>	Long-stalked Cranesbill	
<i>Geranium dissectum</i>	Cut-leaved Cranesbill	
<i>Geranium molle</i>	Dovesfoot Cranesbill	
<i>Geranium purpureum</i>	Little Robin	
<i>Geranium robertianum</i>	Herb Robert	
<i>Geranium rotundifolium</i>	Round-leaved Cranesbill	
<i>Geranium sanguineum</i>	Bloody Cranesbill	
<b>GLOBULARIACEAE (Globularia)</b>		
<i>Globularia vulgaris</i>	Globularia	
<b>GRAMINEAE (Grass) (very incomplete)</b>		
<i>Avena fatua</i>	Wild Oat	
<i>Briza media</i>	Common Quaking-grass	
<i>Dactylis glomerata</i>	Cocksfoot	
<i>Hordeum murinum</i>	Wall Barley	
<i>Melica uniflora</i>	Wood Melick	
<b><i>Stipa pennata</i></b>	<b>Feather Grass M</b>	
<b>HYPERICACEAE (Hypericum)</b>		
<i>Hypericum perforatum</i>	Perforate St. John's Wort	
<b>IRIDACEAE (Iris)</b>		
<i>Gladiolus illyricus</i>	Field Gladiolus	
<i>Iris pseudacorus</i>	Yellow Flag Iris	

<b>JUGLANDACEAE (Walnut)</b>		
<i>Juglans regia</i>	Walnut	
<b>LABIATAE (Mint)</b>		
<i>Acinos arvensis</i>	Basil-thyme	
<i>Ajuga reptans</i>	Common Bugle	
<i>Glechoma hederacea</i>	Ground Ivy	
<i>Lamium amplexicaule</i>	Henbit Dead-nettle	
<b><i>Lavandula angustifolia</i></b>	<b>Lavender M</b>	nif
<i>Melittis melissophyllum</i>	Bastard Balm	
<i>Mentha suaveolens</i>	Apple (round-leaved) Mint	
<i>Origanum vulgare</i>	Marjoram	nif
<i>Prunella vulgaris</i>	Self-heal	
<i>Salvia pratensis</i>	Meadow Clary	
<i>Salvia verbeneca</i>	Wild Clary	nif
<i>Stachys recta</i>	Yellow Woundwort	
<i>Teucrium chamaedrys</i>	Wall Germander (leaves)	
<i>Thymus serpyllum</i>	Wild Thyme	
<b>LEMNACEAE (Duckweed)</b>		
<i>Lemna minuscula</i>		
<b>LILIACEAE (Lily)</b>		
<i>Muscari comosum</i>	Tassel Hyacinth	
<i>Ornithogalum pyrenaicum</i>	Bath Asparagus/spiked star-of-Bethlehem	
<i>Ruscus aculeatus</i>	Butcher's Broom	
<b>LINACEAE (Flax)</b>		
<i>Linum bienne</i>	Pale Flax	
<i>Linum catharticum</i>	Fairy (=purging) Flax	
<i>Linum suffruticosum</i>	Pyrenean or White Flax	
<b>MALVACEAE (Mallow)</b>		
<i>Althaea hirsuta</i>	Rough Mallow	
<i>Malva sylvestris</i>	Common Mallow	
<b>OLEACEAE (Olive)</b>		
<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	Ash	
<i>Ligustrum vulgare</i>	Wild Privet	
<b>ORCHIDACEAE (Orchid)</b>		
<i>Aceras anthropophorum</i>	Man Orchid	
<i>Anacamptis pyramidalis</i>	Pyramidal Orchid	
<i>Cephalanthera longifolia</i>	Narrow-leaved Helleborine	nif
<i>Cephalanthera rubra</i>	Red Helleborine	
<i>Dactylorhiza fuchsii</i>	Common Spotted Orchid	
<i>Epipactis helleborine</i>	Broad-leaved Helleborine (in bud)	
<i>Himantoglossum hircinum</i>	Lizard Orchid	
<i>Limodorum abortivum</i>	Violet Birdsnest Orchid (= limodor)	
<i>Listera ovata</i>	Common Twayblade	
<i>Neottia nidus-avis</i>	Birdsnest Orchid	
<i>Ophrys apifera</i>	Bee Orchid	
<i>Ophrys insectifera</i>	Fly Orchid	
<b><i>Ophrys scolopax</i></b>	<b>Woodcock Orchid M</b>	
<i>Ophrys sphegodes</i>	Early Spider Orchid	nif
<i>Orchis masculata</i>	Early Purple Orchid	nif
<i>Orchis militaris</i>	Military Orchid	
<i>Orchis morio</i>	Green-winged orchid	nif
<i>Orchis purpurea</i>	Lady Orchid	nif
<i>Orchis ustulata</i>	Burnt-tip Orchid	
<i>Platanthera chlorantha</i>	Greater Butterfly Orchid	
<b><i>Serapias lingua</i></b>	<b>Tongue Orchid M</b>	
<b><i>Serapias vomeracea</i></b>	<b>Long-lipped Serapias A M</b>	
<b>OROBANCHACEAE (Broomrape)</b>		
<i>Orobanche hederæ</i>	Ivy Broomrape	
<i>Orobanche minor</i>	Common Broomrape	



OXALIDACEAE (Wood-sorrels)		
<i>Oxalis fontana</i>	Upright Yellow Oxalis	
PAPAVERACEAE (Poppy)		
<i>Chelidonium majus</i>	Greater Celandine	
<i>Papaver rhoeas</i>	Common Poppy	
PAPILIONACEAE (Pea)		
<i>Anthyllis vulneraria</i>	Kidney Vetch	
<b><i>Argyrolobium sanonii</i></b>	<b>Argyrolobium M</b>	
<b><i>Cercis siliquastrum</i></b>	<b>Judas Tree (planted) M</b>	
<b><i>Coronilla scorpioides</i></b>	<b>Annual Scorpion Vetch M</b>	
<i>Genista pilosa</i>	Hairy Greenweed	nif
<i>Hippocrepis comosa</i>	Horseshoe Vetch	
<i>Laburnum anagyroides</i>	Laburnum (planted)	
<i>Lathyrus aphaca</i>	Yellow Vetchling	
<i>Lathyrus latifolius</i>	Broad-leaved Everlasting Pea	
<i>Lathyrus pratensis</i>	Meadow Vetchling	
<i>Lotus corniculatus</i>	Birdsfoot Trefoil	
<i>Medicago lupulina</i>	Black Medick	
<i>Medicago sativa</i>	Lucerne (= alfalfa)	
<i>Melilotus officinalis</i>	Ribbed Melilot	
<i>Onobrychis vicifolia</i>	Sainfoin	
<i>Robinia pseudacacia</i>	False Acacia or Locust Tree	
<i>Spartium junceum</i>	Spanish Broom (introduced)	
<i>Trifolium campestre</i>	Hop Trefoil	
<i>Trifolium dubium</i>	Lesser Trefoil	
<i>Trifolium incarnatum</i>	Crimson Clover	
<i>Trifolium pratense</i>	Red Clover	
<i>Trifolium repens</i>	White Clover	
<i>Trifolium ochroleum</i>	Sulphur Clover	
<i>Ulex europaeus</i>	Gorse	
<i>Vicia cracca</i>	Tufted Vetch	
<i>Vicia orobus</i>	Upright Vetch or Wood Bitter-vetch	
<i>Vicia hirsuta</i>	Hairy Tare	
<i>Vicia sepium</i>	Bush Vetch	
PLANTAGINACEAE (Plantain)		
<i>Plantago lanceolata</i>	Ribwort Plantain	
<i>Plantago major</i>	Greater Plantain	
<i>Plantago media</i>	Hoary Plantain	
POLYGALACEAE (Milkwort)		
<i>Polygala calcarea</i>	Chalk Milkwort	
<i>Polygala vulgaris</i>	Common Milkwort	
POLYGONACEAE (Dock)		
<i>Polygonum persicaria</i>	Redshank	
<i>Rumex acetosa</i>	Common Sorrel	
<i>Rumex crispus</i>	Curled Dock	
<i>Rumex obtusifolius</i>	Broad-leaved Dock	
<i>Polygonum aviculare</i>	Knotgrass	
PRIMULACEAE (Primrose)		
<i>Anagallis arvensis</i>	Scarlet Pimpernel	
<i>Primula veris</i>	Cowslip	nif
PTERIDOPHYTA (Fern)		
<i>Adiantum capillus-veneris</i>	Maidenhair Fern	
<i>Asplenium adiantum-nigrum</i>	Black Spleenwort	
<i>Asplenium ruta-muraria</i>	Wall Rue	
<i>Asplenium trichomanes</i>	Maidenhair Spleenwort	
<i>Ceterach officinarum</i>	Rusty-back Fern	
<i>Dryopteris filix-mas</i>	Male Fern	
<i>Ophioglossum vulgatum</i>	Adderstongue	
<i>Phyllitis scolopendrium</i>	Hart's-tongue Fern	

<i>Pteridium aquilinum</i>	Bracken	
<i>Polystichum setiferum</i>	Soft Shield Fern	
<i>Polypodium vulgare</i>	Common Polypody	
<b>RANUNCULACEAE (Buttercup)</b>		
<i>Aquilegia vulgaris</i>	Common Columbine	
<i>Helleborus foetidus</i>	Stinking Hellebore	nif
<i>Ranunculus acris</i>	Meadow Buttercup	
<i>Ranunculus bulbosus</i>	Bulbous Buttercup	
<i>Ranunculus penicillatus</i>	Stream Water-crowfoot	
<i>Ranunculus repens</i>	Creeping Buttercup	
<b>RESEDACEAE (Mignonette)</b>		
<i>Reseda lutea</i>	Wild Mignonette	
<i>Reseda luteola</i>	Weld	
<b>RHAMNACEAE (Buckthorn)</b>		
<b><i>Rhamus alaternus</i></b>	<b>Mediterranean Buckthorn</b>	<b>M</b>
<b>ROSACEAE (Rose)</b>		
<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	Hawthorn	
<i>Fragaria vesca</i>	Wild Strawberry	
<i>Geum urbanum</i>	Herb Bennet	
<i>Mespilus germanica</i>	Medlar (planted)	
<i>Potentilla recta</i>	Sulphur Cinquefoil	
<i>Potentilla reptans</i>	Creeping Cinquefoil	
<i>Prunus dulcis</i>	Almond (planted)	
<i>Prunus mahaleb</i>	St Lucie's Cherry	
<i>Prunus spinosa</i>	Blackthorn	
<i>Rosa arvensis</i>	Field Rose	
<i>Rosa canina</i>	Dog Rose	
<i>Rosa rubiginosa</i>	Sweet Briar	
<i>Rubus fruticosus</i> agg.	Bramble	
<i>Sanguisorbia minor</i>	Salad Burnet	
<i>Sorbus domestica</i>	True Service Tree (planted)	
<i>Sorbus torminalis</i>	Wild Service Tree	
<b>RUBIACEAE (Bedstraw)</b>		
<i>Cruciata laevipes</i>	Crosswort	
<i>Galium aparine</i>	Cleavers	
<i>G. mollugo</i> subsp. <i>erectum</i> (= <i>G. album</i> )	Hedge Bedstraw	
<i>Galium pumilum</i>	Slender Bedstraw	
<i>Galium verum</i>	Lady's Bedstraw	
<i>Sherardia arvensis</i>	Field Madder	
<i>Rubia peregina</i>	Wild Madder	
<b>SALICACEAE (Willow)</b>		
<i>Populus alba</i>	White Poplar	
<i>Populus tremula</i>	Aspen	
<b>SCROPHULARIACEAE (Figwort)</b>		
<i>Cymbalaria muralis</i>	Ivy-leaved Toadflax	
<i>Digitalis lutea</i>	Small Yellow Foxglove	
<i>Rhinanthus minor</i>	Yellow Rattle	
<i>Verbascum pulverulentum</i>	Hoary Mullein	
<i>Veronica persica</i>	Common Field Speedwell	
<b>TILIACEAE (Lime)</b>		
<i>Tilia cordata</i>	Small-leaved Lime	
<b>ULMACEAE (Elm)</b>		
<i>Ulmus minor</i>	Small-leaved Elm	
<b>UMBELLIFERAE (Carrot) (= Apiaceae)</b>		
<i>Anthriscus sylvestris</i>	Cow Parsley	
<i>Chaerophyllum temulentum</i>	Rough Chervil	
<i>Eryngium campestre</i>	Field Eryngo	nif
<i>Foeniculum vulgare</i>	Fennel	nif
<i>Heracleum sphondylium</i>	Hogweed	

<i>Heracleum sphondylium</i> var. <i>sibiricum</i>	Hogweed (greenish flowered)
<i>Oenanthe pimpinelloides</i>	Corky-fruited Water Dropwort
<i>Sanicula europaea</i>	Sanicle
<i>Silaum silaus</i>	Pepper Saxifrage

#### URTICACEAE (Nettle)

<i>Parietaria judaica</i>	Pellitory-of-the-wall
<i>Urtica dioica</i>	Stinging Nettle

#### VALERIANACEAE (Valerian)

<i>Centranthus ruber</i>	Red Valerian
<i>Valeriana officinalis</i>	Common Valerian
<i>Valerianella locusta</i>	Cornsalad

#### VIOLACEAE (Violet)

<i>Viola arvensis</i>	Field Pansy/Heartsease
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