



Honeyguide

WILDLIFE HOLIDAYS

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French Pyrenees

4 – 11 June 2013

Holiday participants

Ron Fitton and Val Appleyard
Jill Jordan
Kevin Simmonds and Jennifer Grimble
John and Sue Goldsmith
Ruth Tubbs
David Wilkins
John Durdin

Leaders

Chris Durdin and Ivan Nethercoat

Our hosts in the French Pyrenees: Odile and Philippe Pujo, Hotel La Brèche de Roland
www.pyrenees-hotel-breche.com

Report by Ivan Nethercoat with additions by Chris Durdin. Bird list by Ivan, others by Chris.
All photos in this report were taken during the holiday week, those edged grey by Kevin Simmonds, edged blue by Ivan Nethercoat and edged green by Chris Durdin. Others where indicated.
Cover: Lammergeier; yellow rattle at Gèdre.



Above: the group at the Auberge du Maillet.

Below: the Brèche de Roland from the hotel which bears its name. What looks like a square notch is in fact a natural gap some 40m across, 100m high and at an altitude of 2804m, in the Cirque de Gavarnie. It forms part of the French/Spanish border and this year was covered by late snows.



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 lammergeier protection was supplemented by gift aid and some additional funds in the Honeyguide Wildlife Charitable Trust. This, combined with contributions from groups in the Dordogne and the Camargue, meant we were able to give €2000 to the LPO's Gwenaëlle Plet in Gèdre.

A separate donation of 790 euros went to the local group of LPO in Languedoc, giving us a running total for donations to LPO of £19,876 since 1991. A thank you from LPO appears at the end of the report. As at June 2013, the total for all conservation contributions through Honeyguide since 1991 was £89,420.

DAILY DIARY

4 June – Stansted to Gèdre

Dawn at Stansted. Having been the coldest spring for a long time, the day we left the UK was probably one of the hottest of the year so far. To spend the start of it at Stansted is not the best way to appreciate a British summer but the prospect of what was awaiting us kept interest high, perhaps tinged with a thought at the back of our minds that leaving in great weather might mean arriving in cold and rain.

All went well and on time and we arrived in Lourdes to a bright clear sky and a spectacular mountain backdrop, complete with black kites at the airport to see us off the plane. While we collected minibuses, group members were spotting wall lizards, more kites and a honey buzzard.

The journey from Lourdes was about an hour to a quick stop at a favoured lay-by. Here we could see how summer was coming later than 'normal' years with few flowering Pyrenean saxifrages on show, but compensation with a fly-past of Camberwell beauty, orange tips and an easy to see mazarine blue. At Gèdre, a further 15 minutes up the hill, we were greeted by Odile at the Hotel La Brèche de Roland and settled into our smart rooms, each overlooking some interesting hillsides, before enjoying a light lunch.

Following a rest, we took a stroll around the lanes of Gèdre to see the riverbanks, fields and hills. The late season meant the meadows here were at their glorious best and some time away from the first hay crop. We all admired the belt of crimson clover right next to the hotel, mingled with yellow rattle. Short-toed eagles were hunting the hillside, soon to be joined by a black kite and a couple of red kites. Dippers flew past us at 'dipper bridge', serins jangled in the trees and black redstarts were busy on the buildings. A lammergeier greeted us to the Pyrenees, our first of several. The route back took us to a café, which has one of the best terraces for a beer or cup of tea. From here we saw spotted flycatchers and blackcaps, plus the expected but not yet flowering rosettes of ramonda on the rock opposite, but a surprise was a fantastic broad-bordered bee hawkmoth feeding on a fading lilac blossom. After a pause, the same flowers were then visited by a wonderful Camberwell beauty – a nice start to the holiday.



Admiring Gèdre on day 1.

5 June – Lac des Gloriettes

The late spring had been a source of conversation in the UK, and here we had a similar but perhaps more dramatic story with news of snow late in May, recent avalanches and roads to the tops of various regular routes still closed. This prompted some changes to our usual itinerary but also some new species and different sights. Today we headed for a reservoir a short drive along the Héas valley. The roadsides had purple patches of early purple orchids interspersed with yellow from elder-flowered orchids and patches of cowslips.

There is a footpath across the dam and around the reservoir, the route taking us into a beautiful valley of tumbling brooks and powerful streams. The breeze was cool and the sun strong and the flowers celebrated by putting on a show. On almost every rock were patches of the deep pink *Primula hirsuta*. Hepatica, spring and trumpet gentians burst from the grass, alongside the brooks and in damp areas were marsh marigolds, and we found our first daffodils, *Narcissus pseudonarcissus bicolor*. Green hairstreaks protected sunny spots from passing interlopers while below wall lizards, charged up in the sun, chased insects over rocks beside the path. Overhead, alpine choughs played on the breeze and lammergeiers cruised the high peaks. A lone isard, the Pyrenean chamois, made a welcome appearance and gave good telescope views.



Primula hirsuta



Snowbells *Soldanella alpina*

Beyond the end of the reservoir the valley opens up and the river leads the eye to the cliffs alongside the cirque at the head of the valley. We paused by the bridge to look for Pyrenean brook newts, without success, and just take in the place. Chris stumbled across a small patch of snowbells, a flower often missing from the Honeyguide checklist and an indicator of how the plants were several weeks 'behind'. On the hillsides, marmots made occasional appearances. The route back over a rise was a bit more strenuous and in the glare of the sun, warm work. Here it was impossible to miss solid-tubered corydalis and patches of sweet-smelling garland flower. The path took us over small snow patches then dropped down to the car park and a very welcome lunch.

The combination of wildlife and cafés is a nice feature of Honeyguide so, keen to keep the tradition, we headed further up the Héas valley on the road to the Cirque du Troumouse where we hoped the snow would not hinder our way. As luck would have it the café – the Auberge du Maillet – was open, although the road to the cirque was closed a few hundred metres beyond. As we left the café for the minibuses, the weather turned. We stopped at the bottom of the road to look at some butterbur but the inclement weather caught up with us and forced a quick retreat back to the hotel.

Before dinner we had a presentation from Gwenaëlle from LPO, the BirdLife partner in France. She told us how LPO works to protect vultures and red kites in the area around Gèdre. Chris then donated €2000 from Honeyguide to support the conservation work of LPO, a significant sum that will go a long way to support the work that allows us to see birds like lammergeier on most days. Gwenaëlle and Odile concurred that this year the wildlife was about a month *en retard* – running late.

6 June – Saugué



Narcissus pseudonarcissus bicolor

The road to Saugué starts just outside Gèdre and climbs steeply for a while through beech woodland before opening out onto more gentle hills and meadows. Our first stop was on the road where a gap in the woodland allows views back into the valley, also allowing us to search the roadside bank and meadow for butterflies and flowers. Narrow-leaved helleborine, fly orchid and Pyrenean toadflax graced the roadside bank while mazarine, small and Adonis blues flew past along with dingy and red-underwing skippers and wood whites. Buzzards called and a honey buzzard briefly appeared over the cliffs while a blackcap provided a melodic backdrop.

Moving on through the woodland and up onto the meadows we were greeted by a carpet of yellow, not from yellow rattle this time but from daffodils – another sign of the late spring. While cameras clicked at daffodils with a mountain backdrop, a short-toed eagle hunted the ridge and a tree pipit sang from a sparse bush.

Our next stop was a very short drive away so some walked on while we drove the buses to the bridge. In the fields above where we had parked were several alpine choughs feeding among the grass but when they suddenly took to the air we could see this was a flock of 100+ birds. The birds settled and took to the air several times while we were there. On the last occasion a lammergeier cruised low nearby, soon followed by a golden eagle that joined the choughs in the air for a while.

Moving on, the end of the road takes us to the top of the gorge that ends with the Cirque du Gavarnie. From here the cirque provided a spectacular backdrop, free of the busy public use of the normal route. The meadows and fields here again had numerous daffodils, many water pipits and a pair of whinchats. David's sharp eyes were alert to Pyrenean snakehead, the local fritillary species.

We had lunch here, serenaded by the scratchy song of wheatears, but then the weather started to close in. A trip back down the road and up the Bué valley was short-lived as the rain got heavier, so it was time to give up and to head back to the hotel for tea. Refreshed we then went for a damp but productive walk above the village at Gèdre-Dessus, from where the view looks down onto the hotel and the main part of the village. Walls and verges here were rich with plants including three rockrose species, Montpellier milk-vetch, wild candytuft and hanging clumps of Nottingham catchfly, plus a just-emerged first flower on a woodcock orchid.

7 June – Gavarnie and the Col de Tentes ski station

It was a short drive to the car park beyond the shops in Gavarnie village. The path to the cirque is a gentle stroll with a stunning backdrop of mountains and snow. Early on we looked up to the crags to



Golden eagle being mobbed by alpine choughs.

our right to see a golden eagle gliding down across the trees. The eagle disappeared for a while and then reappeared, followed by a kestrel performing aerial attacks on the much larger bird. Undeterred by the mobbing, the eagle carried on and another kestrel joined in, causing the eagle to swerve and veer out of the way. A party of some 20 alpine choughs then appeared and joined in the game of 'hassle an eagle'. The bird finally gave up and headed over the ridge – we were a little too far away to hear the cheering of its avian tormentors.

We carried onwards alongside the fast flowing Gavarnie River, past wild rock gardens and beautiful beech trees backlit by the morning sun. The beeches had an autumnal appearance: brown tinges on exposed edges caused by frost damage on early leaves. In the woodland area the floor was dotted with large clumps of green hellebore (on open areas elsewhere the hellebores were stinking hellebores), ransoms and wood spurge, while blackcaps sang from above. Among some pines, a red squirrel dashed across the ground while we waited for a crested tit to show, which it did, albeit briefly.

Lunch was taken by a normally flower-rich meadow off the main pedestrian route. While many flowers were still to come, there was lots to see, especially birdseye primroses in damp patches, early purple and elderflower orchids (the latter in both yellow and magenta). Three citril finches passed overhead for Ivan and David and, this time on his own, David also disturbed a hoopoe from the short turf.



Birdseye primrose



Elderflower orchids (Jenny Grimble)



The delicate moonwort *Botrychium lunaria* and an alpine marmot.

Clouds started to gather so we headed back to the village, pausing to admire a frond of the diminutive moonwort fern nestling against a rock face. We had tea in a café and there was time for a little souvenir shopping, of distinctly mixed quality: now we know who buys snow globes with marmots, but it would be indiscreet to mention Ron by name.

The clouds eased off a little as we drove to the ski station along the road to the Col de Tentes. Beyond here the road to the Col was still closed but the journey gave spectacular views. It was also a good spot for obliging marmots – which Kevin and John were keen to 'shoot'. The marmots duly posed and around the snowmelt were yellowhammers and water pipits.

The rain still held off so a brief stop at a lay-by on the way down proved, as before, that the season was late. John went rummaging among some rocks and found four young slow-worms, about four inches and long beautifully gold and black in colour, a real treat and a nice end to the day.

Meals at the hotel were always good, and tonight it was done for show, too. Firstly, hot stones were put on the tables for the non-vegetarians to cook their own strips of beef. For dessert, a giant baked Alaska was brought out on fire and it tasted as good as it looked.

8 June – Pibeste, Val de Glère and Col de Tourmalet ski station.

It rains in the Pyrenees. The lush, tree-lined slopes that harbour such great wildlife are nourished by the wet stuff and when it decides to pour it does so rather well. This morning was a demonstration of that aqueous gusto. Rather than sit it out in a hotel we headed north, back down the valley to Pibeste, in the hope that it might be less severe away from the mountains. It wasn't.



Black woodpecker

Pibeste is a natural park at the base of the Pyrenees dominated by limestone crags and forest. The crags are home to Egyptian vultures, which prefer the lower altitude. All of this is nice to know but today the clouds descended and stayed there, obscuring the cliffs and making any exploration on foot uncomfortable, to say the least. Chris, with his umbrella, went to look for notable plants but the list he returned with wasn't enough to tempt anyone else to follow suit. Instead we explored the area by minibus and eventually ended up in a café at Argèles-Gazost, by which time the cloud was starting to lift. Refreshed, we headed back into the hills, through Barèges and to the Glère Valley, a route taking us past a hillside recently damaged by an avalanche, the grubby looking snow still lying there.

Our stop was an area of mixed woodland and grazed fields with views to higher, snow-clad hills. The rain had stopped, thank goodness, and we had lunch looking across the valley before exploring the fields and woodland edge. Black woodpeckers were calling and eventually gave good views on some large pines. A small pond on the hillside looked rather uninspiring at first glance but closer inspection revealed a world of death and deception. Tadpoles were the most obvious inhabitant, blissfully unaware of the large medicinal leeches trying to latch on. Under the mud, dragonfly larvae concealed themselves and skaters skimmed over the surface looking for smaller prey.

A flock of 20 or so water pipits fed among sheep grazing the nearby hillside, and griffon vultures above started to 'stack'. In wet areas the birdseye primroses were again prolific, bog violet also grew and a search eventually revealed some round-leaved sundew. But the wind was turning cold and the air damp so we headed back to the café, Chez Louisiette.

We knew that late snow had blocked the road to the Col de Tourmalet, a reliable place to see snowfinches. Nonetheless we followed the road to see how far up we could go, which



Snowfinch at the lower ski station.

was to the lower ski station. The great views in lovely mixed light were reward enough for the drive but here too was a very obliging snowfinch, like us pushed down the mountain by the season, feeding just a few feet away. Less fearless were water pipits feeding on the snowmelt. As we drove away a 'thrush' flew up to the wires – a beautiful male rock thrush, delaying our departure by a few more pleasurable minutes. It was a surprise to see frogspawn in the snowmelt where the drifts met the road.

9 June – Ossoue valley

Thick cloud and a cool wind did not deter a trip to Ossoue valley. This quiet valley above Gavarnie usually takes us through a variety of habitats and all was well at the start. The cloud lifted enough to allow us to see the cliffs and nearby peaks and the rain stopped, allowing us to explore the surrounding vegetation. Griffon vultures were on the cliffs and were soon joined by a young lammergeier, very dark in plumage and with a shorter tail and broader wings. An adult lammergeier came on the scene and landed on a crag just above the minibuses and gave everyone very good 'scope views, especially as it tussled with the younger bird. Pyrenean fritillaries pushed discreetly above the grasses to make a subtle but wonderful show, while on rockier ground tiny rush-leaved narcissi showed in abundance.

We set off to make the journey along the valley only to find a sign saying 'Route barrée'. Minibuses parked, photographers went off hunting marmots while the bulk of us potted along the road, curious to see what was barring the way and to explore the roadside verges for flowers and other wildlife. A garden warbler sang as we walked along a road littered with rocks, earth and even an uprooted tree pushed down by the snow. These were however nothing compared to the avalanche that had come down the hillside a kilometre farther on, completely blocking the road and no doubt preventing access for several weeks.

We had lunch by the vehicles overlooking the valley and woodland. Clouded yellow and Piedmont ringlet butterflies briefly appeared but they were the only ones braving the cool atmosphere. While we waited we had great views of a rock bunting, a new bird for many. In a small quarry area, Ron spotted a couple of lizards unlike any we had previously seen, almost plain grey on the top, dark spots down the side of one and blue spots on another. We speculated as to whether these could be Pyrenean rock lizards although blue spots weren't mentioned in any of the guides. From later research we concluded they were wall lizards in the process of skin-shedding.



Rock bunting (John Goldsmith)

Some warm and wet refreshment was in order, so we headed for a café at Gavarnie. Several in the group then returned to the Bué valley, rather drier today than on the aborted visit three days earlier. The birds were quiet this cool afternoon and it needed another month for the woodland edge flowers to be at their best, though we added a few new species, such as yellow vetch, western St John's-wort and lungwort.

10 June – Lac des Gloriettes

The weather was getting better again despite looking cloudy and wet as we set off. As this was our last day it was a chance to catch up on species missed and return to a well-liked site. The Lac des Gloriettes and Val d'Estaubé fitted that bill and, with the road to Troumouse Cirque blocked, was the best chance we had now to see Pyrenean brook newt. By the time we got to the car park the cloud was lifting and the day was spent in the now familiar hot sun and cool breeze.

Compared to our last visit here we travelled quickly around the lake, stopping for green hairstreak and northern wall brown braving the cool morning air. As the track left the lakeside and followed the river the route took us across a wide valley bottom, interspersed with pools and small streams heading to the main river. It was in this area that Sue found our first brook newt, then not to be outdone, John soon found another and satisfied a holiday objective at the same time.

Leaving Kevin and John to photograph the newts, the rest of us moved on up the valley. We walked some of the way to the cirque, but turned back when the path got tricky. The route was a nice walk but did not add to our list. Lots of house martins nesting on the cliffs, a very low lammergeier, and a dipper in the river were the bird highlights before we headed back to the bridge for lunch and a rendezvous with the rest of the group.

On the return towards the minibuses on the other side of the lake, Sue spotted some cat's-foot, and again our route was scented with the perfume of garland flower. At the base of the cliffs a party of ten or so isards ran above us, and crossing another stream we saw another small patch of snowbells.

So, time for tea and a return to one of Europe's best locations for a café, on the road to Troumouse. Last time we were here the weather turned, today it was glorious sunshine and hot. Painted lady butterflies whizzed through and rocks turned into marmots. It was a great spot for a final drink, a group photo and to collect holiday highlights (below). We had a gentle potter round the river below the café and a slow drive back along the Héas valley before our evening meal at the hotel.

11 June – the return

A 6am breakfast did not mean a lean feast. Odile's team had prepared the breakfast room and our usual array of fresh bread, croissants, fresh coffee etc. awaited us. We were all packed and away by 6.45. We added a mallard and a distant party of five white storks to the list on the journey, but still no Egyptian vultures: the cliffs at Pibeste looked good but we were too early for their inhabitants to be on the wing. Even after refueling the minibuses in Lourdes we were still at the airport in good time.

Sadly, there was no need to be prompt. Air traffic control industrial action in France meant, at best, delays and uncertainty. At least the company was good and, being a small airport, we could get outside, where at one point 100 or so black kites were taking to the warm air. We were put on board the plane, then taken off, then put aboard again with extra speed to take advantage of an air traffic control slot. Our flight should have left at 09:40, instead we taxied off at 17:55, more than eight hours late. We were lucky: many flights were cancelled but at least we were all able to get home today.

HOLIDAY HIGHLIGHTS

Ron	Rock thrush and marmots.
Val	Lammergeiers and rock thrush ... "and everything else".
Jenny	Rock bunting and gentians.
Kevin	Marmots, brook newts, black woodpecker.
Ruth	Scenery, birds, flowers and marmots.
Sue	"Best holiday ever" and alpine flowers "where they should be".
John G	"Chris in his natural habitat leaping from rock to rock" and brook newt.
John D	Gentians, snowfinch.
Jill	Scenery, gentians and black woodpecker.
David	Camberwell beauty, gentians.
Chris	Primulas, seeing the area in a different season.
Ivan	Daffodils, the 'feel' of a different season.

Systematic Lists

BIRDS

Grey heron	on route to airport
Purple heron	one outside Lourdes
White stork	5 seen on route to airport, near Pibeste
Mallard	on ponds near the airport
Black kite	many seen on route from the airport and individuals over Gèdre; 100 birds in the air seen from the airport while waiting for a delayed flight
Red kite	on route as we got into the higher ground and at Gèdre
Lammergeier	seen on all days, adults except for one young bird with an adult in the Ossoue valley
Griffon vulture	seen each day
Short-toed eagle	three hunting above Gèdre, one on the way to Saugué
Golden eagle	adult near Saugué, a younger bird in the Gavarnie valley was mobbed by kestrels and choughs
Common buzzard	seen on most days
Kestrel	one pair hunting at the airport and a pair in Gavarnie
Peregrine	just one sighting at Lac de Gloriettes
Green woodpecker	seen and heard in Gèdre
Black woodpecker	two showed very well on the open areas at the base of the Glère valley
Great spotted woodpecker	heard and seen near the hotel
Skylark	heard at Saugué only
Swallow	on route to airport
House martin	seen alongside crag martins in Barèges; nesting in overhanging crags at Val d'Estaubé
Crag martin	seen daily; nesting in Gèdre
Tree pipit	singing at Saugué
Meadow pipit	one at Saugué
Water pipit	at all the higher altitude stops, feeding in snowmelt
Grey wagtail	Gèdre, Gavarnie
White wagtail	seen daily, and regular in Gèdre
Dipper	Gèdre; Col de Tentes ski station; fly-past views at Val d'Estaubé and Gavarnie
Wren	heard on several days
Dunnock	around Gèdre, several in Val d'Estaubé
Hoopoe	one flushed from meadow at Gavarnie
Robin	heard or seen on most days
Black redstart	daily in Gèdre and at most locations
Whinchat	Saugué
Northern wheatear	at all the high altitude stops
Rock thrush	adult male and young male at Tourmalet ski station.
Blackbird	daily in Gèdre.
Song thrush	heard around Gèdre
Mistle thrush	in the Glère valley near Chez Louisiette
Blackcap	heard daily, seen opposite the hotel
Garden warbler	heard and seen in Ossoue valley and along the Gavarnie valley
Bonelli's warbler	seen and heard by the road at Gèdre Dessus, one by the river at Gavarnie
Northern chiffchaff	singing in the meadow area in the Gavarnie valley
Spotted flycatcher	Gèdre
Great tit	recorded almost every day
Blue tit	Gèdre
Coal tit	in the pine woods at Gavarnie
Crested tit	in the pine woods at Gavarnie and Glère valley
Nuthatch	at Gèdre and by the free car parking area at Gavarnie
Red-backed shrike	a male apparently nest-building at Saugué
Jay	seen on three days
Raven	over Gèdre and at halfway cafe, Troumouse
Carrion crow	recorded every day.
Red-billed chough	at Saugué and Gavarnie
Alpine chough	flocks at Saugué, Val d'Estaubé
Magpie	just on the airport journeys
Chaffinch	seen daily.
Bullfinch	Gèdre
Linnet	recorded on five days
Serin	seen daily
Citril finch	two in meadow at Gavarnie
Snowfinch	three at Col du Tourmalet ski station
House sparrow	seen daily
Yellowhammer	Saugué and around the snow melt at Tourmalet and Col de Tentes ski stations
Cirl bunting	heard on route to Saugué
Rock bunting	Saugué and Ossoue

AMPHIBIANS

Common frog	Pyrenean brook newt
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REPTILES

Common wall lizard	Green lizard	Slow-worm	Southern smooth snake
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Pyrenean brook newt

MAMMALS

Alpine marmot	Red squirrel	Pipistrelle	Isard
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BUTTERFLIES

Swallowtail	Red admiral	Painted lady	Small tortoiseshell
Camberwell beauty	Pearl-bordered fritillary	Northern wall brown	Piedmont ringlet
Large white	Small white	Wood white	Orange tip
Brimstone	Clouded yellow	Common blue	Adonis blue
Mazarine blue	Small blue	Green hairstreak	Dingy skipper
Grizzled skipper	Oberthur's grizzled skipper	Red-underwing skipper	



Camberwell beauty



Green hairstreak

MOTHS

Hummingbird hawk-moth	Broad-bordered bee hawk-moth	Silver Y
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OTHER INVERTEBRATES

<i>Hirudo medicinalis</i>	medicinal leech	<i>Cepaea nemoralis</i>	banded snail
<i>Arion ater</i>	a large black slug	<i>Gryllus campestris</i>	field cricket
<i>Libelloides</i> sp.	an ascalaphid	<i>Cetonia cuprea</i>	a rose chafer
<i>Cicindela campestris</i>	green tiger-beetle	<i>Geotrupes stercorarius</i>	dor beetle
<i>Polistes</i> sp.	a paper wasp	<i>Formica rufa</i>	wood ant
<i>Gerris</i> sp. (probably)	pond skater		

FLOWERING PLANTS

(some widespread and familiar species are omitted. nif = plant seen but not in flower)

Dicotyledons

Aceraceae	
<i>Acer campestre</i>	Field maple
<i>Ace pseudoplatanus</i>	Sycamore
Apiaceae	
<i>Bupleurum falcatum</i>	Sickle-leaved Hare's-ear
<i>Conopodium pyrenaicum</i>	Pyrenean pignut
<i>Eryngium bourgatii</i>	Pyrenean eryngo
<i>Heracleum sphondylium</i> ssp. <i>pyrenaicum</i>	Hogweed
<i>Laserpitium siler</i>	A sermountain nif
<i>Myrrhis odorata</i>	Sweet cicely
Asclepiadaceae	
<i>Vincetoxicum hirundinaria</i>	Swallow-wort
Asteraceae	
<i>Achilla</i> sp	Yarrow nif
<i>Antennaria dioica</i>	Cat's-foot
<i>Aster alpinus</i>	Alpine aster
<i>Bellis perennis</i>	Daisy
<i>Carduus carlinoides</i>	Pyrenean thistle
<i>Carlina acanthifolia</i>	Cardabelle (= acanthus-leaved carline thistle)
<i>Cirsium eroiphorum</i>	Woolly thistle
<i>Hieracium maculatum</i>	Spotted hawkweed
<i>Lactuca perennis</i>	Blue lettuce
<i>Leucanthemum vulgare</i>	Ox-eye daisy
<i>Petasites</i> sp., probably <i>albus</i>	(White) butterbur nif
<i>Tragopogon pratensis</i>	Goat's-beard
<i>Tussilago farfara</i>	Coltsfoot
Betulaceae	
<i>Betula pendula</i>	Silver birch
Boraginaceae	
<i>Echium vulgare</i>	Viper's-bugloss
<i>Myosotis alpina</i>	Alpine forget-me-not
<i>Myosotis discolor</i>	Changing forget-me-not
<i>Pulmonaria officinalis</i>	Lungwort
Brassicaceae	
<i>Arabis recta</i>	Annual rockcress
<i>Arabis turrata</i>	Towercress
<i>Cardamine raphanifolia</i>	Radish-leaved bittercress
<i>Draba aizoides</i>	Yellow whitlow-grass
<i>Erophila (Draba) verna</i>	Spring whitlow-grass
<i>Erysimum decumbens</i>	a treacle-mustard
<i>Fibigia clypeata</i>	
<i>Iberis amara</i>	Wild candytuft
Buxaceae	
<i>Buxus sempervirens</i>	Box
Campanulaceae	
<i>Campanula trachelium</i>	Nettle-leaved bellflower nif
<i>Phyteuma pyrenaicum</i>	a spiked rampion with slaty blue flowers
Caprifoliaceae	
<i>Lonicera caprifolium</i>	Perfoliate honeysuckle
<i>Lonicera pyrenaicum</i>	Pyrenean honeysuckle nif
<i>Lonicera xylostium</i>	Fly honeysuckle
<i>Sambucus ebulus</i>	Dwarf elder
<i>Sambucus nigra</i>	Elder
<i>Sambucus racemosa</i>	Alpine elder
Caryophyllaceae	
<i>Arenaria grandiflora</i>	Large-flowered sandwort
<i>Arenaria serpyllifolia</i>	Thyme-leaved sandwort
<i>Cerastium arvense</i>	Field mouse-ear
<i>Cerastium fontanum</i>	Common mouse-ear

<i>Paronychia polygonifolia</i>	
<i>Silene acaulis</i>	Moss campion
<i>Silene dioica</i>	Red campion
<i>Silene nutans</i>	Nottingham catchfly
<i>Silene vulgaris</i>	Bladder campion
<i>Stellaria holostea</i>	Greater stitchwort
Chenopodiaceae	
<i>Chenopodium bonus-henricus</i>	Good King Henry
Cistaceae	
<i>Fumana ericoides</i>	
<i>Helianthemum apenninum</i>	White rock-rose
<i>Helianthemum canum</i>	Hoary rock-rose
<i>Helianthemum nummularium</i>	Common rock-rose
Clusiaceae (Hypericaceae)	
<i>Hypericum nummularium</i>	Western St. John's-wort nif
Cornaceae	
<i>Cornus sanguinea</i>	Dogwood
Corylaceae	
<i>Carpinus betulus</i>	Hornbeam
<i>Corylus avellana</i>	Hazel
Crassulaceae	
<i>Sedum acre</i>	Biting stonecrop
<i>Sempervivum</i> sp	Houseleek nif
<i>Umbilicus rupestris</i>	Navelwort
Dipsacaceae	
<i>Knautia dipsacifolia</i>	Wood scabious
<i>Scabiosa columbaria</i>	Small scabious
Droseraceae	
<i>Drosera rotundifolia</i>	Round-leaved sundew
Ericaceae	
<i>Arctostaphylos uva-ursi</i>	Bearberry
<i>Calluna vulgaris</i>	Heather
<i>Erica arborea</i>	Tree heather
<i>Rhododendron ferrugineum</i>	Ipenrose nif
<i>Vaccinium myrtillus</i>	Bilberry
Euphorbiaceae	
<i>Euphorbia amygdaloides</i>	Wood spurge
<i>Euphorbia characias</i>	Large Mediterranean spurge
<i>Euphorbia cyparissias</i>	Cypress spurge
<i>Euphorbia helioscopia</i>	Sun spurge
Fabaceae	
<i>Astragalus monspessulanus</i>	Montpelier milk-vetch
<i>Anthyllis vulneraria</i>	Kidney vetch
+ ssp. <i>pyrenaica</i> (pink)	
<i>Hippocrepis comosa</i>	Horseshoe vetch
<i>Lathyrus laevigatus</i>	Yellow pea
<i>Lathyrus pratensis</i>	Meadow vetchling
<i>Lotus corniculatus</i>	Birdsfoot-trefoil
<i>Medicago sativa</i>	Lucerne (=alfalfa) nif
<i>Ononis rotundifolia</i>	Round-leaved rest-harrow
<i>Robinia pseudacacia</i>	False acacia
<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>Vicia cracca</i>	Tufted vetch
<i>Vicia hirsuta</i>	Hairy tare
<i>Vicia sativa</i>	Common vetch
<i>Vicia sepium</i>	Bush vetch
Fagaceae	
<i>Fagus sylvatica</i>	Beech
<i>Quercus petraea</i>	Sessile oak
<i>Quercus pubescens</i>	Downy/white oak

Fumariaceae	
<i>Corydalis solida</i>	Tuberous corydalis
Gentianaceae	
<i>Gentiana acaulis</i>	Trumpet gentian
<i>Gentiana verna</i>	Spring gentian
Geraniaceae	
<i>Erodium cicutarium</i>	Common storksbill
<i>Geranium phaeum</i>	Dusky cranesbill
<i>Geranium pyrenaicum</i>	Pyrenean cranesbill
<i>Geranium robertianum</i>	Herb Robert
<i>Geranium rotundifolium</i>	Round-leaved cranesbill
<i>Geranium sanguineum</i>	Bloody cranesbill
<i>Geranium sylvaticum</i>	Wood cranesbill
Gesneriaceae	
<i>Ramonda myconi</i>	Ramonda
Globulariaceae	
<i>Globularia nudicaulis</i>	Leafless-stemmed globularia
<i>Globularia repens</i>	Creeping globularia
Lamiaceae	
<i>Ajuga reptans</i>	Bugle
<i>Lamium galaeobdolon</i>	Yellow archangel
<i>Lamium maculatum</i>	Spotted dead-nettle
<i>Lamium purpureum</i>	Red dead-nettle
<i>Salvia verbenaca</i>	Wild clary
<i>Teucrium chamaedry</i>	Wall germander nif
<i>Teucrium pyrenaicum</i>	Pyrenean germander nif
<i>Thymus serpyllum</i>	Wild thyme
Lentibulariaceae	
<i>Pinguicula grandiflora</i>	Large-flowered butterwort
Loranthaceae	
<i>Viscum album</i>	Mistletoe
Oleaceae	
<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	Ash
Oxalidaceae	
<i>Oxalis acetosella</i>	Wood-sorrel nif
Papaveraceae	
<i>Chelidonium majus</i>	Greater celandine
<i>Papaver rhoeas</i>	Common poppy
Plantaginaceae	
<i>Plantago media</i>	Hoary plantain
Polygalaceae	
<i>Polygala alpestris</i>	Mountain milkwort
<i>Polygala vulgaris</i>	Common milkwort
Polygonaceae	
<i>Rumex acetosa</i>	Common sorrel
<i>Rumex acetosella</i>	Heath sorrel
<i>Rumex scutatus</i>	French sorrel (= Rubble dock)
Primulaceae	
<i>Androsace chamaejasme</i>	Ciliate rock-jasmine
<i>Primula elatior</i>	Oxlip
<i>Primula farinosa</i>	Birdseye primrose
<i>Primula hirsuta</i>	
<i>Primula integrifolia</i>	Entire-leaved primrose
<i>Primula veris</i>	Cowslip
<i>Soldanella alpina</i>	Alpine snowbell
Ranunculaceae	
<i>Aconitum sp</i>	Monkshood nif
<i>Anemone nemorosa</i>	Wood anemone
<i>Aquilegia vulgaris</i>	Columbine
<i>Caltha palustris</i>	Marsh marigold
<i>Clematis vitalba</i>	Traveller's-joy
<i>Helleborus foetidus</i>	Stinking hellebore
<i>Helleborus viridis</i>	Green hellebore

<i>Hepatica nobilis</i>	Hepatica
<i>Ranunculus acris</i>	Meadow buttercup
<i>Ranunculus bulbosus</i>	Bulbous buttercup
<i>Ranunculus gouanii</i>	Gouan's buttercup
<i>Ranunculus montana</i>	Mountain buttercup
<i>Trollius europeaeus</i>	Globe-flower
Resedaceae	
<i>Reseda lutea</i>	Wild mignonette
Rosaceae	
<i>Alchemilla alpina</i>	Alpine lady's-mantle
<i>Alchemilla vulgaris</i>	Lady's-mantle
<i>Amelanchier ovalis</i>	Snowy mespilus
<i>Cotoneaster integerrimus</i>	Wild cotoneaster
<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	Hawthorn
<i>Filipendula vulgaris</i>	Dropwort
<i>Fragaria vesca</i>	Wild strawberry
<i>Geum pyrenaicum</i>	Pyrenean avens
<i>Potentilla sp</i>	an unidentified but abundant white <i>Potentilla</i>
<i>Potentilla aurea</i>	Golden cinquefoil
<i>Potentilla crantzii</i>	Alpine cinquefoil
<i>Potentilla rupestris</i>	Rock cinquefoil
<i>Prunus padus</i>	Bird cherry
<i>Prunus spinosa</i>	Blackthorn
<i>Rosa canina</i>	Dog rose
<i>Rubus idaeus</i>	Raspberry
<i>Sanguisorba minor</i>	Salad burnet
<i>Sorbus aucuparia</i>	Rowan
Rubiaceae	
<i>Cruciata laevipes</i>	Crosswort
<i>Galium aparine</i>	Goosegrass
<i>Galium mollugo</i>	Hedge bedstraw
<i>Galium odoratum</i>	Woodruff
<i>Galium verum</i>	Lady's bedstraw
Saxifragaceae	
<i>Saxifraga aretioides</i>	Yellow saxifrage
<i>Saxifraga granulata</i>	Meadow saxifrage
<i>Saxifraga harriotii</i>	
<i>Saxifraga longifolia</i>	Pyrenean saxifrage
<i>Saxifraga oppositifolia</i>	Purple saxifrage
<i>Saxifraga paniculata</i>	Livelong saxifrage
<i>Saxifraga umbrosa</i>	Wood saxifrage
Scrophulariaceae	
<i>Antirrhinum majus</i>	Snapdragon
<i>Chaenorhinum originifolium</i>	
<i>Cymbalaria muralis</i>	Ivy-leaved toadflax
<i>Erinus alpinus</i>	Fairy foxglove
<i>Linaria supina</i>	Pyrenean toadflax
<i>Pedicularis sp.</i>	A lousewort
<i>Scrophularia canina</i>	Alpine (= French) figwort
<i>Rhinanthus sp</i>	Yellow-rattle
<i>Veronica alpina</i>	Alpine speedwell
<i>Veronica chaeaedrys</i>	Germander speedwell
Thymelaeaceae	
<i>Daphne cneorum</i>	Garland flower
<i>Daphne laureola</i> ssp. <i>philippii</i>	Spurge-laurel
<i>Daphne mezereum</i>	Mezereon
<i>Thymelea tinctoria</i>	
Tiliaceae	
<i>Tilia platyphyllos</i>	Large-leaved lime
Ulmaceae	
<i>Ulmus glabra</i>	Wych elm
Valerianaceae	
<i>Centranthus ruber</i>	Red valerian

<i>Valeriana montana</i>	
<i>Valeriana pyrenaica</i>	
<i>Valerianella locusta</i>	Lamb's lettuce / cornsalad
Violaceae	
<i>Viola cornuta</i>	Horned violet
<i>Viola lutea</i>	Mountain pansy
<i>Viola palustris</i>	Bog violet
<i>Viola pyrenaica</i>	Pyrenean violet
<i>Viola riviniana</i>	Common dog-violet
<i>Viola tricolor</i>	Wild pansy
Monocotyledons	
Dioscoreaceae	
<i>Tamus communis</i>	Black bryony
Juncaceae	
<i>Luzula campestris</i>	Field wood-rush
<i>Luzula sylvatica</i>	Great wood-rush
Liliaceae	
<i>Anthericum liliago</i>	St Bernard's lily
<i>Asphodelus albus</i>	Asphodel
<i>Fritillaria pyrenaica</i>	Pyrenean snakeshead
<i>Hyacinthus amethystinus</i>	Pyrenean hyacinth
<i>Lilium martagon</i>	Martagon lily nif
<i>Narcissus assoanus (=juncifolius)</i>	Rush-leaved narcissus
<i>Narcissus pseudonarcissus bicolor</i>	Daffodil
<i>Ruscus aculeatus</i>	Butcher's-broom
<i>Scilla liliohyacinthus</i>	Pyrenean squill
<i>Scilla verna</i>	Spring squill
Orchidaceae	
<i>Anacamptis pyramidalis</i>	Pyramidal orchid bud
<i>Cephalanthera longifolia</i>	Narrow-leaved helleborine
<i>Dactylorhiza sambucina</i>	Elder-flowered orchid
<i>Listera ovata</i>	Common twayblade nif
<i>Nigritella nigra</i>	Black vanilla orchid
<i>Ophrys insectifera</i>	Fly orchid
<i>Ophrys scolopax</i>	Woodcock orchid
<i>Orchis mascula</i>	Early purple orchid
Poaceae (very incomplete)	
<i>Anthoxanthum odoratum</i>	Sweet vernal grass
<i>Briza media</i>	Quaking-grass
<i>Dactylis glomerata</i>	Cocksfoot
<i>Nardus stricta</i>	Mat-grass
CONIFERS	
<i>Larix decidua</i>	European larch
<i>Pinus nigra</i> ssp. <i>salzmannii</i>	Pyrenean black pine
<i>Juniperus communis</i>	Juniper
<i>Taxus baccata</i>	Yew
FERNS etc	
<i>Asplenium adiantum-nigrum</i>	Black spleenwort
<i>Asplenium ruta-muraria</i>	Wall-rue
<i>Asplenium septentrionale</i>	Forked spleenwort
<i>Asplenium trichomanes</i>	Maidenhair spleenwort
<i>Blechnum spicant</i>	Hard fern
<i>Botrychium lunaria</i>	Moonwort
<i>Ceterach officinarum</i>	Rusty-back fern
<i>Cystopteris fragilis</i>	Brittle bladder fern
<i>Dryopteris affinis</i>	Scaly male fern
<i>Polypodium vulgare</i>	Common polypody
<i>Polystichum lonchitis</i>	Holly fern
<i>Polystichum setiferum</i>	Soft shield-fern
<i>Pteridium aquilinum</i>	Bracken
<i>Equisetum</i> sp.	A horsetail

The thank-you note from LPO below acknowledges our support for the Refuges LPO project (our Dordogne holiday), lesser kestrels (Camargue) and lammergeier (French Pyrenees). It came with a certificate that shows our support for the lammergeier (*gypaète barbu*) means that Honeyguide qualifies as an official sponsor. Our sponsored bird is called Cardabelle – a flower we know from the French Pyrenees and the Cévennes, also called acanthus-leaved carline thistle. She was born in March 2012 as part of the captive-breeding and release scheme for lammergeiers in the Massif Central and was released in the Grands Causses in the Cévennes in June 2012.



AGIR pour la
BIODIVERSITÉ

Rochefort, le 24 juin 2013

Bonjour,

Nous avons bien reçu votre courrier et vous en remercions vivement.

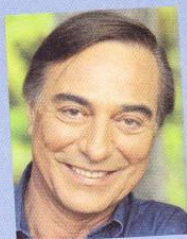
Comme vous l'avez souhaité, nous avons réparti votre don en faveur des Refuges LPO, de la protection du faucon crécerellette et du gypaète barbu.

Nous vous renouvelons nos plus sincères remerciements pour votre participation à la protection des oiseaux et de la nature, et vous prions de croire, en l'expression de nos sentiments les meilleurs.

Béatrice BERTRAND.
Service membres/abonnés/sympathisants.

Siège social national : LPO -Fonderies Royales - BP 90263 - 17305 ROCHEFORT CEDEX
Tél 05 46 82 12 34 - Fax 05 46 83 95 86
www.lpo.fr

La LPO est le représentant officiel de BirdLife International en France



« Je vous remercie
sincèrement pour votre
action en faveur du
gypaète barbu. »

Allain Bougrain Dubourg
Président de la LPO

La LPO remercie vivement HONEYGUIDE
pour son généreux don de 723 €
pour le parrainage de Cardabelle, jeune gypaète barbu
femelle, née le 15 mars 2012 et relâchée dans les Grands
Causses le 13 juin 2012.



Pour avoir de ses nouvelles et retrouver en temps réel sa
localisation : <http://rapaces.lpo.fr/gypaete-grands-causses>

Vous recevrez un reçu fiscal en début d'année 2013 pour les sommes
versées à titre de dons en 2012, et début 2014 pour les sommes
versées en 2013.

Ligue pour la Protection des Oiseaux
Fonderies Royales • CS 90263 • 17305 ROCHEFORT CEDEX
Tél 05 46 82 12 34 • Fax 05 46 83 95 86
www.lpo.fr • lpo@lpo.fr



100 ANS
D'ACTIONS
POUR LA NATURE

Certificat de Parrainage	
 GRANDS CAUSSES	
	Nom CARDABELLE Sexe F Né(e) le 15 mars 2012 au Centre d'élevage de Guadalestín, Espagne
Marquage alaïre Aile droite rémiges secondaires 8 et 9 Aile gauche rémiges secondaires 3 et 4	Bagues Tarse droit rouge Tarse gauche argent et verte
Relâchée le 13 juin 2012 à Meyrueis en Lozère	

More information from the LPO on lammergeiers:
<http://rapaces.lpo.fr/gypaete-grands-causses> and <http://rapaces.lpo.fr/gypaete-barbu>