

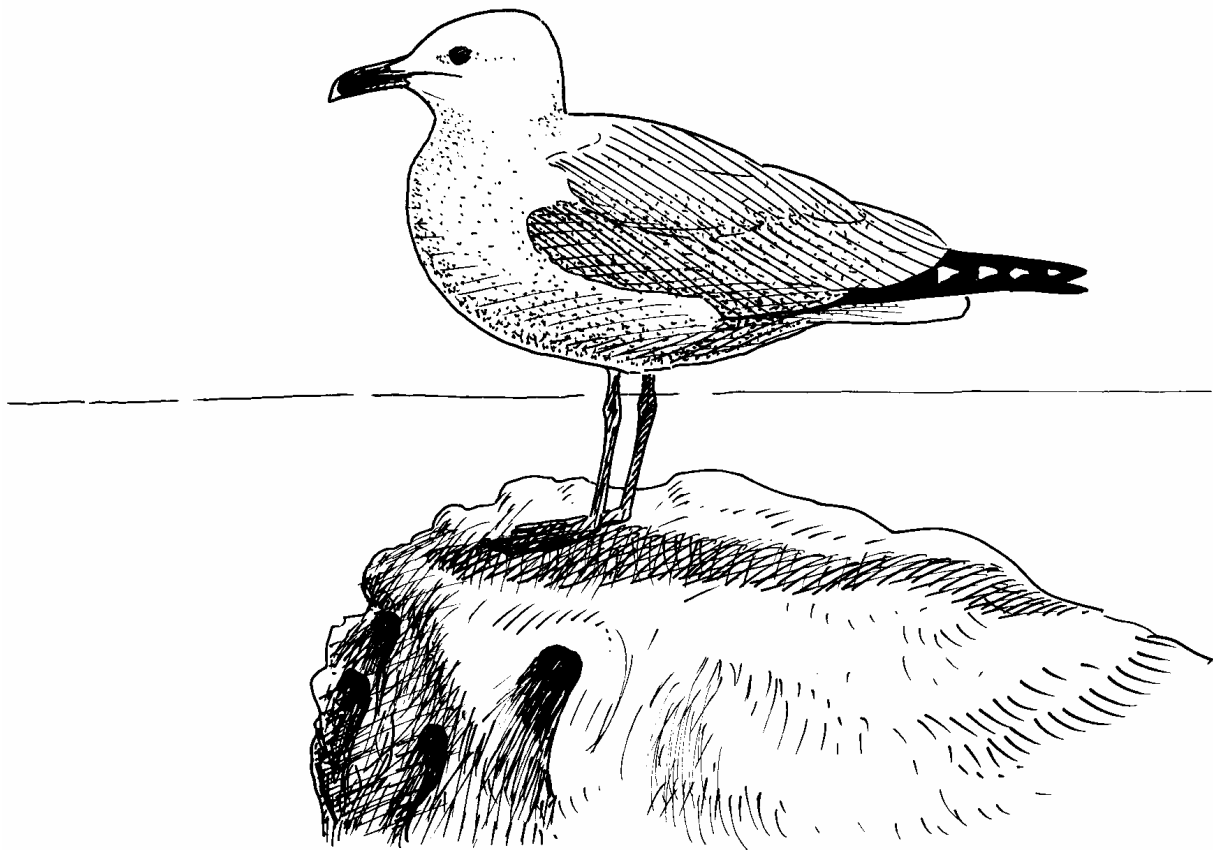
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**Discovering Menorca
4 – 11 April 1998**

Discovering Menorca 4 – 11 April 1998

The group

John and Verna Lennard-Jones

Jean and Ken Wilderspin

Bob and Enid Maxwell

David Ryley

Dorothy Lomax

Jane and Glyn Griffiths

Jennie and Michael Davies

John and Mary Marzillier

Leaders: Graham Hearl
 Chris Gibson

Our hosts at Matchani Gran were Jenny and Shaun Murphy. The group was also joined on 9 April by John Seymour, historian and Menorca resident, and by Santí Catchot from the Balearic Ornithological Group on 10 April.

As always, this holiday contributed to the protection of wildlife enjoyed by the group by way of a donation to GOB. A thank-you letter from GOB appears at the end of this report (though not this web version). This holiday's donation of £350 was made up of the usual contribution of £25 per person. A total of £3,295 has been given to GOB since the first Balearic Honeyguide holiday in 1992, part of more than £14,000 given to conservation projects in Europe since Honeyguide started in 1991.

This report was written by Chris Gibson.

Black-winged stilts by Gary Wright; other illustrations by Rob Hume. Cover: Audouin's gull.

DISCOVERING MENORCA 4 - 11 April 1998

Leaders: Graham Hearl and Chris Gibson

Saturday 4 April: Arrival & local walk

Early morning at Luton Airport, those of us who had stayed overnight met up with the new arrivals, all looking forward to better weather than the rain, cloud and strong winds we were leaving behind. And we were not disappointed - warm sunshine greeted our arrival at Mahon, along with Graham, my co-leader, and Shaun and Jan, two of our hosts from Matchani Gran.

The cases were soon loaded onto the minibuses, and we were off on the short drive to our base for the week. Matchani Gran is a lovely converted Menorquin farmhouse, approached down a long drive, flanked by Aleppo pines, all sculpted by strong northerly winds - the *tramuntana* - which can sweep over the island. First came the introductions all round, including the cats and dogs, then a welcome cold drink at the bar. Shaun made everyone feel at home with his list of house rules: Rule 1 - there are no rules. And that set the tone for a relaxing week, set amid glorious surroundings. Lunch then followed, taken outside as the sun was so warm and already the wildlife we had come to see was making an appearance. There were corn buntings rattling their keys in every direction, Sardinian warblers scratching in the bushes, greenfinches wheezing and goldfinches tinkling in the tree tops. A closer look at the finches showed them to be in sparkling plumage. Maybe it was the light, or perhaps they were bright island forms - or most likely a result of the clean, unpolluted air, a far cry from the grot-encrusted versions we are accustomed to. A peregrine flashed over, a red admiral fluttered by and Italian wall lizards scampered around the walls - all of these without moving from the bar

Nevertheless, we were raring to get off and explore our surroundings. This part of the island, and indeed much of lowland Menorca, is a patchwork of tiny, stony, grazed fields, enveloped by magnificent dry stone walls. Isolated fig trees, their trunks surrounded by local rocks for protection, proved to be perfect song posts, for corn buntings, stonechats and, most dramatically, hoopoes - the epitome of Mediterranean bird life. Hardly had we set out before a thekla lark fluttered over, showing its short tail and greyish underwing: identification marks all present, but not needed here, as there are no crested larks on the island. Also overhead, a red kite drifted past - once abundant on Menorca, these have declined markedly in recent years - and several booted eagles in various colour forms lived up to their reputation as the commonest raptor.

Most of the fields are rather heavily grazed, with the result that the only plants to be found were spiny, poisonous, tiny or otherwise unpalatable: most obvious were the swathes of white asphodel, in places forming a mini-forest. But by the house, Shaun and Jenny had kept the sheep off, a result of seeing the delight of past tour participants, and allowed the botanical splendours to develop unchecked. It was a riot of colour: crown daisy, with bicoloured yellow and white petals; *Galactites tomentosa*, a variegated thistle; lemon-yellow *Urospermum dalechampii*; blue meadow clary and tassel hyacinth; and purple patches of viper's-bugloss. Nestled amongst these were the orchids, mostly sawfly but with a few mirror, pyramidal, yellow bee and tongue for added variety, and a selection of parasitic plants, including branched broomrape, yellow bartsia and *Bellardia trixago*.

Insects were rather few and far between, with just a scattering of common butterflies and silver Y moths flying around; on the ground though we found some extensive ant trails, along which large seeds were being transported in a continuous stream. Presumably the same seeds were the attraction for a flock of twenty or so short-toed larks, one of the few signs of migrant activity, and in similar open areas several tawny pipits gave excellent views. A pair of ravens - the multipurpose Balearic corvid - flew over noisily, while a party of swifts included at least one pallid, and two stone curlews gave a tantalisingly brief view as they flipped over a wall and out of sight.

The afternoon had proved to be an excellent introduction to the staple fare of the next few days, and hot and sunny to boot. So hot in fact that by 7pm it was still warm enough to sit outside and run through the log; that done, it was time for the first of Jenny's gastronomic assaults on our waistlines. More than copiously fed and wined (it was really starting to feel like a holiday by now), the wildlife continued when Jan brought a large green toad to the table, to a mixture of delight and disgust.

Sunday 5 April : Son Bou & Torre d'en Gaumes

A warm, calm night was punctuated for the sleepless by the eerie calls of stone curlews, seemingly from every direction, and the first stirrings of nightingale serenades. That familiar feature of Mediterranean nightlife, the 'piu...piu...' of a scops owl made a brief appearance in the nocturnal soundscape, surprisingly for the only time of the whole week. At the agreed time of 7am for a pre-breakfast walk, we soon realised it was still too dark to watch birds - moths were still active around the external lights, running the gauntlet of the ever-attentive Moorish geckoes. As dawn broke, the calls of quail and hoopoe gradually replaced the stone curlews, and few common birds such as blackcap and song thrush found themselves on our holiday list.

After breakfast, it was cooler and cloudy as we headed out in the minibuses to Son Bou. The town itself is a typical recent, purpose-built holiday development, all high-rise hotels and sparkling villas, new roads penetrating ever deeper into the surrounding scrubland. And, as we drove through, even on a Sunday, deserted. Thankfully, the town was not our destination - we were headed for the large area of marshland, fronted by extensive sand dunes, to the west.

Around the car park, tree mallow and giant fennel were in statuesque flower, amongst bold splashes of colour in the form of red French honeysuckle (also known as Italian sainfoin, to my mind a more appropriately descriptive name) and Bermuda buttercup, another odd name, given that it's not a buttercup, nor does it come from Bermuda! Its yellow flowers cannot even be said to be buttercup yellow; personally, I find it a most unwelcome visual intrusion with its screaming yellow, or am I just biased, having seen elsewhere what a pest it can become? Much more welcome was tangible evidence in the form of a noticeboard, of a new conservation scheme for the area, spearheaded by GOB.

As we arrived, four little egrets flew in, and a marsh harrier drifted across the reeds, while on the little pool, a few coots and (dubiously wild) mallards fed without concern, unlike the more respectably wild flock of garganey at the back, trying to merge into the vegetation. A scan seawards produced several rather distant Cory's shearwaters, with shags passing closer in; on a rocky islet, six shags at rest gave the opportunity to see the more cormorant-like appearance of the Mediterranean race *desmarestii*, and one of the Balearic bird specialities, a pair of Audouin's gulls.

The distinctive plants of the dunes were mostly silvery, hairy or otherwise adapted to withstand drought. Bold splashes of yellow *Lotus creticus* and sea medick were the accompaniment to more familiar British plants like sea holly and marram grass, alongside large patches of sand daffodil leaves; the latter is one of the few plants in these parts to flower in mid-summer, when the intensely fragrant, white trumpets emerge. In places, the dunes had become colonised by thickets of Phoenician juniper and *Pistachia lentiscus*, often with a few sprigs of butcher's-broom poking through; such dense growth was clearly ideal for Sardinian warblers, often heard but rarely to be seen.

While there was not a lot of obvious animal life, clearly there had been, in the cool of the night. Lizard, rabbit and gull tracks in the sand were soon obliterated by our own. A few butterflies on the wing included speckled wood, in a brighter form than we are used to back home, painted lady, clouded yellow and common blue. In one area of more stable sand, we found a small loose colony of tawny mining bees, the adults sunning themselves on hotspots in the sand, or hovering around the nest holes.

As the water level in the marsh was unusually high, we followed a winding course along the interface between dune and marsh, just the sort of habitat for dramatic clumps of the lethally spine-tipped sharp rush. Along the way, newly-emerged damselflies, all blue-tailed, were drying themselves in the strengthening sun. We came to a disused and derelict building, typically inhabited by a scampering Moorish gecko, in a prime position overlooking the vast marsh, where 'scopes were trained on a lovely flowering patch of yellow flag irises. By now it was lunchtime, but the necessary sustenance was back in the vans. So we trekked back along the dunes and beach, to the shade of the pines, where we enjoyed our substantial sandwiches, each prepared to our individual orders. As we ate, a whimbrel called on its way overhead, but remained unseen by all.

A very short drive after lunch brought us to the back of the marsh, and a pleasant walk along a farm track - sadly not as far as we had hoped, to the gorge, as the way was blocked by a locked gate and a 'Private' sign. Graham's excellent little book was out-of-date already! Views over the crowfoot-covered pools revealed two black-winged stilts and small groups of ruff, and booted eagles and kestrels were overhead continually. Two isolated fig trees played host to two ever-watchful woodchat shrikes, splendid males of the migrant race *senator* rather than the Balearic breeding race *badius*. They were on the lookout for reptiles and large insects, just as we were: an Italian wall lizard posed on the top of a fence post for all to see to advantage from a distance of a couple of metres probably hasn't got a huge life expectancy in those surroundings. Several Egyptian locusts presented every conceivable view of these dramatic insects - in flight, through the scope and in the hand, when the vertically-striped eyes were most obvious. Every flower seemingly had its own black-spotted-with-white flower chafer *Oxythyrea funesta*, and the resplendent metallic blue male Mediterranean demoiselles fluttered around the stream. On various plants and stone walls, we started to find numerous paper wasp nests, mostly from last year, but just a few with adult wasps in attendance. Interesting things turn up in the most surprising places: Graham pointed out a sign post bearing the egg mass of a praying mantis, a hardened structure from the mousse-like secretions of the female.

One of the last sightings of the return journey was the best - a fan-tailed warbler, at rest in the open. We'd heard them 'zit...zitting' away, and seen the bouncing dots in flights, but this one dropped down on a wire fence just 20 metres from us, and obligingly perched for a few seconds before plunging back into cover.

Heading back to Matchani Gran, after an already full day, we called in briefly to one of Menorca's many archaeological sites, Torre d'en Gaumes. This one has most of the island's special features, including a *talaiot* (a rocky mound) and a *taula* (a T-shaped standing stone arrangement). Something for those with a historical bent to explore, though sadly the botany was far from fruitful: only a few bushes of periwinkle and *Prasium majus* had survived the herbicidal onslaught. A hole in the roof of a cave appeared to have been used by a pretty large, agile, ground-dwelling beast, and our best guess was a pine marten. Fine, if somewhat brief, views of a male blue rock thrush brought a fitting end to the day's events. Or almost the end: the ordeal by food was still to come, followed by a blind wine tasting, at which it has to be said the leaders performed miserably (though not for want of trying!).

Monday 6 April : Tirant & Cap Cavalleria

It dawned clear and crisp, but only a hardy few made it out before breakfast to hear a quail, and watch a woodchat shrike and several hoopoes.

First stop after breakfast was the *depuradora* at Es Mercadal, a veritable oasis of standing water, which should have been a magnet to migrant birds, if there had been any to speak of on the island, and if the grassy banks were not in the process of being strimmed. So in the event, just one common sandpiper was all we could muster.

The natural wetland at Tirant was altogether more productive, with numerous birds in and around the crowfoot-clad pools. Several garganey rested unobtrusively amongst the grassy tussocks, and four black-tailed godwits poked around with a ruff. Lots of little ringed plovers were scampering around the drying mud, giving such close views that even their pale eye-ring was clear to see. Two marsh harriers were hunting the marsh, and a red kite passed over lazily.

We continued on to Cala Tirant, where the warm slopes were draped in *Cistus* - white flowered *salvifolius* and *monspeliensis*, and pink *creticus*, a very local plant on Menorca. Back at the pools to the east of the Cala road, a squacco heron was feeding amongst the club-rush, and, no doubt attracted by the flies, a migrant group of blue-headed wagtails and four winter-hangover starlings were amongst a flock of sheep. Earlier, we had seen a falconer taking his peregrine for a walk - now, we saw it in action, as it stooped on and eventually killed a pigeon, which he produced from his pocket.

The Cap de Cavalleria was our next destination, the northernmost peninsula of the island, and one of those extreme, wind- and spray-swept areas which seem to attract endemic plants. The 'vegetable hedgehogs' (*socarrells*) made up the bulk of the vegetation, especially out towards the lighthouse - including at least three species, all Balearic endemics but none yet in flower. Other dwarf endemics, *Lotus tetraphyllus*, *Senecio rodriguezii* and *Romulea assumptionis*, were however in flower, if rather unobtrusively, under the protective mantle of the hedgehogs. The effect of extreme climate was especially apparent here: back at Matchani Gran, the asphodels were going over, whereas here the flower spikes were only just beginning to elongate.

A sprinkling of Audouin's gulls and shags on the rocks were the only birds out at sea as we lunched, but a gentle walk through the coastal scrub afterwards produced a stone curlew, flushed on several occasions, a couple of red-legged partridges and a swallowtail butterfly. As we returned to the vans, we noticed a well and water-filled trough, which in this arid landscape was proving a focus for bird activity. As we watched, linnets and tawny pipits came to drink, and a male blue rock thrush put on an incredible show; an Egyptian vulture swept past, and we were so engrossed with the birds, that we almost trod on, for me, the most dramatic plant of the week *Dracunculus muscivorus* (a dragon arum) in full flower. The bumpy track eventually brought us, *via* much better views of an Egyptian vulture, to the end of the island - the lighthouse - where again the sea was very quiet, but there were another two (non-flowering) endemic plants - *Limonium minutum* and *Digitalis dubia*. Clearly, we could have done to come here a month or so later - further support to my theory that holidays are simply too short.

We had a little time to spare, as the birds were not performing too well today, so we decided to call in to Monte Toro to get an overview of where we'd been and where we were going. The 'mountain', capped with the typical Mediterranean associates of monastery and telecommunications jungle, is just 358m high, visible from most of the island, and *vice versa*; the clear conditions meant we could also see north-eastern Mallorca well. But the temperature was dropping rapidly; before long we were escaping from it, and relaxing over a welcome cuppa in the tea rooms.

Tuesday 7 April : Mahon & Es Grau

A strong southerly wind, threatening rain, blew up overnight, and a promise of some migrant action. Which apart from a single female pied flycatcher didn't arrive. It seemed odd at the time, but a retrospective glance at the weather charts showed why - the low pressure system that was dumping so much rain on Britain extended right down to us; our southerlies were Britain's northerlies come around the depression, without even impinging on North Africa.

Market day in Mahon: retail therapy followed by a long coffee break for some, a dash for culture in the museum for others. On the way home, we called in at the ceramic centre on the outskirts of town, before returning to Matchani Gran for lunch. Just as the last time we were there in the midday heat, a Hermann's

tortoise was showing around the Wild Woods.

Our afternoon trip took us to s'Albufera Es Grau, the only official nature reserve on Menorca. A large brackish lagoon is the result of the blocking of a drowned river valley by coastal sand dunes, such that only an occasional storm channel connects the sea with the lagoon. Some years ago its future was far from assured, as the holiday development Shangri-la started to appear on the surrounding hills: fortunately, as a result of conservation pressure, that has been stopped, and the area will be allowed to revert to its more natural state.

The marshes at the eastern end of the lagoon clearly show the influence of salt water - the salt marsh vegetation is almost identical to that round British shores. Succulent glasswort (or marsh samphire), silvery sea-purslane, and golden samphire, its crushed leaves with an aroma of shoe polish - just three typical salt marsh plants, each with their own way of tolerating a life surrounded by saline water. Several cormorants, lingerers from winter, were loafing around the pools and little egrets feeding in the shallows.

The surroundings were largely clad in Aleppo pine, with bold orange/lime splashes of tree spurge to brighten up the picture, and lots of *Cistus monspeliensis* intermingled with large patches of joint-pine. Between the shrubs, the stony ground was rather bare, apart from a few legumes, like the evil-smelling pitch trefoil, and yellow centaury, weasel's-snout and sawfly orchid.

Soon we were plunged deep into a jungle of *Ampelodesmus mauritanicus*, a giant tussock-forming grass which is such a feature of many Balearic hillsides. Plenty of insects were taking advantage of the dense growth, including the fearsome-looking (but docile?) carpenter bee, but few plants were able to cope with the competition: just a few spindly tree heaths and holm oaks were forcing their way through.

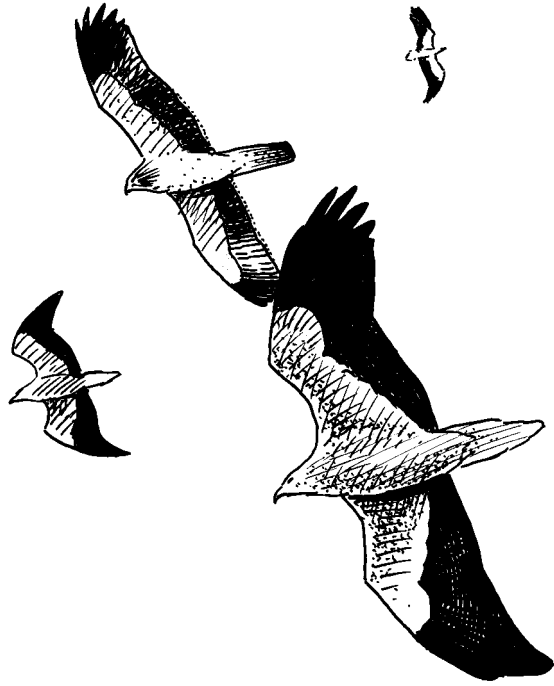
And then we emerged into a series of small open pastures, each a different world. One was a simmering carpet of tassel hyacinth, the next yellow with *Lotus cytisoides*, then pink with *Convolvulus althaeoides* and Italian sainfoin. Plenty of orchids, too - mirror, yellow bee, sawfly, tongue and pyramidal, the latter predominantly of a pale pink to pure white form. Some discussion ensued as to whether it was a genetic trait, or environmentally induced: several other species seemed to be rather oddly coloured, suggesting perhaps there was something unusual in the soil. Those bare patches did look rather odd, reminiscent of serpentine, a rock full of heavy metals which are known to affect plant development (as well as acting as a strong selective influence for genetic differentiation, so the argument is by no means resolved...)

Moving onto the dunes, the skeletal forest of dead holm oaks, presumably killed by saline intrusion, looked especially stark with their branches festooned with beard lichens. Patches of scrambling *Clematis recta* were soon confirmed as such, even without flowers, by the lingering, fiercely peppery taste of its leaves. A flurry of black and white caught our attention, and immediately suggested collared flycatcher - alas, no, but still very interesting, a cracking male of one of the eastern forms of stonechat, showing a big white collar, and obvious pale rump. Certainly very distinctive, and no wonder that the taxonomists have their sights set on the stonechat as showing potential for 'splits'.

The beach itself was hardly visible when we reached it - it was covered in a natural mulch of decaying *Posidonia* leaves, rhizomes and sea balls, the matted, rounded fibrous lumps meshed together through incessant agitation under wave action. To us, the beach was an invertebrate paradise, with all sorts of creatures feeding or hiding in or on the natural litter. But to the holidaymaker, it is pollution, almost as undesirable as a beach covered in oil; hence the bulldozed piles amid glittering sand further down towards the hotels.

On the way back, we made a short unscheduled stop, on a bend half way up the steep hill to Mahon. The reason - a splendid flowering spike of *Verbascum creticum*, a mullein with yellow petals contrasting sharply with the fuzzy purple anther bases. Equally striking was the male cleopatra drifting around. And

on the approach road to Matchani Gran, another even more brief stop, to look at Arabian star-of-Bethlehem just bursting into flower - hopefully another day or two of sun should see them out. Another reason for hoping for warm weather was that Mary's 'flu had got much worse; sadly, it was to stay with her for the rest of the holiday, but at least no-one else succumbed.



Egyptian vultures with a pale phase booted eagle

Wednesday 8 April: Montgofre Nou, Cap de Favaritx, Fornells, Tirant and Sa Roca

But the weather wasn't playing fair. Overnight it rained, and it was still tipping down at dawn. Hopes for a few migrants, but again very little, with just a couple of green sandpipers flying north in a group of hirundines and swifts. And it continued all morning: the only people who seemed happy with the situation were the snail-hunters (gastronomic conchologists?).

A long bumpy approach track took us through a dramatic, eroded sandstone gorge with outcrops standing proud like natural sculptures, to the gate at Montgofre Nou, where we were met and let in by Oscar from GOB. The mudflats of the inlet and salt pans held numerous black-winged stilts and little ringed plovers, several Kentish plovers and common sandpipers, and single wood sandpiper and redshank. The skies overhead were teeming with all three common hirundines, more every minute as new parties tumbled in out of leaden, dripping skies, but still, despite the obvious signs of migration, nothing out of the ordinary. There were a few new plants - Spanish broom, two species of *Dorycnium* and the hedgehog endemic *Astragalus balearicus* in flower - but our appreciation of them was rather diminished by the rain trickling down our necks.

Similar conditions held for our next visit, to the rocky headland of Cap de Favaritx; here, somehow, the weather suited the stark, skeletal landscape of slaty rocks. To all intents and purposes, it was a natural slag-heap, softened only by the creeping menace of Hottentot fig. If only the conditions had been conducive to exploration, I feel sure we would have found lots of botanical interest, but a cursory glance simply showed more *Astragalus balearicus*. A distant spectacled warbler flitted through the murk, and a shallow rock pool by the lighthouse road held a number of hungry migrant waders, including five black-

winged stilts, common sandpiper and Kentish plover, feeding a few metres away oblivious to our presence.

A drive across to Fornells for a coffee stop brought us into clearer weather; as we arrived an osprey circled high over the bay - not too surprising as they nest on the cliffs hereabouts. The cape provided a suitable lunch stop, with a few new seaside plants for good measure, including yellow horned-poppo and sea-heath.

Another look at Tirant seemed like a good idea, given the obvious hirundine passage, but the only new arrival was a party of seven cattle egrets, feeding appropriately within a herd of cows. Otherwise, we resorted to watching the local domestic turkey in full display, to anything from chickens to cats and sheep, in what was a fair approximation of a great bustard's inside-out performance.

With a little time on our hands, and no obvious site to head for, we then decided a bit of exploration was in order. The wooded hills to the south beckoned, and we ended up around Sa Roca, amongst holm oak and Aleppo pine forest, over an understorey of tree-heath and strawberry-tree. Draped from the pines, the nests of pine processionary moth caterpillars were obvious, as they so often are in Mediterranean pine forests, and at our feet, the liberal sprinkling of pine marten droppings seemed to indicate a healthy population in these parts. We struck out down a forest track; just like any British forest trail, there were rather few birds, with just singing Cetti's warbler, great tit, firecrest and chaffinch of note. So too was the flora sparse, but the emerging purple spikes of violet bird's-nest orchids certainly added a dramatic touch. Back in the buses, we continued down from the Puig de sa Roca, on roads of an ever-diminishing scale, until eventually we made it to the Camino de'n Kane, our grand tour of the 'unofficial Menorca', and with an excellent male marsh harrier for good measure.

A power cut at Matchani Gran meant no showers, and an early meeting: the bird log revealed this to be the best day of the holiday for birds - it just goes to show that bad weather means good birds. This being Shaun and Jenny's night off, we sought sustenance in Es Castell, at the Bar España. Before eating, we found time to squeeze in a bit more botany by looking at the street trees, including Indian bead-tree, false acacia, various palms, and one enormous rubber plant, and spectacular views across the harbour. The only drawback (another British influence, perhaps?) was the assault course of dog mess, a trap for anyone with eyes elsewhere other than firmly set groundward.

Thursday 9 April: Algendar Gorge, Naveta d'es Tudons, Cala Morell and Ciutadella

The pre-breakfast walkers were greeted with much more nightingale song; not only had there been a number of new arrivals, but these seemed to be stirring the rest into a melodic frenzy. A single tree pipit was, however, the only other evidence of new migrants arriving.

Our longest drive of the week (even this less than an hour, such is the compact nature of Menorca) took us to the Algendar Gorge, a deep limestone *barranco* incised into the countryside inland of Cala Galdana, one of the more popular tourist resorts on the island. A male pied flycatcher at the entrance to the gorge gave wonderful views, and hinted at the sort of thing we might have been looking at, had the weather been more favourable. The first large raptors were coming into view, mostly booted eagles and Egyptian vultures, but also rather surprisingly an osprey giving a much better performance than at its more expected locality yesterday.

The rocky gorge walls provided an ideal habitat for blue rock thrushes; their fluty songs came from several directions, but given the echoing off the rocks, it was difficult to judge how many there were. As we walked up the bottom of the gorge, conditions became increasingly sheltered and humid, and therefore ideal for insects. Wall, speckled wood, painted lady and wood white butterflies were all seen well. As far as plants were concerned, most spectacular was another spike of *Verbascum creticum*, but more

interesting perhaps was rock samphire on the gorge walls, at least two kilometres inland. Maybe this suggests that the floor of the gorge once formed part of the tidal inlet of Cala Galdana, and the walls were thus sea cliffs which is the usual habitat of the plant.

The path up the gorge took us through wonderful scenery, improving at every turn, and increasingly enhanced with Egyptian vultures, up to six in the air at one time, performing majestic tumbling displays. 'Real' rock doves, as opposed to lookalike feral pigeons, exploded out of caves and clefts, which they shared with more 'back-to-their-roots' refugees from urban life, a thriving colony of house sparrows. An about turn, and relatively quick walk back (it was nearly lunchtime), but the back markers did manage to turn up an Iberian chiffchaff (now treated as a distinct species, but separable only on song), Lang's short-tailed blue and more, even closer, views of the pied flycatcher. Then round the bay for lunch, to the cliff-top viewpoint, a glorious view in lovely weather.

Next, we headed to the Naveta d'es Tudons, a (controversially) restored archaeological site consisting of a two storey building in the shape of an upturned boat. We duly joined the throngs of other visitors, but soon our attention was being drawn away from the stones to the diverse botanical delights of the surrounding grassland, like branched plantain, broad-leaved cudweed and three-leaved toadflax. A distant rumble of thunder would have been of little consequence, except that it came from the direction of our next destination, Cala Morell and Punta d'Escullar. The cliffs here support one of the largest known breeding populations of Cory's shearwater, although of course not around during daylight. The top of the cliffs was ample compensation though, a natural rock garden of limestone pavement eroded into fantastic jagged shapes. Dangerous too, with sharp spikes of rock, atop high cliffs, and a looming thunderstorm just half a mile offshore. We issued the standard warnings, but no one was prepared for the real danger when it arose: Bob fell through a concrete slab into a sewerage channel. His leg was badly gashed, and hospital treatment was advised; eventually, Bob was persuaded that we were intending to visit Ciutadella anyway, so a trip to the hospital would not be a problem - even then, he wouldn't budge until he had shown us the beautiful yellow broomrape *Orobanche clausonis* in full flower.

While the injured party was being dealt with, the remainder had an hour to explore the sights of Ciutadella. Myself, I found a cafe and mulled over the events of the day; naturally Bob's accident was in the forefront of my mind and soon crystallised into a limerick which was delivered during dinner, with an open invitation for others to contribute at our last evening meal, tomorrow. We were joined at dinner by John Seymour, a local historian, who brought vividly to life the often turbulent history, both ancient and modern, of Menorca.

Friday 10 April: Punta Prima & local walks

Further thunder and heavy rain overnight left us with a cool, damp and blustery start to the day, but again no migrant birds to speak of.

Today's destination was Punta Prima, in the south-eastern corner of the island. The drive along the coastal belt provided some exhilarating scenes of crashing waves, but also a sense of unease at the rapid rate of holiday development eating inexorably into the scrubland. At Punta Prima, the sea was a little less fierce, as the Illa de'l Aire offshore afforded some degree of shelter; this low, rocky island with lighthouse is the site of much migrant ringing activity by GOB. The birds, of course, can and do spill over onto Punta Prima, but not today ... all we saw were a tawny pipit, several stonechats, Audouin's gulls inshore, and Cory's shearwaters far offshore, outside the curtilage of the island.

A gentle stroll out to Es Morro d'Alcaufar, the scrub was similar to that we had seen elsewhere, although one noteworthy feature was its rapid transition to dominance by tree spurge. The line of transition also appeared to be marked by a change in the erosion characteristics of the limestone rocks, from smooth and rounded, to sharp and jagged. Presumably, the latter was a harder limestone, which would correlate well

with the abundance of tree spurge, often a calcifugous species.

Although Punta Prima was clearly an extreme habitat, it was not so extreme as Favaritx or Cavalleria, and consequently there were fewer endemics - in fact, just a scattering of *Lotus tetraphyllus*, *Senecio rodriguezii*, *Limonium minutum* and *Launaea cervicornis*. Rose garlic was all over the area, looking for all the world like a sward of thrift, and around the car park was an extensive colony the reddish broomrape *Orobanche sanguinea*. A final surprise as we returned to the buses was a migrating, wind-buffed party of ten black-winged stilts.

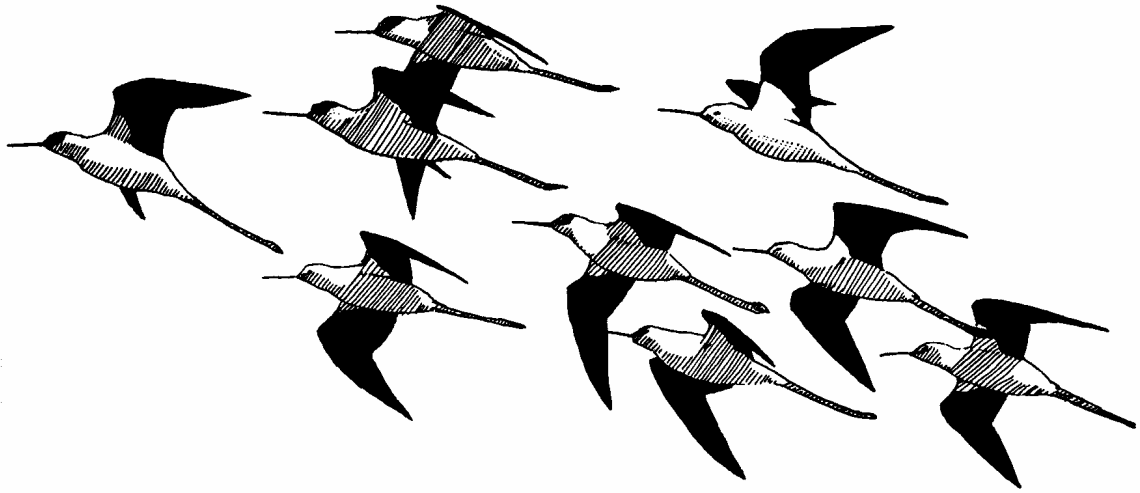
After lunch back at Matchani Gran, the afternoon was spent pottering locally. We explored the Wild Woods, and their amazing jungle of prickly-pear. A tortoise we encountered, based upon its supracaudal plate arrangement should have been spur-thighed, but the tail and scales told otherwise - it was just an abnormal example of the common Hermann's tortoise. Down the lane, a lone woodchat shrike stood guard, while the leaders explained the basics of fieldcraft *if* there had been any birds to look at. But the Arabian stars-of-Bethlehem were a glorious sight, in full flower, and overhead, substantial parties of swifts started to appear. Perhaps migration was beginning to happen, just as our own was looming?

A couple of hours to pack and relax in a sheltered nook, and then it was dinnertime - a final assault on our waistlines. Santi from GOB joined us to tell us about the sterling work they are carrying out, protecting sites (like Es Grau and Son Bou) and threatened species, such as red kite and osprey. In return, we were able to present him with a cheque for £350, our contribution ('serious money' to quote Graham) to their efforts. This brings the total Honeyguide contribution to GOB (Mallorca and Menorca) since 1992 to £3295, a quite remarkable effort. If only all tour companies did the same....!

A flourish of limericks rounded off the evening, before a short time reflecting on the success of the holiday. So the birds were not perhaps as numerous as we had hoped for, due to the vagaries of the weather, but still we recorded a respectable 80 species. All that, and an array of flowers, insects, geology and other natural delights to linger long in the memory, along with the warmth and generosity of our reception at Matchani Gran.

Saturday 11 April: Home

Following more storms overnight, the sun shone down as we packed the vans and headed to the airport for a mid-morning flight. Little did we know, as we headed all-too-swiftly back to the reality of a Britain in the grip of abysmal Easter weather, that it was the last sun most of us would see for a long time.



LISTS

In the lists which follow, the localities are identified by the following codes:

MG - Matchani Gran	MN - Montgofre Nou
SB - Son Bou	CF - Cap de Favaritx
TG - Torre d'en Gaumes	F - Fornells
EM - Es Mercadal Depuradora	SR - Sa Roca
T - Tirant	AG - Algendar Gorge
CC - Cap de Cavalleria	NT - Naveta d'es Tudons
MT - Monte Toro	CM - Cala Morell
EG - s'Albufera Es Grau	PP - Punta Prima

For some of the more widespread species, no attempt has been made to list all the localities. Indeed, in many cases, no localities at all are given as the species was ubiquitous in the right habitats. I have tried to be as comprehensive as possible in the species listings, although some are more complete than others. For example, the plants lists have ignored many species not in flower, together with difficult groups such as grasses. English names are given only where there is one used in the books, or one can justifiably be coined,

LICHENS

<i>Cladonia foliacea</i>	MG SB CC
<i>Usnea</i> sp.	EG

ALGAE

Charophyte sp.	CC
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FERNS & ALLIES

<i>Equisetum telmateia</i>	great horsetail	SB
<i>Pteridium aquilinum</i>	bracken	SR

CONIFERS & ALLIES

<i>Ephedra fragilis</i>	joint-pine	CC EG
<i>Juniperus phoenicea</i>	Phoenician juniper	SB EG PP
<i>Pinus halepensis</i>	Aleppo pine	
<i>P. pinea</i>	stone pine	

FLOWERING PLANTS

Agavaceae

<i>Agave americana</i>	century plant	[planted]
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Aizoaceae

<i>Carpobrotus edulis</i>	Hottentot fig	CF F CM
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Amaryllidaceae

<i>Leucojum aestivum</i>	summer snowflake	AG
<i>Pancratium maritimum</i>	sand daffodil	SB CC EG CF

Anacardiaceae

<i>Pistachia lentiscus</i>	lentisc	
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Apiaceae

<i>Apium nodiflorum</i>	fool's watercress	SB
<i>Crithmum maritimum</i>	rock samphire	F AG PP
<i>Daucus carota</i>	wild carrot	
<i>Eryngium campestre</i>	field eryngo	MG
<i>E. maritimum</i>	sea-holly	SB
<i>Ferula communis</i>	giant fennel	

<i>Foeniculum vulgare</i>	fennel	
<i>Scandix pecten-veneris</i>	shepherd's-needle	MG
<i>Smyrniolum olusatrum</i>	alexanders	
Apocynaceae		
<i>Vinca difformis</i>	pale periwinkle	TG
Araceae		
<i>Arisarum vulgare</i>	friar's-cowl	MG AG
<i>Arum italicum</i>	Italian lords-and-ladies	AG
<i>A. pictum</i>		MG CC
<i>Dracunculus muscivorus</i>	dragon arum	CC
Araliaceae		
<i>Hedera helix</i>	ivy	AG
Asteraceae		
<i>Aetheorhiza bulbosa</i>		SB
<i>Anthemis maritima</i>		F CM
<i>Artemisia caerulescens</i>		F CM
<i>A. gallica</i>		EG
<i>Bellis annua</i>	annual daisy	MG
<i>Calendula arvensis</i>		
<i>Carlina corymbosa</i>		
<i>Carthamus lanatus</i>		
<i>Chrysanthemum coronarium</i>	crown daisy	
<i>C. segetum</i>	corn marigold	MG
<i>Evax pygmaea</i>		MG CC
<i>Filago pyramidata</i>	broad-leaved cudweed	NT
<i>Galactites tomentosa</i>		
<i>Helichrysum stoechas</i>		CM
<i>Hyoseris radiata</i>		
<i>Hypochaeris achyrophorus</i>		
<i>Inula crithmoides</i>	golden-samphire	EG
<i>I. viscosa</i>		
<i>Launaea cervicornis</i>		CC CF CM PP
<i>Pallenis spinosa</i>		MG PP
<i>Phagnalon rupestre</i>		
<i>Reichardia tingitana</i>		
<i>Santolina chamaecyparissus</i>	lavender-cotton	CC
<i>Senecio rodriguezii</i>		CC CF PP
<i>Silybum marianum</i>	milk-thistle	
<i>Sonchus tenerrimus</i>		
<i>Taraxacum officinale</i>	dandelion	
<i>Urospermum dalechampii</i>		
Boraginaceae		
<i>Anchusa azurea</i>	large blue alkanet	SB
<i>Borago officinalis</i>	borage	
<i>Cynoglossum creticum</i>	blue hound's-tongue	MG SB
<i>Echium italicum</i>	pale bugloss	
<i>E. parviflorum</i>	small-flowered bugloss	MG
<i>E. plantagineum</i>	purple viper's-bugloss	MG SB

<i>Lithospermum arvense</i>	corn gromwell	MG
<i>Symphytum tuberosum</i>	tuberous comfrey	AG
Brassicaceae		
<i>Brassica napus</i>	rape	
<i>Cakile maritima</i>	sea-rocket	SB
<i>Capsella bursa-pastoris</i>	shepherd's-purse	
<i>Lobularia maritima</i>	sweet alison	SB
<i>Matthiola incana</i>	hoary stock	[planted? Mahon]
<i>Raphanus raphanistrum</i>	radish	
<i>Rorippa nasturtium-aquaticum</i>	watercress	SB
<i>Sinapis arvensis</i>	charlock	
<i>Sisymbrium officinale</i>	hedge mustard	
Cactaceae		
<i>Opuntia ficus-indica</i>	prickly-pear	MG T
Capparaceae		
<i>Capparis spinosa</i>	spiny caper	MT
Caprifoliaceae		
<i>Lonicera implexa</i>		AG PP
Caryophyllaceae		
<i>Polycarpon alsinifolium</i>		MG
<i>Silene gallica</i>	small-flowered catchfly	CC EG PP
<i>S. vulgaris</i>	bladder campion	
Chenopodiaceae		
<i>Arthrocnemum macrostachyum</i>		EG MN
<i>Atriplex halimus</i>	shrubby orache	PP
<i>A. portulacoides</i>	sea-purslane	EG MN PP
<i>Beta vulgaris</i> ssp. <i>maritima</i>	sea beet	SB
<i>Salicornia ramosissima</i>	glasswort	EG
<i>Sarcocornia perennis</i>	perennial glasswort	EG MN
Cistaceae		
<i>Cistus albidus</i>	grey-leaved cistus	
<i>C. creticus</i>		T
<i>C. monspeliensis</i>	narrow-leaved cistus	EG SR
<i>C. salvifolius</i>	sage-leaved cistus	
Convolvulaceae		
<i>Calystegia sepium</i>	hedge bindweed	SB
<i>C. soldanella</i>	sea bindweed	SB
<i>Convolvulus althaeoides</i>		
Crassulaceae		
<i>Sedum sediforme</i>		CM
<i>Umbilicus rupestris</i>	navelwort	
Cuscutaceae		
<i>Cuscuta epithymum</i>	dodder	CC
Cyperaceae		
<i>Eleocharis palustris</i>	common spike-rush	T
<i>Schoenus nigricans</i>	black bog-rush	CC EG

<i>Scirpus holoschoenus</i>	round-headed club-rush	AG
<i>S. maritimus</i>	sea club-rush	T
Dipsacaceae		
<i>Scabiosa atropurpurea</i>		SB
<i>S. maritima</i>		SB
Ericaceae		
<i>Arbutus unedo</i>	strawberry-tree	SR
<i>Erica arborea</i>	tree-heath	EG SR
Euphorbiaceae		
<i>Euphorbia chamaesyce</i>		MG
<i>E. characias</i>	large Mediterranean spurge	
<i>E. dendroides</i>	tree spurge	EG PP
<i>E. helioscopia</i>	sun spurge	
<i>E. paralias</i>	sea spurge	SB
<i>E. pithyusa</i>		CC
<i>E. terracina</i>		CF F
Fagaceae		
<i>Quercus ilex</i>	holm oak	
Frankeniaceae		
<i>Frankenia hirsuta</i>	hairy sea-heath	CC F
Gentianaceae		
<i>Centaurium erythraea</i>	common century	EG
<i>C. maritimum</i>	yellow century	EG
<i>C. pulchellum</i>	lesser century	EG
Geraniaceae		
<i>Erodium malacoides</i>	mallow-leaved stork's-bill	
<i>E. moschatum</i>	musk stork's-bill	
<i>Geranium columbinum</i>	long-stalked crane's-bill	
<i>G. dissectum</i>	cut-leaved crane's-bill	
<i>G. molle</i>	dove's-foot crane's-bill	
<i>G. purpureum</i>	little-robin	
<i>G. rotundifolium</i>	round-leaved crane's-bill	
Iridaceae		
<i>Gladiolus illyricus</i>	wild gladiolus	MG PP
<i>G. italicus</i>		
<i>Iris pseudacorus</i>	yellow flag	SB
<i>Romulea assumptionis</i>		CC
Juncaceae		
<i>Juncus acutus</i>	sharp rush	MG T EG MN
<i>J. maritimus</i>	sea rush	EG
Lamiaceae		
<i>Mentha suaveolens</i>	apple-scented mint	SB
<i>Micromeria filiformis</i>		CC
<i>Phlomis italica</i>		MT
<i>Prasium majus</i>		MG TG
<i>Rosmarinus officinalis</i>	rosemary	
<i>Salvia verbenaca</i>	meadow clary	

<i>Sideritis romana</i>		MG
<i>Teucrium capitatum</i>		PP
<i>T. subspinosum</i>		CC
Liliaceae		
<i>Allium ampeloprasum</i>	wild leek	PP
<i>A. roseum</i>	rose garlic	
<i>A. triquetrum</i>	three-cornered leek	
<i>Asparagus acutifolius</i>		
<i>A. albus</i>		
<i>A. horridus</i>		
<i>Asphodelus aestivus</i>		
<i>A. fistulosus</i>		
<i>Muscari comosum</i>	tassel hyacinth	
<i>Ornithogalum arabicum</i>	Arabian star-of-Bethlehem	MG
<i>Ruscus aculeatus</i>	butcher's broom	SB
<i>Urginea maritima</i>	sea squill	
Linaceae		
<i>Linum usitatissimum</i>	common flax	AG PP
Malvaceae		
<i>Lavatera cretica</i>	smaller tree-mallow	
<i>Malva neglecta</i>	dwarf mallow	
<i>M. sylvestris</i>	common mallow	
Meliaceae		
<i>Melia azedarach</i>	Indian bead-tree	[planted]
Moraceae		
<i>Ficus carica</i>	fig	
Myoporaceae		
<i>Myoporum laetum</i>		[planted]
Oleaceae		
<i>Phillyrea angustifolia</i>		EG SR
<i>P. latifolia</i>		
<i>P. latifolia</i> var. <i>rodriguezii</i>		CF
<i>Olea europaea</i>	olive	[planted]
Orobanchaceae		
<i>Orobanche clausonis</i>		CC
<i>O. loricata</i>	oxtongue broomrape	CF
<i>O. minor</i>	lesser broomrape	PP
<i>O. ramosa</i>	branched broomrape	MG
<i>O. sanguinea</i>		PP
Orchidaceae		
<i>Anacamptis pyramidalis</i>	pyramidal orchid	MG EG PP
<i>Limodorum abortivum</i>	violet bird's-nest orchid	SR
<i>Ophrys bombyliflora</i>	bumblebee orchid	SB EG
<i>O. fusca</i>	sombre bee-orchid	PP
<i>O. lutea</i>	yellow bee-orchid	MG SB EG
<i>O. speculum</i>	mirror orchid	MG SB
<i>O. tenthredinifera</i>	sawfly orchid	
<i>Serapias parviflora</i>	small-flowered tongue-orchid	

Oxalidaceae

<i>Oxalis corniculata</i>	yellow sorrel	
<i>O. pes-caprae</i>	Bermuda buttercup	

Papaveraceae

<i>Fumaria capreolata</i>	white ramping-fumitory	SB
<i>Glaucium flavum</i>	yellow horned-poppy	F
<i>Papaver hybridum</i>	rough poppy	MG
<i>P. rhoeas</i>	common poppy	

Papilionaceae

<i>Anthyllis hystrix</i>		CC
<i>A. vulneraria</i> ssp. <i>font-querii</i>		CC PP
<i>Astragalus balearicus</i>		CC MN CF
<i>A. boeticus</i>		SB
<i>Calicotome spinosa</i>	spiny broom	
<i>Coronilla juncea</i>		AG
<i>C. scorpioides</i>	annual scorpion-vetch	SB
<i>Dorycnium fulgurans</i>		CC
<i>D. hirsutum</i>		MN
<i>D. pentaphyllum</i>		MN
<i>Hedysarum coronarium</i>	Italian sainfoin	
<i>Lathyrus annua</i>		SB
<i>L. clymenum</i>		EG
<i>L. sphaericus</i>		EG
<i>Lotus creticus</i>		
<i>L. ornithopodioides</i>		SB
<i>L. subbiflorus</i>	hairy bird's-foot-trefoil	EG
<i>L. tetraphyllus</i>		CC CM PP
<i>Medicago littoralis</i>		SB
<i>M. marina</i>	sea medick	SB
<i>M. orbicularis</i>		
<i>M. polymorpha</i>	toothed medick	
<i>Melilotus sulcata</i>		
<i>Ononis reclinata</i>	small restharrow	CC
<i>Ornithopus compressus</i>		EG
<i>Psoralea bituminosa</i>	pitch trefoil	
<i>Robinia pseudoacacia</i>	false acacia	[planted]
<i>Scorpiurus muricatus</i>		
<i>Spartium junceum</i>	Spanish broom	MN
<i>Trifolium campestre</i>	hop trefoil	EG
<i>T. nigrescens</i>		
<i>T. resupinatum</i>	reversed clover	AG
<i>T. stellatum</i>	starry clover	
<i>Vicia benghalensis</i>		SB AG
<i>V. tetrasperma</i>	smooth tare	

Phytolaccaceae

<i>Phytolacca arborea</i>	ombu	MG [planted]
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Plantaginaceae

<i>Plantago afra</i>	branched plantain	NT
<i>P. coronopus</i>	buck's-horn plantain	
<i>P. crassifolia</i>		SB EG
<i>P. lagopus</i>		
<i>P. lanceolata</i>	ribwort plantain	

<i>P. major</i>	great plantain	SB
Plumbaginaceae		
<i>Limonium echiioides</i>		CC
<i>L. minutum</i>		CC CF F CM PP
Poaceae		
<i>Ammophila arenaria</i>	marram grass	SB EG
<i>Ampelodesmus mauritanicus</i>		
<i>Arundo donax</i>	giant reed	AG
<i>Desmazeria marina</i>	sea fern-grass	
<i>Hyparrhenia hirta</i>		
<i>Lagurus ovatus</i>	hare's-foot grass	
<i>Lamarckia aurea</i>	golden dog's-tail	MG
<i>Melica ciliata</i>		EG
<i>Phragmites australis</i>	common reed	SB
<i>Poa annua</i>	annual meadow-grass	
<i>P. bulbosa</i>	bulbous meadow-grass	
<i>Sporobolus pungens</i>		SB
Polygonaceae		
<i>Emex spinosa</i>		SB
<i>Rumex bucephalophorus</i>		
<i>R. conglomeratus</i>	clustered dock	
<i>R. crispus</i>	curled dock	
Posidoniaceae		
<i>Posidonia oceanica</i>		EG
Primulaceae		
<i>Anagallis arvensis</i>	scarlet pimpernel (red and blue varieties)	
<i>A. foemina</i>	blue pimpernel	CC
Ranunculaceae		
<i>Clematis cirrhosa</i>	maiden's-bower	MG
<i>C. flammula</i>		MG SB EG
<i>Ranunculus aquatilis</i>	common water-crowfoot	SB T
<i>R. macrophyllus</i>		T MN
<i>R. muricatus</i>		SB
Resedaceae		
<i>Reseda alba</i>	white mignonette	
Rhamnaceae		
<i>Rhamnus alaternus</i>	Mediterranean buckthorn	EG AG
<i>R. ludovici-salvatorius</i>		EG
Rosaceae		
<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	hawthorn	
<i>Malus sylvestris?</i>	crab apple	AG
<i>Prunus spinosa</i>	blackthorn	
<i>Rosa sempervirens</i>		EM
<i>Rubus ulmifolius</i>	bramble	
<i>Sanguisorba minor</i>	salad burnet	T MN
Rubiaceae		
<i>Crucianella maritima</i>		SB

<i>Galium aparine</i>	cleavers	
<i>Rubia peregrina</i>	wild madder	
<i>Sherardia arvensis</i>	field madder	
<i>Valantia muralis</i>		CC
Rutaceae		
<i>Ruta chalepensis</i>		MG
Salicaceae		
<i>Populus alba</i>	white poplar	AG
Scrophulariaceae		
<i>Bellardia trixago</i>		
<i>Digitalis dubia</i>		CC
<i>Kickxia cirrhosa</i>		EG
<i>Linaria triphylla</i>	three-leaved toadflax	NT
<i>Misopates orontium</i>	weasel's snout	EG NT
<i>Parentucellia latifolia</i>		MG
<i>P. viscosa</i>	yellow bartsia	MG AG
<i>Scrophularia auriculata</i>	water figwort	AG
<i>S. peregrina</i>		MG
<i>Verbascum creticum</i>		AG
<i>V. sinuatum</i>		
<i>Veronica cymbalaria</i>		MG
Smilacaceae		
<i>Smilax aspera</i>		
<i>S. aspera</i> var. <i>balearica</i>		CC
Solanaceae		
<i>Solanum sodomaeum</i>	apple-of-Sodom	
Tamaricaceae		
<i>Tamarix boveana</i>		SB
<i>T. gallica</i>	tamarisk	
Thymelaeaceae		
<i>Thymelaea hirsuta</i>		SB
Typhaceae		
<i>Typha angustifolia</i>	lesser reedmace	SB EM
<i>T. latifolia</i>	greater reedmace	SB
Ulmaceae		
<i>Ulmus minor</i>	small-leaved elm	AG
Urticaceae		
<i>Parietaria judaica</i>	pellitory-of-the-wall	
<i>Urtica membranacea</i>		
<i>U. urens</i>	annual nettle	
Valerianaceae		
<i>Centranthus calcitrapae</i>		SB

BUTTERFLIES

large white		red admiral	MG MT
small white		small tortoiseshell	
wood white	AG	painted lady	SB MT
Bath white	MG	small heath	
clouded yellow	SB	wall	AG
pale clouded yellow	CC	speckled wood	SB EG AG
cleopatra	SB AG	common blue	MG SB
swallowtail	TG CC	Lang's short-tailed blue	AG PP

MOTHS

hummingbird hawk-moth	SB	double-striped pug	MG
silver Y	MG	common carpet	MG
delicate	CC	yellow belle	MG
shuttle-shaped dart	MG	<i>Stigmella aurella</i> [mines]	AG
pine processionary [nests]	SR	<i>Ethmia bipunctella</i>	MG
false mocha	MG	<i>Udea ferrugalis</i>	SB
netted pug	MG	<i>Nomophila noctuella</i>	MG
lime-speck pug	MG	<i>Emmelina monodactyla</i>	MG

OTHER INSECTS

Mediterranean demoiselle	<i>Calopteryx haemorrhoidalis</i>	SB AG
blue-tailed damselfly	<i>Ichnura elegans</i>	SB EG
praying mantis sp	[egg case]	SB
blue-winged grasshopper	<i>Oedipoda coeruleascens</i>	EG
Egyptian locust	<i>Anacridium aegyptium</i>	MG SB T EG
a paper wasp	<i>Polistes gallicus</i>	SB
carpenter bee	<i>Xylocopa violacea</i>	MG EG
tawny mining bee	<i>Andrena fulva</i>	SB
rhinoceros beetle	<i>Copris lunaris</i>	MG
a flower chafer	<i>Oxythyrea funesta</i>	
a ground beetle	<i>Broscus</i> sp	SB
a ground beetle	<i>Carabus nemoralis</i>	MG
7-spot ladybird	<i>Coccinella septempunctata</i>	

AMPHIBIANS

marsh frog	SB T
green toad	MG

REPTILES

Italian wall lizard	
Moorish gecko	MG SB T EG
Hermann's tortoise	MG

MAMMALS

Algerian hedgehog	[dead on roads]
European free-tailed bat	MG
weasel	
pine marten	SR[droppings] TG?[nest]
rabbit	[dead on roads]

BIRDS

Cory's shearwater	SB CF PP	short-toed lark	
cormorant	EG MN	Thekla lark	
shag	SB CC CF CM PP	sand martin	MN
squacco heron	T	swallow	
cattle egret	T	house martin	SB MN
little egret	SB T EG MN	tawny pipit	
grey heron	SB T EG	tree pipit	MG
mallard	SB T MN	meadow pipit	MG T MN
garganey	SB T MN	blue-headed wagtail	T PP
red kite	MG SB T EG AG NT	white wagtail	T MN
Egyptian vulture	SB CC AG	robin	SR AG
marsh harrier	SB T SR	nightingale	
booted eagle		stonechat	
osprey	F AG	northern wheatear	MG SB CC
kestrel		blue rock thrush	TG CC F AG PP
peregrine	MG SB	blackbird	
red-legged partridge	CC MN	song thrush	MG
quail	MG T	Cetti's warbler	
moorhen	SB T EG MN	fan-tailed warbler	
coot	SB T EG MN	grasshopper warbler	SB
black-winged stilt	SB MN CF PP	spectacled warbler	CF
stone curlew	MG CC	Sardinian warbler	
little ringed plover	T MN CF	whitethroat	MG
Kentish plover	MN CF	blackcap	
ruff	SB T MN	chiffchaff	
common snipe	SB	Iberian chiffchaff	AG
black-tailed godwit	T	willow warbler	MG T EG SR
whimbrel	SB	firecrest	SR AG
redshank	MN	pie flycatcher	MG AG
green sandpiper	MG MN	great tit	SR AG
wood sandpiper	MN	woodchat shrike	
common sandpiper	EM EG MN CF	raven	
Audouin's gull	SB CC PP	starling	T
yellow-legged gull		house sparrow	
rock dove	MN AG PP	chaffinch	MG EG SR
woodpigeon		serin	MG
scops owl	MG	greenfinch	
swift		goldfinch	
pallid swift	MG	linnet	
hoopoe		corn bunting	