

# Western Greece: Wildlife & History

## Tuesday 21 April – Wednesday 29 April 2009

**Leader**

Stephanie Coghlan

**Tour Manager**

Gareth Trewartha

**Bus Driver**

George Theofanakis

**Diary N W GREECE TRAVELLING NATURALIST 2009****Tuesday 21st April 2009****Overcast in Athens**

We met the group and went with George our driver to Athens by a guided tour route so we saw some of the sights. We were dropped off at the Melina Mercouri statue and walked on the pedestrianised area to the hotel. We had a set dinner in the hotel restaurant and after a briefing and the issue of Gareth's welcome packs complete with free postcards and stamps, we walked out to see the floodlight Parthenon and the new museum before we retired to sleep and adjust our body clocks.

**Wednesday 22nd April 2009****Sunny intervals**

We awoke at 4.30am to thunder and rain but fortunately as Gareth had been talking to Zeus it had stopped by the time we left at 8.00am after breakfast to do our city walk.

We descended into the Metro at Acropolis station and got off at Syntagma Square and saw the guards doing their display in front of the old palace. We walked through the Botanical garden and past the Zappeion gardens and back to the hotel where we met Matthaus and two trainees and he guided us through the complex of theatres and up to the Parthenon and down to the Agora. We saw Alpine and Common Swifts and plenty of Hoopoes in the Agora and on the walls.

After lunch in Mousses Taverna we drove out of the city stopping to admire the Corinth canal and the Anti Rion Bridge, which was looking fine in sunlight. We drove north passed the Evinos river, Agrinio strawberry fields and around the Amvrakikos Gulf to Arta and arrived at the Byzantino Hotel at 7.15. We had dinner in the hotel and held a checklist and made our plans for the week.

**Thursday 23rd April St Georges Day****Overcast**

We left at 9.15 after an early morning walk and breakfast and went to Strogoli to the Rodia Wetland centre where we visited a Roman Olive press and went out on Rodia lagoon to see the Dalmatian Pelicans. As we went down the canal to the lagoon there were plenty of Kentish Plovers and Black winged Stilts. At the Monastery we saw Rock Nuthatch as well as admiring the church frescoes. Over at the fisherman's hut there were many White winged Black Terns as well as Common and Little Terns perched on every post, which helped identification. We saw Marsh Harrier and races of Yellow Wagtails as well. After a lovely lunch we went back to the village and spent the rest of the afternoon exploring St Catherine's Hill finding many flowers and limestone features and many potter wasps building their flats on the stones.

We had dinner at Arta bridge and admired the ancient plane tree as well as hearing about the legends surrounding the bridge. A post dinner walk in the hotel gardens revealed fireflies and Scops Owl was heard. A good day to celebrate, George our driver's name day, which in Greece is regarded as more important than birthdays.

**Friday 24th April 2009****Overcast Light rain**

We had an interesting local walk before breakfast and saw Little Owl and Penduline Tit. We set off at 9.15 and went to the Avleri Spit which was quiet to begin with but as we got further along we found two colonies of Dalmatian Pelicans and Little and Common Terns came by followed by a Caspian Tern. Then at the

sandbars we found a whole range of waders including Curlew Sandpiper and Dunlin, as well as Stone Curlew and Collared Pratincole. We returned to the Salaora harbour where we set up our picnic but light rain began so George put up a rain shelter. It was a very British picnic. We continued on to Korinisia Island and went for a walk. We found several different types of orchid and saw Sardinian warblers. On our return we had a stop at a coffee shop and finished the day with a tour of Arta bridge with many House Martins nesting on the new road bridge. We had time before dinner for a break and to pack for tomorrow. We held the checklist and had dinner in the hotel.

### **Saturday 25th April 2009**

### **Sunny am pm Showers**

We left at 8.45 and went to Petra Marsh where we soon found the Reed and Great Reed Warblers had arrived. A couple of Little Bitterns flew out of the reeds and from then on it was non stop birding with 500 Pygmy Cormorant, 2 Garganey males and Glossy Ibis being the highlights. We had to drag ourselves away to Nikopolis where we saw the stadium and theatre. Around the churches where we saw mosaics there were a selection of migrant pipits and Wheatears. Then we set off to St George's Springs where we had a picnic lunch, but the water levels were very high so we only heard Nightingale and Wren. We continued on to Ioannina where we took the ferry to Nisa and walked around the island seeing lots of grebes with young as well as Ferruginous Ducks and seeing Nightingale, Wood Warbler and a flock of Common Sandpipers. We sheltered in a small cave from a thunderstorm and then made our way back to the jetty. We had hot drinks in a cafe by the lake before heading into the mountains and our new home at Selini Guesthouse, Vitsa where we were given a very warm welcome and we had an excellent home cooked dinner of traditional lamb. We retired to sleep under clear skies.

### **Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> April 2009**

### **Dry overcast, sunny intervals**

The before breakfast walkers listened to Blackcap and Nightingale singing all along the road and had good views of the Nightingale. After breakfast, we drove up to Monodendri and walked out to the monastery at Ag Paraskavi where there are wonderful views of the Vikos Gorge. On our return we had coffee in the town square and the Rock Nuthatch was nesting over us while Red rumped Swallows came down to get nesting material. We explored the local embroidery and weaving workshop nearby and admired the craftsmanship but they were very expensive. Afterwards we went up to Oxia and explored the stone towers and we walked through them to the Oxia meadows where the picnic was set up. We saw several Sombre Tits in the oaks surrounding the picnic area before we went to the Oxia viewpoint. On our return to Vitsa we had a break before we went to visit KatoVitsa square and the church by the steps. We found orchid buds only this year. We held the checklist before another of Maria's excellent dinners.

### **Monday 27th April 2009**

### **Sunny cloudy intervals**

We went out for an early morning walk and heard more Nightingales and Blackcaps and saw Sombre Tit. After breakfast we went on the bridges tour. At Ag Minas we saw Cirl Bunting briefly and found a Yellow bellied toad. There were Crag Martins at Plakiras Bridge and at Kipi where stopped for coffee there were many Red rumped Swallows. We drove up to Megalo Papingo for lunch and had it outside sitting in the garden at Kalliope's with more Red rumped Swallows cruising overhead. Afterwards we walked towards Micro Papingo and saw Butterflies and Subalpine warbler. The Epirot orchid was in flower at the bridge and up at Micro Papingo we visited the WWF information centre and the birdwatched in the village we saw Nuthatch, Syrian Woodpecker. Long tailed Tit and Cirl Bunting and up on the cliffs about 500 Alpine Choughs were coming into roost. Back down at the Voidamatis river there were clouds of Alpine and Common Swifts and House Martins and Dipper and Grey Wagtail on the river. We also found anemones, orchids and Long leaved Helleborine before heading home to pack catch up, on the checklist and eat another delicious meals. There was rain in the night.

### **Tuesday 28th April 2009**

### **Overcast**

We had breakfast and packed the bus and set off down the mountain to Ioannina. The roads were soon dry and the site at Dodoni was busy with archaeologists but we saw several orchids amongst the ruins and heard Cuckoo and Golden Oriole was seen well. We continued on to the Louros river south of Arta and stopped for lunch at a restaurant where the car park was covered in Wisteria flowers. Further south we passed the Amvrakia lakes with Little and Great Egrets and at Nafpaktos we had a brief tour of the Venetian harbour and the statue of Cervantes who was here for the Battle of Lepanto and we had tea. We continued on to Galaxidi and were pleased to see the Lesser Kestrel colony is thriving on the town church. We climbed up to

Delphi through the huge olive grove at Amfissa, passed the Louros aqueduct taking water to Athens and checked in very efficiently at the Hotel Amelia with lovely views down to Itea. We had a buffet dinner followed by a late birthday cake for Lesley and afterwards we held a checklist. Some walked into Delphi for a post dinner stroll.

### Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> April 2009

Sunny

We left the hotel after breakfast and travelled the short distance to the Delphi site, where we found the Sacred Way fairly quiet so we were able to make our way up to the Stadium finding lots of flowers and Blue Rock Thrush, Rock Nuthatch, Cirl Bunting and Black-eared Wheatear. We visited the museum to see the site finds and the famous stature of the Charioteer (Gareth's company name and logo) and also had time for a walk to the Gymnasium and the Tholos before we drove down to have a taverna lunch overlooking a hillside. Afterwards it was downhill to the plain and then on the motorway to the airport at Athens. We arrived in plenty of time so we had a farewell coffee party before the check-in desk opened and then we said our farewells to Gareth and reassembled at the departure gate for a last checklist.

*We had seen over 110??? species of birds, many flowers and had visited many bridges and historic sites from Ancient to Modern Greece. Lovely food as well.*

### Tour to Athens, Western Greece, Amvrakikos Gulf and Epirus, Zagoria Villages. 21<sup>st</sup> April - 29<sup>th</sup> April 2009

*Tour Programme:*

**DAY 1 Tuesday 21st April** Flight to Athens. Overnight Athens

**DAY 2 Wednesday 22nd April** AM. Tour of Athens. Parthenon and Agora. Travel to Arta via Corinth canal, Rion/AntiRion Bridge.

**DAY 3 Thursday 23rd April** Depart for Stroggili. Boat trip from Rodia Wetland Centre. Visits to St Catherine's hill.

**DAY 4 Friday 24<sup>th</sup> April** Visit to Avleri, and Koronisia and Arta bridge.

**DAY 5 Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> April** Depart for Ioannina en route visit Petra reedbeds, Nikopolis. Picnic at St George's Springs, Ioannina town and Lake Pambotis and Nisa island tour. Overnight Vitsa

**DAY 6 Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> April** Visit to Monodendri, Vikos Gorge and upland meadows and Oxia viewpoint. Walk to Vitsa steps.

**DAY 7 Monday 27<sup>th</sup> April** Visit to ancient bridges, Kokkori, Kipi then to Megalo Papingo village, Micro Papingo bridge and village and Voidomatis river valley.

**DAY 8 Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> April** Ioannina, Dodoni, and N Corinth Gulf, Nafpaktos, Galaxidi. Overnight Delphi

**DAY 9 Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> April** AM Tour of Delphi. PM Transfer to Athens airport.

### REPORT: BIRDS

**Mallard** 1-2 seen around Amvrakikos gulf and Lake Pambotis.

**Garganey** 2 males on 25<sup>th</sup> April at Petra Marsh.

**Ferruginous Duck** 2 seen at Petra Marsh and at least six off Nisa island on 25<sup>th</sup>.

**Black-throated Diver** One winter plumage at 24<sup>th</sup> April on Salaora bay.

**Little Grebe** Seen on 25<sup>th</sup> April near Petra marsh and pairs on Lake Pambotis with young on 25<sup>th</sup> April.

**Great Crested Grebe** 12 off Avleri spit, Salaora 24<sup>th</sup> April and several on Lake Pambotis, Ioannina 25<sup>th</sup> April including pairs with young.

**White Stork** 1 seen at nest at Petra on 23rd and 2 flying on 25<sup>th</sup> April.

**Glossy Ibis** Flocks of 50 at Petra marsh 25<sup>th</sup> April.

**Little Bittern** Two seen in the reeds at Petra marsh on 25<sup>th</sup> April.

**Squacco Heron** 50+ on migration, all near Petra Marsh on 25<sup>th</sup> April and several at Lake Pambotis on the same day.

**Grey Heron** Singles seen from 22<sup>nd</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> April.

**Great White Egret** Singles at Avleri Spit on 24<sup>th</sup>, and Petra Marsh and Lake Pambotis on 25<sup>th</sup> April.

**Little Egret** Flocks of 10 –20 on 22<sup>nd</sup>- 28<sup>th</sup> at wetlands.

**Dalmatian Pelican** 10-50 seen at Amvrakikos Gulf nesting at two sites.

**Great Cormorant** 30 on 24<sup>th</sup> on the Tsoukalio lagoon, Amvrakikos and 1 on Lake Pambotis on 25<sup>th</sup> April.

**Pygmy Cormorant** Flock of 500 over the Petra marsh on 25<sup>th</sup>.

**Lesser Kestrel** 6+ on 25<sup>th</sup> April on Ioannina Law courts. 10-15 seen over Galaxidi and perched on the church there on 28<sup>th</sup> April.

**Kestrel** Seen daily, but only singles.

**Short-toed Eagle** One on 26<sup>th</sup> April over Vitsa Steps.

**Marsh Harrier** At least 2 on 23<sup>rd</sup> April around Amvrakikos Gulf seen from marshes and over the Fisherman's Hut.

**Buzzard** Common 2+ recorded on daily from 25<sup>th</sup> April.

**Booted Eagle** Two over Vitsa steps on 26<sup>th</sup> April.

**Moorhen** Singles at Amvrakikos Gulf and Lake Pambotis on 23<sup>rd</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>.

**Coot** Seen at Rodia and at Ioannina on Pambotis Lake with young.

**Eurasian Stone-curlew** 2 on the Avleri spit on 24<sup>th</sup>.

**Collared Pratincole** 2 on the Avleri spit on 24<sup>th</sup> April.

**Black-winged Stilt** 50 on migration and 10+ pairs breeding Amvrakikos Gulf on 23<sup>rd</sup> and 12 pairs breeding at Petra marsh.

**Little Ringed Plover** 4 on Avleri spit on 24<sup>th</sup>.

**Kentish Plover** 12+ at Rodia on 23<sup>rd</sup> April and several at Avleri causeway on 24<sup>th</sup>.

**Spotted Redshank** 50+ at Rodia marshes all in breeding plumage on 23<sup>rd</sup>.

**Common Redshank** 2 at Rodia marshes on 23<sup>rd</sup>.

**Common Sandpiper** Small numbers daily on 23-24<sup>th</sup> April and a flock of 15 at Pambotis lake on 25<sup>th</sup> April.

**Turnstone** 4 at Avleri spit on 24<sup>th</sup> April.

**Sanderling** 1 in winter plumage on Avleri spit on 24<sup>th</sup> April.

**Little Stint** 4 at Avleri spit on 24<sup>th</sup> April.

**Curlew Sandpiper** 1 in summer plumage at Avleri on 24<sup>th</sup> April.

**Dunlin** 25 on Avleri Spit on 24<sup>th</sup> April.

**Yellow-legged Gull** Common except in the mountains.

**Black-headed Gull** 4 on 23<sup>rd</sup> and 50+ on Lake Pambotis on 25<sup>th</sup>.

**Slender billed Gull** 5-6 off Avleri causeway on 24<sup>th</sup> April.

**Common Tern** Several seen on 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> at Amvrakikos Gulf.

**Little Tern** 30+ on posts at the Fishermen's centre on 23<sup>rd</sup> and a few at Avleri spit on 24<sup>th</sup>.

**Caspian Tern** 2 over the lagoons at Avleri spit on 24<sup>th</sup> April.

**White-winged Black Tern** 30+ at Fisherman's centre on 23<sup>rd</sup>.

**(Rock) Feral Pigeon** Common in towns. No true rock dove types in the mountains.

**Collared Dove** Common seen daily.

**Cuckoo** Heard from 23<sup>rd</sup> April at Rodia and from Vitsa, Dodoni and Delphi.

**Scops Owl** heard from 23<sup>rd</sup> April at Hotel Byzantino.

**Little Owl** One on 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> at the school near Hotel Byzantino, near Arta.

**Alpine Swift** Seen over Parthenon on 22<sup>nd</sup>. Recorded on 25<sup>th</sup> with 5+ over Avleri spit and on 27<sup>th</sup> over Papingo.

**Swift** Daily, small numbers in the lowlands. 200 at Voidomatis Bridge on 27<sup>th</sup>.

**Bee-eater** Heard over Petra marshes on 25<sup>th</sup> and over Vitsa on 26<sup>th</sup>.

**Hoopoe** 4+ seen at the Agora on 22<sup>nd</sup> and heard at Delphi on 29<sup>th</sup>.

**Ring-necked Parakeet** One in the Botanical Gardens in Athens on 22<sup>nd</sup> April.

**Syrian Woodpecker** One seen at Micro Papingo on 27<sup>th</sup>.

**Green Woodpecker** One seen at Vitsa on 26<sup>th</sup>.

**Woodchat Shrike** One male on 29<sup>th</sup> at Delphi.

**Golden Oriole** Seen and heard at St Catherine's hill on 23<sup>rd</sup> and 2 males at Dodoni.

**Jay** Common seen daily in the Epirus Mts.

**Magpie** Common seen daily.

**Alpine Chough** 500 coming into roost above Micro Papingo on 28<sup>th</sup>.

**Jackdaw** Seen in St George's Gorge on 22<sup>nd</sup> and on 25<sup>th</sup> at St George's Springs and Nisa island.

**Hooded Crow** Common recorded daily.

**Raven** Seen 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> and 2 seen over Delphi on 29<sup>th</sup>.

**Sombre Tit** Pairs seen near the Oxia meadow picnic site on 26<sup>th</sup> and at Vitsa on 27<sup>th</sup> and at Delphi on 29<sup>th</sup>.

**Great Tit** Common seen almost daily.

**Blue Tit** Seen Athens, in the Epirus mountains and at Delphi.

**Coal Tit** Two at Delphi on 29<sup>th</sup> April.

**Penduline Tit** A male near Hotel Byzantino on 24th.

**Sand Martin** Several on 25<sup>th</sup> at Petra marshes.

**Swallow** Common recorded daily.

**Crag Martin** Seen in the gorges with the Kokkorou and Plakira bridges and over Delphi. Also recorded with the large hirundine flock below Papingo on 27<sup>th</sup>.

**House Martin** Common recorded daily. 100+ nesting on school near Hotel Byzantino

**Red-rumped Swallow** Seen at Petra marshes and at Monodendri and Megalo Papingo .

**Tree Pipit** One seen at Nikopolis on 25<sup>th</sup>.

**Long-tailed Tit** Small flock on Vitsa morning walk on 27<sup>th</sup> April.

**Crested Lark** Seen on 23<sup>rd</sup> at Rodia and at Nikopolis on 25<sup>th</sup>.

**Fan-tailed Warbler** Seen at Avleri causeway on 24th.

**Cetti's Warbler** Heard commonly at Arta, Amvrakikos, and Ioannina, but not in the mountains.

**Great Reed Warbler** Several holding territories at Petra marsh on 25<sup>th</sup> and in the reedbeds on Nisi island on the same day.

**Reed Warbler** Seen in the reedbeds on Nisi island on 25th.

**Chiff-chaff** Heard on 26<sup>th</sup> at Vitsa, Monodendri and at Oxia.

**Wood Warbler** One on 25<sup>th</sup> on Nisa island.

**Blackcap** Common in Epirus Mts.

**Subalpine Warbler** 2 on 27<sup>th</sup> above Megalo Papingo and at Delphi on 29<sup>th</sup> April.

**Sardinian Warbler** Seen and heard on territories 22nd April in Athens, St Catherine's Hill On 23<sup>rd</sup> and Koronisia on 24<sup>th</sup>

**Wren** Heard in the mountains from St George's Springs onwards.

**Nuthatch** Seen at Vitsa and at Micro Papingo.

**Rock Nuthatch** Seen at the Rodia Monastery and at a nest hole in the Oriental Plane tree in the village square at Monodendri and at Delphi archaeological site.

**Blackbird** Common seen almost daily.

**Mistle Thrush** Singing at the picnic site at Oxia meadows on 26<sup>th</sup>.

**Robin** Seen and heard on the walk to the monastery looking over the Vikos Gorge and at Vitsa.

**Nightingale** Heard daily everywhere singing and seen at Vitsa on the early morning walks from 25<sup>th</sup> April.

**Whinchat** A movement seen on 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> April with small numbers on both days.

**Common Redstart** A male seen around Monodendri on 26<sup>th</sup> April.

**Northern Wheatear** Seen on 23<sup>rd</sup> at Rodia Monastery and at 25<sup>th</sup> at Nikopolis.

**Black-eared Wheatear** Pair on walls at Nikopolis on 25<sup>th</sup> and at Delphi.

**Blue Rock Thrush** Seen at Delphi on 29<sup>th</sup> April.

**Spotted Flycatcher** Seen from 23<sup>rd</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup> April at Byzantino Hotel morning walk. and on Nisa island on 25<sup>th</sup>

**Pied Flycatcher** Seen with mixed flock on migration at Nikopolis on 25<sup>th</sup>

**Dipper** Seen at the Voidomatis river on 27<sup>th</sup> April.

**House Sparrow** Common recorded daily in small flocks and nesting in buildings.

**Tree Sparrow** Seen in the garden at Hotel Byzantino.

**Spanish Sparrow** A few seen with House Sparrow flocks

**Yellow Wagtail** Small flocks moving through on 23<sup>rd</sup> April around Amvrakikos Gulf.

**Grey Wagtail** Seen on the Voidomatis river in the mountains.

**White Wagtail** Singles seen on morning walk at Hotel Byzantino, and on 24th at Stongili, and at Vitsa.

**Chaffinch** Recorded in the mountains.

**Greenfinch** Common recorded daily.

**Goldfinch** Common recorded daily.

**Corn Bunting** Seen at Hotel Byzantino and along the Avleri Spit holding territory and on Pedina Plain on 27<sup>th</sup> April.

**Cirl Bunting** Several males near Vitsa. On 27<sup>th</sup> and at Delphi on 29<sup>th</sup>.

**Reed Bunting** One male at Hotel Byzantino on 24<sup>th</sup> April.

## AMPHIBIANS & REPTILES

**Yellow bellied Toad** *Bombina variegata* One in puddle near Ag Minas bridge.

**Marsh Frog** *Rana ridibunda* Common, Amvrakikos marshes.

**Balkan Terrapin** *Mauremys rivulata* Seen on 25<sup>th</sup> at Lake Pambotis.

**Loggerhead Turtle** *Caretta caretta* 1 dead on the Avleri Spit.

**Dalmatian Algyroides** Seen on 23<sup>rd</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> on walls and rocks in Epirus.

**Balkan Green Lizard** *Lacerta trilineata* Seen on 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> mainly juveniles.

**Common Wall Lizard** *Lacerta vivipara* Common in Epirus Mts on 27<sup>th</sup>.

#### BUTTERFLIES

**Swallowtail** *Papilio machaon* Seen on 25<sup>th</sup>

**Scarce Swallowtail** *Iphiolides podalirius* Seen on 23<sup>rd</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>

**Southern Festoon** *Zerynthia polyxena* Seen on 26<sup>th</sup> at Monodendri and on 27<sup>th</sup> at Papingo.

**Small White** *Artogeia rapae* Only seen on 27<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>.

**Large White** *Pieris brassica* Seen on 23<sup>rd</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>.

**Orange Tip** *Anthocharis cardamines* Seen on 23<sup>rd</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup>, and 29<sup>th</sup>.

**Clouded Yellow** *Colias croceus* Seen on 25<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>

**Brimstone** *Gonepteryx rhamni* Seen on 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>.

**Cleopatra** *Gonepterys cleopatra* Seen on 26<sup>th</sup>.

**Red Admiral** *Vanessa atalanta* Seen on 23<sup>rd</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>.

**Painted Lady** *Cynthia cardui* Only seen on 23<sup>rd</sup>.

**Common Blue** *Polyommatus icarus* Seen on 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>

**Peacock** *Inachis io* Caterpillars seen on 23<sup>rd</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>.

**Mediterranean Speckled Wood** *Pararge aegeria aegeria* Seen on 25<sup>th</sup>.

**Wall Brown** *Lasiommata megera* Seen on 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>

#### MOTHS

**Pine processionary moth caterpillars** *Thaumetopoea pityocampa* Seen in tents on pines on 27<sup>th</sup>.

**Yellow shell** *Camptogramma bilineata* Seen on 26<sup>th</sup>.

**Speckled Yellow** *Pseudopanthera macularia* Seen on 27<sup>th</sup>.

#### DRAGONFLIES

**Blue-tailed Damselfly** *Ishnura elegans* Seen on 3<sup>rd</sup> May.

**Beautiful Demoiselle** *Agrion virgo* Seen on 25<sup>th</sup> on Louros river at St George's Springs.

**Broad-bodied Chaser** *Libellula quadrimaculata* Seen on 23<sup>rd</sup>.

#### FLIES

**Bee Fly** *Bombylius major* Seen on 23<sup>rd</sup> and at Delphi on 29<sup>th</sup>.

#### BEEES & WASPS

**Black Potter Bee** *Chalicodoma parietina* Seen at St Catherine's hill.

**Violet Carpenter Bee** *Xylocopa violacea* Common.

**Honey Bee** *Apis mellifera* Common.

#### SCARABS & CHAFERS

**Rose Chafer** *Cetonia aurata* Seen on St Catherine's Hill

**Bee Beetle sp** *Trichius fasciatus* ? Seen on 24<sup>th</sup>.

#### BEEETLES

**Dung Beetle** *Scarabaeus semipunctatus* Seen on 27<sup>th</sup> on bridges tour.

**Giant Ground Beetle** *Caribius coriaceus* Hotel Byzantino gardens.

**Devil's Coach Horse** *Ocypus olens* One on at Delphi.

**7 Spot Ladybird** *Coccinella 7-punctata* Several recorded.

#### FIREFLIES

**Fireflies** *Luciola lusitanica* seen in the gardens at Hotel Byzantino, nr Arta on 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> April.

**MILLEPEDE****Millepede** *Tachypodius niger* Common at St Catherine's Hill**Spotted Snake Millepede** *Blaniulus guttulatus* One at St Catherine's Hill**SNAILS & SLUGS****Roman Snail** *Helix pomatia* Seen several times**Garden Snail** *Helix aspersa* Common.**SPIDERS****Ladybird Spider** *Eresus niger* One at St Catherine's Hill.**FISH****Sea Bream/ Gilt Head** *Sparus auratus* Amvrakikos Gulf served for lunch!**PLANT LIST: NORTH WEST GREECE 2009**

Numbers refer to Grey-Wilson &amp; Blamey "Mediterranean Wild Flowers"

Numbers with G&amp;B refer to "Flowers of Greece &amp; the Balkans" Oleg Polunin.

<b><i>Pinaceae</i></b>	<b>Pine Family</b>	
<i>Pinus halepensis</i>	Aleppo Pine	1
<i>Pinus pinea</i>	Stone Pine	3
<i>Abies cephalonica</i>	Greek Fir	8 host to <i>Viscum album subsp abieti</i>
<b><i>Araucariae</i></b>		
<i>Araucaria heterophylla</i>	Norfolk Island Pine (introduced)	
<b><i>Cupressaceae</i></b>	<b>Cypress Family</b>	
<i>Cupressus sempervirens</i>	Italian Cypress	11
<i>Cupressus sempervirens</i> var. <i>horizontalis</i>		11a
<i>Juniperus oxycedrus</i>	Prickly Juniper	15
<b><i>Ephedraceae</i></b>	<b>Joint Pine Family</b>	
<i>Ephedra fragilis</i>	Joint Pine	20
<b><i>Fagaceae</i></b>	<b>Oak Family</b>	
<i>Castanea sativa</i>	Sweet Chestnut	23
<i>Quercus coccifera</i>	Kermes Oak	24
<i>Quercus aegilops</i>	Valonia Oak	28
<i>Quercus pubescens</i>	Downy Oak	31
<i>Salix pedicellata</i>	Med Willow	35
<i>Ostrya carpinifolia</i>	Hop Hornbeam	37
<i>Ulmus canescens</i>	Mediterranean Elm	38
<i>Celtis australis</i>	Southern Nettle Tree	39
<b><i>Moraceae</i></b>	<b>Mulberry Family</b>	
<i>Morus alba</i>	White Mulberry	41
<i>Ficus carica</i>	Fig	42
<b><i>Urticaceae</i></b>	<b>Nettle Family</b>	
<i>Urtica pilulifera</i>	Roman Nettle	48
<i>Parietaria judaica</i>	Pellitory of the Wall	50
<b><i>Nyctaginaceae</i></b>	<b>Bougainvillea Family</b>	
<i>Bougainvillea glabra</i>	Bougainvillea Purple	110
<i>Bougainvillea spectabilis</i>	Bougainvillea Red	111
<b><i>Phytolaccaceae</i></b>	<b>Pokeweed Family</b>	
<i>Phytolacca dioica</i>	Ombu (introduced)	113

<b><i>Aizoaceae</i></b>	<b>Aizoon Family</b>	
<i>Caprobrotus edulis</i>	Hottentot Fig (introduced)	115
<b><i>Caryophyllaceae</i></b>	<b>Pink Family</b>	
<i>Saponaria calabrica</i>	Calabrian Soapwort	155
<i>Silene vulgaris</i>	Bladder Campion	157
<i>Silene latifolia</i>	White Campion	158
<i>Kohlruschia prolifera</i>	Proliferous Pink	189
<b><i>Nymphaeaceae</i></b>	<b>Waterlily family</b>	
<i>Nymphae alba</i>	White Water lily	196 G&B
<b><i>Ranunculaceae</i></b>	<b>Buttercup Family</b>	
<i>Helleborus cyclophyllus</i>	Circle-leaved Green Hellebore	203
<i>Clematis vitalba</i>	Traveller's Joy	206
<i>Anemone pavonina</i>	Peacock Anemone	212
<i>Nigella arvensis</i>	Love-in-a mist	225
<i>Nigella damascena</i>	Love-in-a mist	231
<i>Ranunculus gracilis</i>	Slender Buttercup	247?
<i>Ranunculus paludosus</i>	Jersey Buttercup	249?
<i>Ranunculus ficaria</i>	Lesser Celandine	252a
<i>Delphinium peregrinum</i>	Violet Larkspur	258
<i>Delphinium staphisagria</i>	Med Delphinium	261
<b><i>Papaveraceae</i></b>	<b>Poppy Family</b>	
<i>Papaver rhoeas</i>	Common Poppy	283
<i>Glaucium flavum</i>	Yellow horned Poppy	293
<b><i>Fumariaceae</i></b>	<b>Fumitory Family</b>	
<i>Fumaria capreolata</i>	Ramping Fumitory	303
<i>Fumaria officinalis</i>	Common Fumitory	306
<b><i>Cruciferae</i></b>	<b>Cress Family</b>	
<i>Isatis tinctoria</i>	Woad	310
<i>Malcolmia maritima</i>	Virginia Stock	316
<i>Arabis verna</i>	Spring Rockcress	322
<i>Aubrieta deltoidea</i>	Aubrieta	324
<i>Matthiola sinuata</i>	Sea Stock	326
<i>Matthiola fruticulosa</i>	Sad Stock	328
<i>Matthiola longpetala</i>	Long petalled Stock	330?
<i>Alyssum saxatile</i>	Yellow Alyssum	333
<i>Alyssum corymbosum</i>	Tall Yellow Alyssum	334
<i>Labularia maritime</i>	Sweet Alison	336
<i>Aethionome saxatile</i>	Burnt Candytuft	340
<i>Sinapis arvensis</i>	Charlock	359
<i>Sinapis alba</i>	White Mustard	360
<i>Eruca vesicaria</i>	Eruca (Rocket)	361
<i>Reseda alba</i>	White Mignonette	375
<i>Umbilicus rupestris</i>	Navelwort	396
<b><i>Platanaceae</i></b>	<b>Plane Tree Family</b>	
<i>Platanus orientalis</i>	Oriental Plane	400
<b><i>Pittosporaceae</i></b>	<b><i>Pittosporum</i> Family</b>	
<i>Pittosporum tobira</i>	Pittosporum	402
<b><i>Saxifragaceae</i></b>	<b>Saxifrage Family</b>	
<i>Saxifraga rotundifolia</i>		403 G&B

*Saxifraga taygetea*

405b G&amp;B

**Rosaceae**

*Rosa pimpinellifolia*  
*Poterium serrucorsum*  
*Crataegus monogyna*  
*Prunus dulcis*  
*Rubus sanctus*  
*Eriobotrya japonica*  
*Cydonia oblonga*

**Rose Family**

Burnet Rose 405  
 Med Salad Burnet 410  
 Hawthorn 420  
 Almond 421  
 Bramble 428  
 Loquat 429  
 Quince

**Leguminosae**

*Cercis siliquastrum*  
*Ceratonia siliqua*  
*Acacia cyanophylla*  
*Spartium junceum*  
*Robinia pseudacacia*  
*Psoralea bituminosa*  
*Vicia sepium*  
*Vicia lutea*  
*Vicia pannonica*  
*Vicia hybrida*  
*Vicia sativa*  
*Lathyrus setifolius*  
*Lathyrus clymenum*  
*Lathyrus aphaca*  
*Lathyrus nissolia*  
*Pisum sativum*  
*Medicago lupulina*  
*Medicago arborea*  
*Medicago orbicularis*  
*Medicago marina*  
*Trifolium subterraneum*  
*Trifolium tomentosum*  
*Trifolium stellatum*  
*Dorycnium hirsutum*  
*Hymenocarpus circinnatus*  
*Coronilla valentina subsp glauca*  
*Wisteria sinensis*

**Pea Family**

Judas Tree 430  
 Carob 431  
 Mimosa/Blue leaved Wattle 439  
 Spanish Broom 481  
 False Acacia 488  
 Pitch Trefoil 508  
 Bush Vetch 524  
 Yellow Vetch 525  
 Hairy Vetch 526  
 Hairy Yellow Vetchling 527  
 Common Vetch 531  
 Red Vetchling 544  
 Fodder Pea 550  
 Yellow Vetchling 553  
 Grass Vetchling 554  
 Wild Pea 555  
 Black Medick 594  
 Tree Medick 598  
 Large Disk Medick 599  
 Sea Medick 605  
 Subterranean Clover 605aG&B  
 Woolly Trefoil 658  
 Star Clover 662  
 Dorycnium 676  
 Disk Trefoil 692  
 Crown Vetch 695  
 Chinese Wisteria 725

**Geraniaceae**

*Geranium macrorrhizum*  
*Geranium molle*  
*Erodium chium*  
*Erodium malicoides*  
*Erodium cicutarium*

**Geranium Family**

*Rock Cranesbill* 647 G&B  
 Dovesfoot Cranesbill 741  
*Erodium chium* 751?  
 Soft or Mallow leaved Storksbill 752  
 Common Storksbill 761

**Euphorbiaceae**

*Euphorbia dendroides*  
*Euphorbia myrsinites*  
*Euphorbia characias subsp. wulfenii*

**Spurge Family**

Tree Euphorbia 792  
 Broad-leaved Glaucous Spurge 801  
 Mediterranean Spurge 819

**Rutaceae**

*Citrus limon*  
*C. sinensis*

**Rue Family**

Lemon Tree 832  
 Orange 836

**Meliaceae**

*Melia azederach*

**Persian Lilac Family**

Indian Bead Tree 843

<b><i>Polygalaceae</i></b>	<b>Milkwort Family</b>	
<i>Polygala nicaeensis</i>	Nicean Milkwort	849
<b><i>Aceraceae</i></b>	<b>Maple Family</b>	
<i>Acer sempervirens</i>	Acer	857
<i>Acer obtusatum</i>	Acer	858
<b><i>Anacardiaceae</i></b>	<b>Pistacio Family</b>	
<i>Pistacia terebinthus</i>	Turpentine Tree (Terebinth)	861
<i>Pistacia lentiscus</i>	Mastic Tree	865
<i>Paliurus spina-Christi</i>	Christ's Thorn	881
<i>Rhamnus alaternus</i>	Med Buckthorn	885
<b><i>Malvaceae</i></b>	<b>Mallow Family</b>	
<i>Malva parviflora</i>	Pale Mallow	897
<i>Malva sylvestris</i>	Common Mallow	898
<b><i>Cistaceae</i></b>	<b>Rockrose Family</b>	
<i>Cistus creticus</i>	Cretan Cistus	962
<i>Cistus salvifolius</i>	Sage-leaved Cistus	965
<i>Helianthemum tumularium</i>	Common Rockrose	996
<b><i>Tamaricaceae</i></b>	<b>Tamarisk Family</b>	
<i>Tamarix tetragyna</i>	Tamarisk	1024
<b><i>Cucurbitaceae</i></b>	<b>Cucumber Family</b>	
<i>Bryonia cretica</i>	Cretan Bryony	1033
<i>Eucalyptus globus</i>	Eucalyptus	1060
<b><i>Punicaceae</i></b>	<b>Pomegranate Family</b>	
<i>Punica granatum</i>	Pomegranate	1064
<b><i>Umbelliferae</i></b>	<b>Carrot Family</b>	
<i>Smyrniium olusatrum</i>	Alexanders	1087
<i>Smyrniium perfoliatum</i>	Perfoliate Alexanders	1088
<i>Bupleurum rotundifolium</i>	Thorow-wax	1116
<i>Malabaila aurea</i>	Golden Malabaila	G&B
<i>Ferula communis</i>	Giant Fennel	1141
<i>Tordylium apulum</i>	Tordylium	1149
<i>Orlaya grandiflora</i>	Orlaya	1166
<b><i>Primulaceae</i></b>	<b>Primrose Family</b>	
<i>Anagallis arvenii</i> var. <i>caerulea</i>	Blue Pimpernel	1198
<i>Jasmine fruticans</i>	Wild Jasmine	1239
<b><i>Oleaceae</i></b>	<b>Olive Family</b>	
<i>Fraxinus ornus</i>	Manna Ash	1245
<i>Phillyrea latifolia</i>	Phillyrea	1247
<i>Olea europaea</i>	Olive	1248
<b><i>Gentianaceae</i></b>	<b>Gentian Family</b>	
<i>Centaurium maritimum</i>	Seaside Centaury	1255
<b><i>Apocynaceae</i></b>	<b>Oleander Family</b>	
<i>Nerium oleander</i>	Oleander	1256
<i>Vinca herbacea</i>	Herbaceous Periwinkle	1264
<i>Cruciata laevipes</i>	Crosswort	1300
<i>Rubia peregrina</i>	Wild Madder	1305

<b><i>Convolvulaceae</i></b>	<b>Bindweed Family</b>	
<i>Convolvulus althaeoides sub tenuissimus</i>	Sea Convolvulus	1331a
<b><i>Boraginaceae</i></b>	<b>Borage Family</b>	
<i>Onosma erecta</i>	Golden Drop	1362
<i>Cerintho major</i>	Honeywort	1367
<i>Alkanna orientalis</i>	Yellow Alkanet	1370
<i>Echium parviflorum</i>	Small-flowered Bugloss	1388
<i>Procopiana cretica</i>	Procopiana	1390
<i>Symphytum ottomanum</i>	Ottoman Comfrey	1394
<i>Borago officinalis</i>	Borage	1395
<i>Cynoglossom creticum</i>	Blue Hound's Tongue	1402
<i>Cynoglossum cherifolium</i>	Med. Houndstongue	1404
<i>Anchusa undulata</i>	Undulate Anchusa	1406
<i>Anchusa azurea</i>	Large Blue Alkanet	1409
<i>Anchusa variegata</i>	Anchusa	1415
<b><i>Labiatae</i></b>	<b>Mint Family</b>	
<i>Ajuga orientalis</i>	Oriental Bugle	1421
<i>Phlomis fruticosa</i>	Jerusalem Sage	1455
<i>Lamium amplexicaule</i>	Henbit Deadnettle	1478
<i>Thymus vulgaris</i>	Common Thyme	1508
<b><i>Solanaceae</i></b>	<b>Potato Family</b>	
<i>Hyoscyamus albus</i>	Henbane	1555
<b><i>Scrophulariaceae</i></b>	<b>Figwort Family</b>	
<i>Nicotiana glauca</i>	Shrub Tobacco	1582
<i>Scrophularia peregrina</i>	Nettle-leaved Figwort	1586
<i>Verbascum sinuatum</i>	Verbascum	1601
<i>Linaria pelisseriana</i>	Jersey Toadflax	1621
<i>Cymbalaria microcalyx</i>	Cymbalaria	1630
<i>Veronica acinifolia</i>	French Speedwell	1642
<i>Veronica hederifolia</i>	Ivy-leaved Speedwell	1645
<i>Veronica cymbalaria</i>	Pale Speedwell	1646
<i>Parentucellia viscosa</i>	Yellow Bartsia	1651
<i>Parentucellia latifolia</i>	Southern Red Bartsia	1652
<b><i>Orobanchaceae</i></b>	<b>Broomrape Family</b>	
<i>Orobanche ramosa</i>	Branched Broomrape	1655
<i>Orobanche crenata</i>	Bean Broomrape	1675
<b><i>Globulariaceae</i></b>	<b>Globularia Family</b>	
<i>Acanthus spinosus</i>	Spiny Acanthus	1692
<b><i>Plantaginaceae</i></b>	<b>Plantain Family</b>	
<i>Plantago lanceolata</i>	Ribwort Plantain	1701
<i>Valeriana asarifolia</i>	Valerian	1721
<i>Centranthus ruber</i>	Red Valerian	1723
<b><i>Campanulaceae</i></b>	<b>Bellflower Family</b>	
<i>Knautia arvensis</i>	Field Scabious	1735
<i>Pteroccephalus perennis</i>	Perennial Pteroccephalus	1742
<i>Campanula patula</i>	Slender Bellflower	1757
<i>Campanula rupestris</i>	Rock Campanula	1765
<i>Legousia speculum-veneris</i>	Large Venus Looking Glass	1778
<b><i>Compositae</i></b>	<b>Daisy Family</b>	

<i>Bellis annual</i>	Annual Daisy	1791
<i>Bellis sylvestris</i>	Daisy	1793
<i>Phagnalon rupestre</i>	Shaving-brush Bush	1831
<i>Anthemis chia</i>	Common Anthemis	1869
<i>Anthemis rigida</i>	Rayless Chamomile	1870
<i>Chrysanthemum coronarium</i>	Crown Daisy	1895
<i>Galactites tomentosa</i>	Galactites	1971
<i>Onopordon illyricum</i>	Illyrian Scotch Thistle	1973
<i>Onopordon bracteatum</i>	Onopordon sp	1976?
<i>Onopordon argolicum</i>	Onopordon sp	1977?
<i>Silybum marianum</i>	Milk Thistle	1982
<i>Tragopogon porrifolius</i>	Salsify/ Med. Goatsbeard	2055
<i>Crepis rubra</i>	Pink Hawksbeard	2070
<b>Posidoniaceae</b>	<b>Posidonia family</b>	
<i>Posidonia oceanica</i>	Posidonia Sea weed	2085
<b>Liliaceae</b>	<b>Lily Family</b>	
<i>Asphodelus aestivus</i>	Common Asphodel	2089
<i>Asphodeline lutea</i>	Yellow Asphodeline	2092
<i>Fritillaria greaca ssp thessala</i>	Greek Fritillary	2154
<i>Ornithogalum umbellatum</i>	Star of Bethlehem	2171
<i>Muscari comosum</i>	Tassel Hyacinth	2201
<i>Muscari neglectum</i>	Common Grape Hyacinth	2206
<i>Smilax aspera</i>	Smilax	2222
<i>Allium neopolitanum</i>	Naples Garlic	2225
<i>Narcissus poeticus</i>	Pheasants Eye	G&B
<i>Gladiolus italicus</i>	Field Gladiolus	2307
<b>Araceae</b>	<b>Arum Family</b>	
<i>Arum italicum</i>	Large Cuckoo Pint	2361
<i>Arum maculatum</i>	Lords and Ladies/Cuckoo Pint	2362
<b>Orchidaceae</b>	<b>Orchid Family</b>	
<i>Cephalanthera longifolia</i>	Narrow-leaved Helleborine	2383
<i>Orchis morio ssp.picta</i>	Med. Green-winged Orchid	2403
<i>Orchis tridentata</i>	Toothed Orchid	2407
<i>Orchis purpurea</i>	Lady Orchid	2412
<i>Orchis quadripunctata</i>	4 Spot Orchid	2419
<i>Ophrys lutea</i>	Yellow Bee Orchid	2423
<i>Ophrys sphegodes</i>	Early Spider Orchid	2428
<i>Ophrys sphegodes ssp helenae</i>	<i>Epirus Orchid</i>	
<i>Ophrys spruneri</i>	Greek Spider Orchid	2429?
<i>Ophrys scolopax</i>	Woodcock Orchid	2436
<i>Serapias parviflora</i>	Small-flowered Tongue O.	2452
<b>Gramineae</b>	<b>Grass Family</b>	
<i>Briza maxima</i>	Large Quaking Grass	2460
<i>Lagurus ovatus</i>	Harestail Grass	2473
<b>Pteridophyta</b>	<b>Ferns</b>	
<i>Adiantum capillus-veneris</i>	Maidenhair Fern	2522

NB: This is not a complete list of plants recorded during our 2004-9 visits.

Stephanie Coghlan May 2009.

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