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Tour Report

France – Spring Birds, Orchids & Prehistory in Wild Dordogne

11-18 May 2019

Hoopoe



Scarce swallowtail



Lady orchid



Chateau de Castelnaud



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Day 1: Arrive Bergerac; travel to Mauzac; short local walk

Saturday 11 May 2019

It was a rather cloudy and breezy afternoon as the Ryanair flight touched down at Bergerac airport, on time, as usual. The temperature was a pleasant 21°C and, before long, the group had passed through security and met outside the arrivals building. After a short walk to the minibus we headed off through the fields towards Mauzac on the banks of the River Dordogne. En route we saw our first black kites and an occasional kestrel. We parked at our accommodation, the Hotel Le Barrage, where Amanda, the hotel manager, greeted us, gave out room keys and helped us with the suitcases. A group member who arrived a day early was also there to meet us. After everyone had settled into their rooms, Amanda provided tea and cakes in the restaurant for our introductory meeting. Corine and I introduced the holiday and plans for the week ahead, whilst Amanda introduced the hotel and time tabling for meals and so on.

Afterwards we had a short circular walk beside the river and canal before dinner. From the hotel it is a short walk over the canal and up to the dam. There were black kites flying and many hirundines about overhead such as swift, house and crag martins and swallow. On the water we noted a mute swan with cygnets, amongst several other birds. Although there was disturbance from EDF work on the dam we still found little and great white egrets, although further away than usual. In the marsh below the dam, Cetti's and melodious warblers and nightingale sang, green frogs called and a white wagtail flitted about. Near the dam we saw maidenhair fern in the lock, with star of Bethlehem, wild leek, white campion, Nottingham catchfly, pyramidal orchid, tassel hyacinth and pale flax further on in the grassy roadsides. By the water's edge grew two exotics: the invasive Japanese knotweed and box-elder tree (a type of American maple), whilst in the water by the lock, Corine pointed out the reddish water fern *Azolla*. She also showed us the 'giant' velvetleaf, another exotic species. Further on by the fields we saw a green woodpecker and heard a curlew. A couple of butterflies briefly showed on flowers in the grass: David pointed out small heath plus small and sooty coppers, whilst field crickets sang. As we made our way back along the canal we found a family of both stonechats and great tits. Some of the group saw a common wall lizard. A song thrush was singing strongly back near the hotel.

Day 2: Trémolat & Paunat

Sunday 12 May 2019

The morning was spent at nearby Trémolat. After the early morning mist in the valley at Mauzac, it was quite sunny when we arrived at the car park for the viewpoint at the Cingle (meander) de Trémolat. We crossed the road to the holm oak and downy oak woodland on a warm sub-Mediterranean hillside, which until the mid-20th century was open rough grazing and marginal farmland. The view allows an appreciation of the limestone landscape with the great River Dordogne cutting through it, creating cliffs and crags and the flat rich farmland in the valley bottom beyond. Beyond the valley to the south we saw the sandy hilltops of the Bessède forest forming an almost plateau-like form. We had good views of black kite, and we heard Bonelli's warbler, woodlark, chiffchaff, firecrest, blackcap and goldfinch in the woodland nearby. Down by the river we saw a great white egret. The highlight, however, was just before we left: a small flock of bee-eaters flew in from the south low above us heading north on migration. Near the viewpoint some of the group saw two roe deer.

Next we moved on a little further east by minibus to another wilder viewpoint, on an old drovers' track by a large wooden cross that looks out across the river. By now the sun was warming things up and butterflies were starting to show. I parked by a little meadow and we explored the scrubby hillside and trackside for an hour or so. There were many adonis and common blues basking with wings open catching the morning sunshine, while others were still sitting in shade with wings closed. A baton blue (looking like a tiny Adonis blue) was a great find. Fritillary butterflies were also showing, notably marsh and Glanville. A few pale Berger's clouded yellows flew past. As we walked back up the track we also noted green hairstreak, speckled wood, brimstone, wall brown, red admiral and a beautiful fresh pearly heath. A speckled yellow moth also fluttered briefly through the grass. With temperatures increasing, the field crickets began to sing and the

ascalaphid *Libelloides coccajus* took to the wing. Violet carpenter bee and European hornet were also noted. A marsh tit sang nearby from dense scrub. We saw some nice flowers including white and common rockroses, curry plant, common ball flower, needle sun-rose and the shrubs: trailing (or French) broom, dogwood and St Lucie cherry. Orchids included a new species for the week: man orchid.

A little later we moved on to the forest at Bosredon near Corine's house. Here we made a short walk along a beautiful woodland track. Cuckoo, turtle dove and Bonelli's warbler were singing. Ascalaphids were active amongst the grasses and we saw more of the same butterflies, but including red-underwing and dingy skippers, small heath, sooty copper and scarce swallowtail. There were many orchids such as burnt, pyramidal, sombre bee, sword-leaved helleborine, violet limodore, green-winged orchid and finally greater butterfly orchid – the latter with flowers still in bud.

For lunch we went to Corine's house which lies just behind the viewpoint at the Cingle de Trémolat amongst limestone grassland, scrub and forest. Here we had our lovely picnic lunch to the sound of cuckoo and golden oriole. Some of the group saw a sparrowhawk. Amongst the many butterflies we found the large black-veined white butterfly and added to our orchid list with fly and bee; there were also more violet limodore, burnt and green-winged orchids to inspect. It is difficult to separate broad-leaved helleborine from Mueller's helleborine, both of which inhabit the forest here. Another interesting plant was shepherd's needle: very rare in UK and named after its long spiky seed capsules. As we left the property to head for the next site we passed some nice woodcock orchids along the lane.

This time we were searching for another orchid, the bird's-nest orchid. It is an almost colourless plant with no chlorophyll and which relies on fungi to sustain it. We went to a tract of hornbeam woodland and before long we were looking at a few flowering shoots of this strange species. Another new orchid species here was twayblade, and on a short walk by the roadside we found the very rare Robert's fern and yellow foxglove (leaves only) on a shady limestone bank. Further down by the stream were black bryony and yellow iris, plus hairy and wart spurges. On a pile of rotting logs, we found a small blue and a small copper.

Moving on to Paunat, we parked on a hill by a redundant sports field, which unfortunately had been recently cut. However, the adjacent limestone grassland with scrub and downy oak woodland is excellent for wildflowers and especially orchids. Here we found lady and military orchids as well as a probable hybrid of the two. We also found fly, pyramidal, sombre bee and woodcock orchid, sword-leaved helleborine and violet limodore. Other plants included the tiny dwarf spurge, annual scorpion vetch and perfumed creeping thyme and wild marjoram (the latter not yet flowering). Bonelli's warbler sang as elsewhere in these limestone woods but would not show itself. Butterflies were good with grizzled skipper as a new species and several red-underwing and dingy skippers, Glanville, marsh and meadow fritillaries, scarce swallowtail, Berger's clouded yellow and wall brown. The rare little white sandwort, *Arenaria controversa*, and its commoner relative thyme-leaved sandwort were common here and we saw other interesting plants such as the (red-flowered) grass pea. A couple of woodlarks flew up from the field and briefly called.

Finally, to complete this day of limestone grassland and scrubby oak forest, we called in at another similar area back towards Trémolat. Here there was again a good range of butterflies and we found an interesting shiny green forester moth (related to the burnets). We also saw unusual plants, including rough yellow cress in the wheel ruts of the track and some tiny grasses: stiff brome, fern grass and elegant hair grass. Unfortunately, the early spider orchids were over but we saw good numbers of tongue and ploughshare orchids, both new for the week.

As we drove back to Lalinde to get some supplies I noticed a hobby over the river by the campsite. So on our return to Mauzac we made a stop and finished the day watching three hobbies fly-catching low over the river in amongst the islands. We found water-crowfoot starting to flower in places, with green frogs cackling nearby. On one island the small tree-nesting cormorant colony was busy nest-building, whilst many mute

swans cruised by on the river. The sunny weather had continued all day and by now it was a pleasant 21°C. It made a wonderful ending to the day.

Day 3: Rouffignac Cave, Les Eyzies, Beune Valley & Limeuil

Monday 13 May 2019

The weather remained sunny and breezy for our drive to Rouffignac Cave near Les Eyzies. As we drove eastwards towards Le Bugue we stopped to watch a hoopoe which flew up off the roadside towards a nearby farm.

We arrived at Rouffignac on time and I went to buy tickets for the group, which left a little time for the group to look around the displays and shop and to soak up the atmosphere of this special place. The visit is an hour long and by small electric train; the cave system is at a constant 13°C throughout the year. One of the group members had done the cave trip in 2017 and so stayed with David outside where we spent our time looking for wildlife locally. Corine and the group had the same young, enthusiastic and very knowledgeable guide with good English and who added greatly to our enjoyment of the visit last year.

The large cave system is comprised of a number of galleries, which make up an ancient underground river system. Travelling down in the train you see the horizontal rock strata with hard red iron-stained flint bands standing out against the softer whiter limestone rock, and several smaller tunnels disappear away to your right and left. Above are occasional vast shallow circular holes which the ancient river had carved out. Short vertical scratch marks on the wall are from cave bear activity which predates the human activity in the cave. After a short while you see the first signs of prehistoric man's activities: engravings. These were of mammoths, for which the cave is particularly noted, though there are also tectiform (roof or arrow-like) shapes of completely unknown meaning. Throughout the cave there are simple abstract designs, either engraved or painted. In one section there is graffiti from the 18th century. Fortunately, these have little affected the prehistoric art. A little further on are the first monochrome paintings drawn with manganese dioxide: firstly woolly rhinoceros but, soon afterwards, mammoths. In one example, two lines of these great beasts face one another. The Cro-Magnon artists made great use of the texture and relief of the rock surface to enhance their art. Next you see ancient hibernating bear pits (which pre-date man's activities in the cave at 18,000 years BP) moulded out of sediment debris. After a kilometre the final chamber is reached. Here visitors leave the train to see a rock ceiling with over 60 paintings of the local fauna created around 14,000 years BP. These were animals that the Cro-Magnon people clearly knew well such as bison, ibex, mammoth, woolly rhinoceros and some beautiful horses. From the quality of the paintings one can see that they were true artists. Beyond this chamber the cave disappears down an inaccessible swallow-hole where a few more prehistoric images have been recorded, including a rare human form. The guides are careful to stress that we can never know why prehistoric people entered the cave to make these paintings and engravings, but if we look carefully we can discover interesting details and so appreciate their knowledge of these animals and their skill as artists.

Whilst the group were in the cave, two of us walked on the paths through the wood nearby. The best bird was a spotted flycatcher which we watched for several minutes; after that it was fairly quiet, although we did hear short-toed treecreeper and golden oriole as well. A few speckled woods flitted in spots of sunlight and a male orange tip flew by. We studied the trees and different leaves, notably of hornbeam and maples.

After the cave visit had finished we drove to Les Eyzies, known in France as the capital of prehistory. We stopped at Grand Roc for our lunch stop at the Laugerie Basse restaurant under the cliffs. After disembarking from the minibus we checked the cliffs for birds. Several crag martins were flying and a raven called and

briefly drifted out from the cliff above us before disappearing again. We walked up the gentle incline to the restaurant terrace and admired the view whilst listening to the goldfinches and greenfinches. After a lovely lunch we made a small circular walk via the entrance to the crystalline cave. Amongst the fir trees we had good views of a firecrest and later a nuthatch flew out to the hole in the cliff where it was nesting. Jackdaws

were quite active with nests in other cliff holes and occasional buzzards and black kites drifted overhead. On the wall grew maidenhair fern, maidenhair spleenwort, hart's tongue fern and pellitory-of-the-wall.

By now it was time to head off to a small tributary stream of the River Vézère called the Beune. We parked up off the road and set off down an old cobbled drovers' road, to reach a nice place with wet meadows and dry limestone slopes with woodlands adjacent. Going down the track some of us saw Duke of Burgundy fritillary, wood white, brimstone, comma and speckled wood. Most impressive, however, was a large longhorn beetle, one of the black *Cerambyx* species standing its ground defiantly in the middle of the track! By the stream we found several species of damselflies: beautiful demoiselle, orange featherleg (and possibly blue), large red, small red and azure. There were also several orchids present on this walk including sword-leaved helleborine, early purple and lizard (leaves only). The most beautiful flower was perhaps the rare water violet, forming a strong colony in the stream backwaters here, but we also found marsh valerian, giant horsetail, kingcup and water crowfoot. Near the stream an agile frog was found basking in the sun. From here we admired a stunning view of the medieval Commarque castle.

For our final stop of the day we drove back down the Beune and then Vézère valleys to the confluence of the River Vézère and the larger River Dordogne, a well known local beauty spot. As we walked along the river bank, I was surprised that there were no house martins flying to their nests under the Vézère Bridge as there had been 10 days ago – a mystery. On the upstream side of the bridge, the pair of crag martins were still nesting happily, however, and we had good views of them through the scope. There were a few swallows and swifts about and a golden oriole sang from the far woods. Then all of a sudden the house martins were back, whizzing about and calling enthusiastically, re-building nests and entering finished nests to get on with their work. It just seemed as if they'd had a break to feed whilst conditions were good, high above the village. As we were scanning the river for black kite, kingfisher and grey wagtail etc. someone saw an animal crossing the Dordogne. It was a beautiful Roebuck with horns and framed by the Dordogne bridge: what a fantastic sight! As it approached the bank it passed another swimming mammal, probably a coypu. Butterflies were quite active by the river and we found swallowtail and small white, plus adonis and common blues. Out on the river, several western demoiselles were flitting about and there were fire bugs and common wall lizards around the car park. And we saw another new plant for the trip: pepperwort.

Day 4: Plateau de Faux

Tuesday 14 May 2019

With the forecast for later in the week looking wet, I decided it would be best to visit the Faux Plateau today to give us the best possible chance of seeing the bird fauna of this special area. We drove westward through Lalande and then south up the Couze Valley before turning right and climbing through the woods of downy oak and up onto the plateau. We continued on towards the first site just beyond Naussannes in a small valley. As we emerged from the minibus, woodlarks were singing and later we saw one nicely through the scope. Further along the track several nightingales and blackcaps were singing but refused to show themselves. Corn buntings and stonechats were kinder to us and several sat up nicely on hedges for us to view easily. Good views of flying green woodpecker and hoopoe were enjoyed by most of the group. A golden oriole sang from a distant wood and, nearer at hand, a melodious warbler and skylark or two added to the chorus. The melodious warbler showed well through the scope. In the fields a quail or two called repeatedly. Kestrel, buzzard and black kite also put in an appearance, but best of all was the black-winged kite which flew and displayed nicely for the group passing by several times. A small white was the only butterfly seen. On the track, as we returned to the minibus, one of the group found an attractive striped beetle – one of the *dorocadion* species. Corine found several sword-leaved helleborines and some interesting old arable weeds: corn buttercup and field gromwell, species which have become rare with modern farming techniques.

We returned to the minibus and headed for the silo near Faux, another good birding spot. En route we stopped to watch a group of three honey buzzards fly over the road and away. At the silo we scanned the fields around the parking area. This produced a variety of interesting birds. Just above us on the electric post and wires we immediately found two rock sparrows which soon flew off. On the fields to the south, a stone curlew sat low amongst the plough lines, while beyond (in the same scope view) a black-winged kite sat in a

small tree. Closer to us we found a pair of smart red-legged partridges with two wheatears nearby. There were more corn buntings, whilst circl buntings sang and called from the wood. We walked through the woodland area towards the farm. Flitting by the scrub on the roadside was a fine southern white admiral. By the pasture on a post we saw a black redstart and later on a crested lark was singing, but it took a while to find it. Soon afterwards we all had good views through the scope as it sang heartily from another fence post. We walked back via the field and woodland edge and the orchids were varied here including violet limodore, sword-leaved helleborine, lady, military, burnt and small spider. Interesting plants here in the limestone grassland were: Pyrenean flax, a small pale mauve flax and yellow-wort with its typical waxed glaucous leaves. We also looked at the two service trees (wild and domestic) and Montpellier maple, particularly concentrating on the leaves to aid identification. Nearer the minibus we saw a turtle dove fly past, and from the road we watched a migrant female marsh harrier quartering the fields to the south. We saw a black-winged kite again and another honey buzzard amongst the commoner birds of prey.

By now it was lunchtime so we drove on to the pretty medieval village of Issigeac. Here we enjoyed a tasty lunch in a beautiful setting with swifts active around the 12th century church. After lunch the group spent a little time sightseeing before our first afternoon stop at the nearby reservoir Lac de la Nette. En route we saw more corn buntings, circl buntings and stonechats on the wires. At the lake, amongst the usual collection of great crested grebes and coots, we found three hobbies hunting and a flock of around ten common sandpipers by the overflow point. Woodlark, nightingale and song thrush sang from the nearby woodland. Butterflies were very good here and we noted both swallowtails, plus Berger's clouded yellow, sooty copper, mazarine, adonis and common blues, southern white admiral, weaver's, knapweed and Glanville fritillaries, wood white, brimstone, meadow brown, small and pearly heaths plus grizzled and dingy skippers. A five-spotted burnet moth and rose chafer were also seen. There were also many ascalaphids hunting over the grass in the bright sunshine as the field crickets sang. Purple gromwell was growing abundantly under the hedge as was bird's-foot trefoil, and meadow clary in the grassland. There were also good colonies of tongue and ploughshare orchid along the causeway and we also saw lady, bee and woodcock orchids.

We moved on to a small limestone hill with the remnants of a former windmill back towards Issigeac, mainly to search for orchids. Here we found greater butterfly, burnt, fly, early spider and woodcock, as well as many pyramidal. A Bonelli's warbler was singing in the wood by the ruined windmill and some of us saw a cuckoo fly past. Two tree pipits were singing on the woodland edge and we saw one well, especially through the scope.

We just had time left to drive back across the plateau and call in on the Couze Valley for a quick walk around the water mills. The mills and stream were beautiful as ever and we saw grey wagtail and spotted flycatcher from the road bridge. There was also a family of blue tits and a clear view of a robin. A common wall lizard was seen amongst a display of old mill machinery parts. From the first bridge we saw a couple of banded demoiselle damselflies amongst the tall spikes of common club rush and a European hornet nearby. On the wall and banks grew a lot of Mexican fleabane (like a long-stalked garden daisy) and more pellitory-of-the-wall. From Couze we took the high road on the south side of the river to enjoy the rural views and those from the bridge at Lalinde, before taking the minor road back to Mauzac. As we pulled in to park at the hotel, a swallowtail flew past.

Day 5: Forêt de la Bessède

Wednesday 15 May 2019

It was another sunny, breezy morning as we drove south-eastwards towards the Bessède forest, which lies on a sandy plateau near the touristic village of Cadouin with its large abbey and monastery. As we drove through the sweet chestnut woods a western whip-snake moved swiftly across the road to avoid us. Further on, as we entered the pine woods, white asphodels lined the roadside to greet us and in places the more discreet sword-leaved helleborine. We started the day walking along a forest track through heathy vegetation, surrounded by pine and deciduous woodland. A cuckoo was singing as we stepped out of the minibus. Small birds were active amongst the gorse but it took a while to get to grips with them. First to show itself well was a whitethroat on top of a small tree and taking short song flights. Several linnets were flying about and, eventually, a male landed on a tree-top looking great through the scope. Meanwhile a green woodpecker flew

over calling, and two turtle doves made a fly past. A pair of stonechats and a melodious warbler also showed well and, finally, the resident Dartford warblers came good and made a brief but exciting cameo performance. Whilst these birds were singing, song thrush and wren occasionally joined in. We had been watching the skies for birds of prey and had seen one of two buzzards and black kites, but finally the call went up: 'hen harrier'! A 'ring-tailed' female rose above the pine plantation not far from us showing its white rump clearly. We were lucky that she settled in a tree thus affording good views through the scope for all. Soon after this a honey buzzard was seen further away making its display flight above the forest. The bird was swooping down then rising up and holding its wings together above the body and vibrating them briefly before repeating this 'swoop and soar' action once more – magnificent. A red admiral flew past and in the trees we saw the nests of pine processionary moth caterpillars. We continued into the wood but, as the birds were fairly quiet here, I left the group with Corine and returned to the minibus to follow the group and pick them up. She found us some interesting plants here including Kerry lily, besom heath, viper's grass and mountain cinquefoil.

From here we continued on the rough track across the forest as far as the main road and turned right to park up by a small pond. Here we saw many recently emerged marsh fritillaries and a fine swallowtail, whilst green frogs called from the pond. We found green-winged and early purple orchids plus a new species for the week: heath-spotted, only found on sandy ground. Other interesting plants included angular and sweet spurge.

Next we continued along a forest track and stopped briefly at another area with ponds. There was a family of long-tailed tits in the bushes by the track. By the ponds we found the common blue damselfly plus a larger dragonfly which flew off, perhaps an early chaser or skimmer.

Soon it was time to head for Molières and our lunch time restaurant stop in the square. We sat outside and enjoyed the ambiance of this pretty small bastide (12th century fortified) town. Swifts were buzzing about here too, a kestrel flew over and both black and common redstarts were singing around the square. After a tasty lunch we took a short walk around the village and had a good view of the common redstart through the scope. We saw wild clary in an orchard meadow and pale corydalis (a fumitory) on a wall.

To start the afternoon, we went to the arboretum (formally a forestry research station) near Cadouin. Soon after we left the minibus we disturbed a couple of woodlarks in the grass. Butterflies were numerous and varied with both swallowtails, black-veined and wood whites, Berger's clouded yellow, brimstone, sooty copper, adonis and common blues, southern white admiral, Glanville, meadow and marsh fritillaries, small heath and dingy skipper. There was also a burnet companion moth and some ascalaphids. Several green tiger beetles accompanied us on our walk, flying up in front of us and settling again 5m further on. Several tongue orchids were also noted here. We found sulphur clover and sessile oak, the latter species rare in Dordogne. We walked along the nature trail with information boards about various tree species including exotics and some of the wildlife. Whilst amongst the trees here, some of us saw short-toed treecreeper and firecrest, both of which were also singing. On the track a dead shrew was probably Millet's shrew, which replaces the UK common shrew on the continent.

With a little time before finishing we decided to search for another orchid species, the monkey orchid, which is quite scarce in Dordogne. One of Corine's friends had given her a tip-off, so we made our way to Millac near to Mauzac to look. It didn't take long to find the orchids as they weren't far from the roadside; monkey is a smart orchid similar and closely related to the lady and military orchids. Here we also saw more bird's-nest orchids along with greater butterfly orchids. Further along the road was a nice colony of man orchids. As we returned to Mauzac we found two more interesting creatures: a southern white admiral and a green shield bug.

After supper some of us made the short trip in the minibus up to David's old house in the hills, not far from the hotel. This was to search for nightjars. As soon as we were out of the minibus and walking through the wood we heard our first nightjar – back towards the vehicle. However, we moved further on to an open area of the hillside normally good for viewing the birds. A second bird began to sing further ahead on the track

and, along with the field crickets and the occasional roebuck barking, it created a magical atmosphere; however, unfortunately the birds were never seen and soon afterwards they went quiet as the temperature cooled down and it became dark. As we walked back through the wood we saw a bird's-nest orchid colony by torchlight.

Day 6: Causse de Daglan

Thursday 16 May 2019

With good weather continuing it was an ideal day for butterflies and wildflowers at the Causse de Daglan, an important wildlife area in the white Jurassic limestone area of south-east Dordogne. As we drove past the meadows and woodlands several of the group saw a roe deer and nearby a rabbit crossing the road. The first stop was a wet meadow on the roadside before Veyrines de Domme. Last year this meadow was purple with orchids in June so we felt it was worth stopping. Initially, it didn't look too hopeful: there was no 'purple haze' in the field. However, on closer inspection both loose-flowered orchid and bog orchid (*Orchis palustris*) were present. A notable bird here was a black woodpecker calling from woodland across the valley.

Next we continued on to a hilltop near Veyrines de Domme and parked up. We discovered some of the interesting plants of this area including common lavender, 'false lavender' *Stachelina dubia*, Mediterranean buckthorn, whitebeam and silverleaf *Argyrolobium zanonii*. Orchids here included lady, burnt, lizard (again with flowers in bud) and fly. Butterflies were becoming active with adonis and common blues, wood white, black-veined white, small and pearly heaths and red-underwing skipper. Woodlark, cuckoo and melodious warbler sang whilst a kestrel flew high above. We also saw a turtle dove and some long-tailed tits. Unfortunately, the serins singing in the fir plantation would not show themselves. We returned to the minibus and dropped down in to the Céou Valley and visited some wet meadows and dry stony hillsides near a quarry. As soon as we were out of the minibus we watched a sparrowhawk 'thermalling' above us in the blue sky. A large dark bird (tail only seen) in a nest amongst the woodland on the hill couldn't be identified. Was it the sparrowhawk nest or some kind of crow? On the trackside bank, we found violet limodore and sword-leaved helleborine growing in the limestone woodland along with the pretty bastard balm. There were more loose-flowered orchids plus twayblade in the main meadow and Corine spent time going through the many mints and related species growing here with some of the group. Around the puddles near the track there were small groups of male adonis blues looking resplendent in the sunshine. There was also a grizzled skipper with them. Other butterflies included orange-tip, wood white, black-veined white, small and pearly heaths plus speckled wood. The top butterfly, however, was the false heath fritillary: similar to the heath fritillary but with darker wings, it's a specialist of wet meadows and generally a more eastern species.

As it was lunchtime we went to Daglan for a picnic by the river. This is a beautiful spot and always produces interesting wildlife sightings. After enjoying our pasta salad picnic we explored the area around the river. There were plenty of swifts about and some of the group saw kingfisher and white and grey wagtails. A raven came down into a nearby garden which was a surprising sighting. Serins were singing from the trees and eventually I got a nice male in the scope for all to enjoy. Soon afterwards we also had good views of a pair of curl buntings. By the riverside, green frogs were calling and again I put the scope on them for more detailed viewing. In an eddy by the bank downstream, common toad tadpoles were plentiful. A southern white admiral was a notable butterfly.

Our first stop after lunch was near St Pompon further to the west – a site that's always very rich in butterflies. We walked up through a cut meadow into the scrubby limestone hills. There was a family of stonechats near the minibus as we started off and peregrine flew over, heading north back towards the Dordogne Valley. Two cuckoos and a Bonelli's warbler sang as we entered the wilder part of the site. Apart from commoner butterfly species already seen today, we found scarce swallowtail, Berger's clouded yellow, small and sooty coppers, Duke of Burgundy, Glanville, knapweed, meadow and marsh fritillaries, wall brown and grizzled skipper. There were two dragonflies as well: an emperor and a probable yellow or western clubtail. Many ascalaphids cruised about above the grass tops in the sunshine. Of the many plants seen woodcock orchid, pitch trefoil and green strawberry were notable. Corine looked at several hairy plant species with some of the group. Under a magnifying glass, these plants look interesting, with hairs of different structure and shape.

We decided to have a change of scenery next and to spend this warm sunny afternoon amongst the chateaux and castles of the Dordogne Valley, one of the most beautiful and visited areas of Dordogne. As we drove through Saint Cybranet, a great spotted woodpecker flew over the road. As we approached the confluence of the Céou and the Dordogne Rivers we passed the village of Castelnaud, with its castle high on the crags amongst the forest looking out northwards towards Beynac, and the latter's castle which was our destination. We stopped in a riverside car park and the group spent half an hour or so exploring the village. There were alpine swifts amongst the common swifts when we arrived and several of the group saw a peregrine and a honey buzzard amongst the jackdaws as they walked through the village streets. There was also a red admiral flying here; the temperature reached a maximum of 22°C.

Day 7: Tuilières dam, Bergerac pastures & Eymet reservoir

Friday 17 May 2019

The day started cloudy and wet with a bad forecast. We decided that the best plan was to go downstream by the river to Tuilières (at the other end of the canal from its start by our hotel in Mauzac) – a distance of about 12.5km. At Tuilières there is another large dam with an interesting fish lift and viewing window, ideally located under cover. Soon we arrived and I dropped the group off with Corine whilst I parked up. After reading the interesting information boards about the migrating fish and the lift, we walked down the stairs to the viewing window. At first we saw nothing but then a common bream swam through, followed by a second. Next we saw a good-sized salmon and near the surface a couple of bleak. A little later a large barbel put in an appearance at the bottom of the channel. We watched for ten or 15 minutes as the fish occasionally reappeared briefly. Only the salmon was a migratory species but it seems that other river fish make use of the lift. We walked back towards the minibus and the rain started to ease off a little. We saw a few sand martins near the colony site amongst the flight of locks as we drove away from the site.

With the weather improving, I felt that it was worth trying the pastures west of Bergerac for farmland birds. En route we stopped briefly to watch a few rooks in the field, a rare species in Dordogne which only started nesting here in 2015. Fifteen minutes later we were parking up by a track through the fields where there was a line of fine old pedunculate oaks. As we walked along the track, various birds sang including melodious warbler, nightingale, zitting cisticola, woodlark, song thrush, cuckoo and golden oriole which showed how rich the area is; however, they were all hidden from view in the poor weather. As we returned to the minibus I caught a glimpse of a woodchat shrike. The bird re-appeared amongst some trees in the adjacent field with a second bird giving great views through the scope. Corine showed us the difference between lesser and greater stitchworts and found us one of the water-dropworts.

As it was nearing lunchtime we drove south from Bergerac to Eymet and had our lunch in another pretty bastide (fortified village). After a fine meal we admired the yellow pond lilies in the river and some of us noted white and grey wagtails, kingfisher, tree sparrows and jackdaws before taking the road down to the large reservoir Lac de l'Escourroux. As we passed a little hamlet we had great views of two hoopoes by the roadside, one with its crest up. At the lake we met one of my birdwatching friends who helped us find a few extra birds. We walked around the smaller lake and, near the hides, viewed the muddy delta area with islands. Here we found greenshank, redshank, common sandpiper, cormorant and moorhen (new for the trip). Walking back, we heard Cetti's and melodious warblers, blackcap, nightingale, golden oriole and turtle dove. The latter kindly settled on a tree in full view and looked great through the scope. In the drizzly weather the only butterfly we saw was a meadow brown but we also saw a common heath moth and a blue-tailed damselfly. There was a fabulous spider nest in the grassy bank with hundreds of tiny babies, probably the garden spider. With flowers we were much more successful. The following orchid species were seen: man, lady, pyramidal, lizard (still not yet in flower!), ploughshare, tongue, bee, woodcock and fly – so not a bad haul. There was also curly pondweed, the delicate fairy flax and around ten different vetches. Green frogs were calling in the marshy area.

On the way home I decided it might be interesting to return via the Faux Plateau area. First we stopped at Eyrenville where we watched a honey buzzard and found the beautiful blue stemless *Carduncellus mitissimus*

which is related to the thistles but looks, perhaps, more like a knapweed. Fennel was also growing in the area. Corine took a small group of people to look for orchids and other wildflowers whilst the rest of us scanned for birds. Quail called occasionally and nearby some of the group saw a pheasant and a green woodpecker. As we drove on towards Issigeac we stopped at Monmarvès to enjoy the lovely pink raft of eastern gladioli along a field edge and there were plenty of greater butterfly orchids flowering nearby. On the wires on the road back across the Faux Plateau we saw corn and cirl buntings plus several stonechats.

Day 8: Leave hotel; Bergerac gabarre boat trip & visit

Saturday 18 May 2019

We had breakfast at the normal time and so were ready to leave soon after 9.30am to travel to Bergerac for the boat trip in a traditional 'gabarre', before the short drive to the airport for the mid-afternoon flight. Amanda gave us our packed lunches and we said our goodbyes and so were ready to depart.

At Bergerac, I parked near the old bridge by the port. There was half an hour or so for the group to go sight-seeing around the port and pretty old quarter of the town, whilst I bought the pre-booked boat tickets. With cool cloudy weather it looked as if we would be the only takers for the first boat trip at 11.15am, but in fact an English lady joined us. We sat together up in the bows for good views.

We had a very entertaining guide who maintained the right balance of facts and fun. First he told us about the history and architecture of the town. Next we circled the little island on the south bank 'Ile de la Pelouse' where we saw Canada geese. As we headed upstream we sailed through a very wooded section of riverbank where many black kites nest; we had excellent views of one nest with an adult kite feeding a couple of small downy young, which our boat's captain kindly showed us twice. Unfortunately, we didn't see a kingfisher but the odd crag martin, common sandpiper and moorhen were about.

After the boat trip we walked back along the riverbank to the minibus. With poor weather we decided not to have a picnic by the river but to drive straight to the airport. After unloading suitcases from the minibus, the group went to the little café for drinks and to eat their packed lunches. Before long it was time for the group to go to check-in. So it was soon time to say our goodbyes after another gentle week of wildlife-watching in the Dordogne. A couple had planned to stay another few days at the hotel in Mauzac and so I drove them back before also saying goodbye to them.

Checklist



	Common Name	Scientific Name	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6	Day 7	Day 8
	BIRDS	AVES	✓							
1	Canada goose	Branta canadensis								✓
2	Greylag goose	Anser anser		✓						
3	Mute swan	Cygnus olor	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
6	Grey partridge	Perdix perdix				✓				
7	Common quail	Coturnix coturnix				✓			✓	
8	Common pheasant	Phasianus colchicus							✓	
9	Great crested grebe	Podiceps cristatus				✓				
10	Grey heron	Ardea cinerea	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	
11	Great egret	Ardea alba	✓	✓						
12	Little egret	Egretta garzetta	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	
13	Great cormorant	Phalacrocorax carbo	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	
14	Black-winged kite	Elanus caeruleus				✓				
15	European honey buzzard	Pernis apivorus				✓	✓	✓	✓	
16	Eurasian sparrowhawk	Accipiter nisus		✓				✓		
17	Western marsh harrier	Circus aeruginosus				✓				
18	Hen harrier	Circus cyaneus					✓			

20	Black kite	Milvus migrans	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
21	Common buzzard	Buteo buteo			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
22	Common moorhen	Gallinula chloropus							✓	
23	Eurasian coot	Fulica atra				✓				
24	Eurasian stone-curlew	Burhinus oedicnemus				✓				
25	Common sandpiper	Actitis hypoleucos				✓			✓	
26	Common redshank	Tringa totanus							✓	
27	Common greenshank	Tringa nebularia							✓	
28	Feral pigeon (Domest.)	Columba livia	✓		✓	✓			✓	
29	Common wood pigeon	Columba palumbus	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
30	European turtle dove	Streptopelia turtur		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	
31	Eurasian collared dove	Streptopelia decaocto	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
32	Common cuckoo	Cuculus canorus		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	
33	Tawny owl	Strix aluco					✓			
35	Alpine swift	Tachymarptis melba					✓			
36	Common swift	Apus apus	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
37	Common kingfisher	Alcedo atthis						✓	✓	
38	European bee-eater	Merops apiaster		✓						
39	Eurasian hoopoe	Upupa epops			✓	✓			✓	
40	Great spotted woodpecker	Dendrocopos major						✓		

41	Black woodpecker	Dryocopus martius						✓		
42	European green woodpecker	Picus viridis	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	
43	Common kestrel	Falco tinnunculus	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓		
44	Eurasian hobby	Falco subbuteo		✓		✓				
45	Peregrine falcon	Falco peregrinus						✓		
46	Woodchat shrike	Lanius senator							✓	
47	Eurasian golden oriole	Oriolus oriolus		✓	✓			✓	✓	
48	Eurasian jay	Garrulus glandarius		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
49	Eurasian magpie	Pica pica	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
50	Western jackdaw	Coloeus monedula			✓			✓	✓	
51	Rook	Corvus frugilegus							✓	
52	Carrion crow	Corvus corone	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
53	Northern raven	Corvus corax			✓			✓		
54	Marsh tit	Poecile palustris		✓						
55	Eurasian blue tit	Cyanistes caeruleus			✓	✓	✓		✓	
56	Great tit	Parus major	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	
57	Woodlark	Lullula arborea		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	
58	Eurasian skylark	Alauda arvensis				✓				
59	Crested lark	Galerida cristata				✓				
60	Sand martin	Riparia riparia						✓	✓	

61	Barn swallow	Hirundo rustica	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
62	Eurasian crag martin	Ptyonoprogne rupestris	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
63	Common house martin	Delichon urbicum	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
64	Cetti's warbler	Cettia cetti	✓							✓	
65	Long-tailed tit	Aegithalos caudatus		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
66	Common chiffchaff	Phylloscopus collybita		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
67	Western Bonelli's warbler	Phylloscopus bonelli		✓	✓	✓		✓			
68	Melodious warbler	Hippolais polyglotta	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
69	Zitting cisticola	Cisticola juncidis	✓							✓	
70	Eurasian blackcap	Sylvia atricapilla	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
71	Common whitethroat	Sylvia communis					✓				
72	Dartford warbler	Sylvia undata					✓				
73	Common firecrest	Regulus ignicapilla			✓		✓	✓			
74	Eurasian wren	Troglodytes troglodytes			✓		✓	✓			
75	Eurasian nuthatch	Sitta europaea			✓						
76	Short-toed treecreeper	Certhia brachydactyla			✓		✓				
77	Common starling	Sturnus vulgaris	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
78	Common blackbird	Turdus merula	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
79	Song thrush	Turdus philomelos	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
80	Mistle thrush	Turdus viscivorus					✓				

81	Spotted flycatcher	Muscicapa striata			✓	✓				
82	European robin	Erithacus rubecula			✓	✓	✓	✓		
83	Common nightingale	Luscinia megarhynchos	✓			✓		✓	✓	
84	Black redstart	Phoenicurus ochruros	✓			✓	✓		✓	
85	Common redstart	Phoenicurus phoenicurus					✓			
86	European stonechat	Saxicola rubicola	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	
87	Northern wheatear	Oenanthe oenanthe				✓				
88	House sparrow	Passer domesticus	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
89	Eurasian tree sparrow	Passer montanus							✓	
90	Rock sparrow	Petronia petronia				✓				
91	Grey wagtail	Motacilla cinerea			✓	✓		✓	✓	
92	White wagtail	Motacilla alba	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
93	Tree pipit	Anthus trivialis				✓				
94	Common chaffinch	Fringilla coelebs	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
95	European greenfinch	Chloris chloris			✓			✓		
96	Common linnet	Linaria cannabina					✓			
97	European goldfinch	Carduelis carduelis		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	
98	European serin	Serinus serinus						✓		
99	Corn bunting	Emberiza calandra				✓			✓	
100	Cirl bunting	Emberiza cirlus	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	

	BUTTERFLIES									
1	Swallowtail	Papilio machaon			✓	✓	✓			
2	Scarce swallowtail	Iphiclides podalirius		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
3	Black-veined white	Aporia crategi		✓			✓	✓		
4	Small white	Artogeia rapae			✓	✓				
5	Orange-tip	Anthocharis cardamines			✓			✓		
6	Berger's clouded yellow	Colias australis		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
7	Brimstone	Gonepteryx rhamni		✓	✓	✓	✓			
8	Wood white	Leptidea sinapis		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
9	Green hairstreak	Callophrys rubi		✓						
10	Small copper	Lycaena phlaeas	✓	✓	✓			✓		
11	Sooty copper	Lycaena tityrus	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓		
12	Small blue	Cupido minimus		✓				✓		
13	Baton blue	Pseudophilotes baton		✓						
14	Brown argus	Aricia agestis					✓			
15	Mazarine blue	Polyommatus semiargus				✓				
16	Adonis blue	Polyommatus bellargus		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
17	Common blue	Polyommatus icarus		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
18	Duke of burgundy	Hamaeris lucina			✓			✓		

19	Southern white admiral	Limenitis reducta				✓	✓	✓		
20	Red admiral	Vanesa atalanta		✓			✓	✓		
21	Comma	Polygonia c-album			✓					
22	Glanville fritillary	Melitaea cinxa		✓		✓	✓	✓		
23	Knapweed fritillary	Melitaea phoebe				✓	✓	✓		
24	False heath fritillary	Melitaea diamina						✓		
25	Meadow fritillary	Melitaea parthenoides		✓			✓	✓		
26	Marsh fritillary	Euphydryas aurinia		✓		✓	✓	✓		
27	Meadow brown	Maniola jurtina				✓			✓	
28	Small heath	Coenonympha pamphilius	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓		
29	Pearly heath	Coenonympha arcania		✓		✓				
30	Speckled wood	Pararge aegeria		✓	✓			✓		
31	Wall brown	Lasiommata megera		✓				✓		
32	Grizzled skipper/southern grizzled skipper	Pyrgus malvae/malvoides		✓		✓		✓		
33	Red-underwing skipper	Spialia sertorius		✓				✓		
34	Dingy skipper	Erynnis tages		✓		✓	✓			
	Damselflies									
1	Beautiful demoiselle	Calopteryx virgo			✓					
2	Western demoiselle	Calopteryx xanthostoma			✓					

3	Banded demoiselle	Calopteryx splendens		✓						
4	Orange featherleg	Platycnemis acutipennis			✓					
5	Small red	Ceriagrion tenellum			✓					
6	Azure (Azure bluet)	Coenagrion puella			✓					
7	Common blue (Common bluet)	Enallagma cyathigerum					✓			
8	Blue-tailed	Ischnura elegans							✓	
	Dragonflies									
1	Emperor	Anax imperator						✓		
	FLORA									
1	-	Euphorbia angulata Jacquin					✓			
2	-	Sorbus aria (L.) Crantz						✓		
3	'Controversial sandwort'	Arenaria controversa Boiss.		✓						
4	Alder buckthorn	Frangula alnus Miller (=Rhamnus frangula)					✓			
5	Ashleaf maple (American box-elder)	Acer negundo L.	✓							
6	Bastard balm	Melittis melissophyllum L.						✓		
7	Besom heath	Erica scoparia subsp. scoparia L.					✓			
8	Bird's foot trefoil	Lotus corniculatus L.							✓	
9	Bithynian vetch	Vicia bithynica (L.)L.				✓				

10	Black bryony	<i>Dioscorea communis</i> (L.) Caddick & Wilkin			✓					
11	Blackthorn	<i>Prunus spinosa</i> L.							✓	
12	Brilliant cinquefoil	<i>Potentilla montana</i> Brotero					✓			
13	Bulbous meadow-grass	<i>Poa bulbosa</i> subsp. <i>bulbosa</i> var. <i>vivipara</i> (Koeler) Arcang.		✓						
14	Burnet saxifrage	<i>Pimpinella saxifraga</i> L.			✓					
15	Bush vetch	<i>Vicia sepium</i> L.		✓						
16	Celery-leaved buttercup	<i>Ranunculus sceleratus</i> L.			✓					
17	Common ball-flower	<i>Globularia bisnagarica</i> L.		✓						
18	Common bracken	<i>Pteridium aquilinum</i> (L.) Kuhn					✓			
19	Common broomrape	<i>Orobanche minor</i> Sm.							✓	
20	Common club-rush	<i>Schoenoplectus lacustris</i> (L.) Palla					✓			
21	Common corn salad	<i>Valerianella locusta</i> (L.) Laterr.				✓				
22	Common cow-wheat	<i>Melampyrum pratense</i> L.					✓			
23	Common dogwood	<i>Cornus sanguinea</i> L.			✓			✓		
24	Common juniper	<i>Juniperus communis</i> L.				✓				
25	Common rock-rose	<i>Helianthemum nummularium</i> (L.) Miller						✓		
26	Common valerian	<i>Valeriana officinalis</i> L.			✓					
27	Common vetch	<i>Vicia angustifolia</i> L. (=V. <i>sativa</i> ssp <i>nigra</i>)		✓						
28	Corky-fruited water dropwort	<i>Oenanthe pimpinelloides</i> L.						✓		
29	Corn buttercup	<i>Ranunculus arvensis</i> L.				✓				

30	Crimson clover	Trifolium incarnatum L.			✓					
31	Curled pondweed	Potamogeton crispus L.							✓	
32	Curry plant	Helichrysum stoechas (L.) Moench		✓						
33	Dog rose	Rosa canina L.					✓			
34	Dropwort	Filipendula vulgaris Moench				✓				
35	Dwarf blue thistle	Carthamus mitissimus L.							✓	
36	Dwarf spurge	Euphorbia exigua L.		✓						
37	Eastern gladiolus	Gladiolus communis L.							✓	
38	Fairy flax	Linum catharticum L.							✓	
39	False lavender	Staehelina dubia L.						✓		
40	False-acacia	Robinia pseudoacacia L.	✓			✓		✓		
41	Fennel	Foeniculum vulgare Miller							✓	
42	Fern-grass	Catapodium rigidum (L.) C.E.Hubb.		✓						
43	Field gladiolus	Gladiolus italicus Miller						✓		
44	Field gromwell	Buglossoides arvensis (L.) I. M.Johnst.				✓				
45	Field scabious	Knautia arvensis (L.) Coult.	✓							
46	Grass pea	Lathyrus sphaericus Retz		✓						
47	Great horsetail	Equisetum telmateia Ehrl.			✓					
48	Greater stitchwort	Stellaria holostea L.							✓	
49	Green strawberry	Fragaria viridis Weston						✓		

50	Green-field speedwell	Veronica agrestis L.				✓				
51	Hairy spurge	Euphorbia illirica Lam. (= E.villosa		✓						
52	Hairy tare	Vicia hirsuta (L.) S. F. Gray							✓	
53	Hart's tongue fern	Asplenium scolopendrium L.			✓					
54	Hedge bedstraw	Galium mollugo L. subsp. mollugo			✓		✓			
55	Holm oak	Quercus ilex L.		✓						
56	Ivy-leaved toadflax	Cymbalaria muralis P. Gaertner, B. Mey & Scherb.	✓							
57	Kerry lily	Simethis mattiazzii (Vand.) G.López & Jarvis					✓			
58	Lesser spearwort	Ranunculus flammula L.					✓			
59	Lesser stitchwort	Stellaria graminea L.							✓	
60	Limestone fern	Gymnocarpium robertianum (Hoffm.) Newman		✓						
61	Mahaleb cherry	Prunus mahaleb L.			✓					
62	Maidenhair fern	Adiantum capillus-veneris L.	✓							
63	Maidenhair spleenwort	Asplenium trichomanes subsp. quadrivalens D. E. Mey	✓							
64	Marsh marygold	Caltha palustris L.			✓					
65	Marsh valerian	Valeriana dioica L.			✓					
66	Meadow clary	Salvia pratensis L.	✓							
67	Meadow vetchling	Lathyrus pratensis L.							✓	
68	Mediterranean buckthorn	Rhamnus alaternus subsp. alaternus L.						✓		
69	Mexican fleabane	Erigeron karvinskianus DC.			✓				✓	

70	Milk thistle	<i>Silybum marianum</i> (L.) Gaertn.							✓	
71	Mistletoe	<i>Viscum album</i> L.							✓	
72	Montpellier maple	<i>Acer monspessulanum</i> L.			✓					
73	Oxeye daisy	<i>Leucanthemum vulgare</i> Lam.	✓							
74	Pale corydalis	<i>Pseudofumaria alba</i> (Mill.) Lidén					✓			
75	Pale flax	<i>Linum usitatissimum</i> subsp. <i>angustifolium</i> (Huds.) Thell. (= <i>Linum bienne</i>)			✓					
76	Pale stonecrop	<i>Sedum sediforme</i> (Jacq.)Pau						✓		
77	Pedunculate oak	<i>Quercus robur</i> L.					✓			
78	Pellitory-of-the-wall	<i>Parietaria judaica</i> L.			✓					
79	Pepper saxifrage	<i>Silaum silaus</i> (L.) Schinz & Thell.						✓		
80	Pitch trefoil	<i>Bituminaria bituminosa</i> (L.) C.H.Stirt.						✓		
81	Purple gromwell	<i>Buglossoides purpureocaerulea</i> (L.) I. M. Johnst.				✓				
82	Pyrenean flax	<i>Linum suffruticosum</i> L. subsp <i>apressum</i>				✓				
83	Pyrenean oak	<i>Quercus pyrenaica</i> Willd.					✓			
84	Red oak	<i>Quercus rubra</i> L.					✓			
85	Reflexed stonecrop	<i>Sedum rupestre</i> L.						✓		
86	River water-crowfoot	<i>Ranunculus fluitans</i> Lam.	✓							
87	Rough yellow-cress	<i>Sisymbrella aspera</i> (L.) Spach		✓						
88	Round-leaved mint	<i>Mentha suaveolens</i> Ehrl.	✓							
89	Rustyback	<i>Asplenium ceterach</i> L.	✓							

90	Saint Bernard's lily	Anthericum liliago L.				✓				
91	Sessile oak	Quercus petraea Liebling					✓			
92	Shepherd's needle	Scandix pecten-veneris L.		✓						
93	Silver broom	Argyrobium zanonii (Turra) P.W. Ball						✓		
94	Smooth bedstraw	Cruciata laevipes Opiz			✓					
95	Spanish broom	Spartium junceum L.				✓		✓		
96	Spike lavender	Lavandula latifolia Medik.						✓		
97	Spiked star-of-Bethlehem	Loncomelos pyrenaicus (L.) Hrouda							✓	
98	Spotted medick	Medicago arabica (L.) Huds.							✓	
99	Sprawling needle sunrose	Fumana procumbens (Dunal) Gren. & Godr.		✓						
100	Spring cinquefoil	Potentilla verna L.		✓						
101	Stiff brome	Brachypodium distachyon (L.) P. Beauv.		✓						
102	Stinging nettle	Urtica dioica L.			✓					
103	Straw foxglove	Digitalis lutea L.		✓						
104	Sulfur clover	Trifolium ochroleucon Huds							✓	
105	Swamp oak	Quercus palustris Münchh.					✓			
106	Sweet spurge	Euphorbia dulcis subsp. incompta (Ces.) Nyman					✓			
107	Tassel grape hyacinth	Muscari comosum (L.) Miller				✓				
108	Trailing broom	Cytisus supinus L.		✓						
109	Traveller's joy, Old man's beard	Clematis vitalba L.							✓	

110	True service tree	Sorbus domestica L.							✓	
111	Viper's grass	Scorzonera humilis L.			✓					
112	Wart spurge	Euphorbia flavicoma subsp. verrucosa		✓						
113	Water-violet	Hottonia palustris L.			✓					
114	Water fern	Azolla filiculoides Lam.	✓							
115	Water mint	Mentha aquatica L.					✓			
116	White asphodel	Asphodelus albus Miller					✓			
117	White rock-rose	Helianthemum apenninum (L.) Mill.		✓						
118	Wild clary	Salvia verbenaca L.					✓			
119	Wild marjoram	Origanum vulgare L.				✓				
120	Wild mignonette	Reseda lutea L.						✓		
121	Wild service tree	Sorbus torminalis (L.) Crantz							✓	
122	Winter-cress	Barbarea vulgaris W.T.Aiton				✓				
123	Wood spurge	Euphorbia amygdaloides L.		✓						
124	Yellow dead-nettle	Lamium galeobdolon subsp. montanum (Pers.) Hayek			✓					
125	Yellow iris	Iris pseudacorus L.	✓							
126	Yellow rattle	Rhinanthus minor L.		✓						
127	Yellow water-lily	Nuphar lutea (L.) Sm.							✓	
128	Yellow-wort	Blackstonia perfoliata (L.) Hudson				✓				

	Orchids									
1	Broad-leaved helleborine	Epipactis helleborine		✓						
2	Mueller's helleborine	Epipactis muelleria		✓						
3	Sword-leaved helleborine	Cephalanthera longifolia		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
4	Violet limodore (Violet bird's nest)	Limodorum abortivum		✓	✓	✓		✓		
5	Bird's nest	Neottia nidus-avis		✓			✓			
6	Burnt	Neottia ustulata		✓	✓	✓		✓		
7	Twayblade	Listera ovata		✓				✓		
8	Greater butterfly	Platanthera chlorantha		✓		✓	✓		✓	
9	Heath spotted (ssp. ericetorum)	Dactylorhiza maculata					✓			
10	Man	Orchis anthropophorum		✓			✓		✓	
11	Loose-flowered	Orchis laxiflora						✓		
12	Bog orchid	Orchis palustris						✓		
13	Early purple	Orchis mascula			✓		✓			
14	Green-winged	Orchis morio		✓			✓			
15	Lady	Orchis purpurea		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
16	Military	Orchis militaris		✓		✓				
17	Monkey	Orchis simia					✓			
18	Military x Lady	Orchis x hybrida		✓						
19	Pyramidal	Anacamptis pyramidalis	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	

20	Lizard	Himanantoglossum hircinum	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
21	Ploughshare	Serapias vomeracea		✓		✓			✓	
22	Tongue	Serapias lingua		✓		✓	✓		✓	
23	Grooved sombre bee	Ophrys sulcata		✓						
24	Bee	Ophrys apifera		✓		✓			✓	
25	Fly	Ophrys insectifera		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	
26	Woodcock	Ophrys scolopax		✓		✓		✓	✓	
27	Early spider	Ophrys sphegodes				✓				
28	Small spider	Ophrys araneola				✓				