

WYCOMBE WILDLIFE NEWS



URBAN WILDLIFE GROUP

NEWSLETTER NO.10

"NEW LOOK" EDITION

JANUARY 1993

EDITORIAL COMMENT

Another new year is with us - a good time for a new look - so we launch our updated logo.

The core funding grant awarded by Wycombe District Council last year gave WyUWG the means for change. The Council's help in setting up the Countryside Centre also provided an office so the next step was to find a person to work there in an official capacity. The post of Project Co-ordinator was offered to Jo Hale, who had been working as a volunteer with the Group since graduating at Sheffield in June 1991. She now receives payment for the projects she undertakes for WyUWG, which assures time is spent on development and expansion of the Group's activities, instead of relying solely on goodwill and dedication of members.

During 1992, WyUWG added two sites to its list for active management: Cock Lane Cemetery, and a portion of Tom Burt's Hill owned by the Carrington Estate. All sites we worked on last year are shown on the map enclosed with this edition, thanks to the efforts of Sue Haines. The Group will also be involved with the management of Sands Bank alongside Wycombe Wanderers new ground.



Pat Morris, WyUWG Chairman and Editor of the Newsletter
toasts Jo Hale, our new Project Co-ordinator in the
Countryside Centre Office.

The next major event will be a **Wildlife Garden Competition**. This will be your chance to enter your very own nature reserve - your garden - in our scheme, and win a prize. **COPY DATE: 19/3/93.**
Our thanks to our sponsors, WRc, their support is greatly appreciated.

Pat Morris.



This issue generously sponsored by
Water Research Centre plc, Medmenham.

WRc



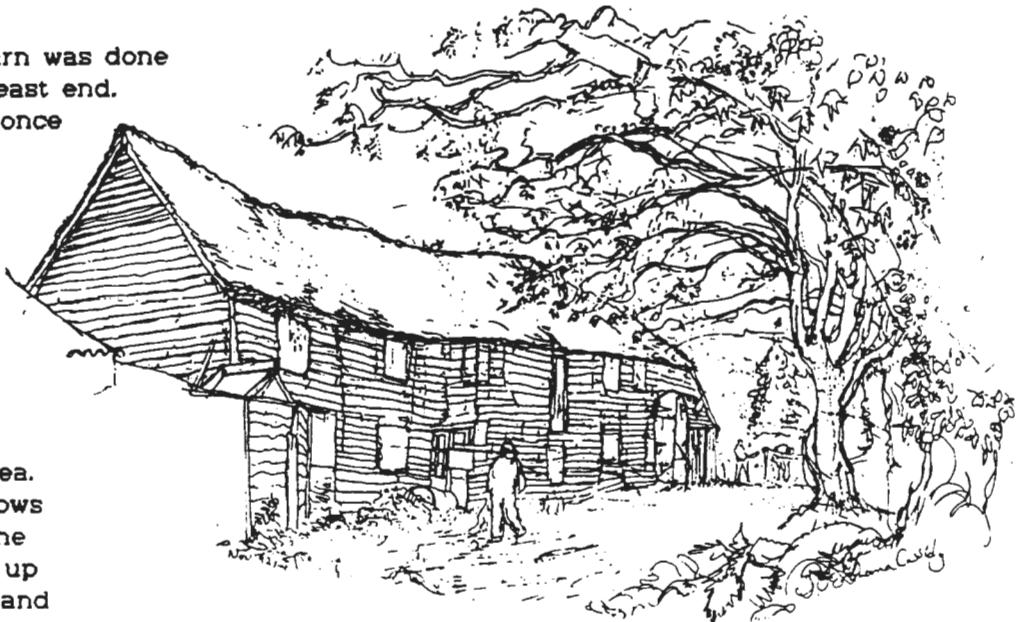
recycled paper

THE GREAT BARN AT BASSETSBURY MANOR

In his book "The History of High Wycombe from its origins to 1880" L.J. Ashford quotes from an account in the Public Record Office of a contract made in 1411 with a certain carpenter for repairs to the east end of the barn. Whether it was this barn at Bassetsbury is difficult to know, but four loads of timber had to be carted from Brownsdenes hedge along with rods and clay for daubing. Daubers had to underpin the ground-sill and daub the walls, 1,000 plane tiles were bought at Penne, 2,000 tile pins, lath, lath nails, hooks and straps of iron for hanging the doors.

This drawing of the barn was done more or less from the east end.

It shows a door which once had outer stairs to an upper floor. This is very substantial and could once have served as an adjunct to the mill for storage and is similar to many small chair factories once common in the area. The large arched windows on the south side of the barn are now boarded up but could be reglazed and the doors rehung so they would open onto a garden and path that could be paved to the gates at Holywell Mead.



Chris Wallis, the well known restorer of ancient timber framed buildings, has looked inside and expressed great enthusiasm for the idea of making the barn a venue for local groups interested in conservation and for exhibitions and shelter. The District Council are considering these suggestions.

Lorna Cassidy.

THE COUNTRYSIDE CENTRE - BASSETSBURY MANOR - focal point for conservation -

At last WyUWG has an office from which to co-ordinate its many activities. The office, called the Countryside Centre, provided for BTCV by Wycombe District Council with the help of a Countryside Implementation grant from the Planning & Development Committee, was officially opened on 26th August.

Based at Bassetsbury Manor, the Centre is ideally situated to act as a focus for BTCV volunteers working at their demonstration wood, Gomm's Wood, developed with the help of WDC and Southern Electric. As a BTCV affiliated Group, which has worked closely with the Council and Trust, WyUWG has been given the chance to share this wonderful facility with BTCV's Volunteer Officer, Rebecca Bangay.

In addition to being a base for the two Groups, the Centre aims to co-ordinate all conservation activities in the District, especially as we have recently been joined by the new Community Woodland Officer, Ian Butterfield. The Centre hopes to establish a list of volunteers able to support both weekend and week day events organised by any local groups in Wycombe.

The Countryside Centre is open from 2 - 6 pm. on Tuesdays and Thursdays and Monday evenings from 6 - 8 pm. Call us on 0494 536930 or drop in if you have any queries regarding conservation volunteering in Wycombe.

Jo Hale.

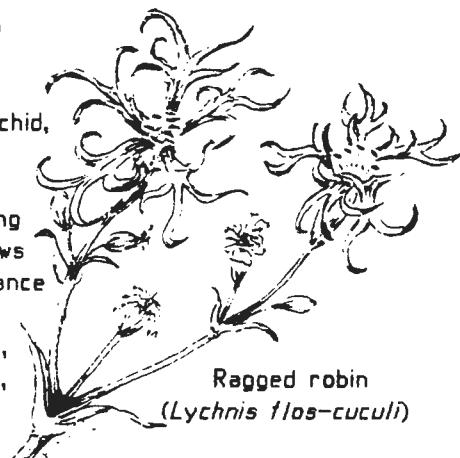
WRc's WET MEADOWS

WRc is glad to be able to help WyUWG in its important conservation work in the Wycombe area. The philosophies of the company, as an environmental research organisation, and those of WyUWG have a common theme in the protection and enhancement of wildlife. We generally take a broader geographical perspective in our research, dealing largely with the national implications of environmental issues, but we also recognise our responsibilities to the local environment in which we work.

We are fortunate to be located next to the Thames at Medmenham, in a rural landscape between Henley & Marlow. Our landholdings are largely given over to buildings and formal lawns, but we do have two areas of wet meadow that have, through our chance ownership, escaped the ravages of agricultural intensification so evident throughout the Thames floodplain. These areas are dominated by meadow-sweet with many other wet meadow species such as ragged robin, meadow cranesbill, tufted vetch, greater birdsfoot trefoil, water chickweed, marsh chickweed, marsh bedstraw and hemp agrimony. Notable species include: southern marsh orchid, bog stitchwort and meadow-rue. A ditch system running through the meadows provides an abundance of aquatic interest including stonewort, branched bur-reed, marsh marigold, water flag, floating club-rush, small-flowered crowfoot, lesser water parsnip, blue water-speedwell, sedges and rushes. The royalty of the local aquatic fauna are the Odonata (dragonflies), of which 16 species have been observed on the site; Medmenham is in fact a key site for dragonflies in the national recording scheme.

Voluntary 'ecoguerillas' manage these ecologically important areas, undertaking scything operations, ditch management and tree work to preserve and enhance the habitat - getting dirty in the process.

I would be pleased to show a group from WyUWG around the site & its environs next summer to show you how nice working on the banks of the Thames can be. Chris Mainstone, Aquatic Biologist, WRc.



Ragged robin
(*Lychnis flos-cuculi*)

SANDS BANK

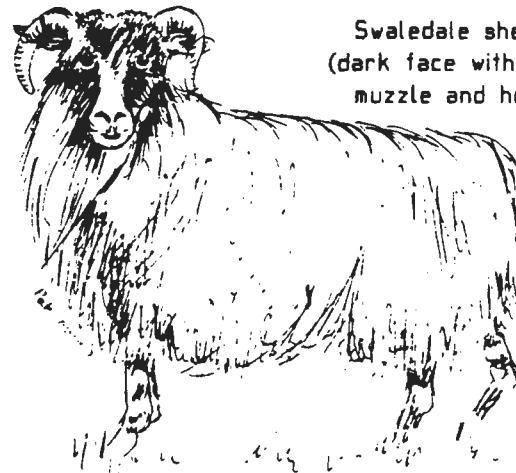
Sands Bank, a stretch of chalk grassland on the north side of Sands Industrial Estate, is well known to local naturalists many of whom have long felt it should be protected and managed as it is the equal of many of our SSSIs. This report by the Community Woodland Officer is, therefore, most welcome. (MY)

Wycombe District Council are currently negotiating a lease on the site to manage it for conservation. The final legal details are being hammered out and it should not be long before the lease is signed.

Advice has been sought from several people including Chris Dament (Bucks C.C Chilterns Project Officer) on practical aspects of is management.

To update our knowledge and provide a data base on which success, or otherwise, of management action may be gauged, surveys will be carried out by WyUWG. These will include the preparation of an up-dated species list, a vegetation map, and the establishment of 6 permanent quadrats and a butterfly transect.

We are still seeking a grazier, but two contacts seem fairly positive, the reintroduction of grazing being one of the management priorities. We are looking for 7-8 animals of a hardy upland breed of sheep eg. Swaledales or Scots Blackface for this. Ideally we would also like 3-4 cattle on the site as well to help open up the mat of litter to allow germination of shade intolerant species.



Swaledale sheep
(dark face with pale muzzle and horns)

Before grazing the whole area will have to be fenced but we hope grazing will start next winter. However our first practical task, the clearance of some hawthorn scrub, was carried out on December 13th. !

Ian Butterfield, Community Woodland Officer, W.D.C.

NATIVE FLOWER GARDENING

I am, perhaps, being a little pedantic in insisting on calling wildflower gardening "native flower gardening". However, I do this because, unless you just leave your wild flower plot to its own devices and are content to allow whatever turns up to grow, you are "cultivating" the plants - you sow seed or plant pot grown plants and weed out unwanted species.

The cultivation of our native species in the garden is just as demanding as growing roses, alpines or vegetables. The wild flower gardener chooses to give pride of place to native species and excludes introduced, foreign species and "improved" cultivars. Most native flower gardeners, sorry I'll rephrase that - most gardeners who grow endemic, wild flowers - tend to be as selective as any other gardeners. They like the more brightly coloured species or concentrate on those species that grow in cornfields or attract butterflies etc.

How long will it be before "improved" wild flower cultivars are created?

"Wildlife gardening" is another term much in use today, what do we mean by it? To me this is about attracting animal life to the garden which, of course, can be done whether or not we grow native flowers.

Whatever we choose to grow or encourage our gardens are functional ecosystems to which we have a greater or lesser input depending on how keen we are.

We too often tend to associate ecosystems with the "countryside" thinking of them as natural phenomena but so extensive is our influence in this country today that even our nature reserves are and have to be managed. Allbeit on a smaller scale your garden is your nature reserve and you are the reserve manager so you can contribute to the conservation of our wildlife and wildflowers and, in so doing, derive a lot of pleasure and satisfaction.



We (WyUWG) hope to write articles in our newsletters and produce a number leaflets on wildlife/wildflower gardening which we hope will encourage you in your endeavours. We cannot promise that our contributions will be wholly original, the RSPB, BBCS, NT, BTCV and others have produced a lot of valuable material and it would be impossible not to cover much of the same ground. However, we hope to temper our contributions with observations from experience gained from our own attempts in our gardens and the reserves we manage. The presentation, order and emphasis will be different to that of the publications of other Groups and, of course, for those who are not members of these other Groups, the material will be fresh and we will have succeeded in spreading the word a little wider - to the benefit of wildlife in Wycombe District, which is one of WyUWG's major aims.

NOW IS THE TIME

or

Things you should be doing in the wildlife garden

Winter is upon us so now is the time to prepare for the next growing season.

It is time to sow cowslip and primrose seed for these species, like the seed of many of our wild plants, need to be stratified - exposed to near freezing temperatures, before they will germinate. You can get them to germinate by sowing them in seed trays and putting them in the fridge for a few weeks but it is much easier, and more hygienic to sow them any time between the end of October and the end of January in a coir (not peat!) based compost in a seed tray and put them out in the garden so they are exposed to natural frosts. Scatter the seed thinly over the smoothed surface of the compost and just tamp them gently into the compost. Do not cover them as exposure to light enhances their germination. Stand the tray in water to allow the compost to soak. Drain off the excess and put the tray out in the garden. You can give them some protection by covering the trays with a sheet of glass or clear plastic - to stop the birds digging around in the tray looking for insects.

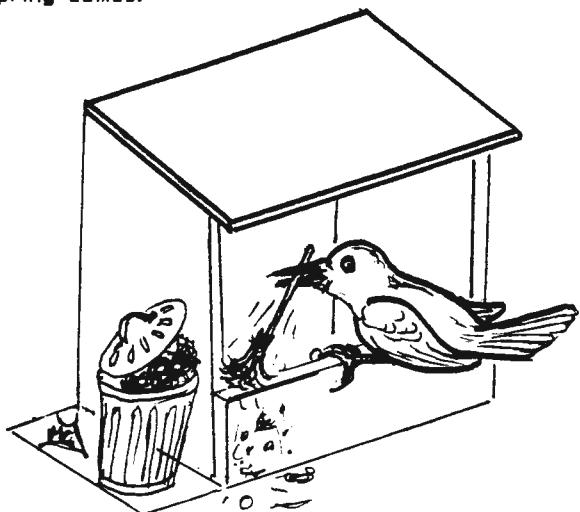
By early summer the compost should be covered with seedlings. Prick them out into further trays or tiny plastic pots and grow on to small plants that you can put straight into the garden.

Cowslip & primrose seed are available from all the seed houses now not just the specialists and Marlow Garden Centre have them in stock. Maurice.

IT IS ALSO TIME TO

You didn't think all you had to do was plant primrose seed did you? You don't get out of it as easily as that, as I said wildlife/flower gardening is just as demanding as any other form of gardening and there are plenty of winter chores.

It is time to clean out any nest boxes in your garden. Winter is also a constructive time in the garden for now is the time to make and put up nest boxes and bat boxes. If you can get them up soon after Christmas, the birds, which I am sure you are feeding, will get used to them by the time spring comes.



Bats are more fussy than birds and boxes usually have to be up for a year or more before they will use them, but if you use old wood, and get them up soon, so that they get reasonable exposure to the rigours of winter weather, they may be acceptable to bats searching for a summer roost in your area next year. If you would like to put one up on your house instructions for making bat boxes are available from the Countryside Centre at Bassettbury Manor. I will have a few ready made ones for sale at my bat talk in Great Missenden in February.

Maurice Young.



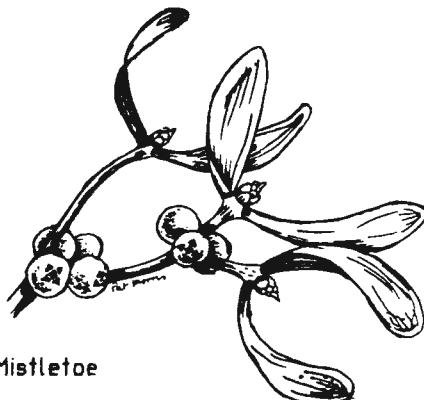
p.s. Primroses are so easy to propagate there is no excuse for any one to dig up wild plants today, apart from the fact that it is against the law. Yes, people do still dig them up. Last year at least half-a-dozen plants were taken from Homefield Wood, a nature reserve and SSSI.

MISTLETOE SURVEY

As you may know I did a mistletoe survey last winter. Mistletoe is a parasitic plant which is not rooted in the ground but grows on the branches of certain trees, so it is most easily seen in winter when the trees have dropped their leaves,

Mistletoe (*Viscum album* is its Latin name) is in a family of plants most of which are parasitic. Most of them occur in America; Mistletoe is the only species of the family which grows in this country.

I thought that it only grew on apple or lime trees. You can certainly see plenty of mistletoe growing on lime trees in the District. Look at the lime trees at the back of the Rye or in West Wycombe. Its spherical green clusters of stems and leaves can be seen high up in the trees and you will often see that where it grows out of a branch it has caused the branch to grow a sort of elbow.



Mistletoe

However, I noticed mistletoe growing on false acacia at the top of Hamilton Road and this made me ask 'what other trees will mistletoe grow on?'. I felt this was worth investigating so set myself the following questions:

1. How common is mistletoe in this area?
2. On what species does it grow?
3. Has it been "planted" in the area?

Just before Christmas last year I wrote a short article for the Bucks Free Press asking people to send me details of any mistletoe they knew of. This produced half-a-dozen replies including two of known plantings. In addition members of the Group helped by reporting any mistletoe seen on walks etc. I checked all the sightings and found that not all turned out to be mistletoe. Some "sightings" were in fact crow's nests, squirrel's dreys or witches brooms, showing me that, even with the leaves off the trees, it is still very easy to make a mistake.

continued over.....

Mistletoe survey continued.....

You all know mistletoe from its use at Christmas, it has short, divergently branching, green stems with pairs of yellowish-green leaves and white berries. The mistletoe you buy at Christmas, I found, mainly comes from the south of France, where it grows longer stems than here, making it easier to hang up.

One of the first things I noticed about mistletoe in my survey was that not all the plants bore berries. So I looked its description up in the flora which said "flowers usually dioecious", which means that, like holly, male and female flowers are borne on separate plants and, of course, only the female plants bear berries.

So far I have found mistletoe growing on the expected hosts, apple and lime, in considerable quantities around here. In addition I have recorded it on several other species, namely; hawthorn, poplar species, horse chestnut, false acacia and Turkey oak. I am sure this is not the complete list and I would like to invite you once more to go out looking for mistletoe again this winter.

On the other hand, if you would like to choose your own plant to survey, that would be terrific. Just let me know what you would like to investigate and I will give you a hand if you are not quite certain what to do. There is certainly no better way to learn about plants and animals than to go out with a set of questions to answer for yourself, and you would be surprised to know how valuable even simple surveys of quite common species can be.

Angus Idle.

GROW YOUR OWN MISTLETOE

Mistletoe is another species usually "planted" in the winter as this is the time of year it gets "planted" by the birds that feed on the berries. I put the word planted in inverted commas as, of course, mistletoe is not planted like other plants in the ground. Its berries are very sticky and the seeds slippery so when the birds feed on them the seeds tend to get stuck around the outside of their beaks. To clean their beaks the birds rub their beaks against branches on which they are standing until they wipe the seed off. The sticky juice dries and glues the seed to the branch where, in the spring, it germinates and its "root" (haustorium - is the technical term) enters the branch and grows into and joins the wood of the tree, from which the mistletoe derives its water.

So to "plant" mistletoe all you have to do is get some berries and squash them onto the branches of a suitable host - preferably the same species of tree as that on which the plant from which you gathered the seed was growing. Although taking up Angus' theme - why not experiment. Maybe mistletoe that grows on lime will not grow on apple and vice-versa, i.e. there may be host-specific varieties - we do not know. So if you know of some reasonably accessible mistletoe why not collect a few berries, there is no need to cut the plant now Christmas is over, and try them on several different species of tree.

If you try this do let us know if any of them take and what species of tree you have successfully introduced them to. If we hear from you we can collate and publish the results, perhaps next Christmas or Christmas 94. Maurice Young.

POND SURVEY

Last year we launched a pond survey and I have had 6 forms returned. I suspect many of you intended to complete the form that was enclosed with our newsletter but have mislaid it. If this is the case then just write me a short note instead and let me know what you have growing in and around your pond and what insects, amphibians, birds and mammals visit it.

At least the low return rate has spared me the problem of producing a significant statistical analysis of the data, but it would be nice to know a little bit more about the garden ponds in Wycombe. Even from these 6, which cover an area from Penn to Stokenchurch, it is clear that frogs, as we suspected are doing quite well in Wycombe thanks to garden ponds for they were reported in all 6 ponds and in fair numbers in 3 of them. No one, however, reported toads in their ponds and only two people reported having newts. Are there no toads in the garden ponds in the Wycombe area?



All 6 report that a variety of birds and animals visit their ponds to drink showing that a pond is probably one of the best garden features for attracting wildlife to your garden. So if you do not have a pond in your garden why not install one now, - IT IS JUST THE TIME TO. Maurice.

REPORTS - OUTDOOR EVENTS

BAT HOMES REVISITED

On a sunny morning in October a group of us gathered at Booker Air Park to see the converted bat hibernacula. Jo Hale informed us of the hard work that had been put in clearing back the overgrowth of brambles and modifying the old air-raid shelter. Openings had been made in the roof to allow water to trickle in to produce the damp atmosphere required and a metal grill fitted to permit the bats' entry but keep vandals etc. out.

Jo unlocked the grille and, wearing hard hats, we entered the shelter feeling an immediate drop in temperature. From the light of our torches we could see where gaps had been cemented over and breeze block inner walls had been built for some of the smaller species of bat to hang. There were wires attached to the roof for the same purpose. Not surprisingly there wasn't a bat to be seen. Jo explained to those of us with little knowledge of bats that they spend their summers in woods breeding in warmer roosts and only return to cool caves etc. in the winter to hibernate. With a little luck and if the environmental conditions are OK it is hoped that bats will find the shelter for hibernation.

We then walked to the pill box which has been divided into 2 chambers inside. The slit for the bats to enter seemed very narrow but, apparently their fur makes bats seem larger than they actually are and some such as the pipistrelle are very small. A metal plate at the entrance had been greased to prevent small rodents entering. Jo stressed that hibernating bats must be left undisturbed. Few people realise that if bats are woken too often in the winter they may die of starvation. This among other factors has caused a considerable decline in bat numbers.

Jo is planning to monitor the shelters and will keep us informed of any inhabitants. She said that bat droppings in the entrance would be a sign. Thanks to Jo for an informative and interesting talk. J.L.Johnson.

Editor's note: First work on the bat caves was reported in our January 1991 Newsletter.

Bat help line: For information on bats and your local bat group, phone: 0494 536930.

FUNGUS FORAY

Picking a Sunday afternoon in the middle of October for the Group's annual fungus foray seemed a good idea at the time. We weren't to know that early frosts would bring the peak of the fungus season to an early close or that the weather during the week end of the event would be so horrible. When a Bucks Free Press reporter spoke to me the day before the event, it is hardly surprising that I said we probably would not find many fungi.

Suitably protected against the elements, a small group of 5 keen people, including 3 non-members, set off along the muddy paths through the woods near Booker Common looking for fungi. With the help of a pair of young sharp eyes in the group we found far more fungi than I had expected. Ignoring the badly eaten, gone off and a number of Mycena species, which we didn't attempt to identify, we found about 25 different species. The most interesting species seen were the hedgehog fungus (*Hydnellum repletum*), a fungus that has spines instead of gills or pores; the horn of plenty (*Craterellus cornucopioides*), a black, trumpet-shaped fungus; the common white helvella (*Helvella crispa*), a fungus with a deeply grooved stem and a saddle shaped cap; and the poisonous verdigris agaric (*Stropharia aeruginosa*), an unusual blue coloured fungus.

common
white
helvella



horn of plenty

Despite telling the Bucks Free Press reporter that we had found a reasonable number of fungi after all, she was obviously too pleased with the witty headline she had thought up, "fun guys fungus foray fails", to want to change it.

Roger Wilding.

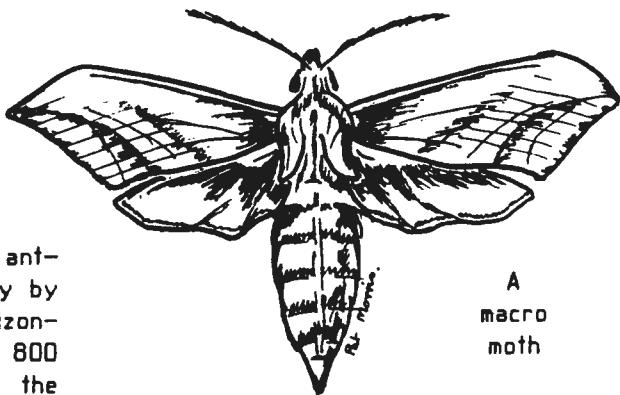
REPORTS - TALKS

The Moths of Buckinghamshire

Bassettbury Manor, the location of the new Countryside Centre, was chosen as the venue for a talk on "The moths of Buckinghamshire" by Martin Albertini, County Moth Recorder, for WyUWG on Monday, 12 October 1992. The evening attracted a lot of interest, with members of Butterfly Conservation as well as the general public in attendance.

While people were gathering, Martin, helped by his colleague, Peter Hall, set up a moth trap in the grounds of the Manor.

Martin opened his talk with a general introduction on moths and the features that distinguish them from butterflies. These are structural, such as type of antennae, rather than dependent on habit (whether they fly by day or by night, or close their wings vertically or horizontally above their bodies). Since there are more than 800 macro (large) moths, divided into 17 families, plus all the micro (small) moths, the amount of knowledge needed to identify them is mind boggling. We were glad of Peter Hall's excellent slides to help us.



Elephant Hawk Moth

There were numerous questions and considerable discussion before the evening finished. Before he left, however, Martin checked the moth trap outside - only one specimen had been caught. Martin promised to help with any other trapping activities the Group organises in 1993. A generous offer which we will certainly take up.

Many thanks Martin.

Pat Morris.

Swanline Around Wycombe

The Seniors Hall in Wycombe Abbey's lakeside Lancaster Centre provided the perfect location for a talk on swans by Tim Heron of Swanline on 7 December. With occasional interruptions from the "ugly ducklings" on the waterside outside, Tim taught us a lot about the life of swans. Some of the slides illustrating his talk showed the horrific effects on swans of lead poisoning, swallowing fish hooks, getting caught up in lengths of discarded fishing line and dog attacks. Fortunately for the swans involved in such incidents volunteers from Swan Lifeline are soon on hand to catch the injured birds and arrange for veterinary treatment where needed.

I don't think I will ever forget the slide showing the row of swans wrapped up in plastic bags sitting placidly in the back of an estate car; I don't suppose any motorists passing at the time will either. After treatment the swans are given a chance to recover at one of Swan Lifeline's sanctuaries under the care of people prepared to devote all their spare time to recuperating swans until they are ready to be released.

Proceeds from the talk were donated to Swan Lifeline and if anyone unable to attend would like to support the work of this worthwhile charity, donations can be sent to:

Kay Webb (Swan Lifeline), 1 Markway House, Lower Hampton Road, Sunbury-on-Thames, Middx. TW16 5PN.

Thanks to Wycombe Abbey for their generous hospitality.

Roger Wilding.

Reports - Talks continued:

Looking After Garden Birds

On Monday, November 16, WyUWG were given a talk by Dr. Sandy MacFarlane entitled "Looking After Garden Birds" at the St. Francis of Assisi church in Terriers. Those who ventured out on this cold night were more than amply rewarded for their trouble.

Dr. MacFarlane is a GP practising in Princes Risborough and is President of the Buckinghamshire Bird Club. He is a true doyen of ornithology.

Armed with a selection of wonderful slides, he spoke of the birds visiting our gardens, and was able to rivet our attention with a wealth of information on their feeding habits, visiting times, food likes and dislikes, and nesting sites. He drew on first-hand experience of many years to answer all questions and comments.

As a background to this information were the slides, mostly taken by Dr. MacFarlane himself, which were a credit to his skill as a photographer and his speed of reaching for the camera to capture evidence of rare visitors. Particularly memorable was a series of 3 slides showing a blackbird (we take his word for it) taking an extremely energetic and relaxed bath in his bird bath and simultaneously watering the garden for yards around !

The evening was both entertaining, extremely interesting and informative. It was good to see how many people care about birds and their well-being. Even Pat's home-made biscuits, offered with refreshment in the break, had been caringly cut into bird shapes. A charming evening.

Diana Pfetscher.



REPORTS - SCHOOLS

-- Ten schools took part in Tree Link Day at Hughenden Park on Thursday, 26 November 1992.

-- Micklefield County Combined School pupils cleared an area invaded by scrub at Gomm's Wood, to encourage growth of chalk-loving flowers and insects.

-- Lady Verney High School held another waste paper collection at the end of November, 1992.

Esso SCHOOLWATCH. This is a major, national, environmental project for Primary and Secondary schools from Learning Through Landscapes, sponsored by Esso UK plc. It will not only provide a total environmental audit of the school grounds and buildings but develop the pupils' understanding of the school's place in the local environment and community. Hopefully it will, as it is intended, lead on to the development and use of the school grounds, particularly for environmental studies.

For the survey LTL have produced a comprehensive project guide in the form of an A4 folder of some 36 photocopyable survey cards, a 21 page guide and 16 page glossary.

I am sure all schools have been circulated with details and I hope you all have taken up the challenge. If any schools would like to see the project folder before purchasing one, I have a copy.

From the wildlife point of view the identification of trees on the school site features in the initial survey and if WyUWG can be of any assistance with this do please contact me

Maurice Young.

Schools, are you taking part in the Esso SCHOOLWATCH ? do send in your news & keep in touch.

WILDLIFE NOTICE BOARD

NAMES OF CONTACTS FOR WILDLIFE GROUPS IN WYCOMBE DISTRICT

BC	Butterfly Conservation	:	Ron Beaven	:	0494 444158
BTCV	British Trust for Conservation Volunteers				
	Buckinghamshire Office / County Officer	:	Martin Jakes	:	0296 383393
	Wycombe Office - The Countryside Centre	:	Rebecca Bangay	:	0494 536930
BBONT	Berks, Bucks, & Oxon Naturalists' Trust	:	Maurice Young	:	0628 472000
BBC	Bucks Bird Club	:	Arthur Brown	:	0628 604769
CS	Chiltern Society	:	Charles Mills	:	0494 528487
CWP	Chiltern Woodlands Project	:	John Morris	:	0494 461286
FOE	Friends of the Earth	:	Lyn Jack	:	0494 447680
EN	English Nature	:	Frances Richmond	:	0635 268881
RA	Ramblers Association	:	Anne Solomon	:	0494 443730
SWS	Saunderton Wildlife Sanctuary	:	Margaret Baker	:	084 44 2188
StT	St. Tiggewinkles	:	Les Stocker	:	0844 292292
SL	Swan Lifeline	:	Tim Heron	:	0753 575894
T&CHG	Thames & Chilterns Herpetological Society	:	Tom Burgess	:	0494 815319
WWF	World Wide Fund for Nature	:	Valerie Lambourne	:	0494 443761
WyUWG	Wycombe Urban Wildlife Group	:	Pat Morris	:	0494 529484

For enquiries about BADGERS contact BBONT Aylesbury Office : 0296 433222
 and for enquiries about BATS contact The Countryside Centre : 0494 536930

DID YOU SEE ?

SEPTEMBER

Pale tussock moth larva, Booker Air Park

OCTOBER

Mediterranean gull, Marlow water ski-pit.

Yellow-browed warbler, Lt. Marlow gravel pit.

Heron, on the Dyke, High Wycombe

Fieldfare & redwing, widely reported
in the south of the County.

Death's head hawk moth larva, Radnage.

Hop hornbeam (*Ostrya carpinifolia*)

Spring Gardens Arts Centre.

NOVEMBER

Feathered thorn moth, Amersham Hill, H.W.

Peacock butterfly, Hazlemere rec (19/11/92)

Kestrel with blue tit, garden, cent. Marlow.

Sparrowhawk . . . London Rd. H.W.

Winter heliotrope, A404 nr. Woodrow.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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Lorna Cassidy, Pat Morris,

Frances Wilding, Maurice Young.

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Apologies to Sue Haines, our hard working treasurer, for having omitted her name from our list of officers on p. 75 newsletter no.9.

Views expressed in the newsletter are those of the authors and not necessarily those of the Group. For the purposes of management of the Group membership information is held on computer. Any member who objects to his or her membership details being held in this way should notify the Secretary.