

# WYCOMBE WILDLIFE



# NEWS

no. 14

## URBAN WILDLIFE

GROUP

APRIL 1994

The Countryside Centre, Bassetsbury Manor, Bassetsbury Lane, High Wycombe, HP11 1QX  
0494 536930

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WE PROUDLY ANNOUNCE, AND INVITE YOU TO ATTEND,  
THE OPENING OF THE WyUWG

SHEEPRIDGE EDUCATIONAL  
RESERVE

at  
2.30 p.m. on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> June 1994

DO COME AND SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL URBAN WILDLIFE GROUP

Wycombe Urban Wildlife Group  
WISH TO THANK BASS PLC FOR THE GENEROUS GRANT  
FROM THE



**Bass  
Wildlife  
Action Fund**

THAT HAS ENABLED  
THE FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF THIS RESERVE.



Wycombe Urban Wildlife Group is a voluntary organization the **OBJECT** of which is to further the ecology and knowledge of the urban and fringe areas of High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire; to conserve, protect, restore and create wildlife habitats; to encourage colonization and survival of all plant and animal life in such areas and to promote the education of the public in matters pertaining to urban wildlife and its conservation.

- Within Wycombe District the Group aims to:
- Survey and map wildlife habitats.
  - Protect important wildlife sites.
  - Study wildlife sites and their associated wildlife.
  - Manage wildlife sites and associated flora and fauna.
  - Stimulate public interest in wildlife & its conservation
  - Encourage wildlife gardening.
  - Co-operate with other groups with similar aims.
  - Promote the objectives of the Group.
  - Encourage active participation in conservation of all persons and groups and provide appropriate training to that end.
- (A detailed copy of the aims is available on request)

Wycombe Wildlife News is published 3 times a year to promote the Group's activities and inform members & the public of its progress.

Editor: Pat Morris.  
 Produced by Maurice Young.  
 Printed by: W.D.C.  
 Design & Print.  
 Illustrations by: Pat Morris,  
 & Maurice Young.



## 5 Years of Working for Wildlife in Wycombe

In the five years since its launch in 1989, Wycombe Urban Wildlife Group has taken an interest in and promoted the potential value to wildlife of a number of sites in the District which have subsequently received recognition. Here are a few reminders of the involvement of WyUWG with Public Open Spaces in Wycombe to date:

**Keep Hill.** The Group held its inaugural walk on 23rd. April 1989 here in the heart of Wycombe. Other

WyUWG events held here have included a morning bird song walk, even-

ing bat detecting and management tasks. Members of Wycombe WATCH joined in some of the early conservation tasks here and it is hoped that the new WATCH group will follow suit. Wycombe District Council are opening a picnic area on the hill on 12th. May 1994.

**Chairborough Nature Reserve.** Local resident and WyUWG Secretary Roger Wilding has taken a keen interest in this area for many years and the first WyUWG committee visit to the area was on 20th. July 1989. Roger prepared management proposals which led to an agreement with Wycombe District Council for WyUWG to carry out conservation management from 6th September 1989. The work undertaken won first prize in WDC's Environment Award in 1990. Since 1991 Chairborough has been managed under the Council's Woodland Strategy, in association with WyUWG. Roger was recently appointed voluntary warden for the site which has been designated as a Nature Reserve by WDC.

**Sands Bank.** Following numerous visits in the 1980s, and a Group visit in July 1989, WyUWG member Eric Britnell, wrote in our first Newsletter in January 1980 :

"Well over 100 plants have been recorded, combined with a list of 30 species of butterfly, and closeness to town makes this a site of prime importance. The possibility of establishing the bank as a nature reserve has often been discussed."

The bank has now indeed become a Local Nature Reserve, and members,

principally Angus Idle, are still actively involved with the site by

surveying the effects of recently initiated management on the flora and fauna.

**Cock Lane.** The Group first visited this site in August 1989 and has subsequently held a number of conservation tasks there - scrub bashing ! WDC opened a picnic area here on 24th March this year. This area links up with Kings Wood & the BTCV Demonstration Woodland.

**The Warren.** Members of WyUWG carried out their first surveys of the flora and fauna at the Warren, Wooburn Green last year, 1993, and this too is shortly to be opened as a Nature Reserve.

WyUWG acknowledges the help and support of Wycombe District Council, who have recognised and fostered the value of these sites both for wildlife and the people of Wycombe. Pat Morris.

Sites identified and promoted by WyUWG over past 5 years which have been designated picnic sites, nature reserves and local nature reserves



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 members who object to their membership details being held in this way should notify the Secretary.



## The Sheepridge Educational Reserve

WyUWG members have been working at the Sheepridge site since our first Co-ordinator, Matthew Ellis, negotiated its lease from the land owners, Little Marlow Parish Council, in 1990. The reserve lies to the east of Little Marlow Cemetery and, although it will ultimately become part of the cemetery, is a potential haven for wildlife so the object of our management will be to maximize that potential until the area is required for burials.

In addition to its wildlife potential the site is relatively level and has good access from Sheepridge Lane. The development of wheelchair access seems feasible so is one of the objectives of the project. As the site is not an SSSI or subject to any other restrictive designation, which would preclude a number of ecological or environmental studies activities, we hope that local schools will make use of the site for such studies.

Management of the site has been on-going since 1990 and we have dug a fairly large pond which, because of the very stony terrain, was lined with sand prior to laying the butyl liner. Following the box building activities during Wycombe Bat Week the one and only large tree on the reserve, a walnut, received a couple of bat boxes and now also sports a tit box.

A management plan, outlining the proposed development of the reserve, has been written and last year, 1993, Jo and Andy submitted it to the RSNC (Royal Society for Nature Conservation) as a project for funding from the

**Bass Wildlife Action Fund.**

It was with great pleasure and pride that we announced in our last issue that we have received a generous grant of £1000 from this fund to enable us to continue the development of the Sheepridge site as an Educational Reserve.

The **Bass Wildlife Action Fund**,

an initiative of Bass plc, was launched in 1992 and is now in its second year. The fund is administered by the RSNC and in the first year they were given £100,000 to allocate to community based wildlife projects. The aims of the fund are to enable efficient and effective promotion and protection of wildlife and to allow (encourage) the public to share the work of the Wildlife Trusts and Urban Wildlife Groups as participants in their conservation activities or as visitors to the 2,000+ reserves owned or managed by the Trusts and UWGs. To achieve these aims we will be using

the grant to increase the range of habitats and species present on the site, improve access and provide information in the form of notice boards & leaflets to encourage and facilitate use of the reserve.

Many members of the Group have participated over the past four years in the work on the site and a number of other groups have also helped, including: students

from the Berkshire Agricultural College and BTCV mid-week volunteers from the Countryside Centre as well as local residents. Maurice.

If you would like information on the Sheepridge Educational Reserve please contact the Countryside Centre

Our very own nature reserve to be opened on 18<sup>th</sup> June

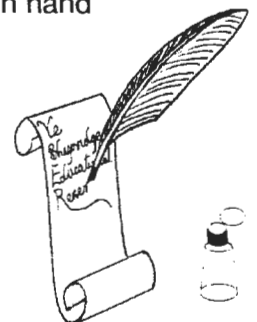
Thanks to all who have worked hard to bring this project to fruition



There are no rare or exotic species, but what is there can be studied



Preparation of leaflets is in hand





*Welcoming*

## WILDLIFE

### TO YOUR GARDENS

**Some answers to wildlife gardening questions we have been asked.**

**Q**uestion: We have half-a-dozen frogs that lay masses of spawn in our pond but we seem to get very few tadpoles - why ?

**A**nswer: This is quite common these days and some of the popular scientific journals lay the blame, as I have reported in previous issues of our Newsletter, on acid rain and pond liners. Rain, which is naturally slightly acid due to carbon dioxide dissolved in it, has in recent decades become more acid due to increases in carbon dioxide and sulphur dioxide in the air from our use of fossil fuels. Butyl or plastic liner ponds filled with rain water therefore exhibit higher than usual acidity. This is thought to act on amphibians in two ways: it will bring more aluminium, an element present in the clay fraction of any soil in the pond, into solution bringing it up to toxic levels, and the increased acidity may make the sensitive skin of tadpoles more prone to fungal infections. Both factors leading to their demise.

So what is the answer ? Fortunately it is simple, put a few lumps of chalk in the pond - this will neutralize the acids. If you have a filter system or fountain put the chalk near the inlet to the system so the water flows over it.

That is the simple answer but do not expect to see thousands of tadpoles and tiny froglets next year just because you follow this advice for, although most garden ponds are "artificial", their inhabitants are

subject to natural processes. When laid, frog's eggs have a thin covering of jelly which swells rapidly on contact with water. Sperm sprayed over the spawn by the males must penetrate the eggs before the jelly swells, so many remain unfertilized. These unfertilized eggs are easily identified - the black blob (the egg) in the middle fails to get any bigger and develops white spots as fungi attack it.

(There is a Biomathematical project for schools here - what is the fertilization rate in frog spawn in garden ponds ?)

After hatching, the number of tadpoles the pond can support will depend on the amount of food available - algae on the surface of the plants and soft plant tissues in the early stages of their development. In the later stages they become carnivorous and any tadpoles that die will most likely be eaten by the survivors.

The tadpoles, of course, are food for any fish in the ponds and will be taken by various birds and animals that come to the pond and it does not stop there. When they emerge as small froglets many land animals have a feast - for they (frogs) are part of the complex food web or pyramid of the wildlife garden and, typical of organisms at the bottom of this pyramid, many things feed on them - which is why there has to be so many of them to start off with ! Only one or two tadpoles have to survive through to maturity each year to replace their parents and continue the line. Just think, if they all survived we would have a real "biblical" plague of frogs on our hands!



Acid rain  
takes the blame  
again !

Nature in  
balance avoids  
biblical plagues



*Welcome all*

## WILDLIFE

TO YOUR GARDENS



Hoverflies  
Ladybirds  
Lacewings

the gardener's  
allies in the war  
on greenfly

**Q**uestion: If we don't use pesticide sprays in a wildlife garden how can we control aphids.

**A**nswer: Well the answer is "we don't" - that is we don't control them we let their natural predators control them. All we have to do is encourage aphid predators into our gardens. What are the predators of aphids? - Blue tits, hoverflies & ladybirds are some of the main aphid eaters - all attractive and welcome additions to our wildlife garden fauna.

To attract blue tits you should put up one or two tit nest boxes. These are boxes with entrance holes of just 20 mms diameter. Tits may not occupy both boxes but by putting up more than one you give the birds a choice and increase the chances that some may find one to their liking and take up residence. The other thing to do is to feed the tits on peanuts in the winter. This will not only increase their chances of surviving the rigors of winter but convey the message that your garden is a good place to be.

Hoverflies are those silent wasp mimics, i.e. yellow & black striped flies that hover over flowers. If you watch them closely you will see them nibbling the anthers of the flowers as they eat pollen. The females do this as they need the protein, present in pollen, for the production of their eggs. They also take nectar from the flowers. They lay their eggs near colonies of greenfly for the maggot-like larvae that hatch from their eggs spend their short lives "hoovering up" aphids.

Ladybird larvae are also voracious aphid eaters, except for the yellow 22-spot ladybird which is vegetarian. How then to encourage these insects to your garden?

Hoverflies require flowers and pollen but, according to researchers at the University of Southampton, they are fussy and show strong preferences for certain flowers including spear, creeping and prickly thistles, wild chamomile, scentless mayweed, white campion, autumn hawkbit and fool's parsley. Despite the great value of thistles in the wildlife garden most gardeners are not too keen on them but there really is no reason why we should not grow them - as long as we "dead head" them as soon as the flowers fade so they don't generate clouds of seed to infest your garden and that of your neighbours. The researchers studied one of the common species of hoverfly and plants in a fallow strip of land around an arable field. Other species may prefer other plants.

Which garden plants attract hoverflies? The question does not seem to have been answered yet. So how about it WyUWG wildlife gardeners, how about a hoverfly survey this summer? to identify which garden flowers they favour and, for those who fancy a bit more of a challenge, which hoverflies visit our gardens. If we confine ourselves to the common species Michael Chinnery's book of Insects of Great Britain is excellent but for those wishing to delve deeper in to this subject I would suggest tackling two of the Naturalists' Handbooks: no. 5, Hoverflies, by F.S.Gilbert and no. 11, Aphid Predators by G.E Rotheray. Maurice.



Hoverfly  
*Episyrphus  
balteatus* seen on  
ragwort at  
Sheepridge, 1991



'slurp' 'slurp'  
A single hoverfly  
larva gets  
through around  
800 greenfly in its  
2 weeks of life



## Butterflies of Chalk Downland

How do they do that ?

Have you ever overheard a visiting naturalist accurately predict what wildlife could be present on a site known to you, but new to them ? I used to wonder at this impenetrable wisdom, but have learned that the basic techniques are straight forward. With a little practice I began to spot the critical features that make some sites perfect for butterflies.

Astound your friends with your predictions

So how is it done ? How can you match these 'super naturalists' and amaze your companions with a seemingly immense fund of knowledge ? The first thing is to recall that it is the caterpillars' needs that determine whether a species can exist at any site and they are far more 'choosy' about where they live than the adult butterflies. So, firstly, you must decide if the caterpillars could survive there - are the right food plants present ?

The caterpillars of British Butterflies are remarkably fussy about food - one

reason why they are so scarce. Almost every species is restricted to one, or possibly two, food plants. If the plant is absent, so too is the butterfly. You can find details of food plants of the chalk grassland butterflies in most field guides so I will not list them here. Armed with a good field guide to butterflies & another to plants, you simply have to mug up on the relevant food plant identification. This only amounts to about 20 plants, many of them, like the wild strawberry, already familiar.

Assuming you discover that the food plant is growing on site, the second strand to successful assessment of the site is to consider the foodplant's condition. Many caterpillars will not look at plants with leaves that are too small, or growing in the wrong place - I told you they were fussy!

For instance, a rare butterfly in our area is the elegant and striking Dark green fritillary (*Argynnis aglaja*). It has some suprisingly (& pleasingly) strong colonies around High Wycombe. Its recent dramatic decline in the Chilterns

(cont. opposite ...)

Cock's-foot grass (*Dactylis glomerata*)



Food plant for caterpillars of: Large & small skipper, ringlet & wall butterflies



Red fescue (*Festuca rubra*)  
Food plant of marbled white and gatekeeper

All our native species exhibit anachronistic preferences of this type, to a greater or lesser extent. The chart below shows you what sort of conditions caterpillars will tolerate their foodplants in.

| Full sun and very short turf<br>0 - 3 cms high                 | Nearly full sun mid-length turf<br>3 - 9 cms high   | Partial shade longer turf<br>9 - 30 cms high   | Dappled shade scrubby with turf over 10 cms high                         |
|--|---|--|--|
| Adonis blue<br>Silver spotted skipper<br>Dark green fritillary | Chalkhill blue<br>Brown argus<br>Small blue<br>Dingy skipper<br>Grizzled skipper<br>Small heath<br>Small copper<br>Meadow brown<br>Marbled white<br>Wall<br>Green hairstreak* | Small copper<br>Dark green fritillary<br>Large skipper<br>Small skipper<br>Essex skipper<br>Ringlet<br>Meadow brown<br>Marbled white | Duke of Burgundy<br>Dark green fritillary<br>Speckled wood<br>Gatekeeper |

(\* needs bushes on which the adults can perch)



is through its need for large, strongly growing violet plants, scattered between scrubby bushes and relatively tall grasses. This butterfly will not use violets (no matter how well they are growing) if they are in open grassland and full sunshine, or under trees in full shade.

While the information in the table is a fairly accurate guide, remember that where soils are very poor, a turf of 5 cm. may be so thin and wispy that the amount of sunlight reaching the ground may be the same as in a thicker turf only 3 cm. high. Obviously, where such poor soils exist (often on steep slopes) the maximum turf height caterpillars can tolerate is greater.

The third point is the history of the site. Something you can not always tell from the first visit, though the plants you find will be an indication. Continuity of management is vitally important to butterflies and the plants on which they depend. Just one year when the grass is allowed to get too long, or too short, and the caterpillars die. The butterfly colony becomes extinct and can only recolonise if there are other colonies close by - and suitable terrain linking the sites. This is thought to be the reason for the extinction of the Adonis blue from the Wycombe area. Most of its sites became overgrown when myxomatosis reduced rabbit grazing at the same time as sheep grazing became unprofitable; but the last known site suffered overgrazing in the dry summers of 1990 and 1991. Had the species survived here it could, perhaps, have spread back to some of its former sites which are slowly regaining their previous condition with better informed, and more sensitive, habitat management. You could spot the sites to which this beautiful butterfly will hopefully return.

Basically that's it, but you need to bear in mind one final point, that all species like somewhere to roost. So areas of taller rough grass are required adjacent to the shorter turf of breeding areas. These are usually on the site boundaries. Large areas of extremely short turf could support certain caterpillars and possibly a few species will breed there; but in

general are too wind swept to appeal to butterflies.

In summary: a mosaic of short, medium and longer turf, with a diverse flora and scattered shrubs is the most likely area to find a variety of species.

Nick Bowles.  
(Butterfly Conservation)



*Dark green fritillary*

If you want to follow up Nick's suggestions, he recommends *The management of chalk grassland for butterflies*, no.17 in the Focus on Nature Conservation series published by the NCC (now English Nature). It lists the food plants of chalk grassland species.

"A complete pocket guide to British Butterflies" by Margaret Brooks & Charles Knight, published by Johnathan Cape gives the food plants of all British butterflies.

Maurice.



*Annual meadow grass (Poa annua)*  
food for meadow brown & wall butterflies

## Plant Exchange & Mart

Anyone who has been to Members' Meetings will know that I bring along a selection of plants for sale in aid of WyUWG funds. I have also invited members attending meetings to list details of any surplus plants they have and are willing to pass on to others and any plants they wish to obtain.

If anyone else wants to join in this Gardening Exchange & Mart scheme please let me know what plants you have to spare and what plants you want - I will then try to match the supply with the demand.

Roger Wilding.

**Bargains  
for  
everyone**



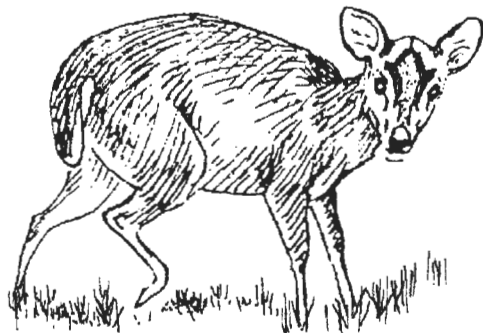
## Mammals Invade Buckinghamshire

## Wanted

Records wanted.

Have you seen any Muntjac?

The Mammal Society is expanding its range and, following an inaugural meeting at Reading University of the Thames Valley Mammal Group, is now to be found in Berks, Bucks and Oxon. So, rather appropriately, their first project will be to look at another mammalian species thought to be extending its range - the muntjac (*Muntiacus reevesi*). Representatives from Wycombe District who attended the meeting all agree this is just the sort of job for the Countryside Centre, so we invite you to send in sightings to assist the survey.



Muntjac deer, doe

Identification: Muntjac are the smallest deer found in Europe and only slightly larger than a fox. The back is distinctly rounded with a smooth coat that is russet coloured in summer and grey - brown in winter. The underside of the tail is white and displayed when the animals are alarmed.

The bucks (males) have distinctive back stripes forming a V on the forehead from the tops of which arise two short, straight horns; does (females) have a black kite-shaped mark but no horns.

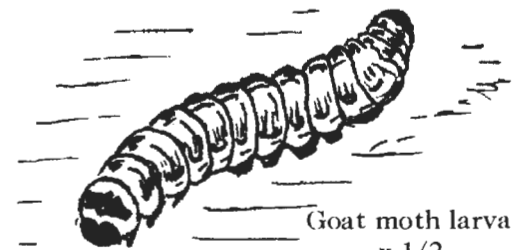


buck

They are timid animals and more usually heard than seen as they produce a harsh, sharp bark when they are disturbed so they are also called barking deer.

If you think you have seen a muntjac browsing in your garden, or in local woods - brambles, raspberry and rose bushes (wild or cultivated) make up to 40% of its diet, or if you would like further details of the Thames Valley Mammal Group please contact the Countryside Centre.

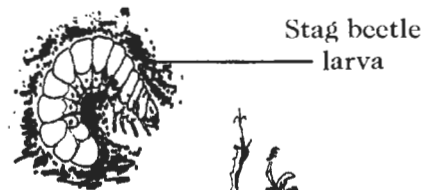
Any recent records of the goat moth (*Cossus cossus*) to contribute to a national survey of the species. The caterpillars burrow into the bark of trees, especially willow, causing disfigurement, disease and eventual death of the tree. The caterpillars take about 4 years to grow to full size, about 10 cms (4") long.



Goat moth larva x 1/2

If you think you have seen one, or would like more information contact the Countryside Centre. Details of the survey & the moth are given in Butterfly Conservation News No. 55 p 21-24.

Have you seen any stag beetles? (*Lucanus cervus*). Their white larvae inhabit rotten tree stumps or posts. Adults fly between June and August.



Stag beetle larva



Stag beetle ♀

The males, which are about 5 cms (2") long are Britain's largest beetles. Please report any sightings to the Countryside Centre.

Keep an eye open for evidence of dormice as researchers still need records. If you find nibbled nuts, summer or winter nests, contact the Countryside Centre with details of date and location.

Also wanted:

goat moth and stag beetle sightings



← Left to right - tracks or slots of: sheep, roe deer & muntjac deer 10 mm. (scale x 1/4)





## Ye Olde Sponsored Ancient Hedge

The age of a hedge is often estimated by counting the number of different woody species it contains; it is reckoned that each species represents about a hundred years. To confuse visitors to the Chairborough Reserve in years to come, we have planted a hedge there which, by the number of species used, will certainly be thought of as a very ancient hedge indeed.

Each year the **Wycombe 1st Boys Brigade Company** undertakes an activity which is aimed at providing a service to the community whilst at the same time raising funds for the Company. For the second year running the **Boys Brigade** has helped **WyUWG** on the Chairborough Reserve for their sponsored service activity. Last year the highlight of the junior boys was getting plastered in mud digging a ditch, whilst the older lads took on step building and path improvements. This year all the boys worked together, preparing for and planting the new 'ancient' hedge. We don't know yet how much money has been raised for their funds, but last years total came to £400.

Obviously sponsored work parties are good for fund raising. Perhaps other local youth organisations might like to try this enjoyable and worthwhile way of raising funds. If anyone connected with youth organisations is interested in discussing possibilities, either at Chairborough or other sites in which the Group has an interest, please get in touch.

Roger Wilding.

Boys from John Hampden School helped on the above task and also worked at Gomm Valley (BBONT reserve) to fulfil the service requirements of the Duke of Edinburgh Award. We can also provide tasks for scouts, guides and cubs to earn their conservation badges.

Maurice.

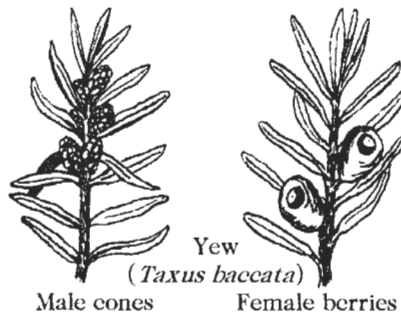
## Trees in Winter

It was lovely to see such a large turnout on the afternoon of 23rd. January as many new faces joined the stalwart members for a winter walk in Hughenden Park.

Equipped with warm coats and wellies and an identification sheet showing the formation of various twigs, dogs and people set off after the leader, Angus Idle, along the river, up the hill and into the Manor grounds.

For those of us used to seeing Angus suddenly hurl himself to the ground in search of a particular species of grass, it made a change to see him looking skywards. The subject of this walk obviously did not lend itself to the leader lying flat on the ground - or perhaps it was the cow pats!

Many species of tree, both indigenous and introduced, are to be found at Hughenden Park and even common species such as the ash and oak provide an identification challenge in winter. As well as being shown distinguishing



Male cones Female berries

details of the trees seen, we learnt various interesting facts such as the differences between male and female yew trees.

Our thanks to Angus for a most enjoyable afternoon.

Fiona Wilding.

## Something different at Bassetsbury

March 12th. 1994 saw a new activity at Bassetsbury Manor - a Moss identification seminar, jointly organised by **Wycombe District Council** and **Wycombe Urban Wildlife Group**. The studies were led by Dr. Jack Ellis.

The study of mosses is fraught with problems: few have common names - no doubt because they are so small that a microscope is necessary for their study. However, the use of suitable equipment and the expertise of Dr. Ellis, made the task easy and enjoyable.

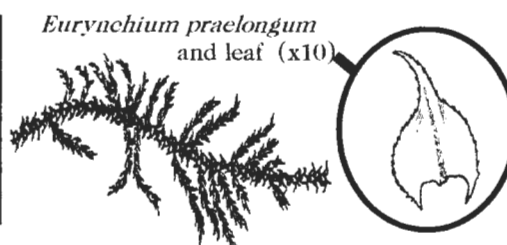
Successful identification hinges on discovering: whether the leaf, usually between 1 - 2 mms long! has a midrib (nerve); the shape and arrangement of cells within the leaf and whether or not its edges are toothed or smooth. These and other questions settled the participants then worked through a key of more than 300 sections (20 pages) with a glossary and reference section of a further 10 pages. However, enthusiasm kept the 12 participants at it and all came away feeling it had been a most beneficial exercise in more than one way.

Many thanks to Dr. Ellis and organisers Angus Idle & Steve Crosby, for a most interesting day, and to Andy Correy for arranging the loan of microscopes. Pat.

For those who would like to investigate mosses Roger Phillips' picture book: *Grasses, Ferns, Mosses and Lichens of Gt. Brit. and Ireland*, is a good starting point but for absolute certainty in identification you need a microscope and *The Moss Flora of GB & I* by

A.J.E. Smith or *British Mosses & Liverworts* by E.V. Watson - and a lot of patience.

Maurice.



# WILDLIFE NOTICE BOARD

## DID YOU SEE ?



### January

35 Snipe - L. Marlow Gravel Pit (1/1/94)  
Kingfisher - Victoria St. HW (9/1/94)  
6 Long-tailed tits - London Rd. HW  
(18/1/94) feeding on peanuts.

### February

Firecrest - Lane End (2/2/94)  
Kinsfisher - Bassetsbury HW (4/2/94)  
c.100 Bramblings - Cryers Hill HW (10/2/94)  
3 Hawfinch- Flackwell Heath gdn (12/2/94)  
c.15 Little grebes - The Rye HW (16/2/94)

### March

84 Cormorant - Little Marlow Gravel Pits  
(23/1/94)

Buzzard - Coleshill (13/3/94)

Heron nesting - L. Marlow G. P. - March

1st. Peacock & brimstone butterflies  
10/3/94 - Sands Bank & Hughenden  
1st. Small Tortoiseshell butterfly  
20/3/94 - Puttenham Place Farm, Penn.

## The WyllWG contact list:

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Secretary: Roger Wilding, 0494 438374  
Treasurer: Sue Haines, 0628 532334  
Membership Secretary:  
James Donald, 0494 445334  
Project Co-ordinator: Andy Correy, 0494 536930  
Administrator: Elaine Tague, 0494 536930  
Biological Surveys: Angus Idle, 0494 563673  
Education Officer & Assistant Editor:  
Maurice Young, 0628 472000

## The Wildlife Garden Competition will run again this summer.

Watch local press for details or collect entry  
form from your library or tourist info. office

## Sheepridge (11/3/94)

First frog spawn ever laid in pond  
and toads mating.

## 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   | Andrew Lyon       | 0494 536930 |
| BBONT | Berks, Bucks & Oxon Naturalists' Trust    | Maurice Young     | 0628 472000 |
| BBC   | Bucks Bird Club                           | Arthur Brown      | 0628 604769 |
| FOE   | Friends of the Earth                      | Lyn Jack          | 0494 447680 |
| EN    | English Nature                            | Frances Richmond  | 0635 268881 |
| SWS   | Saunderton Wildlife Sanctuary             | Margaret Baker    | 0844 342188 |
| StJw  | St. Tiggywinkles                          | Les Stocker       | 0844 292292 |
| SL    | Swan Lifeline                             | Tim Heron         | 0753 859397 |
| TVMG  | Thames Valley Mammal Group                | Ian Saunders      | 0734 344127 |
| WWF   | World Wide Fund for Nature                | Valerie Lambourne | 0494 443761 |

For other groups contact the Countryside Centre

If you have enquiries about BADGERS contact the BBONT Aylesbury Office 0296 433222  
and if you have any enquiries about BATS contact The Countryside Centre 0494 536930