

Issue 84
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Wycombe Wildlife News is published 3 times a year to promote the Group and wildlife issues, and inform members and the public of its activities.

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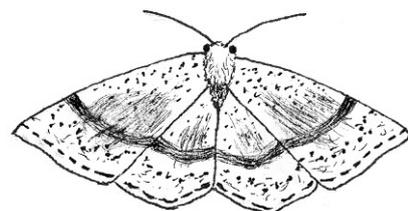
Views expressed in this newsletter are those of the authors and not necessarily those of the Group.

For the purposes of management of the Group, membership information is held on computer.



Above:
 Devil's-bit Scabious (*Succisa pratensis*)
 This species can be found in sun or shade, in wet or dry grassy places and on both acidic and calcareous soils. Lots were seen on the walk on Moarend Common (See page 75).

Below:
 Maiden's Blush - a moth recorded by Paul Bowyer in his Flackwell Heath garden (See page 83).



Wycombe Wildlife Group is a registered charity with the following objects:

To conserve the environment, mainly using volunteers, for the benefit of the public.

To educate the public in the principles and practice of conservation.

Within and around Wycombe District the Group:

Surveys wildlife habitats and their associated flora and fauna, giving those taking part plenty of opportunities to increase their knowledge and identification skills.

Helps manage local wildlife sites, undertaking practical conservation work on local nature reserves.

Provides advice to schools, other bodies and individuals on all aspects of wildlife.

Stimulates public interest in wildlife and its conservation, organising walks, talks and other activities covering a wide range of wildlife topics.

Provides advice on and encourages wildlife gardening.

Co-operates with other groups with similar aims.

Following our AGM on 15th May, when one additional member was elected to the Executive Committee, the latter met on 16th May to decide who will perform the officer roles within our Group and to decide the Group's priorities for the coming year.

The Committee decided not to make any officer changes, but a number of changes to the Group's priority tasks were suggested and agreed. It was felt that there was nothing else that could be done at present to plan the long term future of the Group so this, together with "Supporting Revive the Wye" and "Collating wildlife data for the WWG website and county records", would remain on-going projects but cease to be priorities. The remaining existing priority project of working with Wycombe Friends of the Earth to identify local sites which would benefit from improvements such as wildflower planting and take appropriate action, would continue to be pursued in liaison with Wycombe Friends of the Earth.

Two new priority tasks were discussed and agreed. One is to encourage more social interaction between our members. It has become noticeable that this is happening at our members' meetings, particularly during the refreshment break, and we feel this is good for the group and needs to be encouraged. It is of course something every member can contribute to, for example by talking to someone you don't know or someone you see is not already engaged in a conservation.

Our other new priority task is to finalise and introduce the Round Wycombe Walk. Having devised a possible route for this walk, four other WWG members have now walked the route with me, and some minor changes have been suggested. We have also undertaken wildlife surveys on these walks, resulting in some surprising finds.

Our Programme Planning Committee has been busy arranging speakers for our indoor meetings and planning outdoor activities. It is amazing that we are still coming up with new topics for talks, even though our Group has been in existence for over 28 years.

I think the future of our Group is looking good and I am confident that we will all do our utmost to keep it that way.

Roger Wilding

New member

We are pleased to welcome Beryl Doran from Great Kingshill as a new member.

Did we get it wrong?

In the last newsletter, I reported that I had come to the conclusion that some blisters seen on the underside of some of the leaves on a Lords-and-Ladies (*Arum maculatum*) seen during a WWG walk in King's Wood was a gall. The only gall described on that species is Arum Smut (*Melanostilospora ari*), an extremely rare gall caused by a smut fungus.

The photograph I took and sent to Penny Cullington, Bucks Fungus Group, was taken by her to a meeting at Kew attended by some of the UK's top mycologists. Although there was some support for my identification, the most senior mycologist at Kew considered it was not the smut gall because of a lack of numerous black spores which the smut produces. This decision was disappointing not only for me, but for the Bedfordshire County Recorder for fungi who had already recorded a similar find there this year as the first county record for the species. The Bedfordshire find has since also been discounted by the experts at Kew.

Having kept the original leaf picked on our King's Wood walk in a sealed container, I opened it up and found lots of dark spores. The leaf had developed a mould, however, so did the spores come from

the gall-like structure or from the mould, which of course is another type of fungus? I attended the Bucks Fungus Group AGM and took along the container hoping to persuade someone with the necessary microscopic kit to examine the spores to determine whether they were mould or smut spores: unfortunately no-one present considered that they had the necessary experience to determine the identification of either mould or smut fungi spores. Penny Cullington did approach Kew again, but they were not convinced that further examination would be justified.

Although we must obviously accept the expert opinion that we did not find the rare Arum Smut, the question remains what did we find? The plant experts I have showed the leaf to all confirmed it wasn't a normal feature of *Arum maculatum* so was it an undescribed gall? I don't think we can pursue the matter further at present but I took a GPS reading of the location where we found the affected plant, so I have an OS grid reference which will enable us to search next year to see if we can find any further fresh material that can be used to assist with the identification of the unusual find.

Roger Wilding

Wet butterfly walk which became an interesting wildflower walk

The butterfly walk at Moorend Common was certainly a wet one. The weather forecast said it would rain, and rain it did. Everywhere was wet and, as expected, there were very few butterflies around. Apart from Paul, who was leading the walk, Karen and Rusty their dog, no-one turned up for the walk apart from me.

I realised it would be a poor opportunity to see butterflies, but I find Moorend Common such an interesting place to visit that I don't like to miss an opportunity for a walk there whatever the weather. The site is an SSSI with acid soils which are waterlogged in places with grassland, heath, marsh, scrub and woodland, and there is even a swallow-hole there. It is also home to several plant species which are rare in Bucks.

Moorend Common hosts large numbers of orchids, including Heath Spotted-orchid and Southern Marsh-orchid, as was obvious by the huge numbers of seed heads visible on the day of the walk. We soon spotted large numbers of Tormentil (*Potentilla erecta*) Greater Bird's foot Trefoil (*Lotus uliginosus*), Common Fleabane (*Pulicaria dysenterica*), Sneezewort (*Achillea ptarmica*) and Devil's-bit Scabious (*Pedicularis sylvatica*) and after some diligent searching, managed to find a few small Lesser

Skullcap (*Scutellaria minor*) plants. The latter species is very rare in Bucks.

It would have been nice to have spent longer on this site, but having got very wet and having found some interesting plant species, it was decided to finish the walk. Hopefully we will be able to arrange some more walks around this site in the future.

Roger Wilding



Sneezewort
(*Achillea ptarmica*)

A plant of wet acid soils which can be seen on Moorend Common.

What's this grass?

Following the grass identification sessions in May and June, which Angus Idle led as a follow-up to his grasses talk in March, we hope those who attended will be able to identify more of the common local grasses they find on walks.

Angus, who is one of our Group's four remaining founder members, was advised by his tutor during his botanical studies to develop expertise in one difficult plant family in addition to gaining a more general knowledge of other plant families. Angus followed this advice and chose grasses as his area of expertise. Whilst he can answer the "what's this grass" question at more or less any stage in the plant's development, his evening identification training sessions were timed to co-incide with the time of year when the inflorescence of most grass species has developed sufficiently to be able to check them against a grass identification book, but getting it right is still not easy.

I have a small notebook in which I have written

down some of the identification features of individual grasses that Angus has pointed out during this year's training sessions or in earlier years. I have found these notes very useful, even if they prove I have come up with the wrong answer. When, if ever, I get some spare time, I am thinking of adding data from books on grasses to these notes in the hope that I can at least develop sufficient knowledge to be able to recognise some of the common species. Being realistic, however, I suspect any improved knowledge will still be limited to the time of year when the inflorescence is at its most typical.

Those who attended the grass walks certainly enjoyed them, and there was the bonus of seeing orchids and other flowering plants and a Mullein Moth caterpillar in the chalk grassland site used for the training.

Thanks Angus for three very interesting evenings in Hughenden Valley.

Roger Wilding



Bee Orchid



Mullein Moth caterpillar

A conversation in Heaven between God and St Francis about grass

Having prepared the previous article about the grass identification training, I recalled an article which appeared in a recent edition of Trinity Times (the newsletter of Trinity URC in High Wycombe). I found it both amusing and thought provoking, so I asked the editor for permission to reproduce it in our newsletter. He said we were welcome to do so, but pointed out that the origin of the article was unknown. It is hoped that any unintentional infringement of copyright will be excused.

Editor

God – Francis, you know all about gardens and nature. What in the world is going on down there? What happened to the dandelions, violets, thistles and other plants I created eons ago? I had a perfect, no maintenance garden plan going using plants that grow in any type of soil, withstand drought and multiply with abandon. The nectar from the long lasting blossoms attracts butterflies, bees and flocks of songbirds. I expected to see gardens full of colours by now, but all I see are green rectangles.

St Francis – It's the tribes that settled there Lord, the suburbanites. They started calling your flowers weeds and went to great lengths to kill them and replace them with grass.

God – Grass? But that is so boring. It's not colourful, and doesn't attract as many butterflies and birds, only grubs and worms. It's temperamental with temperatures. Do these suburbanites really want all that grass growing there?

St Francis – Apparently so Lord. They go to great pains to grow it and keep it green. They begin each spring by fertilising the areas of grass they call lawns and poisoning any other plant that grows there.

God – The spring rains and warm weather probably make the grass grow really fast, that must make the suburbanites happy.

St Francis – Apparently not Lord. As soon as it grows a little they cut it, sometimes twice a week.

God – They cut it? Do they then bale it like hay?

St Francis – No Sir, just the opposite: they have it taken away.

God – Now let me get this straight. They fertilise grass so it will grow and when it does grow they cut it and have it taken away?

St Francis – Yes Sir.

God – These suburbanites must be relieved in the summer when we cut back on the rain and turn up the heat. That surely slows the growth and saves them a lot of work.

St Francis – You aren't going to believe this Lord. When the grass stops growing so fast they drag out hosepipes and pay money to water it so that they can continue to mow it and get rid of it.

God – What nonsense. At least they keep some of the trees I created. That was a sheer stroke of genius, even if I do say so myself. The trees grow leaves in the Spring to provide beauty and shade in the Summer. In the Autumn the leaves fall to the ground and form a natural blanket to keep moisture in the soil and protect the trees and bushes. Plus, as they rot, the leaves form compost to enhance the soil. It's a natural circle of life.

St Francis – You had better sit down Lord. The suburbanites have drawn a new circle. As soon as the leaves fall, they rake them into great piles and have them taken away.

God – No! What do they do to protect the shrub and tree roots in the Winter and to keep the soil moist and loose?

St Francis – After disposing of the leaves, they go out and buy something that they call mulch. They bring it home and spread it around in place of the leaves.

God – Where do they get this mulch?

St Francis – Trees are cut down and the bark used to make mulch.

God – Enough! I don't want to think about this anymore.

Round Wycombe Walk update

WWG's planned Round Wycombe Walk is progressing well thanks to the input of a team of five who have now walked all of the 20 mile route. The walk has been split into four sections with starting and finishing points which can easily be accessed by bus from High Wycombe. There are also bus links providing opportunities to undertake the circular walk in shorter sections. The walk provides some wonderful views of the countryside surrounding our town and opportunities to see a wide range of fauna and flora. During our initial walks we have recorded over 240 plant species.

Section 1

The first section of the walk starts by the bridge onto Kingsmead by the King George V PH. After crossing Kingsmead, turning right along Kingsmead Road and left into Spring Lane, a footpath on the left goes up a steep sloping field past Cobbles Farm, providing good views over the whole of Gomm Valley from the top of the hill.



The walk then joins the Chiltern Way for the remainder of Section 1. The route goes through a foot tunnel under the M40, through Oak Wood and turns right along Heath End Road before taking a footpath to the left to Sheepridge Lane where a right turn leads to the Crooked Billet PH. Turning right, the route goes through Warren Wood to Winchbottom Lane and through Horton Wood to Monkton Lane which goes under the A404, from where a path leads to the Three Horseshoes PH at Burroughs Grove on the Marlow to High Wycombe bus route.

Section 2

The second section of the walk continues along the Chiltern Way and provides good views over the Thames Valley and the woods beyond. Our walk leaves the Chiltern Way by the small group of houses at Juniper Hill, turning right onto a bridleway which passes Munces Wood, a Woodland Trust site containing a mix of chalk grassland, scrub and mature

woodland. The site even provides a distant view of Windsor Castle, some 11 miles away.



Our walk continues past Wymers Wood and follows a short length of single track road before taking a bridleway heading for a road tunnel under the M40 at the rear of the Asda Supermarket. From here, the bridleway follows the edge of the M40 as far as the road bridge at Booker where a right turn along Cressex Road and a left turn into Limmer Lane leads to Booker Common. Turning left into Booker Common Woods, the walk follows a path leading downhill to near the road junction where the road from Sands divides to go to Booker and to Lane End. The route turns right and follows the edge of the wood until a path can be seen entering the wood on the opposite side of the road. After following this path up the hill and turning right where the public footpath is signed off, the walk continues to the end of the wood. The route crosses over a well used track towards Hellbottom Wood and turns right, following the footpath leading to the top corner of Sands Bank Nature Reserve. A left turn leads to Toweridge Lane where another left turn goes through Towerage before descending a surfaced section of Toweridge Lane into West Wycombe, where there is a bus connection to High Wycombe.

Section 3

The third section of the walk passes by West Wycombe Hill and the Hellfire Caves and descends into the Bradenham Valley. After crossing the A4010, the walk goes under the Chiltern Line railway and uphill towards Downley. Looking back at intervals provides good views over West Wycombe Hill and West Wycombe Park. The path continues through woodland and across fields until Downley Common is reached. From there the route goes down through woodland to the Hughenden Estate. Instead of following the main path along the bottom of the valley, the walk diverts left onto a permissive path in order to join a much more interesting south-facing higher level

path with lots of floral and invertebrate interest. The path then passes Hughenden Manor and the church to Hughenden Road. The route continues up Church Lane, a steep incline passing by the entrance to BBOWT's Millfield Wood Nature Reserve. At the top of the hill a footpath crosses a field in front of Brands House, crosses the road at Four Ashes and follows a surfaced road leading to a police communications aerial before taking a footpath leading to Ladies Mile. The walk then passes through Terriers Farm, which, although it will be developed for housing, will preserve the existing footpath and some of the natural habitats. The footpath emerges on a triangular green at Terriers where there are nearby bus services.

Section 4

The last section of the walk starts next to the Beech Tree PH opposite the triangular green at Terriers and descends into King's Wood. There are various paths that could be followed through this large wood and

Balsam bashing at Cores End

During the drought conditions earlier this year it looked as if it would be a poor year for Indian Balsam and therefore a good year for those who keep an eye open for this invasive alien plant before it gets out of hand along our local chalk stream. Every time we think we are winning in our efforts to rid the Wye of this plant, it makes a comeback somewhere along the river, and if we fail to deal with it where it does so, there are likely to be even more plants to deal with the following year or two.

As a result of the warmer, wetter weather that arrived after the very dry spell, the balsam started to appear, although the number of plants found upstream of Kingsmead was relatively small and quickly dealt with by Revive the Wye volunteers. After a couple of years with only modest quantities of balsam on Kingsmead, the number of plants found this year was huge, as were the individual plants which had grown, hidden from view, in the nettles: they only became obvious when the balsam started to outgrow the nettles. Again these plants were dealt with by Revive the Wye volunteers but, unfortunately, not before some the seeds had dispersed.

The tallest plants this year appeared alongside Slate Meadow at Cores End, in a location where major balsam clearance had never taken place before, possibly because the plants have only just become established there or possibly because there had only been small plants there in the past and they had been hidden from view.

The presence of these plants and others along the river through Wooburn Town to Wooburn Park were

we still need to finalise which paths to take, balancing areas of interest and ease of navigation. Whichever route we finally decide on, we plan to leave King's Wood where the permissive path which is part of Gomm's Wood LNR can be used, as this will enable our walk to include an interesting area of chalk grassland before by-passing Kingswood Cemetery and crossing Cock Lane into Ashwells at the top end of Gomm Valley. On completion of the Gomm Valley development, the route will be able to descend through the undeveloped part of the valley enjoying the views across to the open grassland and woodland we passed through just after the start of the first walk. Until the new rights of way are created, however, our walk will be diverted to a footpath leading from Ashwells to Hammersley Lane and will follow a footpath which runs alongside part of that road until just before reaching a footpath crossing the lower part of Gomm Valley which leads to Gomm Road and the A40 opposite where Section 1 of the walk started.

reported to me by WWG member Caroline Kay who offered to give a hand clearing them. I took advantage of this offer and the two of us spent two half days and one whole day clearing every Indian Balsam plant we found along that stretch of the river. We were very careful to avoid seed dispersal and very few of the seeds managed to escape. Allowing for seed still in the seed bank, however, there is bound to be a need for further clearance work at this location for at least the next couple of years: but at least it should be an easier task.



WWG is a supporter member of the Revive the Wye Partnership and Caroline has certainly made a valuable contribution to the support we have provided this year. Most years there is a need for some short notice help with balsam bashing, so if any other WWG members would like to help, please let me know.

Roger Wilding

Penn Estate walk 10th May 2017

Before we started our Penn Estate walk on what was a rather fresh morning, we looked at Penn Pond, the Dutch style architecture of some of the local buildings and learnt that the adjoining village of Tyler's Green received its name from the tiling industry in the Middle Ages, the local clay soil being perfect for their manufacture. The walk alternated between woodland, some of which is ancient woodland, and open fields. The local woods (mainly beech, although now quite mixed species) supplied the High Wycombe furniture industry. 60% of all woods in the Chiltern AONB are classified and mapped as ancient woodlands. These sites have maintained woodland cover since 1600, even though many of the trees will have been replaced through felling and replanting. Many woodland plants flower in the Spring before the broadleaf trees come into leaf, although plant species such as ferns will be found later in the year.

The walk took us through the Estate of Earl Howe, who is a patron of the Chiltern Society, and a beautiful bluebell wood. We arrived at the local pub, The Hit or Miss, in time for lunch. By then the sun was shining, and before we carried on with our return journey via Winchmore Hill, we stopped at the village pond and learnt that the villagers protested when the pond was to be filled in following the introduction of cars. In the days of horse-drawn carts, villages used to have ponds which not only provided water for the horses but also prevented the wood in the wheels from drying out.

While visiting Penn Street churchyard we looked at the graves of the Curzon-Howe family, and a church key holder kindly let us in to look around this interesting church. Nearby was a 400 year old oak tree, although it did not look so old to us.

The large Sarsen stones by Church Knowl cottage were quite impressive. These were unearthed during cable laying and extension work to the house. (Sarsen stones are post-glacial blocks of hard sandstone which occur in a number of locations in Southern England. The local Denner Hill stone was incorporated in a number of local buildings.

The list of plants seen on the walk was quite

extensive: Wood Melick, Wood Sedge, Wood-rush, Foxtail grass, Cock's-foot grass, Buckler-fern, a few Lesser Celandines, Wood Sorrel and Garlic Mustard were still visible, plenty of Dog's Mercury, Cow Parsley, Buttercups, Spurge, Woodruff and Greater Stitchwort. There was also a good mixture of trees: conifers, Beech, Cherry, Field Maple, Birch, Oak, Hornbeam, Hazel, Wych Elm and Holly.

The Skylarks accompanied us with their beautiful song, Swallows and House Martins flitted around near the farm, Red Kites and Buzzards soared overhead, and Whitethroats were singing as happy as we were with our joyful conversations.

I would like to express my special thanks to the following:

Elizabeth Kerry for providing the route map for the walk: sadly she could not join us and lead the walk as had originally been planned.

Felicity Palmer, who joined me on a recce (as she was not able to come on the walk) and passed on to me some of her excellent knowledge. When we started our walk, she even phoned me to say she had hidden a booklet in the woods under a log. This booklet covered the history of Penn Wood. What a lovely idea that was!

Roger Wilding whose knowledge we all benefited from on the walk.

Caroline Kay for joining us.

John Lloyd Parry and his guests from Cape Town and London.

Inge Beck





Swan Upping July 2017 on location

Many of us enjoyed the Swan Upping talk by the Queen's Swan Marker David Barber at the joint meeting with the High Wycombe Society in January 2017. I was determined to see the actual ceremony this year, so downloaded the outline programme for this year's event and worked out which location to visit on a day and at a time I could fit it in between other commitments. I decided to go to the marina at Bourne End early on the Tuesday afternoon of Swan Upping Week where the swan uppers were scheduled to pass through after their lunch stop at Cookham. I arrived at Bourne End in plenty of time and was assured by locals that the swan uppers had not yet come. Others informed me that the lunch stop is often a prolonged activity, determined to a certain extent by the results of reports the team receive from swan spotters who go ahead of the main team to identify swan families that will need to be caught and examined.

I located a swan family in the Bourne End marina but the cob decided that his family should not remain too long in one place and it kept moving from one location to another, working its way upstream. Some of the time the swans were not visible from the bank because of the moored boats but eventually the swan family emerged from the marina and decided to take over a ledge near the grass bank in front of the yacht club. The ledge concerned was already occupied by a group of Egyptian Geese: although the latter outnumbered the Swan family, the cob raised itself up almost to a standing position and advanced towards the geese who, as expected, willingly gave up their resting place to the swans. By this time, other people waiting to see the swan uppers arrived, and we all agreed we would get a marvellous view of the swan upping from this vantage point. But either the lunch break was still not over or the swan uppers had been delayed by another swan family between Cookham and Bourne End, and the cob once again decided it

was time for his family to move on. Instead of moving further upstream, where the view of the river disappears for some distance because of private riverside gardens, the swans crossed to the opposite bank. The swan uppers still didn't come and after a while the swan family came back over the river. After driving the geese off yet again, the swans remained in this location until the swan uppers eventually arrived. With shouts of "All Up", their skiffs turned towards the bank and quickly boxed in the swans.



The cob and pen and all the cygnets were then efficiently caught, tied up securely, and lined up on the bank. Here they were all given a health check, the cygnets weighed, ownership determined and all untied and returned safely to the river.

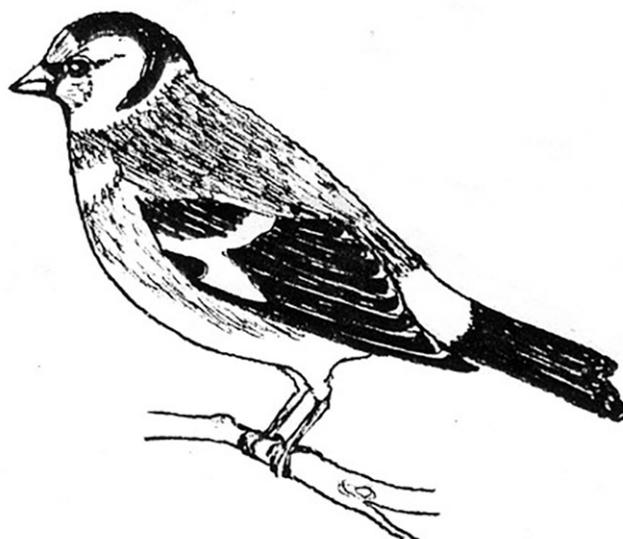


I was so lucky in my choice of location. It would have only taken a small variation in the arrival time of the swan uppers or another decision by the swans to move on yet again to have ruined what turned out to be the best possible location to experience and photograph the full swan upping task.

Roger Wilding

Garden Tweets

Right: Goldfinch



Our garden has seen an explosion of young birds this Spring - Great Tits, Goldfinches, Wrens, Robins, Blackbirds, Blue Tits and Starlings. The young Starlings are walking, in their awkward manner, all over the lawn, opening their beaks and thrusting them into the ground to see if they can find any leatherjackets: they do this from an extremely young age. (We don't need to buy an aerator for our lawn.) The first generation has dispersed and just left the second broods with us. Even they are beginning to get their speckled adult plumage now.

The Blue Tits have stayed together all Summer and a few are pecking around our open windows for little spiders. One or two of them have flown inside and had to be put out, unconcerned by this human intervention in their activities.

The young Robins are starting to get territorial and staging mock fights.

It is a huge privilege having birds treating our garden as their own, to see them grow and mature, knowing that we have helped to bring them up by providing food and nesting sites.

On several occasions there have been parties of Jackdaws flying in at dusk, chatting amiably to each other in the trees until darkness descends.

The local gulls have bred successfully, and their youngsters have learnt to fly noisily with their parents in constant attendance.

There have been a few more bird species to add to the list of those who have been tucking into our porridge leftovers. A Red Kite successfully scooped up a beakful, a Jackdaw came down and scooped some, and a Collared Dove daintily picked some up.

The garden is very quiet as I write this article, the birds mainly having gone to roost. A Robin is still singing his or her Autumn song, however: a pretty sound to end the day with.

Frances Wilding

Wildlife observations

Editor's comment.

My thanks go to those who responded to the questions in the review of the Wildlife Observations feature in the May issue of Wildlife News. The comments I received support the continuation of this feature in our newsletter, incorporating any wildlife sightings within Wycombe and South Bucks likely to be of interest to our readers. The format of this feature has been changed so that more information can be included where appropriate and photographs or other illustrations added. I hope you all like the new format.

Buzzard

An interesting sighting by Jackie Kay on 9th February which was accidentally omitted from the May newsletter. The bird was sitting in one of the trees near the Wycombe Museum and was identified by its cat-like calls. Whilst Buzzards are now very common in the surrounding countryside, they do not often land so close to the town centre.

Swift

1st seen over house in Deeds Grove on 7th May.

Painted Lady

1st seen in Deeds Grove garden on 16th May.

Hummingbird Hawkmoth

Seen by Paul Bowyer in his Flackwell Heath garden on 19th July. These unusual daytime flying moths are often mistaken for small hummingbirds when they hover around garden plants in hot sunny weather.



Lapwing

50+ seen at Marlow on 5th August.

Clouded Yellow

This uncommon butterfly species was seen by Paul Bowyer at BBOWT's Yoesden Bank Nature Reserve in Radnage on 13th August.



Common Tern

1st seen at Marlow on 13th May.

Willow Warbler

Passing through Carver Hill area 12th - 15th May.

Reeve's Pheasant

A couple were seen on 14th July in Lees Wood near Downley on the route of the planned Round Wycombe Walk. Most sightings of this alien species are escapees from collections, but they have bred in the the UK.

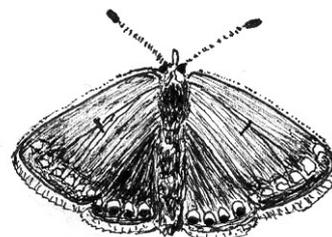


Buzzard

Seen on tree in Tyler's Green garden on 31st July.

Brown Argus

This butterfly species was seen by Paul Bowyer in his Flackwell Heath garden on 31st July.



Maiden's Blush

A moth seen by Paul Bowyer in his Flackwell Heath garden on 13th August. Some individuals have a large area of reddish blush in centre of forewing and some only have a reddish cross-line. (See illustration on front cover.)

