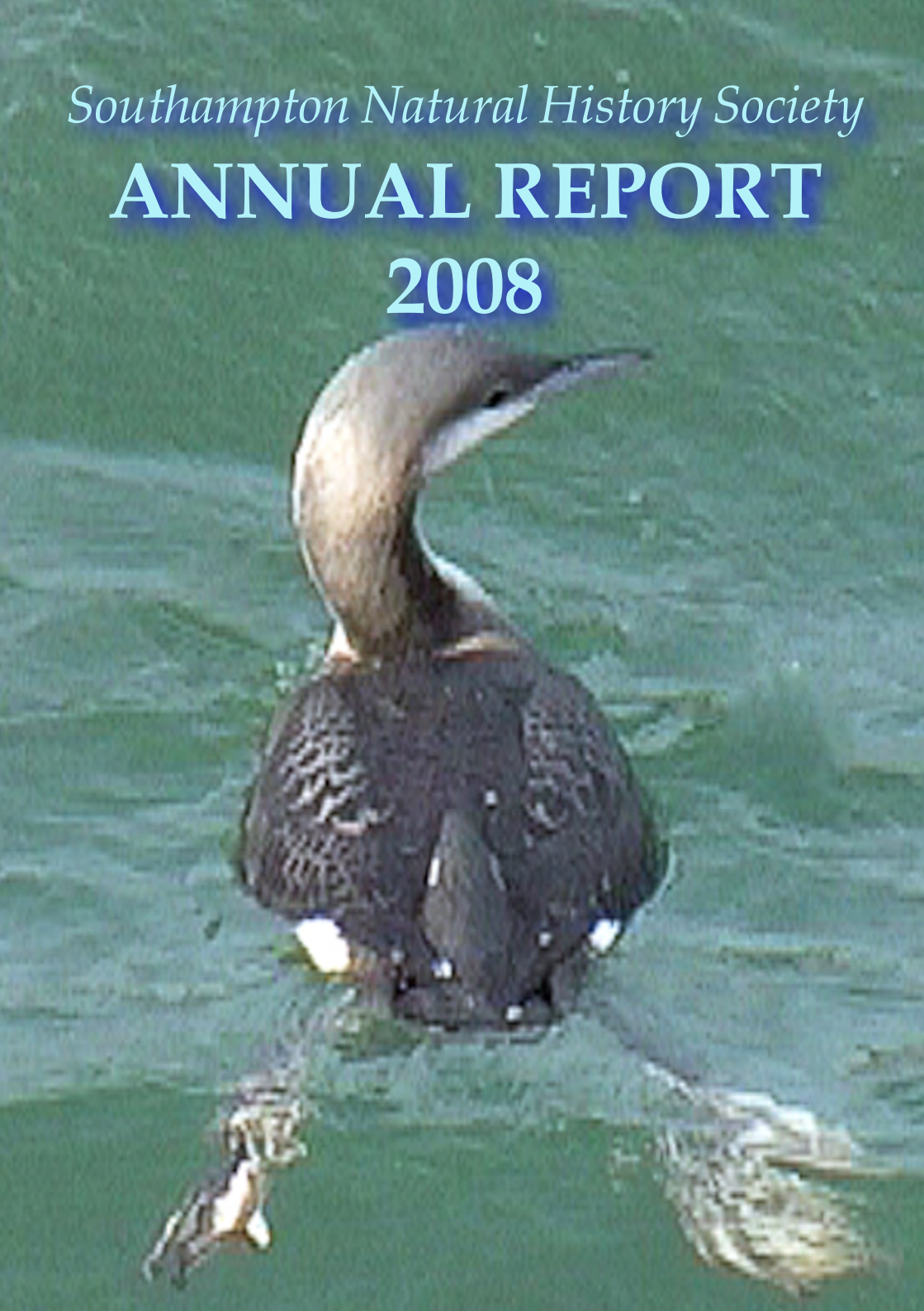
Southampton Natural History Society

ANNUAL REPORT 2008



SOUTHAMPTON NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

ANNUAL REPORT 2008

CONTENTS

	Page
Membership Secretary's Report	2
Field Meetings	2
Indoor Meetings	15
Planet Earth is Rubbish by **Darren Naish**	17
Update on the Hoverfly Survey	22
Simple Key to Common Hoverflies *Syrphidae*	24
Weather Records 2008	29
Weather Over the First 100 Years of the Society	33
Members' Records for 2008	37
Mycota	37
Flora	40
Fauna	44

Society website: http://sotonnhs.org/

Cover: Black-throated Diver
Photographs:
Phil Budd, Peter Burford, Andy Collins
Design: Mike Creighton

Southampton Natural History Society
Founded 1907

Membership Secretary's Report

Unfortunately, some of the guest members who joined last year did not renew their membership, so for the first time for many years, the total number of members has remained approximately the same, at 146.

We would very much liket o welcome the following new members and hope they enjoy our meetings: Samela Aihie, Jo Butcher, Vicky Fletcher, Robert Ford, Susan Franklin, Rod Halls, H. L. Johnson, Graham Manchip, Madeleine Midgley, Rose Nicole, Lizzie Peat, Jim Smart, Anne Sparkman, Steve Wheatly.

Barbara Thomas

Field Meetings Report

Thirty-one Field Meetings took place in 2008, but this doesn't include the advertised walk by John Vetterlein at Southampton Old Cemetery on 28th December. No identification workshops were held in 2008, but there was an event to celebrate the centenary at Woodmill on 30th August and a visit to the Hampshire County Council Chilcomb Museum on 17th January (see separate articles below).

The Field Meetings continued to be advertised on our website and on the traditional coloured cards. Also Darren Naish continued to advertise Field Meetings, and other events, through the use of the e-mail contact list set up last year.

None of our Field Meetings was cancelled this year although the Shipton Bellinger meeting of 9th August was cut short due to advancing heavy rain. No members turned up at either of the moth lamps with Fareham Council at Funtley Meadow and Seafield Park or the Hilsea Lines evening meeting of 3rd June. However, there had been heavy rain all day up to an hour prior to the start of the Hilsea meeting. The remaining twenty-eight Field Meetings saw an average attendance of eight, slightly up on 2007.

In 2008 there were three fungus forays, four flora meetings, two meetings looking at lichens and some Bryophytes, two insect 'forays', one bird and butterfly meeting, two moth lamps, one mollusc (snail) foray, one seashore event, one reptile search, one bat walk, one bird and deer watch, four bird watches and nine general-interest excursions.

We held joint meetings with the HCT (Herpetological Conservation Trust), Fareham Council, HSG (Hawthorns Support Group—formerly the Hawthorns Wildlife Association), HOS (Hampshire Ornithological Society) and the Southampton and District Bird Group. We thanked all of these groups for their co-operation with us.

Event leaders in 2008 included David Allen (1), Andy Barker (1), Phil Budd (13), Peter Burford (2), Andy Collins (1), Simon Currie (2), Anthea and Vernon Jones (2), Graham Long and June Chatfield (1), Julian Moseley (3), Chris and Mike Pawling (2), Gary Powell (HCT—1), Chris Oliver (1), John Poland (2—on both occasions kindly standing for other leaders), Nick Smith (HSG—1) and Andrew Walmsley (1).

We were very fortunate that sixteen of meetings took place on mostly or entirely sunny days and it was bright with some hazy sunshine on five other occasions. In addition, it was cloudy on six occasions, sunshine and showers twice, wet with rain twice, very windy for one meeting, very hot on two occasions and particularly cold twice. No fog or snow was experienced on our Field Meetings in 2008.

Of the thirty-one Field Meetings there were ten all day (or middle of day) events, nine morning excursions, six afternoon events, three evening meetings and a further three meetings continuing after nightfall.

As regards our destinations, eleven of our Field Meetings took place in the Southampton area, six in the New Forest, six in southeast Hampshire (east of River Hamble), four in west Hampshire, (away from the New Forest), one in Wiltshire (Redlynch area), one in north Hampshire (Eversley Lakes), one in east Dorset (Town Common) and one in West Sussex (Pagham Harbour).

Detailed records from all of our meetings were recorded and full lists are available from the Recording Officer or myself. Some highlights of the Field Meetings appear on the web site. Some of the more interesting records from the Field Meetings are given below:

Eversley Lakes (Northern Hampshire)
Date: 27th January 2008 all day. Leader: Peter Burford. Purpose: Birdwatch. Attendance: 3. Weather: Dry and mild with long sunny spells. Highlights: Pale Brindled Beauty Moth—dark form of female on a tree trunk. Birds: 46 species including 3 Snow Goose, 6+ Barnacle Goose, 1 Bar-headed Goose x Barnacle Goose hybrid, 3 Egyptian Goose, 6 Goosander, Stonechat and 10 Siskin. 5 Roe Deer were also seen.

Hinchelsea Moor and Markway, New Forest
Date: 2nd February 2008 morning. Leader: Andrew Walmsley. Purpose: Birds and deer. Attendance: 10. Weather: Dry and chilly but with sunny spells. Highlights: 15 bird species including Little Egret—1 flew over car park at Bats Bush; Hen Harrier—1 'ringtail' female at Markway; Snipe—1 at Markway; Great Grey Shrike—1 at Markway; Dartford Warbler; Bullfinch—1 female. Mammals included Roe Deer—1 at Markway; Red Deer—9 seen in two groups.

Peartree Green
Date: 17th February 2008 morning. Leader: Phil Budd. Purpose: Lichens on trees. Attendance: 5. Weather: Dry and sunny after a cold start. Highlights: 26 species of lichen including *Candelaria concolor*, *Candelariella vitellina*, *Hypotrachyna revoluta*, *Lecanora symmicta*, *Phaeophyscia nigricans*, *Phaeophyscia orbicularis*, *Punctelia ulophylla*, *Rimelia reticulata*, *Xanthoria candelaria* and *Xanthoria polycarpa*. Mosses on trees included *Syntricyia laevipila*. Vascular Flora (already in bloom) included *Muscari neglectum* (Small Grape Hyacinth) and *Viola odorata* (Sweet Violet). Also a Buzzard passed over.

Broughton Area
Date: 1st March 2008 morning. Leader: Anthea and Vernon Jones. Purpose: Mad March Hares and other wildlife. Attendance: 8. Weather: Dry and mild with long sunny spells. Highlights: Vascular Flora (8 species in bloom) including *Prunus spinosa* (Blackthorn) and *Vinca major* (Greater Periwinkle). 23 species of birds including 2 Little Egret; 4+ Buzzard; Redwing— several flocks; Rook—rookeries in Ash, Sycamore and Silver Birch trees and Linnet. Barn Owl pellets discovered. Mammals included 10 Brown Hare (behaving themselves) and a nest of Harvest Mouse.

Valley Park Woodlands (Zionshill, Treadgauld's and Sky's Wood)
Date: 16th March 2008 morning. Leader: Phil Budd. Purpose: Early spring flora. Attendance: 4. Weather: Dull, damp and cold after a very wet night. Highlights: Vascular Flora (species of interest and in bloom) included *Endymion non-scripta* (Wild Bluebell)—very early; *Narcissus pseudonarcissus* (Wild Daffodil)—especially in Treadgauld's Copse and *Viola reichenbachiana* (Early Dog Violet). Birds included a male Blackcap, Chiffchaff, Redwing—small flock and 3 Bullfinch .

Stockbridge Down (colour page 1)
Date: 12th April 2008 all day. Leaders: Graham Long and June Chatfield. Purpose: Mollusc Foray. Attendance: 9. Weather: Sunny spells and showers, warmer in afternoon. Highlights: Flora: *Atropa belladonna* (Deadly Nightshade)—not in bloom and *Lamiastrum galeobdolon ssp argentatum* (Garden Yellow Archangel)—by car park. Molluscs: 27+ species including *Carycium tridentatum*, *Cecilioides acicula*, *Cernuella virgata*, *Cochlidella laminata*, *Helicella itala*, *Nesovitrea hammo*nis, *Oxychilus alliarius*, *Oxychilus cellarius*, *Oxychilus draparnaudi*, *Pomatias elegans*, *Tandoria sowerbyi*, *Vallonia excentrica* and *Vitrina pellucida*. Also *Glomeris marginata* (Pill Millipede) recorded.

Town Common, Christchurch (colour page 1)
Date: 27th April 2008 morning. Leader: Phil Budd and Gary Powell (HCT);. Purpose: Reptiles. Attendance: 11. Weather: Cloudy then hazy sun and warm (preceded by heavy rain). Highlights: The uncommon fungus *Clitocybe aquosa*. Heath land lichens included: *Cladonia floerkeana*, *Cladonia ramulosa* and *Cladonia squamosa*. Reptiles included Slow-worm—1 female under a tin; Grass Snake—1 immature under a tin.; Adder—1 pair under a tin; No Smooth Snakes or Sand Lizards. Birds included Cuckoo; Dartford Warbler—one singing male and Raven—pair nesting on pylon.

Funtley Meadows
Date: 9th /10th May 2008. Time: 20:15 to 00:30. Leader: Phil Budd plus rangers James Hitchen and Della Craven (Fareham Council). Purpose:-Moths (UV-light). Weather: Warm and mostly cloudy with southeast breeze (good conditions). 28 species of moth recorded including Lunar Marbled Brown *Drymonia ruficornis*; Mocha *Cyclophora annularia*; Orange Footman *Eilema sororcula*; Pale Pinion *Lithophane hepatica* and Scorched Carpet *Ligdia adustata.* Also on site but not at the light was False Black Widow Spider *Steatodea nobilis* and 30 Yellow Slug *Limax flavus* on oak trunks. One Little Owl also heard calling.

Southampton Common
Date: 11th May 2008 afternoon. Leader: Nick Smith (Hawthorns Support Group); Purpose: Flowering plants, trees and insects. Attendance: 7 (including 5 SNHS members). Weather: Hot and sunny. Flora highlights: *Carex binervis* (Moor Sedge) and *Geranium lucidum* (Shining Crane's-bill)—outside Hawthorns Centre. Fauna highlights: Butterflies included Holly Blue and Speckled Wood; moth larvae including Autumnal Moth, Mottled Umber and Winter Moth. Large numbers of the click beetles *Athous haemorrhoidalis*; a Hornet; *Malachius bipustulatus* (Red-tipped Flower Beetle) and *Phyllaphis fagi* (Beech Aphid).

Whiteley Pastures
Date: 18th May 2008 morning. Leaders: Phil Budd and Andy Collins. Purpose: Hoverflies and Longhorn Beetles. Attendance: 11. Weather: Sunny spells and average temperatures. Insect highlights: Moth larvae including The Sprawler and Grey Shoulder-knot; Hoverflies including *Dasysyrphus venustus*, *Meliscaeva auricollis*, *Parhelophilus frutetorum* and *Xylota abiens*; Longhorn Beetles including *Alosterna tabacicolor*, *Pachytodes cerambicyformis* and *Stenocorus meridianus*. Other insects: Fleabane Tortoise Beetle *Cassida fastuosa* and Speckled Yellow Moth. Birds included singing Garden Warbler and Nightingale.

Lower Test Marshes and Testwood

Date: 31st May 2008 afternoon. Leader: Anthea and Vernon Jones. Purpose: General Interest, including birds. Attendance: 11; Weather: Warm and muggy, with hazy sunny spells. Fungi included *Laetiporus sulphureus* (Chicken-of-the-woods)—on *Salix* (Willow). Flowering Plants included *Catapodium marinum* (Sea Fern Grass), *Samolus valerandi* (Brookweed) and *Trifolium striatum* (Soft Clover). The first and last of these were found by Redbridge Causeway. Insects included *Calopteryx virgo* (Demoiselle Agrion). Birds included singing Cetti's Warbler and Reed Warbler.

Hilsea Lines, Portsmouth

Date: 3rd June 2008 evening. Leader: Phil Budd. Purpose: General Wildlife, including flora. Weather: Cool with hazy sunny spells, after rain all day. Flowering Plants (of note): *Aesculus indica* (Indian Horse Chestnut), *Euphorbia oblonga* (Balkan Spurge), *Fraxinus ornus* (Flowering Ash), *Geranium purpureum* (Little Robin), *Oenanthe pimpinelloides* (Corky-fruited Water Dropwort) and *Thalictrum minus* (Lesser Meadow Rue). Bird highlights: Little Egret and 4 Tufted Duck.

Martin Down (MD) and Vernditch Chase (VC)

Date:7th June 2008 all day. Leader: Julian Moseley (joint with Southampton Bird Group). Purpose: Birds and butterflies. Attendance: 14 (including 8 SNHS members). Weather:-Warm, dry and mostly sunny. Flowering Plants, of note, included *Aquilegia vulgaris* (Columbine)—VC; *Lithospermum officinale* (Common Gromwell)—VC; *Neottia nidus-avis* (Birdsnest Orchid)—2 in VC; *Onobrychis viciifolia* (Sainfoin)—VC and *Platanthera chlorantha* (Butterfly Orchid)—10+ in VC. Butterflies: 11 species including: Dingy Skipper—1 in VC; Grizzled Skipper—1 on MD; Adonis Blue—1+ on MD; Brown Argus—1 at MD and Small Heath—both sites. Moths included Mother Shipton—VC; *Pyrausta nigrata*—VC and Small Eggar—larvae on Blackthorn—VC. Beetles included *Clytus arietis* (Wasp Beetle)—VC; *Pyrochroa serraticornis* (Cardinal Beetle)—VC and *Stenurella melanura* (a longhorn beetle)—VC. Hoverflies: *Volucella bombylans*. Birds included Turtle Dove—MD; Garden Warbler—VC; Nightingale—1 singing in VC and Corn Bunting—2 singing on MD.

Southampton Old Town Walls

Date: 16th June 2008 evening. Leader:John Poland (stood in for Phil Budd). Purpose: Flora of Old Town Walls. Attendance: 5. Weather: Cool but sunny with a northeast breeze. Flowering Plants (of note) included *Polypogon monspeliensis* (Annual Beard Grass)—still present on former Pirelli site. Everything seen on old walls was recorded previously. Fauna: *Harmonia axyridis* (Harlequin Ladybird)—larva seen.

Brockenhurst Area
Date: 28th June 2008 all day. Leader: David Allen. Purpose: Bramble identification in the New Forest. Attendance: 5. Weather: Warm, dry and sunny. Insects included *Libellula depressa* (Broad-bodied Chaser).

"Following last year's baptism of fire in the almost overwhelming diversity of brambles with which Southampton Common confronts those willing to tackle this challenging group, the eastern New Forest promised a less testing time for the party of six that I led on behalf of the SNHS. For, contrary to what one might suppose, the Forest itself —as opposed to sites along its margins—is not nearly so rich, thanks to the paucity of lightly-shaded ground free of intensive browsing by deer. Indeed, as quickly became all too apparent, across great stretches it is hard to find any brambles at all, let alone less common ones.

Winding northwards from Brockenhurst Station, we soon came across the two commonest Forest species, *Rubus nemoralis* and *R.insectifolius*, and the next stop fielded another five; but after that we twice found ourselves in bramble deserts, and it was only after lunch at the north end of Bolderwood that things picked up again, with a further six at intervals along the roadside, partly under the bracken. Pleasingly, those included the widespread, particularly distinctive *R.sprengelii* and two Hampshire/Isle of Wight endemics, the suitably christened *R.hantonensis* and a speciality of the Forest's north half, the recently named (after the local Jutish chieftain) *E.cerdicii*.

However, it was only by driving a long way further on, to open wooded scrub west of Ocknell Pond, that a richer array at last presented itself. Here thirteen of the seventeen noted had not been seen earlier and included two more characteristic of the Forest's north half, *R.platyacanthos* and the miniature *R.pistoris*, as well as a new hectad record in *R.subinermoides*, a clay-loving species way off its beat. Best of all, though, was a huge senescent clump of a mystery white-flowered eglandular bramble and subsequent study was to suggest it might be the long-sought-after *R.plymensis* of far southwest England. Alas, the bush was past any longer putting out primo canes, the first-year barren stems essential for conclusive identification in *Rubus*, and so any hope of confirming that tentative naming frustratingly had to be deferred for a fuller search on a later occasion."

David Allen

Home Covert to Nursling Substation
Date: 5th July 2008; Time: 11:00 to 13:30. Leader: John Poland (stood in for Jason Claxton). Purpose: General interest, especially flora and insects. Attendance: 6. Weather: Not recorded (must have been dry and bright for butterflies). Flora included *Malva moschata* (Musk Mallow) and *Polygonum multiflorum* (Solomon's-seal).

Insects included Long-winged Conehead *Conocephalus discolor*, Small Skipper, Meadow Brown and Marbled White.

Seafield Park
Date: 18th July 2008 late evening. Leader: Phil Budd plus rangers James Hitchen and Della Craven (Fareham Council) and two members of the public. Purpose: Moths (UV-light). Weather: Cool and cloudy with strong west breeze (poor conditions). 24 species of moth recorded including Kent Black Arches and Obscure Wainscot.

Pound Hill (PHI) and Hurst Hill (HHI) Inclosures and Brinken Wood (BW)
Date: 27th July 2008 all day. Leader: Simon Currie. Purpose: Birds, butterflies, flowers and folklore. Attendance: 5. Weather: Hot, dry and sunny. Fungi included *Gloeophyllum sepiarium* (Pine Mazegill)—PHI on Douglas Fir log. Flowering Plants (of note) included *Acer campestre* (Field Maple)—small trees in BW; *Genista anglica* (Petty Whin)—in flower on heath at Queen's Bower; *Scutellaria galericulata* (Common Skullcap)—on track west out of HHI and *Wahlenbergia hederacea* (Ivy-leaved Bellflower)—strong colony by Highland Water, BW. Butterflies: 10 species including Silver-studded Blue—1 late male on heath at Queens Bower and Silver-washed Fritillary—about 6 on Bramble in BW and 1 on Spear Thistle at PHI. Odonata included a lot of *Calopterys virgo* (Demoiselle Agrion) on Highland Water. Orthoptera included *Conocephalus discolor* (Long-winged Conehead) and *Metrioptera roeselii* (Roesel's Bush Cricket)—both in tall grass in PHI and *Omocestus rufipes* (Woodland Grasshopper)—also in PHI. Hoverflies included *Dasysyrphus albostriatus*; *Meliscaeva cinctella*; *Myathropa florea* and *Sericiomya silentis*—mostly on Bramble in BW. Other insects included *Aquarius najas* (Giant Pond-skater)—gathering of nymphs in stream in BW and a late *Cetronia aurata* (Rose Chafer)—1 on thistle at PHI. Spiders included *Dolomedes fimbriatus* (Raft Spider)—on dry *Juncus* at PHI. Birds included Mandarin Duck—2 on stream in BW; Kingfisher—holes in bank of Highland Water at BW; Redstart—HHI and edge of PHI; Firecrest—1 seen in PHI; Siskin —lots in PHI and Crossbill—10 over PHI. Mammals included Fox—pellet with rove beetles in it at HHI; Badger—dug-out wasp nest at Wide Lawn and Red Deer —young one in PHI.

Shirley Valley at Shirley Warren
Date: 31st July 2008 evening. Leader: Phil Budd. Purpose: Insects and spiders. Attendance: 7; Weather: Warm, muggy and cloudy with showers. Flowering Plants (of note): *Epipactis helleborine* (Broad-leaved Helleborine)—4 spikes seen at SU390147 and *Solidago giganteum* (Early Goldenrod)—Bower's Meadow. Spiders included *Argiope bruenichi* (Wasp Spider) and *Nigma puella* (Bleeding Heart Spider). Insects included: *Himacerus mirmicioides* (Ant Damselbug)—

nymph; *Volucella pellucans* (a hoverfly); *Abrostola tripartita* (Spectacle Moth)—larva off willow and *Subcoccinella 24-punctata* (24-spot Ladybird).

Shipton Bellinger
Date: 9th August 2008 morning (but short after an hour due to weather).Leader: Peter Burford. Purpose: Brown Hairstreak butterfly and other wildlife; Attendance: 4. Weather: Cool and cloudy with rain and drizzle. Flora (of note): *Asperula cynanchica* (Squinancywort); *Centuaria nigra* (Knapweed)—white-flowered variant; *Cirsium eriophorum* (Woolly Thistle); *Clinopodium vulgare* (Wild Basil)—white-flowered variant; *Cotoneaster horizontalis* (Wallspray)—bird sown; *Gentianella amarella* (Autumn Gentian) and *Inula conyza* (Ploughman's Spikenard). Insects seen, despite the poor weather, were Meadow Brown butterfly; *Macrothylacia rubi* (Fox Moth)—larva and *Timarcha tenebricosa* (Bloody-nosed Beetle).

Mansbridge, River Itchen
Date: 15th August 2008 late evening. Leader: Chris and Mike Pawling. Purpose: Bat walk. Attendance: 13. Weather: Mild, partly cloudy and dry. Insects seen/heard: Dark Bush Cricket—singing near Old Mansbridge; Large Red Underwing Moth—Old Mansbridge; Yellow Shell Moth—2 feeding on Ragwort blooms. Fish seen in river including Brown Trout, Chub, Tench and Roach. Bats picked up by detector: Soprano Pipistrelle; Common Pipistrelle; Daubenton's Bat and Noctule Bat.

Warsash
Date: 6th September 2008 morning. Leader: Chris Oliver. Purpose: Bird watch. Attendance: 7. Weather: Dull, cool and windy with frequent rain. Flora of interest included *Bupleurum tenuissimum* (Slender Hare's-ear) and *Mentha x villosa* (Apple Mint), both in bloom. Birds: 36 species seen including 2 Grey Heron, 2 Little Egret, 10 Gadwall, 2 Teal, 1 Kestrel, 1 Grey Plover, 3 Dunlin, 2 Greenshank, Black-tailed Godwit, 1 Sandwich Tern and 1 Kingfisher (at Hook Links) (colour page 4).

Gilkicker, Gosport (colour page 1)
Date: 13th September 2008 all day. Leader: Phil Budd. Purpose: Late summer flora, insects and birds. Attendance: 12. Weather: Sunny, warm, dry and calm. Flora (of note): *Centaureum pulchellum* (Lesser Centaury); *Crithmum maritimum* (Rock Samphire); *Erodium moschatum* (Musk Storksbill); *Lathyrus tuberosus* (Tuberous Pea)—no longer in flower; *Linaria repens* (Pale Toadflax) and *Aster tripolium* (Sea Aster)—4 white-flowered and one var. *discoidea.* Spiders included *Dicranopalpus ramosus* (a harvestman); *Larinioides cornuta* and *Zygiella atrica*—beaten from *Quercus ilex*. Butterflies included Speckled Wood, Small Heath, Small Copper,

Common Blue, Large White, Small White, Clouded Yellow. 7 species. Hoverflies included *Eristalis pertinax*; *Eristalis tenax*; *Helophilus trivittatus*; *Myathropa florea*; *Syrphus ribesii*; *Volucella zonaria* (6 species). Hemiptera (bugs) included *Chorosoma schillingi* and *Myrmus miriformis*. Other insects: *Aeshna mixta* (Migrant Hawker); *Metrioptera roesellii* (Roesel's Bush Cricket)—dead in a web; *Colletes hederae* (Ivy Mining Bee)—large colony on banks of fort and *Lixus vilis* (a weevil but not the 'Gilkicker Weevil'). Birds included 1 Mediterranean Gull; Sandwich Tern—4+; 5 Yellow Wagtail; 1 Whinchat and 1 Wheatear.

Longdown Area, New Forest

Date: 21st August 2008 morning. Leader: Phil Budd. Purpose: Birds, insects, flowers and fungi. Attendance:-14. Weather: Warm, dry and sunny. Fungi: 17 species including *Daldinia vernicosa*—on dead gorse; *Mycena sanguinolenta*; *Panaeolus semiovatus* (Egg-shell Toadstool); *Paxillus atratomentosus*; *Rhodocollybia maculata* (Spotted Tough-shank) and *Tricholomopsis rutilans* (Plums-and-Custard). Ferns included *Lycopodiella inundata* (Marsh Clubmoss) and *Osmunda regalis* (Royal Fern)—both producing spores. Flowering Plants in bloom included *Gentiana pneumonanthe* (Marsh Gentian); *Radiola liniodes* (Flax-seed); *Solidago virgaurea* (Golden-rod) and *Ulex minor* (Dwarf Gorse). Butterflies seen were Red Admiral; Large White; Small White and Small Copper. Other insects included *Sympetrum striolatum* (Common Darter); *Metrioptera brachyptera* (Bog Bush Cricket)—an adult male caught; *Omocestus viridula* (Common Green Grasshopper); *Nemobius sylvestris* (Wood Cricket); *Oxyria antiqua* (Vapourer Moth) and *Sericiomya silentis* and *Helophilus pendulus* (both hoverflies). Birds included a Redstart seen in Longdown Inclosure.

Pagham Harbour, West Sussex

Date: 28th September 2008 all day. Leader: Julian Moseley (joint with HOS). Purpose: Migrant Birds. Attendance: 6. Weather: Warm, dry, sunny and calm. Birds at Sidlesham Ferry Pool included an early Wigeon; a Hobby—hunting dragonflies; 3 Avocet and 3 Little Stint. Birds on walk to Church Norton Shore included: 11 Buzzard—soaring on thermals; 1 Greenshank; Curlew—58 roosting in field at high tide; Whimbrel; Spotted Flycatcher—churchyard; 2 Wheatear and Stonechat.

Southampton Common

Date: 5th October 2008 afternoon. Leader:-Philip Budd. Purpose: Fungus Foray. Attendance: 2. Weather: Mild, cloudy and windy after a very wet morning. Fungi on woodchip store northwest of Ornamental Lake: *Agrocybe rivulosa* and *Gymnopilus dilepis* (colour page 3). New Tetrad Records for Southampton Common: *Hypoxylon fragiforme*; *Hypoxylon multiforme*; *Lactarius pubescens*; *Lenzites betulinus*; *Phellinus igniarius* and *Trametes hirsuta*.

Calshot

Date: 12th October 2008 afternoon. Leader: Andy Barker. Purpose: Seashore Life. Attendance: 13. Weather: Dry, sunny and warm.
Highlights:

Scientific name	Common name	Abundance
Haminoea navicula	a Bullomorph Sea Slug	O (6)
Akera bullata	a Bullomorph Sea Slug	R (1)
Ostrea edulis	Common Oyster	R(1)
Ciliata mustela	Five-bearded Rockling	R (1)
Palaemon elegans	a shrimp	O
Goneplax rhomboides	Angular Crab	R (1)
Dilsea carnosa	Red Rags seaweed	O
Halidrys siliquosa	Sea Oak	O
Styela clava	Leathery Sea-squirt	R (1)
Anemonia viridis	Snakelocks Anemone	O
Leptochitona cinerea	a Chiton	R (2)
Acanthochitona crinitis	a Chiton	R (1)
Sagartia sp.	a sea anemone	R (2)
Galathea squammifera	Squat Lobster	R (1)
Pilumnus hirtellus	Hairy Crab	R (2)
Diodora graeca	Common Keyhole Limpet	R (1)
Gibbula magus	Turban Topshell	R (1)
Aeolidiella glauca ?	a Sea Slug	O (10)
Amphipholis squamara	a Brittle Starfish	R (1)
Pagurus bernhardus	Common Hermit Crab	R (2)
Nymphon gracile	a Sea Spider	R (2)
Colpomenia peregrina	Oyster Thief	R (1)

Mayfield Park

Date: 30th October 2008 afternoon. Leader: Phil Budd. Purpose: Fungus Foray. Attendance: 13. Weather: Cold, dry and bright. Fungi: 39 species seen included *Agaricus xanthodermus* (Yellow-stainer); *Cantharellus cibarius* (Chanterelle); *Clavulinopsis helvola*; *Clitocybe geotropa* (Trooping Funnelcap); *Cortinarius pseudosalor*; *Fomes fomentarius* (Tinder Fungus); *Hemimycena candida*; *Lepiota cristata* (Stinking Parasol); *Meripilus giganteus* (Giant Polypore); *Mycena polygramma* (Roof-nail Fungus); *Oudemansiella mucida* (Porcelain Fungus); *Russula fellea* (Geranium-scented Brittlegill); *Stropharia aurantiaca* (Red-lead Roundhead); *Suillus grevellei* (Larch Bolete) and *Suillus luteus* (Slippery Jack).

Anderwood to Sandy Ridge, New Forest
Date: 8th November 2008 all day. Leader: Simon Currie. Purpose: Mammals, birds, fungi and late flowers. Attendance: 3. Weather: Rain then showers and sunny spells, mild. Fungi: 27 species included *Calocera viscosa* (Yellow Stag's-horn); *Claviceps purpurea* (Ergot); *Exidia glandulosa* (Witches Butter); *Lycogala terrestre* (a slime mould); *Mycena haematopus* (Blood-foot Funnelcap); *Neobulgaria pura* (Beech Jellydisk); *Pholiota squarrosa* (Shaggy Scalycap) and *Pleurotus ostreatus* (Oyster Mushroom). Ferns included Lemon-scented Fern. Insects included *Graphocephala fennahi* (Rhododendron Leaf-hopper). Birds: 13 species included Great-spotted Woodpecker; Marsh Tit; Great Grey Shrike—on Blackensford Heath; Redpoll (colour page 4); Crossbill and Redwing.

Netley Common
Date: 22nd November 2008 afternoon. Leader: Phil Budd. Purpose: Fungi and lichens. Attendance: 7. Weather: Cold and rather cloudy. Dry after an early hail shower. Fungi: 21 species include *Arrhenia retiruga*; *Hygrocybe virgineus* (Snowy Waxgill); *Hypomyces chrysospermus*—parasitic on *Suilus variegatus*; *Macrolepiota rhacodes* (Shaggy Parasol); *Panaeolus rickenii*; *Russula aeruginea*; *Russula emetica* (The Sickener); *Stropharia cyanea*; *Suilus variegatus* and *Tricholoma portentosum*. Lichens: 15 species include *Cladonia chlorophaea*; *Cladonia fimbriata*; *Cladonia furcata*; *Cladonia pyxidata*; *Cladonia ramulosa*; *Punctelia ulophylla* and *Peltigera lactusifolia* (= *P. hymenina*). The only insect record was of *Cynips quercusfolii* (Cherry-gall)

Fritham Area
Date: 6th December 2008 all day. Leader: Julian Moseley. Purpose: Bird watch (joint with HOS). Attendance: 11. Weather: Dry, sunny and rather cold. Birds seen included: Goosander—male on Eyeworth Pond; Mandarin—2 males on Eyeworth Pond; 12 Dartford Warbler; 25 Redwing and 2 Treecreeper. Mammals included Fallow Deer—3 bucks and Roe Deer—3 does.

The Family Day and Centenary Celebration – 30th August (colour page 2)
Our Family Day and Centenary Celebration took place as planned on Saturday 30th August and fortunately this turned out to be a very sunny day.

About twenty members of the public turned up, mainly in the middle of the day, when Graham Cornick gave his popular presentation "A Walk on the Wild Side". Brian Harrison's demonstration on the recording of the sounds of birds, animals and insects, followed at 2pm.

Some other major attractions included Wendy Hutchinson's face painting and Sarah Leithhead's insect modelling with wires and beads, both held on the

veranda, plus Darren Naish's bones collection including a lion skull and the jaw of a Cornish shark. Unfortunately Darren couldn't be there in person.

In the outside tent there were displays by Butterfly Conservation and the Southampton Bird Group. On the former stand the colouring in of butterflies was particularly popular. This tent also housed our society display, together with owl pellets kindly donated by Swanwick Reserve staff and Darren Naish. Materials advertising the Hampshire Wildlife Trust, the Hawthorns Centre and the new Southampton Watch Group were also on display and two of the organisers of the watch group, Hannah and Michele, were able to join us in the morning.

The Centenary Cake, a delicious blue sponge creation decorated with an icing Magpie Moth was cut at lunchtime. It was made by Anthea Jones but I am not sure if she managed to sample it herself!

Jan Kidd and Tools for Self Reliance provided one tent and commissioned another already on site. The latter was the ideal venue for that most important of items—lunch. Jan had already prepared plates of various lunch items for both our band of helpers and the public visitors. Jan and one of the TFSR staff assisted by four members erected the main tent on site the previous afternoon.

The fine weather also enabled us to carry out some bug walks and pond dipping around the site. Amongst wildlife seen were two Water Voles, a strange Crustacean known as a fish louse, a Water Scorpion and the pure white coloured Ant Woodlouse under a log. Kathy Emmott and Diane Lidster supervised the pond-dipping sessions.

Finally I would like to help all organisers, display holders and helpers on the day.

Visit to the HCC Chilcomb Collection on Saturday 12th January

Nine members and friends attended the visit to the County Museum at Chilcomb on 12th January. From 10am to 12.30pm Dr Chris Palmer gave us a guided tour of the natural history section. Dr Palmer has worked here for twenty years.

Firstly Chris explained that Chilcomb is part of a larger complex of museums in Hampshire including the Willis Museum at Basingstoke, the Eastleigh Museum and the Geology Collection at High Street in Gosport. The Red House Museum at Christchurch, now in Dorset, is also affiliated. Within the Chilcomb site itself there is also a Hampshire Community (Historical) Museum, an Archaeology Museum and an Art and Design Museum. The latter consists of displays and collections of textiles, firearms, metalwork and ceramics.

Within the natural history section there are three full-time staff, Chris is the Senior Keeper, Christine is in charge of the bird and animal collections and Simon is employed as conservator as well as being an expert on fungi and spiders. Chris himself is particularly interested in entomology (insects). Unfortunately, there is no longer a taxidermist amongst the staff.

The natural history museum at Chilcomb provides a reference and identification service used by amateur naturalists, site rangers and ecological consultants. There are strong links between the museum and such groups as Butterfly Conservation, the Hampshire Wildlife Trust, the Hampshire Biodiversity Information Centre and, increasingly, our own society too.

SNHS members have provided specimens of Hemiptera, beetles and hoverflies obtained in the course of our recent projects. We use the museum as an identification reference and verification facility. Furthermore, the majority of our old paper records (prior to 2003) and all available copies of annual reports, booklets and survey reports dating from about 1955 have been deposited there. We still have some old members records to pass over once these have been entered on to the Mapmate recording software.

Chris explained that most specimens are dried, or in the case of fungi, freeze-dried. No chemicals are used in the preservation of specimens, partly because certain substances such as formalin can destroy DNA. The insect collections are kept warm (room temperature) but at 55% humidity. We learnt that if the humidity is too high then specimens are liable to deteriorate though fungal and bacterial attack, whereas excessively dry conditions may cause the remaining wooden cabinets to split. To help combat preservation problems the older wooden cabinets are gradually being replaced by cheaper metal ones with airtight magnetic seals.

We were shown the collections of freeze-dried fungi and lichens as well as the herbarium collections. There are also many cabinets of stuffed birds, mammals and reptiles and an extensive insect collection. We were shown a dodo thighbone and some old bird egg and skull collections. We also saw the museum reference library.

We would like to thank Dr Chris Palmer and his staff for showing us these collections and we plan to make another visit on 17th January 2009.

Phil Budd

Indoor Meetings

We held seven Indoor Meetings in 2008. All were held at the Edmund Kell Hall, but the October to December meetings were the first three to be held on a Monday evening. The main reason for this change was the Tuesday arrangement so often clashed with football matches at the St Mary's Stadium and this proved to be very problematic regarding parking in the area. In another change from the normal arrangements, the Annual General Meeting was not held at Edmund Kell Hall (see below).

Attendances averaged seventeen (lower than for previous years). The highest turn out was twenty-six for the talk on the honeybee on 3rd November. However, only ten members turned up on the 5th February—the lowest recorded attendance in the entire history of the society as far as I am aware. It was noticeable that far more people came along to the autumn meetings on Monday evenings. We continued to advertise the meetings via posters and to send reminders to members on the society e-mail list. I would like to thank Jan Schubert and Darren Naish for advertising the meetings in this way.

Our first lecture took place on **8th January**; this was the second Tuesday of the month as the first had been New Years Day. I gave a Power Point presentation on the amazing variety of alien flora, mostly flowering plants but also a few fungi, now to be found in the Southampton thanks to recent climate trends. I would like to thank Vicki Russell for the loan of some equipment used in this presentation. I also apologise for all the dry throats—there were no refreshments available on the night! On **5th February** Brian Harrison presented an updated version of his interesting lecture on sound recording. He explored the history of equipment development in this field and teased us with bird songs and insect calls! The raffle and the tea service resumed and there was plenty of both to go around thanks to the miserable attendance. On **4th March** Darren Naish presented his fourth lecture for us; the subject was "Britain's changing Herpetofauna". There was a focus on aliens such as the Green Lizards of Bournemouth, the green frogs in the New Forest, Snapping Turtles in the Midlands and the African Clawed Toads in Wales. Add to that the Midwife Toads that John Poland and I heard at St Alban's, Hertfordshire in May 2007! There was no raffle, but free reptile posters were available.

Seventeen members attended our 2008 AGM on **1st April**. Anthea and Vernon Jones very kindly allowed this to take place at their Belmont Road home with just 24 hours' notice. The reason for this was that we couldn't access the Edmund Kell Hall as I had temporarily mislaid the key. The hall key was later found wedged inside a map of County Galway, Ireland! The business included the election

of Vicki Russell as Recording Officer, a record of our thanks for the work of Professor Andy Collins in this role and the agreement to appoint Jan Kidd as an honorary member. There was a quiz, a raffle and a buffet meal. We would like to thank Paul Tarrant and Vicki Russell for providing the buffet items

On **6th October** Dominic Couzens of Ferndown, Dorset presented a very entertaining lecture on the antics of birds entitled the "Secret Lives of Garden Birds" with a wealth of information that could not be obtained without close study of our feathered friends. There was no raffle, but there was a sale of some of Dominic's books. Ron and Barbara Thomas kindly prepared the refreshments in the absence of Anthea and Vernon. On the **3rd November** we welcomed another outside speaker, Richard Kimmish. The lecture on the "Natural History of the Honeybee" was highly interesting and informative without being too technical. There was a curious incident at the start of the evening when two people came in off the street thinking that we were opening up a soup kitchen! Finally on **1st December** Peter Burford presented an illustrated talk on a trip to the Galapagos, part of an excursion that also included Ecuador. We were shown most of the characteristic birds, reptiles and mammals of the Galapagos as well the scenery and examples of the somewhat limited flora there. The refreshments, including mince pies, and also wine for the raffle were kindly supplied by Anthea and Vernon.

Finally many thanks are due to all the speakers and organisers of our Indoor Meetings programme plus those who organise the refreshments, raffle, etc.

Phil Budd

Planet Earth is Rubbish
Darren Naish

On two Saturdays in March and October 2008, together with another 30 or 40 people, I went along to Chessel Bay and took part in an effort to clear the shore of its tons upon tons of human rubbish. Unsatisfied with our constant use of resources, our epic, manic pollution, and our rampant annihilation of other species, we aim to cover as much of the planet's surface as possible in our waste: we are literally doing our very best to swamp natural environments with the discarded trash that we can't be bothered to deal with properly. You don't need much practical experience in this sort of thing to gain an even lower view of humanity than you had beforehand ...

In the two bin-bags that I collected in March were untold numbers of used tampon applicators, plastic bottle tops, plastic bags, drinking straws, two rubber ducks, and thousands upon thousands of polystyrene fragments. In October I picked up only one plastic yellow duck. Drinking straws were common, as were small straw-like objects made of hard plastic. Not sure what they were: we thought they might be catheters, but catheters are flexible. I found a few condoms (one of which was still in its wrapper) and about four syringes. I also removed three trainers and collected several kilos of broken glass. What interested me about the glass was that all of it was old: very thick, heavily dulled by years of abrasion, and of the sort not used in bottle manufacture anymore (I worked in the drinks industry for a while during 2007 so know a bit about bottle manufacture and glass types). If new glass wasn't present, does this mean that glass recycling is actually making a difference? By 'making a difference' I mean: is it stopping the glass from making its way into the environment?

In October the rubbish—though still present in great enough quantity—wasn't as bad as last time and after a couple of hours my mum (Sandra) and I even managed to produce a small area that at least looked rubbish-free. Well, 'macro-rubbish' free: you could spend a week collecting 'micro-rubbish' from a square metre of beach and still not make any difference to that square metre.

Overall, I thought that things had improved and that, maybe, just maybe, our efforts really had started to turn the tide. After only several hours of tidying, we had filled up two vehicles with rubbish bags. But we were on the southern half of the beach, the part that is adjacent to woodland. Out of curiosity, I decided to go look at the northern half (adjacent to a residential area). Ah. Tons and tons of rubbish. So much, in fact, that I was able to fill up a whole bin-bag within less than ten minutes. And another. And another.

Why I hate plastic tampon anpplicators

Much of the beach macro-litter was 'street litter': crisp packets, carrier bags, chocolate bar wrappers, drink bottles, tin cans. The sort of stuff that people throw down in the street. Disposable lighters should be banned, but I suppose they might become less of a problem as more people quit smoking. I gave up counting plastic tampon applicators after picking up the 200th. Given that they are so abundant in beach waste, and given that women aren't about to stop using them (and, please, I'm not criticising the fact that women choose to use them), I wonder if manufacturers have considered making them from *biodegradable plastic*. Actually, I did a bit of research, and I see that patents have been filed for biodegradable applicators, though I have no idea whether they're being manufactured. And, much as I'd like to wander round the local shops examining feminine hygiene products, my research on the subject stopped there.

Plastic bags and the Modbury effect

A while ago I read a claim that the plastic carrier bag had become the poor scapegoat of the global anti-litter movement, and that it really wasn't Public Enemy Number 1 as argued. I have some experience at picking up rubbish, and let me tell you that this claim is untrue. Plastic bags are ubiquitous in waste, and a real nuisance. In a day's worth of litter-collecting on the beach you can pick up hundreds.

I am pleased to see that people are increasingly aware of Modbury in Devon, a town which, on May 1st 2007, became completely plastic bag free, and all thanks to the efforts of a single woman, Rebecca Hosking. After witnessing the plight of Hawaii's beaches and seabirds in her work as a wildlife film-maker, she became determined to make a difference. Other towns in the UK are, apparently, now seriously thinking of going bag-free too. In Southampton, it is probably not practical or possible for us to even try to organise any city-wide bag-free policy, but that doesn't mean that we shouldn't think about it. The supermarket chain Sainsbury's no longer has carrier bags available on the checkout, but they're still available should you want them, and I still see no end of people taking home ten disposable carrier bags every time they go shopping (again, hopefully things will change with time).

Nurdles or mermaid's tears

The larger objects can at least be collected: But most disturbing were the millions upon millions of tiny plastic fragments, referred to as nurdles or mermaid's tears (the latter term is particularly inappropriate given that it seems a bit of a smear on mermaids to imply that they might be involved in global pollution). Nurdles are said to result from the constant attrition of floating plastic waste, created as plastic objects bump together and break apart while in the water.

However, most of them are small, round beads. My mum, Sandra, thought that these are the pellets that are produced by the recycling of plastic bottles, and after a bit of research on this I think she might be right. What the hell they're doing contributing to pollution like this is a good question. In fact there were so many nurdles that in many places the entire beach—as far down as I could dig—was predominantly composed of them: they formed the very fabric of the beach itself, held in place by the reeds that grow through them.

The effect on wildife

Plastic rubbish can be thought of as having a two-tiered effect on animals and ecosystems. The most obvious immediate effect on animals is that a huge list of marine species—predominantly all of those that have evolved to prey on plasticky-looking items (like sea jellies, planktonic crustaceans, and fish larvae)—are routinely eating plastic, and it is killing them. More than 110 seabird species, including albatrosses, fulmars, penguins, gannets, skuas, phalaropes, and even Antarctic prions, are on record as having ingested plastic debris (e.g., van Franeker 1985, Azzarello & Van Vleet 1987, Auman et al. 1998, 2003). Statistically, more than nine out of ten fulmar chicks are said to die from ingesting plastic rubbish, and of 560 fulmars included in one study, each bird had ingested an average of 44 plastic objects. Sea turtles and marine mammals now routinely eat plastic debris, or are injured or killed following entanglement with plastic debris. Sea turtles are suffering in particular, given that many floating plastic objects resemble the cnidarians that the turtles prey on. They die from blocked throats or starvation.

The second effect is less obvious, but it is more sinister and, in ecological terms, more pervasive. Plastic fragments might be assumed to be inert and inoffensive but the stuff that plastics contain—benzene, vinyl chloride, and a long list of other substances—leach out of the rubbish and are incorporated into the environment, and hence into living things. PCBs and other pollutants concentrated in plastics have been linked to cancer and reduced fertility in laboratory animals and genital deformity in human babies. Because many of the plastic fragments floating in the sea and washing up on the beaches are decades old, they still contain types of pollutants that are now banned.

A sea of plastic

The sad news is that it's not just beaches that are now swamped in layers of plastic debris. Two immense areas composed of 'plastic soup', the Western and Eastern Pacific Garbage Patches, are now said to occupy much of the central Pacific, covering an area approximately twice that of the continental United States, weighing about 3.5 million tons, and stretching from the Californian coast, past Hawaii, and almost as far as Japan. It is thought that about 20% of the junk has originated from ships and oil platforms whereas the rest comes from land.

The Pacific garbage patches have received a lot of press, but they are far from unique, with similar accumulations present in the North and South Atlantic and Indian Ocean. In fact the United Nations Environmental Program estimates that an average of 46,000 bits of plastic rubbish now float in every single square mile of ocean, with perhaps 40% of the sea's surface littered by plastic.

So what can we do?

As usual, the question that arises at the end is: so what can we do? Beach rubbish seems to originate from several sources. A lot of it is, as mentioned, 'street rubbish': the sort of stuff that, on any day, you can see being chucked down onto the street by people who clearly don't care. I think we should do more to stop people littering by shaming or prosecuting them. In Dublin anti-litter posters said that:

Litter is disgusting: so are those responsible.

Why aren't local councils more proactive about this sort of thing? Has anyone considered running ad campaigns showing cute little baby animals that have been strangled or choked to death by plastic waste, or perhaps one somehow highlighting the fact that deformities in babies have been linked to plastic pollution?

Targeting individuals probably won't get us to the root of the problem, as the impression I get from a lot of the waste is that it comes from another source: I think that much of it 'escapes' from rubbish barges and dumps. This would explain why polystyrene, drinking straws, trainers and plastic ducks are so common. This sort of stuff might fall off barges or boats during transport, or it might get blown by the wind from rubbish dumps. This is upsetting, as it means that even waste that you dispose of properly may still end up on a beach or strangling a baby seabird.

We all need to do what we can to minimise the amount of waste we produce. We should not be producing as much waste as possible in the hope that it will work as an effective carbon-sink (as some insist). We need to minimise the amount of litter that ends up in the environment. And if it seems that litter is only 'cosmetic' and doesn't really matter, I would remind you of the effects on wildlife and humans which I described above.

Like every other human in the developed/developing world, I know that I am part of the problem, even though I have never dropped litter, and I try hard to minimise what plastic waste I and my family produce. We can all do what we can to minimise the amount of plastic rubbish we discard: stop using plastic bags, re-use containers, dispose of rubbish responsibly, don't select products that overdo it on the packaging. But with so many people in the world, so much production of and reliance on plastic, and so little being done, plus so many people who

obviously don't care in the slightest, things are only going to get worse (Ryan 1993). As Agent Smith says to Morpheus in *The Matrix*:

Humanity is the cancer that is eating the planet alive.

References

Auman, H. J., Ludwig, J. P., Giesy, J. P. & Colborn, T. 1998. "Plastic ingestion by Laysan albatross chicks on Sand Island, Midway Atoll in 1994 and 1995". In Robertson, G. & Gales, R. (eds). *Albatross Biology and Conservation*. Surrey Beatty (Chipping Norton), pp. 239-244

Azzarello, M. Y. & Van Vleet, E. S. 1987. "Marine birds and plastic pollution". *Marine Ecology, Progress Series* **37**, 295-303

Hosking, R, 2007, "How one woman's battle to save a dying albatross spawned a national campaign to ban plastic bags", http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-494758/How-womans-battle-save-dying-albatross-spawned-national-campaign-ban-plastic-bags.html

Ryan, P. G. 1993. "Marine litter keeps increasing". *Nature* **361**, 23

van Franeker, J. A. 1985. "Plastic ingestion in the North Atlantic fulmar". *Marine Pollution Bulletin* **16**, 367-369

Woehler, E. J., Riddle, M. J. & Burton, H. 2003. "First evidence of ingestion of plastic debris by seabirds at Sub-Antarctic Heard Island". *Marine Ornithology* **32**, 105-106

This article was first published as two articles on Darren's website:

http://scienceblogs.com/tetrapodzoology/

Update on the Hoverfly Survey

At the time of writing (6th December 2008) we have 1083 records of hoverflies on our society Mapmate database. These records cover 88 (of the 250 British species) and the vast majority of these records date from the last twenty years. The main gaps in the coverage for the Southampton area are Totton and Waterside, Nursling area, the area from West End to Fair Oak and Durley and the Bassett Green/ Southampton University area.

We have so far received 414 new records of 71 species up to 6th December 2008 plus a few more since.

The commonest species of hoverfly in the Southampton area appears to be the Drone Fly *Eristalis tenax*. The three next most commonly recorded species are the 'Marmalade Fly' *Episyrphus balteatus* and two other large and strikingly coloured species—*Myathropa florea* and *Volucella pellucans*.

Hoverflies are relatively easy to study and many of the larger species are fairly easy to recognise. Most species fly between April and October but we have records for twelve species between November to March and two species, *Episyrphus balteatus* and *Eristalis tenax* are commonly seen on mild, sunny days in mid-winter. About half the species that we have records for are commonly seen in parks and gardens and all species are active during the day. Many are active in cloudy weather provided that it is warm and not too windy. A few species such as the *Episyrphus balteatus*, *Baccha elongata* and members of the genus *Metasyrphus* are attracted to moth lamps on warm nights.

Hoverflies are most easily seen nectaring on flowers. In autumn Ivy blossom is fantastic. In mid-winter try the yellow sprays of the evergreen shrub *Mahonia* or the pink spikes of Winter Heliotrope *Petasites fragrans*. In the spring Gorse, willow catkins, Wood Spurge or Dandelion are good and Blackthorn and Hawthorn are even better. In summer hoverflies are spoilt for choice—they go for the flowers of thistles, knapweeds, Sea Aster (near the coast), Fleabane, Goldenrod, ragworts, Scabious, Water Mint, Marjoram, Hemp-agrimony, Carrot, Hogweed, Water Dropwort and shrubs such as *Cornus*, *Pyracantha*, *Hebe* and *Buddleia*.

Hoverflies are recognised by a combination of features:

1. They are typical flies (*Diptera*) and therefore they possess one pair of wings and very large eyes, which take up most of the head. Furthermore, female hoverflies are distinguished from the males by the gap between the eyes.

2. They have a pair built in 'gyroscopes' called *halteres*—these are small drumstick-shaped organs which replace the hind wings. Certain other flies,

such as 'daddy-long-legs' crane flies also share this feature, but in many other *Diptera* there is a membranous flap of material here instead.

3. Most hoverflies (but only a few other *Diptera*) have 'wasp-like' orange, yellow or white markings on a dark brown or black body. However, no hoverflies sting or bite. If there is any doubt that a fly is a hoverfly, then examination of the wing venation shows a fainter false vein and closed outer cells.

Please send in any records of hoverflies that you see in spring and summer 2009, especially of all large and/or easily recognisable species.

Peregrine Productions produce two laminated ID sheets for the identification of common garden species. Two excellent guide books are as follows:

Gilbert, F. S., 1986 *Naturalist Handbooks 5—Hoverflies*. Richmond Publishing Company, Slough

Falk, S. J. & Stubbs, A. E., 2002 *British Hoverflies*. Dorset Press. Dorchester

In addition, I have prepared a simple key to the easier hoverflies to identify (see below). This key should be used in conjunction with a guidebook and it should be used on the smaller yellow and black species with utmost caution. I can provide copies of this key electronically or by post and I might well update it during the course of 2009.

If you have any records of Hoverflies *Diptera:Syrphidae* in Hampshire (including any historical records of the larger species), please send them to the Recording Officer, to me Philip Budd phillipbudd@btinternet.com or call 02380444172.

Stop press: Since writing this article, I have volunteered myself as the hoverfly recorder for Hampshire, as from January 2009. Therefore, any records received will also be passed on to the national recording scheme.

Simple Key to Common Hoverflies *Syrphidae*

1 Insect has two pairs of wings **It is not a member of the *Diptera***
Insect has only one pair of wings **Go to 2 (it is *Diptera*—a true fly)**

2 If all the veins on the wings of the fly are equally sharply defined
It is *Diptera* (a true fly) but not a hoverfly *Syrphidae*
If there is one fainter 'false' vein (actually a fold) running along length of the wing of the fly **Go to 3a**

3a If the hoverfly is very hairy all over and looks like a bumblebee **Go to 4**
If the hoverfly is not hairy or only sparsely so **Go to 3b**
3b Hoverfly is large, round-bodied and has feathery antennae **Go to 49**
Hoverfly is smaller and/or narrower with antennae feathery or not **Go to 7**

4 The wings of the hoverfly have a vein running lengthwise with a 'U'-shaped dip in them **Go to 5**
The wings of the hoverfly have most veins more or less straight with no 'U'-shaped dips **Go to 6**

5 All the legs of the hoverfly are totally black **It is *Merodon equestris***
If the middle section of the legs (tibia) are partly pale **It is *Eristalis intricaria***

6 If the antennae are feathery (use a hand lens) **It is *Volucella bombylans***
If the antennae are not feathery **It is *Cheilosia sp.* or *Criorhina sp.***

7 If the hoverfly is totally black or dark in colour with no obvious markings or black with faint silvery spots **Difficult to ID & not covered by this key**
If the hoverfly has bold markings of any colour **Go to 8**

8 If the wings of the hoverfly have one vein running lengthwise with a 'U'shaped section in it **Go to 9**
If the wings of the hoverfly have most veins more or less straight with no ' U'-shaped sections **Go to 20**

9 If the middle section of the body (thorax) has four longitudinal pale, yellow or orange stripes **Go to 10**
If the thorax is unmarked or marked otherwise **Go to 15**

10 If the markings on the third body section (abdomen) are yellow but the end sections of the legs (tarsi) are black **Go to 11**
If the tarsi are pale and/or the abdominal markings are not yellow **Go to 12**

11 If the edges of the abdominal segments are yellow
It is *Helophilus pendulus*
If the are no yellow edges to the abdominal segments
It is *Helophilus hybridus*

12 If the hoverfly is large with very bright lemon yellow markings
It is *Helophilus trivittatus*

If the hoverfly has orange markings, including thorax stripes **Go to 13**
If the hoverfly has sickle-shaped pale markings **Go to 14**

13 If the hoverfly has an oval or triangular abdomen
It is *Parhelophilus frutetorum*
If the hoverfly has an oblong abdomen **It is *Anasimyia lineata***

14 If the abdomen is straight edged **It is *Anasimyia transfuga***
If the abdomen has concave edges **It is *Anasimyia contracta***

15 If the hoverfly has bright yellow markings and yellow thorax hairs
It is *Myathropa florea*
If the hoverfly is dark brown with orange markings **Go to 16**

16 If the hoverfly has a very triangular abdomen and yellow tarsi on front two pairs of legs **It is *Eristalis pertinax***
If the hoverfly has dark tarsi on the front two pairs of legs **Go to 17**

17 If the hoverfly has an entirely yellow face **It is *Eristalis arbustorum***
If the hoverfly has a black vertical stripe on black about third the width of the face and completely black hind legs **It is *Eristalis tenax***
If the hoverfly has a thin black vertical strip on face and partly yellow hind legs, at least on the tibia (middle section) **Go to 18**

18 If the tibia of the middle leg is entirely yellow **It is *Eristalis abusivus***
If the tibia of the middle leg is partly black **Go to 19**

19 If the wings are clear with only a small black spot on upper edge (stigma)
It is *Eristalis nemorum*
If the wings have a very obvious dark smudge **It is *Eristalis horticola***

20 Large wasp-like hoverflies with feathery antennae **Go to 21**
Hoverflies are variable in appearance but with normal antennae **Go to 22**

21 If the hoverfly has a black scutellum (semi-circular area at rear of thorax) and yellow bands on abdomen **It is *Sericomyia silentis***
If hoverfly has a red scutellum (semi-circular area at rear of thorax) and cream to white bands on abdomen **It is *Sericomyia lappona***
[*Note: If hoverfly is large with feathery antennae but not as above* **Go to 49**]

22 If the hoverfly is running about on leaves (and has an oblong body and a white face) **Go to 23**
If the hoverfly is not running about on leaves (and the above description does not apply) **Go to 24a**

23 If the hoverfly has a yellowish tip to the abdomen and yellow and black legs
It is *Xylota sylvarum*
If the hoverfly has a black tip to a red abdomen and orange and black legs
It is *Xylota segnis*

If the hoverfly is dark with small, faint spots and the legs are black
It is *Xylota abiens*

24a If the hoverfly has an obvious snout and a round, orange abdomen
It is *Rhingia campestris*
If the hoverfly is very slender with a club shaped abdoment
It is *Baccha elongata*
If the hoverfly has a swollen hind femur (upper section of rear leg) **Go to 24b**
If none of the above distinctive features apply **Go to 25**

24b If the hoverfly has an oblong or triangular abdomen with faint spots
It is *Syritta pipiens*
If the hoverfly has a club-shaped abdomen **It is *Neoascia sp.***

25 If the hoverfly is not yellow or orange and black in colour **Go to 26**
If the hoverfly is yellow or orange and black in colour **Go to 28**

26 If the hoverfly is black except for bright red on most of the narrow abdomen
It is *Platycheirus granditarsus*
If the hoverfly is black with white or pale silvery markings **Go to 27**

27 If the hoverfly has a partly cream coloured rather square abdomen and a dark smudge on the wing **It is *Leucozona lucorum***
If the hoverfly is dark with an oval abdomen and three pairs of white ovals or comma-shaped marks **It is *Scaeva pyrasti***
If the hoverfly is black except for two white spots on an oblong abdomen
It is *Platycheirus rosarum*

28 If the hoverfly has bright yellow sides to the thorax **Go to 29**
If the hoverfly has an entirely dark thorax (might have pale hairs) **Go to 32**

29 If the hoverfly has a narrow abdomen and clear wings
It is *Sphaerophoria sp.*
If the hoverfly has an oval abdomen with a brown front wing edge **Go to 30**

30 If the hoverfly has antennae shorter than head and a complete yellow band on the side of the thorax **It is *Xanthogramma pedissequum***
If the hoverfly has antennae as long as the head and a broken yellow band on the edge of the thorax **Go to 31**

31 If the hoverfly has two yellow bars on the abdomen and a very dark front edge to the wing **It is *Chrysotoxum bicintum***
If the hoverfly has three pairs of 'L'-shaped spots on abdomen and almost clear wings **It is *Chrysotoxum festivum***
If the hoverfly has connected yellow bars on abdomen and brown front edge of wing **It is *Chrysotoxum sp.***

32 If the hoverfly has an orange, rectangular abdomen with thin and thick alternating dark bars **It is *Episyrphus balteatus***
If the hoverfly is not as described above **Go to 33**

Gilkicker (p9)

Town Common (p5)

Town Common (p5)

Stockbridge Down, snail meeting (p4)

Slow-worm, Town Common (p5)

Centenary
Event (p12)

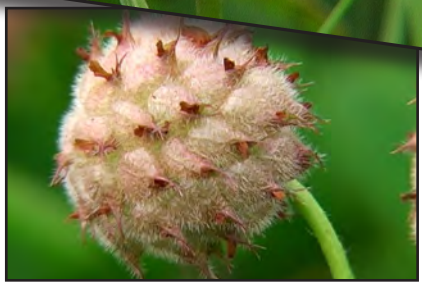
Limenitis camilla
White Admiral (p46)

Euphydryas aurinia Marsh Fritillary (p46)

Colletes hederae Ivy Mining Bee (p49)

Clarkia amoena Godetia (p42)

Cosmos bipinnatus Mexican Aster (p42)



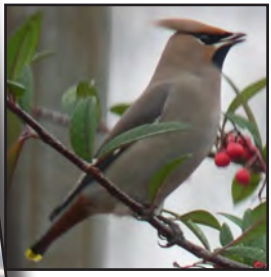
Trifolium striatum Strawberry Clover (p41)

Callistephus chinensis
China Aster (p42)

Gymnopilus dilepis (p10)

Cotoneaster ascendens Ascending Cotoneaster (p42)

Redpoll (p12)



Waxwing (p51)

Black Swan (p50)

Black-throated Diver (p50)

Kingfisher (p9)

33 If the hoverfly has an entirely black face **Go to 34**
If the hoverfly has a yellow or partly yellow face **Go to 35**

34 If the hoverfly has cylindrical front legs (i.e. not flattened) and a narrow, dark abdomen with orange spots **It is *Melanostoma* (usually *M.scalare*)**
If the hoverfly has partly flattened front legs **It is *Platycheirus sp.***

35 If the hoverfly has distinctly hairy eyes (use x10 lens against light) **Go to 36**
If the hoverfly has hairless (or almost hairless) eyes **Go to 40a**
[*Note: most hoverflies are hairy around the eyes—you want to look at the actual lenses of the eyes so the head has to be viewed at an oblique angle*]

36 If the abdomen of the hoverfly is almost oblong **Go to 37**
If the abdomen of the hoverfly is distinctly oval **Go to 38**

37 If the hoverfly has two triangular yellow-orange spots on the 2nd abdominal segment and yellow bands on the 3rd & 4th **It is *Melangyna cincta***
If the combination of abdominal markings is not as described above **It is *Melangyna sp.* or *Meligramma sp.* (both difficult to ID)**

38 If the hoverfly has oblique yellow bars on the 3rd & 4th abdominal segments **It is *Dasysyrphus albostriatus***
If the hoverfly has horizontal yellow bars on the 3rd & 4th abdominal segments **Go to 39**

39 If the hoverfly has yellow bars on 3rd abdominal segment wider than those on the 4th segment **It is *Dasysyrphus tricinctus***
If the hoverfly has yellow bars on 3rd abdominal the same width as those on the 4th segment **It is *Dasysyrphus venustus***

40a If the abdomen of the hoverfly is narrowly oblong (plane or concave edge to the abdomen) **Go to 40b**
If the abdomen of the hoverfly is broader and distinctly oval (convex edge to the abdomen) **Go to 41**

40b If the hoverfly has yellow-orange spots on the 3rd & 4th abdominal segments **It is *Meliscaeva auricollis***
If the hoverfly has yellow-orange bands on the 3rd & 4th abdominal segments **It is *Meliscaeva cinctella***

41 If the hoverfly has no 4th abdominal segment markings or markings on the 4th segment are much narrower than those on the 3rd **It is *Epistrophe eligans***
If the markings on both the 3rd & 4th segments are the same width or almost so **Go to 42**

42 If the hairs on the sides of the 3rd to 5th abdominal segments are all black **Go to 43a**
If the hairs on the sides of abdomen correspond to the colour of the abdominal bands or spots **Go to 44**

43a If the hoverfly has comma shaped or oval whitish or pale yellow abdominal spots reaching the edge of the abdomen **It is *Eupeodes corollae***
If the hoverfly has comma shaped or oval whitish or pale yellow abdominal spots that stop short of the edge of the abdomen **Go to 43b**

43b If the abdominal spots are comma shaped **It is *Eupeodes luniger***
If the abdominal spots are bars or ovals **It is *Eupeodes latifasciatus***

44 If the yellow bands on the 3rd and 4th abdominal segments are narrower than the black belts between them **Go to 45**
If the yellow bands on the 3rd and 4th abdominal segments are wider than the black belts between them **Go to 46**

45 If the upper segment (femora) of the hind leg is orange **It is *Syrphus ribesii***
If the upper segment (femora) of the hind leg is mostly black **It is *Syrphus vitripennis***
If the upper segment (femora) of the hind leg is entirely black (and the rest of the leg is also black) **It is *Parasyrphus sp.* (Difficult to ID)**

46 If the hoverfly has entirely black antennae (use x10 lens) **Go to 47**
If the hoverfly has mostly orange antennae (use x10 lens) **Go to 48**

47 If the black belts on the abdomen sweep forward at the edge of the abdomen **It is *Epistrophe diaphana***
If the above is not the case (the yellow belts sweep back slightly at the edge of the abdomen) **It is *Epistrophe grossulariae***

48 If the scutellum of the hoverfly (semi-circular area behind thorax) has black hairs (use x 10 lens) **It is *Epistrophe nitidicollis***
If the scutellum of the hoverfly (semi-circular area behind thorax) has yellow hairs (use x 10 lens) **It is *Epistrophe melanostoma***

49 If the hoverfly has a black thorax with black hairs on side and also the front half of the abdomen is white or creamy colour **It is *Volucella pellucans***
If the hoverfly has a dark brown thorax with black and orange hairs on the side **Go to 50**

50 If the hoverfly has a black abdomen with deep orange colour in the front half **It is *Volucella inflata***
If the hoverfly has a yellow face, black and orange or yellow colouration and looks like a hornet or large wasp **Go to 51**

51 If the hoverfly is very large and has orange-brown colour on the abdomen **It is *Volucella zonarius***
If the hoverfly is moderately large and has a yellow abdomen with narrow black bands **It is *Volucella inanis***

Weather Records 2008
Records made at 488 Bitterne Road East (SU454129)
Phil Budd

2008 was a mild year, especially in the first half, and with rainfall around average. The best weather tended to occur in spring and autumn. The early winter period was very mild, the summer was again disappointing and the start of the 2008/09 winter was the coldest for thirty years.

January was extremely mild, rather wet and very cloudy. Every day from the 4th to the 27th saw temperatures climb to at least 10°C, and the peak of 15°C was reached on the 20th. It was quite exceptional that no air frosts were recorded. There were easterly winds in the first three days, but mainly southwest to west winds thereafter. Severe southwest gales occurred on the 15th and these conditions sunk a ship carrying planks of wood at Lyme Bay, the debris mostly washing up on the Sussex coast.

February was very mild, dry and sunny. Temperatures reached 16.6°C on the 13th and the last frost of the winter occurred on the 17th. The month was extraordinarily sunny, with 147 hours recorded (5 hours per day) and only two days without sun. There was only 24mm rain, so this was the driest month of 2008. Westerly winds occurred in the first and last weeks with continental easterlies in between.

March was unsettled, wet and rather dull, but with 'normal' temperatures by day. The nighttime minimum temperatures were high due to persistent cloud and there were no air frosts recorded. There were 19 wet days and it was particularly unsettled in the middle of the month. On the 10th there were winds up to 96mph at The Needles and, as a thundery trough passed through at lunchtime, atmospheric pressures fell to 960mb. There was some snow north of our area on the 22nd/23rd. Winds started in the northwest, turned to the northeast and finally westerly late on.

April was fairly warm, sunny and dry for most of the month. The first 70°F+ temperature was the 21.3°C reached on the 26th, but there were ground frosts and even a little snowfall between the 6th and the 9th. The sunniest spell was the 15th to the 17th when there were over 11 hours sunshine followed by none at all on the 18th and the 19th. Despite thunder and hail storms on the 24th and the 27th, there was only 35mm rain up to the 28th; however, a further 26mm rain fell in the last two days. Northerly winds in the first two weeks, then easterly in third week and finally southwesterly.

May was rather very warm, sunny and wet—excellent growing conditions. In the first half the weather was dominated by light northerly winds and it was dry, very

sunny and warm, the maximum temperature was 25.9°C on the 10th. The latter half of the month was dominated by cyclonic easterly winds and was rather horrible at times. 90% of the month's rain fell from the 25th to the 29th. The 26th May was the wettest day of the year and 47mm rain fell from midnight to 8am, flooding the central railway station and Millbrook Dual Carriageway. Then a thunderstorm that built up over the South Downs on the 29th dumped 24mm rain in 90 minutes on Southampton between 3pm and 4.30pm.

June was an 'average' month for temperature, rainfall and sunshine, but to say that it was a normal month would be misleading. The month was warmer than normal from the 6th to the 24th, with temperatures reaching 28.6°C on the 8th. Over 13 hours sunshine recorded on the 7th and the 17th. It was actually a very dry except for the 3rd. Heavy, continuous rain on the 3rd brought 30.5mm rain in Southampton, but even higher values and flooding in Berkshire and Wiltshire. Winds were northwesterly in first half and southwesterly later, with gales recorded on the 22nd.

28th June to 13th July. During this period I was away in Alberta, Canada so I have no complete weather details. However, accounts from those who were here and media weather reports indicated a string cyclonic weather pattern with westerly winds and 50mm rainfall was deposited in the rain gauge in the garden over this period. It appears that the 5th July and the 9th July were particularly wet days; however, a temperature of 27.3°C occurred in this period at some point.

July (14th onward) was very dry, with only 7mm rain recorded (mostly on the 29th) and also warm and sunny. The best weather of the year occurred from the 25th to 27th. The warmest night was the 24th/25th at 17.5°C, followed by probably the sunniest day (14 hours) on the 26th and then the highest temperature of the year, 29.1°C, on the 27th. Winds in the latter half of July were mostly southerly.

August was actually about average in terms of rainfall and temperature, but was incredibly dull and there were no really hot days. There were only two very wet days, the 10th and the 12th, but it was probably the wettest summer month ever in northern Britain and by the 18th it was already the wettest August ever in Northern Ireland! It was probably the dullest August ever recorded, with just 3.8 hours per day of sun and over 7 hours on only three days! All the cloud led to warm nights, only three nights saw temperatures fall below 12°C. Winds were mostly from west or southwest until easterlies arrived on the 29th.

September was much more like summer than August. It was a consistently warmish month with high sunshine and low rainfall. Despite the summery conditions, the cooling easterly breezes didn't allow anything higher than 23.7°C on the 22nd. There were no totally cloudy days and 11.5 hours of sunshine were

Month	Maximum temperature		Minimum temperature		No. of air frosts	No. of wet days	Total rainfall		Sunshine
	ºC	ºF	ºC	ºF			mm	in	hours
Jan	11.6	52.8	6.7	44.1	0	17	92.0	3.6	60.7
Feb	12.3	54.1	4.9	40.8	2	5	24.0	0.9	146.5
Mar	10.4	50.7	7.1	44.8	0	19	69.0	2.7	102.6
Apr	14.9	58.8	7.6	45.7	0	13	60.5	2.4	173.9
May	21.1	70.0	10.9	51.6	0	7	118.0	4.7	211.8
Jun	22.0	71.6	11.3	52.3	0	6+	56.0	2.2	232.1
Jul	22.5	72.5	13.1	55.6	0	1+	58.5	2.3	251.9
Aug	21.3	70.3	13.6	56.5	0	13	65.0	2.6	116.9
Sep	19.8	67.6	9.5	49.1	0	9	69.0	2.7	145.9
Oct	14.8	58.6	7.2	45.0	2	9	59.5	2.3	134.6
Nov	10.5	50.9	5.2	41.4	2	14	88.5	3.5	50.6
Dec	6.6	43.9	1.4	34.5	13	5	51.5	2.0	94.5
Means/ Totals	**15.6**	**60.2**	**8.2**	**46.8**	**19**	**111**	**812**	**32.0**	**1722**

Note: A 'wet day' is one on which more than 1mm rain fell.

recorded on both the 20th and the 28th. There were some severe gales on the 1st, but the rainfall on the 5th was nothing compared to the falls that led to severe flooding in eastern Wales. There was only 3mm rain recorded after the 7th. Winds were southerly in the first ten days and easterly thereafter.

October temperatures were consistently a little below normal, but it was drier than average and sunnier than August! The middle of the month was mild with at least 14°C being reached every day from the 5th to the 20th, with 21.2°C reached on the 12th. The first air frost on the 28th heralded the arrival of northerly winds and was followed by a maximum of only 7.4°C on the 29th. Apart from the morning of the 5th, when 24mm rain fell, the month was unusually dry for October. Winds were mostly west or southwest, but they were largely anticyclonic with no gales recorded.

November was about normal for rainfall and temperature, but was unusually cloudy. Gales on the 9th heralded even stormier conditions on the 10th with 70mph winds on the Isle of Wight. The 10th was also much the wettest day of the month, with 24.5mm rain. However, the next day, the 11th, was the sunniest day of the month. There were nine days with no sun at all and a further seven days with less

than 1 hour of sunshine. The weather was mild up to the 21st, but much colder later and only 4.3°C on the 30th. Winds were northeasterly to start, then westerly up to the 17th and northerly thereafter.

December was much the coldest month of the year and 68% of the total number of air frosts in 2008 occurred in December. However, high pressure dominated the month and it was also sunny and dry. Despite the coldness, no snow was recorded in Southampton. Winds were mostly northerly prior to the 17th, westerly from then to the 22nd and easterly thereafter. The coldest night of 2008 occurred on the 12th December (-4.1°C) but the coldest day of 2008 was the bleak, dull New Years Eve (maximum only 0.5 °C).

Phil Budd

Weather Over the First 100 Years of the Society

October 1907 was recorded as being very wet but warm. On the 16th October 1907 strong easterly winds brought some 90mm rain to Lincoln! There was striking parallel to the summer of 2007 as the months of June, July and August were reported as being ‘ the coolest summer of the century’. The warmest two days of the year in England were the 12th May and the 25th September, when temperatures reached 27°C to 28°C on both days. Of great interest to us, however, was the thunderstorm of the 13th May 1907. On this date 29mm rain fell on Southampton in 30 minutes! The previous winter (2006/07) had been mild, apart from a late January blizzard, and extremely sunny. The following winter (2007/08) was wet and mild, but in April 1908 there was a week of snowfall from the 19th to the 26th. On the 25th April 1908 37cm snow lay on the ground in Southampton and the temperatures rose no higher than 1° Celsius!.

There has been a lot of speculation about the fact that the climate, at least in Britain, might be getting steadily warmer. A comparison between the average temperatures for central England in the period 1900 to 1909 and the equivalent readings for 1997 to 2006 definitely show a surprising warming trend. Please refer to the table below.

It appears that the average temperature in central England has increased by about 1.3° Celsius over this period. Southampton is assumed to have an average temperature approximately 1.5° Celsius higher than ‘central England’ due to the south coast location; therefore the fourth row shows an estimate of the recent average monthly temperatures for our area. This is then compared to the corresponding figures for 2008 and the anomaly on the 5th and 6th rows, respectively. This indicates that all months prior to August were even warmer than the recent norm in 2008, but colder from August onwards. A particularly cold December actually brought the average temperature for Southampton back down to what would be expected.

More senior members of the society often talk of more severe winter and warmer summers in the past. However, these figures show that every month has become warmer especially the early spring and late summer months. Clearly some summer months such as May, August and September are now significantly warmer. The months that show the least difference are December and January, so the winters were a little colder in the past but not much colder. The perceived difference is probably due to extreme or more exciting events making a disproportionate impact on the long-term memory.

Month	1900-1909 average (1)	1997-2006 average (2)	Difference columns (1) & (2)	1997-2006 + 1.5ºC (3)	2008 Soton average (4)	Difference columns (3) & (4)
Jan	3.9	4.7	*0.8*	6.2	9.1	*2.9*
Feb	3.6	5.4	*1.8*	6.9	8.6	*1.7*
Mar	5.2	7.0	*1.8*	8.5	8.7	*0.2*
Apr	7.6	8.7	*0.9*	10.2	11.2	*1.0*
May	10.8	12.2	*1.4*	13.7	16.0	*2.3*
Jun	13.6	14.9	*1.3*	16.4	16.6	*0.2*
Jul	16.0	16.9	*0.9*	18.4	18.7	*0.3*
Aug	15.0	16.9	*1.9*	18.4	17.5	*-0.9*
Sep	13.1	14.8	*1.7*	16.3	14.7	*-1.6*
Oct	9.9	11.1	*1.1*	12.6	11.0	*-1.6*
Nov	6.1	7.6	*1.5*	9.1	7.9	*-1.2*
Dec	4.3	5.2	*0.9*	6.7	4.0	*-2.7*
Average	**9.1**	**10.4**	***1.3***	**11.9**	**12.0**	***0.1***

Table: Average monthly temperatures (Celsius) for two decades 100 years apart in 'central England' compared with Southampton figures.
(Data from www.personal.dundee.ac.uk.)

We can take this discussion further by considering how recently the warming trend has occurred. Reference to average temperature data every year from 1907 to 2006 shows that, prior to 1957, there were only seven years where the average temperature exceeded 10°C in central England. However, there have been eighteen such years since 1956, half of them since 1996! In other words, only one year since 1996 has failed to score an average temperature of 10°C in central England. Clearly, the warming trend is very recent, so perceptions of a climate change, in terms of a temperature increase, since the middle of the 20th century are verified.

To complete the discussion it would be interesting the consider the coldest and warmest recorded months in the last 100 years considering each month in turn.

January: The warmest January was way back in 1916 (7.5°C), followed closely by 2007 and 1983. The coldest was January 1963 (-2.1°C), and this was the coldest month in the last 100 years. The next two coldest January's were those of 1940 and 1979. Both of these were also sub-zero in average temperature.

February: The warmest two February's were both recent i.e. 1990 and 1998 (7.3°C in each case). The coldest February occurred in another famous cold winter, that of 1947 (-1.9°C). 1986 was the second coldest February followed by 1956 and 1963.

March: The most extreme March's were close together. The warmest March occurred in 1957 (9.2°C) followed by the coldest in 1962 (2.8°C). There was another 'hot' March in 1938 (9.1°C).

April: We have just experienced the warmest April in a century—2007 (11.2°C). In addition, there were a remarkable series of warm April's in the latter part of the Second World War (1942 to 1946). The coldest April occurred during the First World War—1917 (5.4°C) and the April's of 1922 and 1986 were also particularly cold.

May: The warmest May was recent—1992 (13.6°C), but 1947 (despite the cold previous winter) and 1964 also experienced very warm May's. The coldest May occurred in 1996 (9.1°C), but 1923, 1941 and 1968 also saw chilly temperatures in May.

June: The warmest June was 1976 (17.0°C) and on the 28th June 1976 Southampton recorded the highest June temperature recorded so far in the UK. Other very warm June's occurred in 1940, 1970 and 2003. The coldest recorded June's occurred in 1909 and 1972 (11.8°C), followed by 1977 and 1991. June was more consistent in temperature 100 years ago.

July: July 2006 (19.7°C) was the warmest month of the last 100 years in central England. Next were 1983 (19.5°C) followed by 1976, whilst 1921 saw the hottest July prior to 1976. The coldest July's occurred in 1922 (13.7°C), closely followed by 1919. In recent years there were very cool July's in 1980 and 1988.

August: The warmest August was 1995 (19.2°C)—the third warmest month in the last 100 years. Other very hot August's occurred in 1911, 1947 and 1997. The coldest August was way back in 1912 (12.9°C). 1922, 1956 and 1986 were the next three coolest August's.

September: The warmest September was 2006 (16.8°C) and only September 1949 came close to this (16.3°C). The coldest September was 1952 (10.7°C), followed by 1912, but no other September since 1935 has been particularly cold!

October: The warmest October happened in 2001 (13.3°C). Octobers in 1969, 2005 and 2006 all came within a 'whisker' of this. The coldest October was way back in 1919 (7.4°C). There were similarly cold October's in 1917, 1974 and 1992.

November: The warmest November in 100 years was 1994 (10.1°C) and the only one that was anything like as warm was back in 1938 (9.4°C). The coldest November occurred in 1915 (2.8°C)—this was colder than the average January. The next four coldest November's were all before 1926, whilst the chilliest November since then occurred in 1985 (4.1°C).

December: The warmest Decembers occurred in 1934 and 1974 (8.1°C), the latter despite a cold autumn beforehand. December 1988 was also extremely mild. The coldest December was 1981 (0.3°C)—a month known for the blizzard on the 13th. The next coldest December's occurred in 1933 and 1950.

The **coldest year** since 1907 was 1963 (8.47°C), followed by 1919 and 1917. The **warmest year** was 2006 (10.82°C). 1990 and 1992 were joint second and 1949 was the fourth warmest year.

The most notable **hot summer** was 1976 (June, July and August all averaged over 17°C), whilst the **coldest summer** occurred in 1922 (June, July and August all less than 14°C on average). The **coldest winter** was 1962/63 (December, January and February all below 2°C). The **mildest winte**r appears to have been 1988/89 (December, January and February all above 5.8°C).

Reference: The Internet site—www.personal.dundee.ac.uk—from which much of the above data was obtained was accessed in December 2007 in preparation of the booklet on the history of the society. However, this information was not used for the booklet and was not properly referenced at the time. Unfortunately I appear now to be unable to find the information on this site.

Phil Budd

MEMBERS' RECORDS FOR 2008

First and foremost, I would like to thank you the members of SNHS for your time, effort and interest in recording our local natural history. Without you our knowledge of our local area would be much poorer.

Now, as I'm sure you are all aware, I am new to the role of SNHS Recorder and let me tell you it's a pretty daunting role to take on. However, our Chairman Phil Budd has been splendidly supportive in easing me into it.

Vicky Russell

Contributors

AJB	Andy Barker	ARC	Andy Collins
AW	Andy Welch	BR	Barrie Roberts
CP	Chris Piatkieciwz	DH	David Hubble
DHu	David Hurst	GHW	Graham Harrison-Watts
IB	Ian Bailey	JC	Jason Claxton
JN	Jacquey Newton	JNo	John Norton
JV	John Vetterlein	JW	Julie Watson
KE	Kathy Emmott	MA	Mauri Askell
MN	Martha Newton	PB	Phil Budd
PRB	Peter Burford	RC	Richard Carpenter
RN	Roger Newton	RNi	Rose Nicole
SC	Simon Currie	SCa	Sara Cadbury
TC	Trevor Carpenter	VAJ	Vernon & Anthea Jones

MYCOTA

FUNGI

***Agrocybe erebia* (Dark Fieldcap)** The Moors, Bishop's Waltham 12/10 (PB)
Amanita citrina Anderwood Inclosure 08/11 (SC)
Amanita muscaria Zionshill Copse 28/09 (DH)
***Amanita phalloides* (Deathcap)** Chessel Bay 15/09 (PB)
***Amanita virosa* (Destroying Angel)** Hartford Heath, Beaulieu 02/10 (PB)
***Boletus queletii* (Deceiving Bolete)** Lances Hill, Bitterne 01/09 (PB)
Calocera viscosa Anderwood Inclosure 08/11 (SC)
Chalciporus piperatus Zionshill Copse 28/09 (DH)
Chondrostereum purpureum Anderwood Inclosure 08/11 (SC)
***Clathrus archeri* (Devil's Fingers)** Setley Plain 25/09 (PB)
Clavaria acuta Southampton Common 05/10 (RN)
Claviceps purpurea Anderwood Inclosure 08/11 (SC)
***Clitocybe ditopus* (Mealy Frosted Funnel)** Hartford Heath, Beaulieu 07/11 (PB)
Clitocybe rivulosa Priddy's Hard, Gosport 19/11 (PRB)

***Coltricia perennis* (Tiger's Eye Fungus)** Copythorne Common 25/09 (PB)
Cortinarius anomalus Zionshill Copse 28/09 (DH)
Daedalea quercina Southampton Common 05/10 (JN)
Exidia glandulosa Zionshill Copse 28/09 (DH), Anderwood Inclosure 08/11 (SC)
Ganoderma australe Anderwood Inclosure 08/11 (SC)
Geastrum triplex Ridgeway Lane, Pennington 24/10 (GP), Hawthorns Centre, Southampton Common 05/12 (IB)
Gymnopus peronatus Zionshill Copse 28/09 (DH)
Hapalopilus nidulans south of Sowley House 01/06 (SCa)
Helotium fulvum (a disc fungus) Hall Lands Copse, Fair Oak 01/12 (PB)
Helvella crispa Sailors Lane, Corhampton 17/09 (RC)
***Hygrocybe intermedia* (Fibrous Waxcap)** The Moors, Bishop's Waltham 12/10 (PB), Royal Victoria CP north 31/08 (JNo)
***Hygrocybe russocoriacea* (Cedarwood Waxcap)** Netley Common 22/10 (PB)
Hygrophorus eburneus Sailors Lane,Corhampton 17/09 RC
Hypholoma fasciculare Zionshill Copse 28/09 (DH), Anderwood Inclosure 08/11 (SC)
Hypomyces rosellus Southampton Common 05/10 (RN)
Hypoxylon fragiforme Anderwood Inclosure 08/11 (SC)
Hypoxylon multiforme Anderwood Inclosure 08/11 (SC)
Inocybe geraniolens Chessel Bay 15/09 (PB)
***Inocybe maculata* (Frosty Fibrecap)** Chessel Bay 15/09 (PB)
Inocybe praetervisa Hartford Heath, Beaulieu 02/10 (PB), Beaulieu Motor Museum car park 08/11 (PB)
Inocybe pusio Copythorne Common 25/09 (PB)
***Lactarius pyrogalus* (Fiery Milkcap)** south west of Park Farm, Boorley Green 20/07 (PB), Holly Hill Woodland Park 16/08 (PB)
Lactarius tabidus Anderwood Inclosure 08/11 (SC)
Lactarius vietus Zionshill Copse 28/09 (DH)
Laetiporus sulphureus Brinken Wood, New Forest 05/05 (SC), Zionshill Copse 10/05 (DH)
Leccinum roseofractum Liddel Way, Valley Park 28/09 (DH)
Leccinum scabrum Zionshill Copse 28/09 (DH)
Lycoperdon perlatum Zionshill Copse 28/09 (DH)
Marasmius cohaerens Southampton Common 05/10 (JN)
Marchandiomyces corallinus (a lichenicolous fungus) Peartree Green, Southampton 17/02 (PB)
Melampsoridium betulinum Liddel Way, Valley Park 20/07 (DH)
Mitrula paludosa Poundhill Inclosure 05/05 (SC)

Mniaecea jungermanniae (a non-lichenized fungus) Canterton Glen, New Forest 02/03 (PB)
Mycena galericulata Zionshill Copse 28/09 (DH), Anderwood Inclosure 08/11 (SC)
Mycena haematopus Anderwood Inclosure 08/11 (SC)
Mycena inclinata Anderwood Inclosure 08/11 (SC)
Neobulgaria pura **(Beech Jellydisc)** Anderwood Inclosure 08/11 (SC)
Nyctalis asterophora **(Pick-a-back Toadstool)** Great Covert Woods 01/10 (PB)
Paxillus (=Tapinella) panuoides **(Oyster Rollrim)** Horse & Jockey Pub car park, Curbridge 12/02 (PB)
Paxillus atrotomentosus Longdown Inclosure 21/09 (PB)
Phlebia tremellosa Anderwood Inclosure 08/11 (SC)
Pholiota aurivella **(Golden scalycap)** Riverside Park—south 12/11 (PB)
Pholiota squarrosa Anderwood Inclosure 08/11 (SC)
Pleurotus cornucopiae **(Branching Oyster)** Holly Hill Woodland Park 21/05 (PB)
Pleurotus ostreatus Anderwood Inclosure 08/11 (SC)
Pluteus cervinus Zionshill Copse 28/09 (DH)
Pluteus umbrosus **(Velvet Shield)** Donkey Common, Bitterne 22/10 (PB)
Rhodocollybia butyracea Anderwood Inclosure 08/11 (SC)
Russula cyanoxantha Zionshill Copse 25/08 (DH)
Russula pulchella (=R. exalbicans) **(Bleached Brittlegill)** Lances Hill, Bitterne 01/09 (PB)
Sarcoscypha austriaca Brook, Test Valley 27/02 (VAJ)
Schizopora paradoxa Anderwood Inclosure 08/11 (SC)
Scleroderma citrinum Zionshill Copse 28/09 (DH), Anderwood Inclosure 08/11 (SC)
Steccherinum bourdotii Great Goswell Copse, Beaulieu 07/11 (PB)
Stereum hirsutum Anderwood Inclosure 08/11 (SC)
Stropharia aurantiaca Priddy's Hard, Gosport 19/11 (PRB)
Stropharia cyanea Sailors Lane,Corhampton 21/10 (RC)
Trametes versicolor Zionshill Copse 28/09 (DH), Anderwood Inclosure 08/11 (SC)
Tricholoma columbetta Sailors Lane, Corhampton 21/10 (RC)
Tricholoma portentosum Netley Common 22/11 (PB)
Xylaria hypoxylon Anderwood Inclosure 08/11 (SC)

LICHENS

Candelariella medians f. medians Copythorne Churchyard 24/02 (PB)
Cladonia gracilis Copythorne Common 24/02 (PB)
Cladonia subcervicornis north east of Fort Gilkicker 27/02 (PB)
Verrucaria mucosa Chessel Bay 25/04 (PB)

FLORA

BRYOPHYTES

Liverworts

***Lejeunea lamacerina* (Western Pouncewort)** Sticknage Wood, Canterton 05/03 (anon)

***Nowellia curvifolia* (Wood-rust)** Peewit Hill 01/03 (PB)

***Pellia endiviifolia* (Endive Pellia)** Holly Hill Woodland Park 12/09 (PB)

***Ptilidium ciliare* (Ciliated Fringewort)** Copythorne Common 24/02 (PB)

Mosses

***Aulacomnium androgynum* (Bud-headed Groove-moss)** Peewit Hill 01/03 (PB)

***Brachythecium plumosum* (Rusty Feather-moss)** Sticknage Wood, Canterton 05/03 (MN)

***Hypnum lindbergii* (Lindberg's Plait-moss)** Canterton Glen, New Forest 05/03 (MN)

***Hypnum resupinatum* (Supine Plait-moss)** Canterton Glen, New Forest 05/03 (MN)

***Leucobryum glaucum* (Large White-moss)** Canterton Glen, New Forest 05/03 (MN)

***Leucobryum juniperoideum* (Smaller White-moss)** Canterton Glen, New Forest 05/03 (MN), Zionshill Copse, Valley Park 16/03 (PB)

***Metzgeria temperata* (Whiskered Veilwort)** Sticknage Wood, Canterton 05/03 (MN)

***Neckera complanata* (Flat Neckera)** Canterton Glen, New Forest 05/03 (MN)

***Orthotrichum lyellii* (Lyell's Bristle-moss)** Peewit Hill 22/11 (PB)

***Physcomitrium pyriforme* (Common Bladder-moss)** south of Eveley Farm, Broughton 01/03 (PB)

***Polytrichum piliferum* (Bristly Haircap)** northeast of Fort Gilkicker 27/02 (PB)

***Riccardia chamedryfolia* (Jagged Germanderwort)** French Bushes, Cadnam 09/02 (PB)

***Scleropodium cespitans* (Tufted Feather-moss)** northeast of Fort Gilkicker 27/02 (PB)

***Scleropodium tourettii* (Glass-wort Feather-moss)** Clayhall Royal Naval Cemetery, Gosport 27/02 (PB)

***Syntrichia laevipila* (Small Hairy Srew-moss)** Peartree Green 17/02 (PB)

***Thuidium delicatulum* (Delicate Tamarisk-moss)** south of Blackthorn Copse, Canterton Glen 05/03 (MN)

***Weissia controversa* (Green-tufted Stubble-moss)** Chessel Bay 25/04 (PB)

***Zygodon viridissimus* (Green Yoke-moss)** Sticknage Wood, Canterton 05/03 (MN)

ANGIOSPERMS (Flowering Plants)

Native Species

***Anacamptis pyramidalis* (Pyramidal Orchid)** Peartree Green 22/06 (PRB)

***Berberis vulgaris* (Barberry)** B3035/Vicarage Lane Junction, Curdridge 06/11 (PB)

***Carex laevigata* (Smooth-stalked Sedge)** Holly Hill Woodland Park 27/05 (PB)

***Carex pallescens* (Pale Sedge)** Tools for Self Reliance meadow, Netley Marsh 20/05 (PB)

***Catapodium marinum* (Sea Fern-grass)** by north side of A35 & A36 at Redbridge 31/05 (PB)

***Chenopodium glaucum* (Oak-leaved Goosefoot)** Seafield Park, Stubbington 11/08 (PB)

***Convallaria majalis* (Lily-of-the-valley)** Sky's Wood, Valley Park 16/03 (PB)

***Epipactis helleborine* (Broad-leaved Helleborine)** Wicklow Drive, Valley Park 24/07 (DH), by cyclepath, Valley Park 13/08 (DH), Titchfield Haven 30/06 (RC)

***Hydrocharis morsus-ranae* (Frogbit)** Titchfield Haven 30/06 (RC)

***Isolepis setacea* (Bristle Club-rush)** Peewit Hill 22/11, first for here (PB)

***Lactuca serriola f. serriola* (Prickly Lettuce)** Bitterne Railway Station 27/06 (PB)

***Lactuca virosa* (Great Lettuce)** Campbell Road, Eastleigh—west of houses 23/01 (PB), Pirelli Way, Eastleigh 28/01 (PB)

***Lathraea squamaria* (Toothwort)** Sailors Lane, Corhampton 22/04 (RC)

***Leucojum aestivum* (Summer Snowflake)** by Monks Brook at Fleming Park, Eastleigh 28/01 (PB)

***Linaria vulgaris* (Common Toadflax)** close to Chandler's Ford Station 17/08 (DH)

***Lotus pedunculatus* (Greater Bird's-foot-trefoil)** Liddel Way, Valley Park 01/07 (DH)

***Luzula forsteri* (Southern Wood-rush)** Chessel Bay 25/04 (PB)

***Lychnis flos-cuculi* (Ragged-Robin)** Tools for Self Reliance meadow, Netley Marsh 06/05 (PB)

***Narcissus pseudonarcissus* (Wild Daffodil)** Maddoxford Lane—east side north of Maddoxford Farm, Boorley Green 13/02 (PB), Sky's Wood, Valley Park 16/03 (PB), Tregould's Copse 16/03 (PB)

***Oenanthe lachenalii* (Parsley Water-dropwort)** Titchfield Haven, 30/06 (RC)

***Ophrys apifera* (Bee Orchid)** by north side of A3024 at Freemantle 31/05 (PB)

***Orchis morio* (Green-winged Orchid)** St Mary's Extra Cemetery 05/05 (PB)

***Orobanche elatior* (Knapweed Broomrape)** Kilmeston Down 16/07 (RC)

***Osmunda regalis* (Royal Fern)** Goswell Brook, Beaulieu 30/05 (DHu)

***Petroselinum segetum* (Corn Parsley)** Chessel Bay 25/04 (PB)

***Ranunculus sardous* (Hairy Buttercup)** Norley Farm, East End 30/05, including pale-flowered variety (PB, KE), fields south east of Crofton Riding School 27/11 (PB)

***Stachys officinalis* (Betony)** Zionshill Balancing Pond area 24/07 (DH)

***Stachys x ambigua* (Hybrid Woundwort)** Coxford Copse, Shirley 23/07 (PB)

***Trifolium fragiferum* (Strawberry Clover)** West End Road/ A3024 junction, Bitterne 10/10 (PB) (colour page 3)

***Trifolium striatum* (Knotted Clover)** by north side of A35 & A36 at Redbridge 31/05 (PB)

***Trifolium subterraneum* (Subterranean Clover)** Hook Shore, 30/06 (RC)

Non-native Species

***Ailanthus altissima* (Tree-of-heaven)** Newman Street—Oxfam car park, Shirley 27/08 (PB)

***Allium neapolitanum* (Neapolitan Garlic)** Mount View, Eastleigh 22/02 (PB)

***Ammi visnaga* (Toothpick-plant)** Seafield Park, Stubbington—former allotments 11/08 (PB)

***Arabis caucasica* (Garden Arabis)** Nursling Street West 24/03 (JC)

***Arbutus unedo* (Strawberry-tree)** Telegraph Wood, West End—south edge 28/04 (PB)

***Arum italicum subsp. italicum* (Italian Lords-and-Ladies)** by Longfield Avenue, opposite Purbeck Walk 19/11 (PRB)

***Berberis darwinii* (Darwin's Barberry)** Wayleave, Valley Park—north east 08/07 (DH)

***Berberis julianae* (Chinese Barberry)** Bassett Crossroads—south west corner 02/05 (PB)

***Calendula officinalis* (Pot Marigold)** Wicklow Drive, Chandlers Ford 24/07 (DH)

***Callistephus chinensis* (China Aster)** Seafield Park, Stubbington—former allotments 11/08 (PB) (colour page 3)

***Centaurea montana* (Perennial Cornflower)** Wayleave, Valley Park—south west 08/07 (DH)

***Clarkia amoena* (Godetia)** Seafield Park, Stubbington—former allotments 11/08 (PB) (colour page 3)

***Clarkia unguiculata* (Clarkia)** Seafield Park, Stubbington—former allotments 11/08(PB)

***Cosmos bipinnatus* (Mexican Aster)** Seafield Park, Stubbington 07/09 (PB) (colour page 3)

***Cotoneaster ascendens* (Ascending Cotoneaster)** West of Setley Pond 25/09 (PB), by Portsmouth Road, Sholing—opposite The Crescent 27/10 (PB) (colour page 3)

***Cotoneaster bullatus* (Hollyberry Cotoneaster)** Warsash Common 22/08 (PB)

***Euphorbia lathyris* (Caper Spurge)** Wayleave, Valley Park—south west 08/07 (DH)

***Euphorbia oblongata* (Balkan Spurge)** south edge of HMS Collingwood 27/11 (PB)

***Foeniculum vulgare* (Fennel)** Wayleave, Valley Park—south west 08/07 (DH)

***Geranium x oxonianum* (Druce's Crane's-bill)** Shirley Valley—south of Coxford Road 23/07 (PB)

***Gypsophila elegans* (Annual Baby's-breath)** Seafield Park, Stubbington—former allotments 11/08 (PB)

***Hemerocallis fulva* (Orange Day-lily)** Wayleave, Valley Park—south west 08/07 (DH)
***Hesperis matronalis* (Dame's-violet)** Home Covert, Nursling 27/05 (JC), Wayleave, Valley Park—south west 08/07 (DH)
***Hypericum calycinum* (Rose-of-Sharon)** Wayleave, Valley Park—south west 08/07 (DH)
***Ismelia carinata* (Tricolour Chrysanthemum)** Seafield Park, Stubbington—former allotments 11/08 (PB)
***Juglans regia* (Walnut)** Netley Common 22/10 (PB)
***Lathyrus latifolius* (Broad-leaved Everlasting-pea)** Wayleave, Valley Park—south west 08/07 (DH)
***Laurus nobilis* (Bay)** Southampton Common north east 17/10, with fruit (PB)
***Lavatera trimestris* (Royal Mallow)** Seafield Park, Stubbington—former allotments 11/08 (PB)
***Leycesteria formosa* (Himalayan Honeysuckle)** Wayleave, Valley Park—north east 08/07 (DH)
***Lychnis coronaria* (Rose Campion)** Wayleave, Valley Park—south west 08/07 (DH)
***Mahonia aquifolium* (Oregon-grape)** Southampton Road near Campbell Road, Eastleigh 23/01 (PB)
***Melissa officinalis* (Balm)** by Longfield Avenue, Fareham 19/11 (PRB)
***Oenothera biennis* (Common Evening-primrose)** Wayleave, Valley Park—south west 08/07 (DH)
***Onobrychis viciifolia* (Sainfoin)** by A36 opposite Testwood Crescent at Calmore 13/05 (PB)
***Onopordum acanthium* (Cotton Thistle)** Manor Farm, Broughton 01/03 (PB)
***Ornithogalum umbellatum* (Garden Star-of-Bethlehem)** Queen's Park, Southampton 29/04 (PB)
***Persicaria capitata* (Pink-headed Persicaria)** Warburton Road Garages, Hightown 22/10 (PB)
***Petroselinum crispum* (Garden Parsley)** Chessel Bay 25/04 (PB)
***Photinia davidiana* (Stranvaesia)** Hannay Rise, Southampton 22/10 (PB)
***Physalis peruviana* (Cape-gooseberry)** Weston Shore—reedbed recreation 22/09 (PB)
***Pittosporum tenuifolium* (Kohuhu)** Mayfield Park 09/03, self-sown (PB)
***Polypogon monspeliensis* (Annual Beard-grass)** Bitterne 19/10 (PB)
***Prunus lusitanica* (Portugal Laurel)** Cutbush Lane, West End 09/04 (PB), Holly Hill Woodland Park 20/04 (PB)
***Prunus serotina* (Rum Cherry)** Deep Dene, Bitterne Park 28/04 (PB)
***Pulmonaria officinalis* (Lungwort)** Wayleave, Valley Park—south west 08/07(DH)

***Rudbeckia hirta* (Black-eyed-Susan)** Seafield Park, Stubbington—former allotments 11/08 (PB)

***Sedum spurium* (Caucasian-stonecrop)** Gosport Road, Stubbington—near Marks Road bus stop 16/11 (PB)

***Solidago canadensis* (Canadian Goldenrod)** by Monks Brook, Valley Park 14/08 (DH)

***Vinca difformis* (Intermediate Periwinkle)** Chapel Street Cut, Southampton 17/04 (PB)

FAUNA

CRUSTACEA

***Platyarthrus hoffmannseggi* (Ant woodlouse)** Woodmill Salmon Pools 30/08 (PB)

ARACHNIDA (Mites and Spiders)

Acalitus calycophthirus (a mite) Edward Avenue, Bishopstoke 28/07 (DH)

Aculus xylostei (a mite) Liddel Way, Valley Park 11/07 (DH)

Cecidophyopsis betulae (a mite) Edward Avenue, Bishopstoke 28/07 (DH)

Eriophyes laevis (a mite) by Monks Brook, Valley Park 08/07 (DH)

Eriophyes rubicolens (a mite) Zionshill Balancing Pond area 24/07 (DH)

Araneus angulatus (a spider) Seafield Park, Stubbington 14/05 (PB), Funtley Meadow, Fareham 21/07 (PB)

Larinioides patagiatus (a spider) Warsash Common 12/05 (PB)

Larinioides sclopetarius (a spider) Woodmill Salmon Pools 03/05 (PB)

Neon reticulatus (a spider) Warsash Common 12/05 (PB)

Neoscona adianta (a spider) Funtley Meadow, Fareham 21/07 (PB)

***Nigma puella* (Bleeding Heart Spider)** Shirley Valley 31/07 (PB)

Nuctenea umbratica (a spider) Bitterne Road East garden 23/02 (PB)

Segestria senoculata (a spider) Vespasian Road, Bitterne Manor 05/03 (GHW)

Sitticus caricis (a spider) Warsash Common 29/05 (PB), Seafield Park, Stubbington 04/06 (PB)

***Steatoda nobilis* (False Black Widow)** Mayfield Park 25/10 (CP)

Zilla diodia (a spider) Holly Hill Woodland Park 21/05 (PB)

Zygiella atrica (a spider) Gilkicker Point 13/09 (PB)

ODONATA (Damselflies and Dragonflies)

***Aeshna cyanea* (Southern Hawker)** Peartree Green 22/07 (PRB)

***Aeshna juncea* (Common Hawker)** Zionshill Balancing Pond 28/09 (DH)

***Aeshna mixta* (Migrant Hawker)** Great Covert Woods 12/11 (PB)

***Brachytron pratense* (Hairy Dragonfly)** Whiteley Pastures 24/05, Titchfield Haven 30/06 (RC)

***Calopteryx virgo* (Beautiful Demoiselle)** Great Goswell Copse—east 30/05 (DHu)

Ceriagrion tenellum **(Small Red Damselfly)** Goswell Brook, Beaulieu—developing heathland 19/07 (DHu)

***Cordulegaster boltonii (*Golden-ringed Dragonfly)** Fern Road near Sholing Station 14/07 (PB)

Cordulia aenea **(Downy Emerald)** Goswell Brook, Beaulieu—pond 30/05 (DHu), Brownwich Lake 09/06 (RC)

Libellula quadrimaculata **(Four-spotted Chaser)** Goswell Brook, Beaulieu—pond 10/05 (DHu)

Pyrrhosoma nymphula **(Large Red Damselfly)** Vespasian Road, Bitterne Manor 29/04 (GHW)

Sympetrum danae **(Black Darter)** West Denny Bog, New Forest 03/09 (RC)

Sympetrum striolatum **(Common Darter)** Zionshill Balancing Pond 28/09 (DH), Hawthorns Centre, Southampton Common 17/10 (PB)

ORTHOPTERA (Grasshoppers and Crickets)

Metrioptera roeselii **(Roesel's Bush Cricket)** Whiteley Pastures 13/07 (RC), Wootton Coppice Inclosure, New Forest 03/07 (SC)

Omocestus rufipes **(Woodland Grasshopper)** Warsash Common 04/09 (PB)

Pholidoptera griseoaptera **(Dark Bush Cricket)** Oxenbourne Nature Reserve 18/10 (PB)

HEMIPTERA (Bugs – Heteroptera and Homoptera)

Ceraleptus lividus **(Short-horned Leatherbug)** Seafield Park, Stubbington 04/06 (PB)

Elasmostethus tristriatus **(Juniper Shieldbug)** Seafield Park 16/04 (PB)

Eurydema oleracea **(Crucifer Shieldbug)** north east of Fontley Bridge, near Fareham 23/05 (TC)

Gonocerus acuteangulatus **(Box Bug)** Funtley Meadow, Fareham 03/09 (PB)

Nabis lineatus **(Reed Damselbug)** Holly Hill Woodland Park 22/07 (PB)

Nepa cinerea **(Water Scorpion)** Woodmill Salmon Pools 30/08 (PB)

Palomena prasina **(Green Shieldbug)** Vespasian Road, Bitterne Manor 05/03 (GHW)

Pantilius tunicatus (a Mirid bug) Alver Lake area, Gosport 01/09 (PB)

Sehirus luctuosus **(Forget-me-not Shieldbug)** Ashdown Close, Chandlers Ford 27/07 (AJB)

Velia caprai **(Water Cricket)** Glebe Wood, Highfield 15/07 (PB)

Homoptera

Graphocephala fennahi **(Rhododendron Leaf-hopper)** Anderwood Inclosure 08/11 (SC)

Psyllopsis fraxini by Monks Brook, Valley Park 08/07 (DH)

LEPIDOPTERA

Butterflies

***Aglais urticae* (Small Tortoiseshell)** Barge River, Romsey—south 01/04 (PRB), Meon Canal Footpath 08/04, 24/06, 21/07 (RC)

***Apatura iris* (Purple Emperor)** Whiteley Pastures, Botley Wood 28/06 (RC)

***Argynnis paphia* (Silver-washed Fritillary)** Goswell Brook, Beaulieu 19/07, 20/07 (DHu)

***Callophrys rubi* (Green Hairstreak)** Whiteley Pastures, Botley Wood 24/05 (RC)

***Celastrina argiolus* (Holly Blue)** Southampton Old Cemetery 09/10 (AW), Liddel Way, Valley Park 10/05 (DH)

***Coenonympha pamphilus* (Small Heath)** Cromarty Road, Lord's Hill 21/08 (JC)

***Colias croceus* (Clouded Yellow)** Gilkicker Point 13/09 (PB)

***Erynnis tages* (Dingy Skipper)** Whiteley Pastures, Botley Wood 19/05, 24/05, 31/05 (RC)

***Euphydryas aurinia* (Marsh Fritillary)** Botley Wood 29/05 (PB) (colour page 2)

***Gonepteryx rhamni* (Brimstone)** Great Covert Woods 12/11 (PB), Junction 2 (Ower Junction) of M27 31/03, Barge River, Romsey 01/04 (PRB)

***Limenitis camilla* (White Admiral)** Goswell Brook, Beaulieu 20/07 (DHu), Thatcher's Copse, near Titchfield 23/06, Chilling Copse, Brownwich 04/07 (RC), Churchplace Inclosure, Ashurst 02/07 (SC) (colour page 2)

***Pararge aegeria* (Speckled Wood)** The Moors, Bishop's Waltham 12/10 (PB), Southampton Old Cemetery 09/10 (JV)

***Pyrgus malvae* (Grizzled Skipper)** Whiteley Pastures, Botley Wood 19/05, 24/05, 08/06 (RC),

***Pyronia tithonus* (Gatekeeper)** Goswell Brook, Beaulieu 20/07 (DHu)

***Vanessa atalanta* (Red Admiral)** West Quay Road Southampton 22/01, Park Lane, Polygon 24/11 (PB), Southampton Old Cemetery 09/10 (JV)

***Vanessa cardui* (Painted Lady)** Whiteley Pastures, Botley Wood 05/07, Brownwich area 5202 22/09 (RC)

Moths

Adela fibulella Southampton Old Cemetery 23/05 (JV)

Adela rufimitrella (a micro-moth) Holly Hill Woodland Park 27/05 (PB)

***Apamea ophiogramma* (Double Lobed)** Itchen Valley CP 25/07 (PB)

***Asteroscopus sphinx* (Sprawler)** Whiteley Pastures, Botley Wood 18/05 (PB)

***Cataclysta lemnata* (Small China-mark)** Hillhead 09/06 (RC)

***Chilodes maritimus* (Silky Wainscot)** Itchen Valley CP 25/07 (PB)

***Clostera curtula* (Chocolate-tip)** Woodmill Salmon Pools, 03/05 (PB)

***Conistra ligula* (Dark Chestnut)** Southampton Old Cemetery 09/10 (PB)

***Craniophora ligustri* (Coronet)** Hillhead 30/06, 19/07 (RC)

***Cryphia domestica* (Marbled Beauty)** Hillhead 30/07 (RC)

***Cyclophora annularia* (Mocha)** Funtley Meadow, Fareham 09/05 (PB)
***Cymatophorima diluta* (Oak Lutestring)** Hall Lands Copse, Fair Oak 21/09 (PB)
***Earias clorana* (Cream-bordered Green Pea)** Hillhead 09/06 (RC)
***Eilema complana* (Scarce Footman)** Hillhead 23/07 (RC)
***Eilema sororcula* (Orange Footman)** Hillhead 07/06 (RC)
***Elophila nymphaeata* (Brown China-mark)** Hillhead 09/06 (RC)
***Ennomos fuscantaria* (Dusky Thorn)** Hillhead 13/09, 26/09 (RC)
***Eremobia ochroleuca* (Dusky Sallow)** Hillhead 23/07 (RC)
***Eupithecia phoeniceata* (Cypress Pug)** Hillhead 26/09 (RC)
***Eupithecia ultimaria* (Channel Islands Pug)** Hillhead 09/06 (RC)
Grapholita compositella (a micro-moth) Warsash Common 08/06 (PB)
***Hadena bicruris* (Lychnis)** Hillhead 23/05, 07/08 (RC)
***Ligdia adustata* (Scorched Carpet)** Hillhead 11/05 RC
Lobesia abscisana (a micro-moth) Seafield Park, Stubbington 18/07 (PB)
Lobesia reliquana (a micro-moth) Warsash Common 07/06 (PB)
***Meganola albula* (Kent Black Arches)** Seafield Park, Stubbington 18/07 (PB)
***Miltochrista miniata* (Rosy Footman)** Hillhead 09/06, 22/07 (RC)
***Mythimna albipuncta* (White-point)** Silverdale Road, Southampton 24/08 (PB)
***Mythimna obsoleta* (Obscure Wainscot)** Seafield Park, Stubbington 18/07 (PB), Hillhead 08/06 (RC)
***Mythimna straminea* (Southern Wainscot)** Silverdale Road, Southampton 24/08 (PB)
***Nola confusalis* (Least Black Arches)** Woodmill Salmon Pools, 03/05 (PB), Hillhead 09/05, 11/05 (RC)
***Orthonama vittata* (Oblique Carpet)** Itchen Valley CP 25/07 (PB)
Pammene regiana (a micro-moth) Bitterne Road East garden 23/05 (PB)
***Plemyria rubiginata rubiginata* (Blue-bordered Carpet)** Hillhead 10/06 (RC)
***Polymixis lichenea* (Feathered Ranunculus)** Hillhead 28/09 (RC)
***Pterapherapteryx sexalata* (Small Seraphim)** Hillhead 07/06 (RC)
***Pyrrhia umbra* (Bordered Sallow)** Hillhead 30/06, 22/07 (RC)
***Schrankia costaestrigalis* (Pinion-streaked Snout)** Hillhead 10/06 (RC)
***Schrankia taenialis* (White lined Snout)** Itchen Valley CP 25/07 (PB)
***Smerinthus ocellata* (Eyed Hawk-moth)** Hillhead 21/05 (RC)
***Stauropus fagi* (Lobster Moth)** Hillhead 07/06 (RC)
***Xanthorhoe biriviata* (Balsam Carpet)** Itchen Valley CP 25/07 (PB)
***Xanthorhoe designata* (Flame Carpet)** Hillhead 11/05 (RC)

DIPTERA (Flies)

Chrysotoxum festivum (a hoverfly) Funtley Meadow, Fareham 03/09 (PB)
Dasineura auritae (a gall fly) by Monks Brook, Valley Park 09/07 (DH)
Dasineura tetensi (a gall fly) Liddel Way, Valley Park 20/07 DH

Dasysyrphus tricinctus (a hoverfly) Rownhams Road, North Baddesley 01/08 (BR), Zionshill Copse Valley Park 25/08 (DH)
Epiphragma ocellaris (a cranefly) Holly Hill Woodland Park 21/05 (PB)
Epistrophe grossulariae (a hoverfly) Holly Hill Woodland Park 27/05, Shirley Valley, 23/07 (PB)
Episyrphus balteatus (a hoverfly) Bitterne Manor 19/02 (GHW)
Eristalis horticola (a hoverfly) Wicklow Drive, Valley Park 24/07 (DH)
Eristalis nemorum (a hoverfly) Zionshill Balancing Pond 24/07 (DH)
Eristalis pertinax (a hoverfly) Rownhams Road, North Baddesley 18/05 (BR)
Eristalis tenax (a hoverfly) Bitterne Manor 07/03 (GHW), Cobbett Road, Bitterne 07/08 (RNi)
Eupeodes latifasciatus (a hoverfly) Hinton Admiral 10/08 (PB)
Eupeodes luniger (a hoverfly) Liddel Way, Valley Park 06/08 (DH)
Helophilus pendulus (a hoverfly) Great Covert—reptile tin site 25/08 (DH), Cobbett Road, Bitterne 15/09 (RNi)
Helophilus trivittatus (a hoverfly) south of Sowley House 01/06, Hinton Admiral 10/08, Funtley Meadow, Fareham 03/09, Gilkicker Point 13/09 (PB)
Iteomyia major (a gall fly) by Monks Brook, Valley Park 09/07 (DH)
Leucozona glaucia (a hoverfly) Rownhams Road, North Baddesley 01/08 (BR)
Leucozona lucorum (a hoverfly) by Monks Brook, Valley Park 23/08 (DH)
Meligramma trianguliferum (a hoverfly) Liddel Way, Valley Park 09/05 (DH)
Meliscaeva auricollis (a hoverfly) Whiteley Pastures, Botley Wood 18/05, west of Lee Ground Coppice, Whiteley 29/05 (PB)
Meliscaeva cinctella (a hoverfly) Camel Green, Brinken Wood 27/07, Holly Hill Woodland Park 04/08 (PB), Rownhams Road, North Baddesley 01/08 (BR)
Myolepta dubia (a hoverfly) Holly Hill Woodland Park 27/05 (PB)
Neoascia podagrica (a hoverfly) Liddel Way, Valley Park 11/04 DH
Neoascia tenur (a hoverfly) Holly Hill Woodland Park 21/05 (PB)
Parhelophilus frutetorum (a hoverfly) Whiteley Pastures, Botley Wood 18/05, Holly Hill Woodland Park 21/05 (PB)
Pipizella viduata (a hoverfly) Funtley Meadow, Fareham 04/06 (PB)
Platycheirus granditarsus (a hoverfly) Tools for Self Reliance meadow, Netley Marsh 08/09 (PB)
Platycheirus rosarum (a hoverfly) Funtley Meadow, Fareham 04/06 (PB)
Platycheirus scutatus sens. lat. (a hoverfly) Liddel Way, Valley Park 06/05, Ainsley Gardens, Eastleigh 06/05 (DH)
Riponnensia splendens (a hoverfly) Botley Wood 29/05 (PB)
Scaeva pyrastri (a hoverfly) Rownhams Road, North Baddesley 01/08 (BR)
Sericomyia silentis (a hoverfly) Rownhams Road, North Baddesley 01/08 (BR)
Sphegina elegans (a hoverfly) Holly Hill Woodland Park 27/05 (PB)

Tropidia scita (a hoverfly) Holly Hill Woodland Park 21/05, south of Sowley House 01/06 (PB)
Volucella bombylans (a hoverfly) Chilling Copse, Brownwich 22/07 (RC)
Volucella inanis (a hoverfly) Rownhams Road, North Baddesley 01/08 (BR), Cobbett Road, Bitterne 07/08 (RNi)
Volucella inflata (a hoverfly) Botley Wood 29/05 (PB)
Volucella pellucens (a hoverfly) Rownhams Road, North Baddesley 01/08 (BR), by Monks Brook, Valley Park 25/08 (DH), Cobbett Road, Bitterne 07/08 (RNi)
Volucella zonaria (a hoverfly) Hillhead 31/07, 19/08 (RC), Cobbett Road, Bitterne 23/07, 07/08 (RNi)
Xanthogramma citrofasciatum (a hoverfly) Funtley Meadow, Fareham 03/09 (PB)
Xylota abiens (a hoverfly) Whiteley Pastures, Botley Wood 18/05 (PB)
Xylota segnis (a hoverfly) Cromarty Road, Lord's Hill 02/09 (JC)

HYMENOPTERA (Wasps and Allies)

Andricus kollari f. agamic (marble gall) Zionshill Balancing Pond 24/07 (DH)
Bombus hypnorum (a recently established bumblebee) Coates Road, Sholing 19/05 (PB), Cromarty Road, Lord's Hill 27/05 (JC), Funtley Meadow, Fareham 21/07 (PB)
Colletes hederae **(Ivy Mining Bee)** Gilkicker Point 16/09 (PB), Short Road, Hill Head, Stubbington 08/10 (PB) (colour page 2)
Cynips divisa f. agamic (Red-pea gall causer) Zionshill Balancing Pond 24/07 (DH)
Diplolepis nervosa (a gall wasp) by Monks Brook, Valley Park 09/07 (DH)
Diplolepis rosae (Rose bedeguar causer) by Monks Brook, Valley Park 09/07 (DH)
Dolichovespula saxonica **(Saxon Wasp)** Funtley Meadow, Fareham 21/07 (PB)
Hylaeus communis **(Common Yellow Face Bee)** The Art House, Bedford Place, Southampton 24/05 (DH)
Pontania bridgmanii (a sawfly) by Monks Brook, Valley Park 09/07 (DH)

AMPHIBIANS

Triturus cristatus **(Great Crested Newt)** Barney Hayes Farm, Cadnam 24/07 (DHu, DH)

REPTILES

Anguis fragilis **(Slow-worm)** Great Cover—reptile tin site 25/08 (DH)
Vipera berus **(Adder)** Great Cover—reptile tin site 25/08 (DH)

BIRDS

Black Swan Windy Bay, Northam 12/01 (GHW), Riverside Park 03/02 (PB), Weston Shore 14/11 (ARC) (colour page 4)
Greater White-fronted Goose Titchfield Haven 21/03, 09/04 (RC)
Greenland White-fronted Goose Weston Shore 17/02 (ARC)
Pale-bellied Brent Goose Meon Shore 29/02 (RC)
Bar-headed Goose Weston Shore 27/03, 29/03 (ARC)
Common Shelduck Windy Bay, Northam 20/02 (PB)
Garganey Meon Canal Footpath27/05 (RC), Titchfield Haven 11/06 (RC)
Shoveler Weston Shore 13/12 (ARC)
Long-tailed Duck Weston Shore 09/02, 24/02 (ARC)
Common Scoter Town Quay 08/10 (ARC)
Velvet Scoter Solent Breezes 24/12 (ARC)
Goosander Weston Shore 09/03 (ARC), Newlands Farm, Stubbington 11/12 (PB)
Ruddy Duck Ibsley Water, Blashford Reserve 21/12 (PB)
Red-throated Diver Windy Bay, Northam 20/02 (PB), Weston Shore 10/11 (ARC)
Black-throated Diver Forton Lake, Gosport 19/11 (PRB) (colour page 4)
Great Northern Diver Weston Shore 03/01, 26/01, 10/11, 31/12 (ARC), Hill Head 13/01 (ARC), Meon Shore 14/11 (RC)
Black-necked Grebe Ibsley Water, Blashford Reserve 21/12 (PB), Hill Head 31/12 (ARC)
Great Bittern Titchfield Haven 01/01 (RC)
Cattle Egret Titchfield Haven 29/05 (RC)
Little Egret east of Broughton 01/03 (PB)
Eurasian Spoonbill Titchfield Haven 04/04, 11/09, 05/10 (RC)
Eurasian Marsh Harrier Titchfield Haven 05/01 (ARC), 21/04, 07/05, 01/09 (RC), Upper Titchfield Haven 28/11 (PB)
Hen Harrier Westend Down 06/01 (RC)
Osprey Titchfield Haven 13/08, 06/09 (RC)
Merlin Brownwich area 07/04 (RC)
Eurasian Hobby Funtley Meadow, Fareham 21/07 (PB)
Peregrine Weston Shore many dates (ARC)
Water Rail Weston Shore 12/10, 27/11 (ARC)
Little (Ringed) Plover Meon Canal Footpath 28/04 (RC)
Golden Plover Weston Shore 24/10 (ARC)
Knot Weston Shore 01/11 (ARC)
Sanderling Hill Head 04/05, Weston Shore 05/05 (ARC)
Black-tailed Godwit Weston Shore 17/08, 14/12 (ARC)
Whimbrel Weston Shore 25/04, 02/08, 03/08 (ARC)
Common Sandpiper Weston Shore 25/04, 10/05, 08/07, 17/08 (ARC)

Spotted Redshank Northam 27/11 (ARC)
Grey Phalarope Titchfield Haven 27/08, 12/09 (RC), Hook, Warsash 07/09 (ARC)
Arctic Skua Hill Head 04/05 (ARC), Meon Shore 26/08 (RC)
Sabine's Gull Riverside Park, Bitterne 08/09, 11/09, Weston Shore 07/09, 08/09, 10/09, 12/09 (ARC) (colour page 4)
(Black-legged) Kittiwake Meon Shore 10/03 (RC)
Little Gull Hill Head 27/04, Weston Shore 03/09, 10/9 (ARC)
Mediterranean Gull Hayling Oyster Beds 03/04 (DHu, DH) (colour page 4)
Yellow-legged Gull Weston Shore 14/10, 24/10 (ARC)
Iceland Gull Meon Shore 02/01 (RC)
Little Tern Weston Shore 16/08 (ARC)
Black Tern Titchfield Haven 05/09 (RC), Hill Head 04/05, Town Quay 05/09, Weston Shore 03/08, 06/09 (ARC)
Roseate Tern Titchfield Haven 18/07 (RC)
Guillemot Hill Head 27/04, 08/05 (ARC)
Razorbill Hook Shore 12/10, Brownwich cliffs 13/10 (RC)
European Turtle Dove Whiteley Pastures 15/06 (RC)
Little Owl Funtley Meadow, Fareham 09/05 (PB)
Common Swift Bitterne Manor 29/04 (GHW)
Yellow Wagtail Weston Shore 13/09 (ARC)
Waxwing Oaklands, Soton 24/12 (ARC) (colour page 4)
Black Redstart Priddy's Hard, Gosport 20/11 (PRB)
Northern Wheatear Weston Shore 15/03, 07/10 (ARC), Vales Moor, New Forest 10/08 (PB)
Redwing Avenue Campus, Southampton University 03/10 (JW)
Cetti's Warbler Bishopstoke Recreation Ground 19/03, simging male (PB)
Grasshopper Warbler Meon Canal Footpath 15/07 (RC)
Sedge Warbler Holly Hill Woodland Park27/05 (PB)
Dartford Warbler Great Covert Woods 12/11 (PB)
Common Chiffchaff Windy Bay, Northam 01/03, Upper Titchfield Haven 12/12 (PB), Weston Shore 19/03, 01/12, 19/12 (ARC)
Firecrest Hook Park Wood 03/02, Brownwich area 22/10 (RC)
Bearded Tit Upper Titchfield Haven 12/12 (PB)
Marsh Tit top of Shoulder of Mutton Hill, near Petersfield 16/01 (PB)
Great Grey Shrike Blackensford Heath, near Burley 08/11 (SC)
Common Raven Titchfield Haven 27/08, Hillhead 17/10, Hook Links, Warsash 25/10, 09/11 (RC)
Brambling Hook Links, Warsash 01/04 (RC), Weston Shore 04/11 (ARC)

Common Crossbill Titchfield Haven 16/10 (RC), Itchen Valley Country Park 02/11, Great Covert Woods—south east 12/11 (PB), Weston Shore 03/07, 17/08 (ARC)

MAMMALS

***Arvicola terrestris* (Northern Water Vole)** Woodmill Salmon Pools 03/05 (PB)

***Halichoerus grypus* (Grey Seal)** Meon Shore 01/08 (RC)

***Lepus europaeus* (Brown Hare)** Sailor's Lane, Corhampton 22/04 (RC), Kilmeston Down 16/07 (RC)

***Micromys minutus* (Harvest Mouse)** east of Broughton 01/03 (PB)

***Mustela erminea* (Stoat)** Brockwood 06/01 (RC), Sailor's Lane, Corhampton 05/02, 22/04 (RC), Poles Lane near Four Dell Farm, Hursley 16/07 (PB)

***Mustela nivalis* (Weasel)** Meon Canal Footpath 02/04, 11/08 (RC), Titchfield Haven 27/06 (RC)

SOUTHAMPTON NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

President:	Mr C Packham
Chairman:	Mr P Budd 488 Bitterne Road East, Bitterne Southampton SO18 5EP Tel. 80444172, e-mail: phillipbudd@btinternet.com
Secretary:	Dr J E Schubert 24 Blackberry Terrace, Bevois Valley Southampton SO14 0ED Tel. 80229371, e-mail: jan@pion.co.uk
Treasurer:	To be elected.
Membership Secretary:	Mrs B Thomas 40 Mon Crescent, Bitterne Southampton SO18 5QU Tel. 80443853
Field Meetings Secretary:	Mr P Budd
Recording Officer:	Ms V Russell 21 Arliss Road Southampton SO16 6DG Tel. 0788 4387 468 e-mail: SNHS_records@hotmail.co.uk
Conservation Officer	Mr J Poland 91 Ethelburt Avenue Southampton SO16 DF Tel. 0771 456 8361 (mobile), e-mail:jpoland197@yahoo.co.uk
Committee Members:	Ms K Emmott, Mrs A Jones, Mr V Jones, Dr N Naish
Editor:	Dr J Schubert

Society website: http://sotonnhs.org/

Registered Charity 264662

Printed by Hanley Swiffen & Co Ltd, Rotherham