Southampton Natural History Society

ANNUAL REPORT 2010

SOUTHAMPTON NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

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Society website: http://sotonnhs.org/

Cover: Pale Tussock Moth larva
Photograph : Simon Currie
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Southampton Natural History Society
Founded 1907

President's Column
Chris Packham

We have three principal problems in conservation: human population growth, climate change and shifting baseline syndrome. I'm hoping that you will have more than adequate understanding of the perils of the first two and maybe even share some sympathy with the developing consensus regarding the urgency of tackling them. But what about the third? Well, you may not have heard of it, but I'll guarantee that it afflicts you and is a very real handicap to your personal efforts to make the right sort of difference when it comes to looking after our wildlife, whether it's in the South Atlantic or on Southampton Common. I know this because I'm a victim too.

Phil Budd asked me to write a piece and suggested that "a comparison between local wildlife now and say thirty years ago might be an interesting theme." Fair enough, so driving through Midanbury where I grew up, the other day, I began to reminisce about my time there as a teenager when the world revolved around punk rock and wildlife, principally Kestrels and Badgers.

There are less trees now in the streets there I noted. And Wheelie Bins mean that there are less foxes. My parents rarely see Hedgehogs and it's years since I saw a proper flock of House Sparrows. And most of the wasteland, the scraps of bramble-covered good bird nesting places and Slow-worm refugia have houses on them. But then Little Egret is on my dad's garden list Sparrowhawks are always whizzing through and Buzzards flying over and they get more Badgers visiting in the evenings. So I compare it to 'when I t'were lad' and overall there has been a significant loss of flora and fauna in this part of Southampton.

Then I arrived at my parents' and spoke to my dad about this. He was unimpressed and immediately began reeling off a catalogue of wonderful wildlife which had populated the neighbourhood during his youth. Grass snakes in long-gone ponds, Yellowhammers where supermarkets stand and masses of bats over the river now bathed in empty streetlight. My grandfather is no longer alive, but it begs the question . . . what would he have seen in his youth? Frankly, it is beyond my imagination or more importantly my assessment.

So I can only really discern the changes in my lifetime, using my life as a baseline, but, and this is a very big BUT, these changes are relatively small in the scheme of things. If we shift that baseline back to what my grandfather or even his grandfather would have known, my recollections diminish to almost no relevance. And this reduces my ability to measure their real impact on all the creatures I care about and attempt to help conserve. Actually, records show that 100 years ago Skylarks bred where my parents house stands and like so many

species their population's flexibility is not geared to flux neatly in tune with terms of a human's memory. The Yew tree around the corner is more than two thousand years old — that's working on a civilisation timescale !

And this is why we are not all totally depressed, not in tears over the losses of life that have occurred in such recent times . . . simply because we haven't seen it with our own eyes. And the consequence is that we are not so horrified that we are really doing something about it. Because, I'm sorry, but the declines continue and I can only wonder will remain for my dad's great grandchildren. What wildlife will live in Midanbury in 2050?

Membership Secretary's Report - Barbara Thomas

We would very much like to welcome the following new members and hope they enjoy our meetings: Paul & Helen Brock, Harry & Mary Bryde, Jacqueline Cowie, Mr & Mrs Steve Hallford, Roger & Jacquey Newton, Alison Parsons, David Shute. That makes a total of 144 ordinary members and 5 corporate members.We have had new membership forms printed and we would encourage you to take some in the hope that you can introduce some new members to us.

Grassroots Grant - Jan Kidd

Teaching English to non-English speakers and natural history are not often thought of together, but in 2010 this is exactly what happened when the Society teamed up with City College, Southampton. More than 150 learners, some with learning difficulties, benefitted from learning materials produced by tutor Kathy Emmott, and from the introduction of live owls and from birds of prey provided by Liberty's Owl, Raptor and Reptile centre (see colour plate 4) .

> *"My Entry 3 students were fascinated with the birds of prey. It gave us an opportunity we would not have otherwise had to explore British wildlife 'in the flesh' By preparing in advance with Internet and printed materials we were able to maximise on the experience, and I would welcome the opportunity to include this session in our programme again. Thank you"* (Mo Francis, Programme Leader and ESOL Lecturer, Skills for Life School, City College).

The project was made possible by £3,462 of funding from Grassroots Grants. The main aim of our project was to increase the diversity of our membership and those attending our events. Other activities we carried out included an Activity Day (see page 11). Unfortunately, the day coincided with some of the heaviest snowfall of the winter but all those attending were thrilled with the event and suggested we repeat it at another time. The funding also paid for our Autumn speakers' programme, a new leaflet and banners for use at events, and the purchase of a camera and computer for society use. Thanks to all those who helped in obtaining and reporting on the funds and in running the events. It is due to such work that we are able to keep our membership fees so low.

Obituary
Gerry Wilding

Many of you will remember our former member Gerry Wilding. Sadly, Gerry passed away on 20th April 2010, aged 88 (very nearly 89) and after battling illness for more than two years. Gerry was buried at Southdown Natural Burial Site near East Meon on 5th May. The South Downs of eastern Hampshire and adjacent Sussex were his favourite areas. Gerry was unmarried and had no children of his own, but is survived by a large family including three sisters.

Gerry was an engineer in his working life and had lived at Coates Road in Sholing for much of his adulthood; however, he was born and raised at Boyatt Wood, near Eastleigh. Gerry had many interests, including natural history, photography and gardening. He developed his own photographs in a studio at his home — the usual two subjects being landscapes (of southern England and north Wales, where he had relatives) and wild flowers (especially orchids). I think some of Gerry's pictures are still hanging in certain waiting rooms at Southampton General Hospital. Also those who knew Gerry were aware of his strong political views — don't mention a certain former Prime Minister 'Mrs T'!

I (Phil) first met Gerry at Pigbush in the New Forest on Thursday 9th June 1994. I was looking for Lesser Butterfly Orchids along the road between Pigbush car park and Beaulieu Road station with the late Chris Boulton. Gerry told us about a colony of 600 Marsh Gentians at Longdown that would be visible later in the summer. Chris and I soon became good friends to Gerry, but amazingly it took until 27th April 1996 until we all went out together for the first time — an evening excursion to Longdown, south-east of Winchester, where Gerry showed us some Early Purple Orchids. Trips out with Gerry to look at flowers and other wildlife were then a regular feature with Chris (up to 2001 — Chris died in 2004) and, from 2001, with Peter Burford.

For much of this time Gerry was a member of the Southampton Natural History Society and regularly attended both the indoor talks and the field meetings. Gerry even led a few field meetings, the last being the Pignal (New Forest) trip to see Early Purple and Green-winged Orchids on 22nd April 2007. Gerry also provided some of the pictures for the previous society display. Everyone who knew Gerry will remember his extensive knowledge of different wildlife localities in his home county of Hampshire and his photographs showing the many faces of the habitats of the New Forest through all its wonderful seasons.

Sadly Gerry never got to see his 'target species' — the Ghost Orchid.

Rest in peace, Gerry.

Phil Budd & Julie Watson

Field Meetings Report

Keyhaven
Date: 17th January. Time: 10.30 to 15.30. Leader: Andrew Walmsley. Purpose: Winter wildfowl and wintering Marsh Harrier. Attendance: 7. Weather: Sunny, dry and fairly mild. Bird highlights: 27 species listed, including a Marsh Harrier, both Greenshank and Spotted Redshank plus 3 Slavonian Grebes.

Poole Harbour, Dorset
Date: 23rd January. Time: 10:30 to 15:30. Leader: Julian Moseley. Purpose: Variety of duck and some of the scarcer grebes. Attendance: 16. Weather: Mild, dry and sunny spells. Bird highlights: 41 species of birds, including Purple Sandpiper, Black-necked Grebe (2), Red-crested Pochard, Great Northern Diver and Avocet.

Eastleigh (Fleming Park)
Date: 6th February. Time: 14:00 to 15:45. Leader: Philip Budd. Purpose: Identification of trees in winter. Attendance: 8. Weather: Sunny but a cold wind. Flora highlights: A range of native trees, plus exotics like London Plane, Sweet Gum, Manna Ash and Italian Alder. Hazel, Alder and Snowdrop in bloom. Old stems of Ivy Broomrape by brook and leaves of Three-cornered Leek seen. Fauna highlights: Flocks of Redwing, Fieldfare and Goldfinch.

Southampton Common
Date: 21st February. Time: 10:30 to 13:00. Leader: Phil Budd. Purpose: Lichens on trees. Attendance: 20. Weather: cool with sunny spells and showers. Highlights: Lichens included *Usnea subfloridana*, *Lecanora expallens*, *Candelariella reflexa* and *Parmelina tiliacea*. Also mosses such as *Orthotrichum lyellii*.

Holly Hill Park, Sarisbury
Date: 20th March. Time: 10:00 to 12:45. Leader: Phil Budd. Purpose: Mosses and liverworts. Attendance: 4. Weather: Cloudy with light rain or drizzle. Bryophyte highlights on the pulhamite stones: *Bryoerythrophyllum recurvirostrum*, *Cirriphyllum crassinervium*, *Homalia trichomanoides*, *Leptodictyum riparium*, *Rhynchostegium murale*, *Thamnobryum alopecurum* and *Zygodon viridissimus*. Bryophyte highlights elsewhere: Liverwort *Calypogeia arguta* and mosses *Hookeria lucens*, *Orthodontium lineare*, *Pogonatum aloides* and *Polytrichum commune*. Krausses Clubmoss *Selaginella kraussiana* in the Sunken Garden. Lichen highlights on pulhamite stones: *Acrocordia conoidea*, *Bacidia sabuletorum* and *Collema crispum var. crispum*. Lichen highlights elsewhere: *Arthonia vinosa* on a bark of a large oak.

East Meon
Date: 17th April. Time: 10:30 to 15:30. Leader: Phil Budd. Purpose: Birds and spring wildlife. Attendance: 9 (Joint with Hampshire Ornithological Society (HOS)). Weather: Warm, dry with 100% sunshine. Flowers: Bluebells starting to flower in Duncoombe Wood, Solomon's Seal, Moschatel and Common Gromwell (not in bloom) also in this wood. Insects: 7 butterfly species seen, including Green-veined White at Duncoombe. Near Lower Farm, East Meon lots of Bee Flies and two Pied Shieldbugs. Birds: At least 9 Buzzards, a Raven west of East Meon, several Yellowhammers and 2 House Martins in East Meon. Also 2 Hares at Forty Acres, west of East Meon.

Cricklade North Meadow
Date: 25rd April. Time: 10:30 to 13:30. Leader: Phil Budd. Purpose: To see Snake's-head Fritillaries. Attendance: 7 (Arranged by Hawthorns Centre). Weather: Cloudy with light showers. Flora: Snake's-head Fritillaries just about at their best — at least 600,000 and 1 in 10 were white. A lot of Ladies Smock here too. Thread-leaved Crowfoot also recorded. Birds: At least 8 Sedge Warblers, 3 Lesser Whitethroat and 2 Reed Buntings. Insects: Butterflies included Green-veined White and Tortoiseshell. Eyed Ladybird and Early Grey Moth in Cricklade village.

Martin Down
Date: 8th May. Time: 10:00 to 15:00. Leader: Julian Moseley. Purpose: Downland birds and orchids. Attendance: 8 (Joint with HOS). Weather: Cloudy and very cold for the time of year. Highlights: 2 Turtle Doves seen and heard. 16 other bird species including 4 Cuckoo, 1 Garden Warbler, 4 Buzzard, 11 Yellowhammer and 3 Lapwing.

Durley, including Greenwood
Date: 15th May. Time: 10:00 to 14:30. Leader: Phil Budd. Purpose: Birds and spring wildlife. Attendance: 12 (Joint with HOS). Weather: Sunny then rather cloudy with light showers. Highlights: 4 Red Kites over Greenwood; drumming Great Spotted Woodpecker in Greenwood; Blue Shieldbug and Honey Bee nest in base of oak tree; a rich assortment of spring flowers.

Peartree Green
Date: 18th May. Time: 18:30 to 19:45. Leader: Phil Budd. Purpose: Flora recording. Attendance: Nil. Weather: Dry,warm, partly cloudy. Notes: Flora recording cancelled due to zero attendance. No sign of Bithynian Vetch *Vicia bithynica* this year. Some insect recording by sweeping — nothing unusual recorded. Note: The second flora recording on Peartree Green was also cancelled due to zero attendance.

Worth Matravers
Date: 22nd May. Leader: Julian Moseley. Purpose: Auks, nesting seabirds, Peregrine, chalk downland flowers. Attendance: 4 (Joint with HOS). Weather: Dry, warm and sunny. Flora:16 species noted, including Sainfoin, Houndstongue and Wild Clary. Butterflies: 3 species, Orange Tip, Holly Blue and Small Heath. Birds:22 species, including Great Tit (at nest), Whitethroat, Kittiwake, Guillemot and possible Peregrine Falcon.

Blackwell Common
Date: 5th June. Time: 21:15 to 23:00. Leader: Phil Budd. Purpose: Nightjars and moth lamp. Attendance: 16. Weather: Dry, warm and partly cloudy. Highlights: 1 Nightjar heard churring and seen in flight. Other birds included Lapwing calling. An injured Slow-worm seen. Invertebrates on an oak trunk at car park included Red-line Quaker larvae, the spider *Clubiona corticalis* and two Helops Beetles *Cylindronotus laevioctostriatus*.

Wisley
Date: 12th June. Time: At Wisley 10:15 to 16:30. Hawthorns Centre coach trip. Attendance: 35 (with Hawthorns Association). Weather: Cool, dry, sunny spells. Highlights: Lots of insect life seen due to abundant nectar sources, including Bee-killer Wasp, Wool Carder Bee, Garden or Bracken Chafer, both species of demoiselle damselfly and Red-eyed Damselfly.

Badminston and Blackwell Commons (see separate report)
Date: 20th June. Leader: David Allen. Purpose: Bramble identification. Attendance: 6 (Joint with Hampshire Wildlife Trust Flora Group). Weather: Cool then warm, sunny. Highlights:Approximately 30 species of bramble were recorded.

Stoke Park Woods, Eastleigh
Date: 18th July. Time: 11:15 to 14:15. Leader: Dave Hubble. Purpose: Plant galls and other wildlife. Attendance: 6. Weather: Sunny and warm after cloudy start. Highlights: About 20 species of insect gall identified. Also a small Lobster Moth larva, a ringless Ringlet *aberrant arete* and two melanic Harlequin Beetle *Rutpela maculata*.

Southampton Common
Date: 18th July (change of date bescause of Race for Life). Time: 14:00 to 16:00. Leader: Nick Smith. Purpose: Flowers and insects. Attendance: 5. Weather: Sunny and hot. Highlights: A particular highlight was a Purple Hairstreak butterfly that came down to the ground. Also blossoming shrub *Sorbaria* by Hawthorns Centre had several Hornet Hoverfly *Volucella zonaria*.

Martin Down
Date: 24th July. Time: 10.00 to 14.00. Leader: Chris Oliver. Purpose: Birds, butterflies and some orchids. Attendance: 8. Weather: Sunny, breezy, warm. Highlights: 13 species of butterfly including White Admiral and Dark Green Fritillary **(CP4)**. 16 birds including Corn Bunting and Yellowhammer. 43 flowers including Frog Orchid and Common Meadow Rue.

Woodmill
Date: 6th August. Time: 20.45 to 22.15. Leaders: Chris and Mike Pawling. Purpose: Bats and associated wildlife. Attendance: 18. Weather: Cool, cloudy, drizzle, windy. Highlights: Picked up many Daubenton's Bats and also Noctule Bat, 45 Pipistrelle and 55 Pipistrelle by bat detector. Dark Bush Cricket picked up as well.

Magdalen Hill Down
Date: 14th August. Time: 10:00 to 14:10. Leaders: Peter Burford and Phil Budd. Purpose: Butterflies and other wildlife. Attendance: 6. Weather: Cloudy and cool with drizzle and hazy sun. Highlights: Several day flying moths including the scabious plume-moth *Stenoptilia bipunctidactyla*. Also caterpillars of Light Spectacle and Striped Lycnhis, plus the rare Pointed Snail *Cochlicella acuta*.

Weston Shore, West Wood and Shoreburs Greenway
Date: 29th August. Time: 10:00 to 15:45. Leader: Phil Budd. Purpose: Birds, butterflies and Ladies Tresses orchids. Attendance: 14 (Joint with HOS). Weather: Sunny spells and dry. Bird highlights: Whimbrel, Grey Plover and 2 Wheatear on Weston Shore. 2 Great Crested Grebes offshore. Rather quiet elsewhere, but 38 species in total. Other highlights: Good display of Autumn Ladies Tressess in St Mary's Extra Cemetery. 10 species of butterfly seen in total including a lot of Holly Blue's. Insects on Grange Fields included Roesel's Bush Cricket and Lesser Marsh Grasshopper; also 2 *Argiope* spiders. A lot of fungi seen.

Fleming Park, Eastleigh
Date: 12th September. Time: 14:00 to 15:00. Leader: Phil Budd. Purpose: Tree identification in summer. Attendance: 2. Weather: Sunny and dry. Highlights: Trees studied included the American Sweet Gum. Apart from this two Speckled Wood butterflies and a Juniper Shieldbug recorded — the latter on Western Red Cedar *Thuja*.

Balmer Lawn Area, New Forest
Date: 26th September. Time: 10:30 to 15:00. Leader: Anthea and Vernon Jones. Purpose: Autumn wildlife in the New Forest. Attendance: 5. Weather: Sunny, dry but chilly. Flora highlights: Fungi included *Gymnopilus junonius* (Spectacular

Rustgill) and *Leccinum versipelle* (Orange Birch Bolete). Lemon-scented Fern also found. Fauna highlights: Woodland Grasshopper recorded. No butterflies noted. Brown Hawker, Southern Hawker and Common Darter Dragonflies seen. 5 Woodlarks also seen.

Pagham Harbour
Date: 2nd October. Time: 11:00 to 16:00. Leader: Julian Moseley. Purpose: Migrating birds, butterflies and miscellaneous wildlife. Attendance: 9 (Joint with HOS). Weather: Mild and cloudy with some light rain. Highlights: 52 species of birds seen, including Mediterranean Gull (Church Norton Shore), Spotted Flycatcher (Church Norton) and Ruff (Sidlesham Ferry Pool). Also a Sallow Moth seen (Church Norton).

Southampton Old Cemetery
Date: 6th October. Time: 10:30 to 12:45. Leader: John Vetterlein. Purpose: Autumn wildflower walk. Attendance: 8. Weather: Cloudy then sunny, warm. Highlights: Speckled Wood, Red Admiral and Small Copper butterflies all seen. Devilsbit Scabious still spreading and Heath and Birdseye Speedwells in flower. The Bottlebrush Buckeye tree producing small conkers.

Calshot (see colour plate 1)
Date: 9th October. Time: 16:00 to 18:45. Leader: Andy Barker. Purpose: Seashore life at low tide. Attendance: 18. Weather: Sunny and warm. Highlights: Particularly large numbers of Sea Anemones seen, especially Dahlia Anemones and the burrowing *Sagartia elegans* at eastern end of shore. Also some other 'different' things included a flatworm sp., a young Ballan Wrasse and the springtail *Anurida maritima*. Usual variety of crab, mollusc, Chiton, seaweed, brittlestar and small fish species.

Titchfield Haven
Date: 23rd October. Time: 09:30 to 15:30. Leader: Julian Moseley. Purpose: Bird watch to see late migrants and resident species. Attendance: 4. Weather: Breezy and sunny with occasional shower. Highlights: 33 bird species, including 2 pairs of Gadwall; 2 Barnacle Goose; 2 Greenshank; 2 Cetti's Warblers; 3 Snipe; 1 Kingfisher and one white-phase Canada Goose.

Normandy Marshes
Date: 13th November. Time: 10:30 to 15:00. Leader: Chris Oliver. Purpose: Bird watch to see resident and winter species. Attendance: 10. Weather: Cool, dry and cloudy. Birds: 37 species recorded, including Slavonian Grebe (3), Eider (2 pairs), Dartford Warbler (4), Goldeneye and Kingfisher.

Southampton Common
Date: 21st November. Time: 14:00 to 16:00. Leader: Phil Budd. Purpose: Fungus foray. Attendance: 25+. Weather: Cool, dry and bright. Fungi highlights: 26 species of fungi were seen, including the parasitic jelly *Tremella aurantia* and the Blueleg Brownie *Psilocybe cyanescens*. Fly Agaric *Amanita muscaria* still up.

Lord's Wood and Sports Centre
Date: 5th December. Leader: Phil Budd. Purpose: Birds and early winter wildlife walk. Attendance: Nil (Joint with HOS). Weather: Cold and damp with fog. Nature notes: A Nuthatch seen in the Dunkirk Road car park whilst waiting, in vain, for people to turn up for the walk.

Eyeworth Pond, Hampton Ridge and Sloden Inclosure
Date: 11th December. Time: 10:30 to 15:30. Leader: Julian Moseley. Purpose: Winter birds, possibly Hen Harrier and Great Grey Shrike. Attendance: 14 (Joint with HOS). Weather: Dry, overcast and cool. Bird highlights: 24 species seen, including 3 Raven, 6 Redpoll, Siskin, Linnet, Brambling, Marsh Tit, Redwing and a pair of Mandarin Duck on Eyeworth Pond.

Indoor Meetings

As for 2009 there was no January meeting but we have resumed these in 2011. There were therefore six Indoor Meetings at the Edmund Kell Hall in 2010. All were held on Monday evenings.

Our first talk was presented by natural history photographer David Boag on 1st February. The subject was "Natural Quarries" and nineteen people turned up, including some new faces. Although it was clear that the speaker was used to presenting his talks to larger audiences and at more spacious venues, it was nevertheless an excellently delivered and well illustrated talk. We learned a considerable amount about the value of former quarries and earthworks as wildlife refuges. This was then followed up by my 'traditional' slide talk on the orchids and flora of Hampshire on 1st March, attended by fifteen members. I stood in for Steve Berry, a reptile expert from Portsmouth, who couldn't make it. Steve Berry then kindly offered to speak at the A.G.M on 5th April instead. Steve showed us live specimens of many of his reptiles, fresh from hibernation; these included a water monitor, an ocellated lizard, a Canary giant lizard and two Australian bearded dragons.

Seventeen members attended the business part of the A.G.M. Darren Naish and Vicki Russell stepped down from the committee. Julian Moseley and Peter Burford were elected Field Meetings Secretary and Honorary Auditor, respectively. I entered my 13th year as Chairperson!!!

On 4th October the winter 2010/2011 programme resumed with a film/talk entitled "Wildlife and Scenery of Romania". The talk was presented jointly by Peter Burford and myself and was based on a two-week holiday in the centre and east of Romania in June 2010 and was attended by twenty-two members. This eastern European country is unfamiliar to most members, but its wildlife is several times richer than that of the UK with a landscape and farming practices reminiscent of southern England 70-100 years ago. Our next talk, on 1st November, was a PowerPoint presentation by member Dr David Hubble. About thirty people attended the talk entitled "Wildlife of Highbridge Farm". Highbridge Farm in the Itchen Valley (at Allbrook) is run as an organic farm, with the community invited to grow their own crops there on 100 acres of the farm. It is also an amazing place for wildlife as David very ably demonstrated.

The final talk for 2010 was delivered by Lynne Derry of the Great Bustard Group on 6th December and was attended by twenty-five members. Lynne informed us that the project has involved introducing some 140 birds from Saratov Oblast in Russia since 2004. There are thought to be around 20-25 birds surviving with the Somerset Levels being an important wintering ground. A 'viable' population of around 50 birds is the target. Although there has been some successful breeding, predation by foxes remains a serious issue.

Activity Day

The society organised an 'Activity Day' on Saturday 4th December at our usual venue: Edmund Kell Hall. It was aimed at an audience including families, children and persons from ethnic minorities. In the event none of the latter turned up and, of families, only a father and two children in the afternoon. Nevertheless, twenty-nine people, including society members, helpers, stall holders and speakers came through the door. It was most unfortunate, however, that the weather was so cold, icy and horrible (even for the time of year) and this didn't help.

As a social occasion and as a means of promoting the society, the event was certainly a success, though. Stallholders represented were the Search Museum (based at Gosport), Friends of Southampton Old Cemetery, the Mammal Society (based in Southampton), the Hampshire branch of Butterfly Conservation and Hampshire Fungus Recording Group. We would like thank all of these groups and also the Hampshire Bat Group, who had offered to attend but couldn't due to the snow. Our society also held a display.

There were four talks at one-hour intervals through the day. First up were Liberty Birds (based at Ringwood), who showed us live Buzzard, Barn Owl, Eagle Owl and one non-native species — an East African Hooded Vulture. We were very grateful that Liberty Birds could stay with us all day. Following them, the

Mammal Society gave a talk promoting their work and the recording of mammals in Hampshire. Later I offered the mammal records in the Southampton Natural History Society database to the Mammal Society and they kindly offered to form links with us and present a talk on another occasion.

In the afternoon there were two talks. First, I gave a 30-minute presentation on items that can be found cast up on local seashores. I brought along examples of pebbles, shells, seaweeds and miscellaneous objects such as whelk egg-cases and cuttlebones from Netley, Warsash and Hillhead. Then Eric Janke, of the Hampshire Fungus Recording Group, enlightened us on interesting facts about fungi and showed examples that are still fruiting in November and early December.

We showed our display at a number of events: for example, the Hampshire Ornithological Society Members Day on 27th March and Southampton Spring Watch on Southampton Common on 30th May.

We would like to offer a special thank you to all our speakers, to those who helped at the Activity Day or in its organisation, or at any other of our events.

Phil Budd

Brambles of Badminster and Blackwell Commons
David Allen

The fourth annual introductory on this large and famously challenging group of flowering plants, this was again a joint one with the Flora Group of Hampshire & Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust (and again we were pleased to have Margaret Burnhill with us from the Island). After a bewildering excess of species to cope with in 2007 and the finding frustratingly few in 2008, a happy mean was eventually hit upon in 2009: a pair of old commons with just about the right amount of diversity to provide mental sustenance for one day without acute indigestion. So it seemed sensible to choose another pair of commons again, this time ones near Fawley, at and next to the New Forest's south-east tip. Among bramble specialists this district has come to be dubbed 'Little Cornwall', for it harbours an assemblage of markedly western species unknown elsewhere in the county in such strength — and in the case of one, *Rubus rilstonei*, at a population level nowhere else nearer than westernmost Devon. Similar ground at the opposite end of Southampton Water also boasts one or two brambles with the same climatic demands but, unaccountably, they are not the same ones.

With deliberate caution Badminston Common alone had been advertised in the meetings programme, in the belief that it might yield enough to keep the party busy for the whole of the day. Its bramble flora had in fact been investigated on only two previous occasions (the first of which, in 1976, two of those present

recollected nostalgically, if somewhat hazily) and on neither of those all that thoroughly. However, it was just as well that its neighbour, the better-known Blackwell Common, two miles to the west, had been held quietly in reserve, for due to the exceptionally late spring many of the Badminston species were barely out. A solitary bush of *R. rilstonei* was luckily one that was. Alas, though, that had no accompanying first-year barren stem (or 'primocane'), the portion which monopolises some of the characters crucial for confident determination of any bramble species; and so, strictly speaking, this was only half the evidence on which a published record could have been acceptably based — had this been the first discovery of this species on the Common. This failure of older bramble bushes to produce any barren stem is a frequent cause of frustration to students of this group, analogous to being denied fruits when trying to identify roses or starworts. Sadly the only other member of the South-west England element so far at all much in flower was *R. rubritinctus*, already familiar to those who have attended Southampton Common meetings. In a normal year *R. longithyrsiger* would have been joining in that profusion, but of that only a single bush had yet obliged with some petals.

Blackwell Common, to which we resorted for lunch, fortunately proved more advanced, thanks to lacking the other's heavily wooded character and consequently lying for the most part in full sun. The largest and (for brambles) the richest of the string of commons along the New Forest's margins, it was inexplicably overlooked by earlier generations of *Rubus* enthusiasts, but several lengthy combings of it since the 1980s have rectified the omission. It has been particularly noteworthy for holding four of the relatively distinctive suberect species, which offer newcomers to the study of brambles and encouraging foothold by reason of their obvious kinship with the raspberry. A highlight of this visit was therefore adding *R. fissus* as a fifth, in the form of two bushes in open scrub towards the north side — a first record of that for the east of the New Forest. An even better find, though, was a largish colony of *R. altiarcuatus* close to King's Copse Road. This is a strongly western species here almost at the eastern edge of its range in Britain, and hitherto recorded from this common only on the basis of one or two scattered and not altogether convincing individual bushes. Usually tall and conspicuous – as along the Forest's west margin, more or less continuously for three and a half miles – these Blackwell Common versions of it are all untypically stunted, which presumably accounts for their having passed unnoticed until now.

Yet the thorny scrub and bracken of which this common predominantly consists is so extensive that it is all too easy to overlook the more local species without a systematic search. That we failed to locate more (and more complete) examples of *R. rilstonei* here, where it is certainly known to occur, was an instance of that.

But at least that other prize of 'Little Cornwall' *R. questieri*, did not elude us, one superb tall bush of which helpfully displayed in full degree the arrestingly yellow colouring of the young leaves that is one of its distinctive features. Though one of the commonest brambles in Normandy and Brittany — and trickling down to Portugal — this attractive species evidently requires more consistent heat than the moister parts of the British Isles are capable of supplying, so southernmost England and Ireland are rationed to just a few scattered enclaves of it, one of the most populous of those being this limited stretch of Hampshire's waterside, from the copses south of Hythe and thence to the Solent.

The Great Bustard Returns
Darren Naish

The Great Bustard (one of 26 or so bustard species found throughout the Old World and Australasia) is a British native, but excessive hunting and (probably) changing agricultural practices, increasing human disturbance and perhaps other factors led to its extinction as a breeding species round about 1832. Some eggs were apparently discovered in 1838 and it is suspected that some native birds were still living in Norfolk as late as 1845. If you've no idea what a Great Bustard looks like, imagine a long-legged, long-necked omnivorous bird something like a cross between a crane and a small ratite ... or, look at the pictures here. The loss of this remarkable bird is a real shame given its size, remarkable appearance and ecological role.

Its loss from the breeding avifauna of the British Isles is hardly unique, of course: most of our larger birds were made extinct within recent centuries. Some later recolonised the country naturally, while others are only here thanks to reintroduction efforts. Capercaillie *Tetrao urogallus*, Eurasian Bittern *Botaurus stellaris*, Eurasian Spoonbill *Platalea leucorodia*, Northern Goshawk *Accipiter gentilis*, Osprey *Pandion haliaeetus*, White-tailed Eagle *Haliaetus albicilla*, and Common Crane *Grus grus* are among the list of the lost species that have since returned (Whitlock 1953).

Opinions differ as to how numerous the Great Bustard was in Britain prior to its decline. Some authors say that huge numbers of the birds were present in large droves during the 1700s, while others say that it was scarce even in the 1600s. By the late 1700s and early 1800s it had definitely become rare, and the last British breeding bird (from 1832) was found in Suffolk. The species didn't disappear entirely at this date, however, as many migrant Great Bustards arrived from

continental Europe during the 1870s, 80s and 90s. Stragglers also arrived from the continent throughout the 20th century. As a bird of open, treeless habitats,

Great Bustards may have become unusually abundant in Britain (and elsewhere) as forests were removed and arable grassland increased in size.

The Great Bustard also occurs in Spain and Portugal, Austria, Germany, Hungary, Romania, Slovakia, Russia, China and Mongolia. The remaining populations of central Europe are highly fragmented and thought in danger of extinction: there are fewer than 100 birds in Germany, for example, and Poland, the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Moldova and other European countries have lost, or virtually lost, their Great Bustards. They disappeared from Switzerland some time after 1553, from Denmark by 1860, from France in 1863, and from Serbia in about 1949. A relict population (perhaps of fewer than 50 birds) seems to persist in northern Morocco near Tangiers. This population has sometimes been thought extinct, but a small group was seen in 1995 (Waters & Waters 2006). Spain is home to the largest European population, and to an active field research programme on the birds.

The Great Bustard is migratory across part of its range but, overall, seems flexible in terms of this behaviour. Birds from Russia move to Ukraine, Iraq and Iran during the winter; those in Germany may move to England or France; and bustards from Hungary might fly to Italy or Greece. Many of these movements seem to be responses to extreme weather conditions and are not definitely traditionally 'ingrained' within the birds (Streich et al. 2006). The British birds were apparently non-migratory, though they did move away from the higher, more exposed upland areas during cold, snowy winters.

The biggest bustards: the biggest flying birds?

The Great Bustard is a huge bird: males have a wingspan of 2.1-2.5 m and can weigh as much as 18 kg, with 21 kg and 24 kg even claimed for some specimens. If you're familiar with the literature on 'maximum sizes' of flying birds, you'll know that there's always been some debate as to whether the Great Bustard or Kori Bustard *Ardeotis kori* is larger. Most people say Kori because of 19 kg specimens, but (as just mentioned), the Great Bustard is claimed to reach similar or even larger sizes. Incidentally, a particularly large 21kg Manchurian Great Bustard was apparently unable to fly: most authors have assumed that it was 'too heavy to fly'. There's also a claimed record of 34 kg for a Kori, and note that some fossil bustards — I'm thinking of *Ioriotis gabunii* from the Late Pliocene of Kvabebi in Georgia — might have been about a third larger than a male Great Bustard

(Boev 1999) (arm bone anatomy suggests that *Ioriotis* was flighted, and not a unique flightless species). The Mute Swan *Cygnus olor* is also sometimes mentioned as 'heaviest flying bird' (e.g., Carwardine 1995) as there's a male from Poland who apparently weighed 22.5 kg. Again, he had — supposedly — temporarily lost the power of flight.

Contests like this never really mean anything: few weight measurements are really accurate — I suppose they're anywhere between 60% and 90% accurate (due to dodgy equipment, different measuring techniques, rounding up and down, errors made in conversions, etc.) — and individual birds can fluctuate so much according to condition, time of year, and even stuff like amount of exercise and diet that a 19 kg bird might weigh 21 kg a year (or less) later, and vice versa. Pigeons are known to change their mass by as much as 30% across the seasons (Sargisson et al. 2007): any fluctuation won't be that marked in a 20kg bird, of course, but we know that individual birds can change in mass quite markedly according to their life history. It should also be emphasised that all of these 'record' weights are exceptional. An 'average' male Great Bustard weighs 10-16 kg.

Incidentally, 20-something kg is far from the upper limit for flying birds given that the largest extinct teratorns (huge, vulture-like birds of the Americas) exceeded 70 kg. The biggest pterosaurs exceeded 200 kg.

Reintroducing Great Bustards to England

Throughout the 20th century, people decided that they really should try to get the Great Bustard reintroduced to England. Efforts were made as early as 1900 when Spanish birds were released onto an estate at Elveden in Suffolk, but far better known is the Porton Down (Wiltshire) project of the 1970s and 80s, led by the Great Bustard Trust (GBT). Birds from Portugal and Hungary were reared in captivity on Porton Down, and their release on Salisbury Plain was planned. Unfortunately, no chicks were ever fledged (despite successful laying) and the GBT ceased operation in 1997. The remaining captive birds were transferred to Whipsnade Animal Park (Bedfordshire). I grew up hearing and reading about the successes and failures of the GBT and was disappointed that it never succeeded.

However, inspired by these efforts, David Waters set up the Great Bustard Group (GBG) in 1998. By working closely with the A. N. Severtsov Institute of Ecology and Evolution (a branch of the Russian National Academy of Science), and with colleagues in Spain, the GBG has been able to import 'surplus' eggs from Russia, and to then rear the chicks with a minimum of human contact (Waters & Waters 2006). Russian birds have proved closely related to the extinct British ones, so their use for the reintroduction is more

appropriate than of Iberian birds. Concentrating on Ministry of Defence land on Salisbury Plain, the GBG reintroduction effort resulted in wild breeding in 2009, so things are looking good.

Despite their size, the birds (which are allowed to wander where they like, and have flown far and wide across the country) are incredibly hard to find and to spot. They excel at concealing themselves in open areas, and their mostly grey and brown plumage makes them very hard to see on plains and fields. Males are more obvious than females because of their large white wing and tail feathers, and when performing their incredible 'balloon' displays they must stand out for miles, literally. In this display, the males inflate their necks, lower and partially evert their wings, raise their tails, and erect the whisker-like feathers on their throats. During a visit by a few society members in April 2010, we saw two at extreme distance: they could be observed sufficiently through a telescope but were really at the limits of binocular range and there was no possibility of photography. Two additional birds were seen at closer range, but I didn't have any luck with those.

I'm very happy to have finally seen Great Bustards in the wild in the UK, and I hope to see them again.

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The pictures show: the life-sized silhouette of a male Great Bustard in flight in one of the GBG hides; the author with Hercule, a stuffed male Great Bustard, kept in a private collection prior to his unfortunate death (he was killed when thieves broke in); the GBG emblem on one of their Landrovers.

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Britain's Aquatic Moths
David Hubble

When we think about aquatic insects, various groups spring to mind — caddis, dragonfly and damselfly nymphs, and water beetles among others. However, moths do not often appear on this list.

Worldwide there are several hundred moth species with aquatic larvae, and more are being discovered as research unravels the biology of previously unknown larvae. Those considered truly aquatic feed on or mine aquatic vegetation, with a few species consuming diatoms from the surfaces of rocks. Some species construct portable cases similar to caddis and may produce submerged silken spinnings. Most species, especially the external plant-feeders, are in the family Pyralidae; some others are in the family Arctiidae. Truly aquatic larvae often have filamentous gills on the body and may produce a portable case as mentioned above. Also, they usually have small abdominal prolegs with crotchets (small hooks) in an oval pattern, as opposed to terrestrial forms which have well-defined, raised prolegs with crotchets in a circle (Bouchard 2009). Aquatic moth larvae usually live in still or slow-flowing waters such as ponds and marshes, with some found in streams.

In most aquatic moth species, females swim to the bottom of the water-body to lay their eggs; a few species lay eggs on the surface (e.g. species where wingless females wait on the water surface until mated). In at least one species, the adult female moth is completely aquatic and never emerges from the water.

In Britain, four native pyralid species can be considered truly aquatic and will be covered first; the Brown China-mark (*Elophila nymphaeata*), the Beautiful China-mark (*Nymphula stagnata*), the Ringed China-mark (*Parapoynx stratiotata*) and the Water Veneer (*Acentria ephemerella*). Of these, the first three are in the subfamily Nymphulinae, while the Water Veneer is in the closely related Acentropinae. Some other species have semi-aquatic larvae such as those feeding low down in the stems of emergent vegetation and those which raft between food-plants; these will be covered second.

The larvae of the three nymphuline species all have aquatic larvae which live submerged in spinnings among aquatic vegetation (Goater 1986):

Elophila nymphaeata
Larvae feed on pondweeds (*Potamogeton* spp.), frogbit (*Hydrocharis morsus-ranae*) and bur-reeds (*Sparganium* spp.) from September to June. The initial stage is a leaf-miner, later living in a floating case made of leaf fragments. To facilitate feeding, the larva attaches the case to the underside of a leaf with silk;

pupation occurs in a silk cocoon covered with further leaf fragments, attached to a plant stem just below the water surface. This is a common and widespread species in Britain, found where there are suitable pond and lake margins, as well as abundant vegetation in slow-flowing rivers and canals. Adults differ from *Nymphula stagnata* by being larger in size and having broader, browner wings; a smaller dark brown form is known from bogs in the New Forest and Dorset (Manley 2008).

Nymphula stagnata

Larvae feed mainly on yellow water-lily (*Nuphar lutea*), also on bur-reeds (*Sparganium* spp.) and probably other water-plants from August to May. The initial stage is a miner within the pith of the stem where it hibernates until April. Post-hibernation feeding occurs in the stem or in a chamber of leaves spun just below the water surface; pupation occurs in a white silk cocoon attached to the food plant. This is a common and widespread species in Britain, found at the margins of rivers, streams and lakes, although it is more locally distributed north of southern Scotland.

Parapoynx stratiotata

Larvae are more specialised for aquatic life than the first two species, with a profusion of branched gills, and feeding on pondweeds (*Potamogeton* spp.), Canadian waterweed (*Elodea canadensis*), hornworts (*Ceratophyllum* spp.) and other water-plants from July to May. The larva spins leaves together, forming an open web, and makes wriggling movements to aid gas exchange; pupation occurs in a large pinkish cocoon attached to a plant beneath the water surface. Habeck (1983) researched the various food plants of this species, including its possible use as a control agent of invasive aquatic plants in the USA. It is locally distributed at the margins of ponds, lakes, slow-flowing rivers, canals and ditches; commonest in the south of England and Wales, but recorded as far north as Yorkshire and Lancashire.

Acentria ephemerella

Larvae are found to 2m depth in loose spinnings among food plants which include Canadian waterweed (*Elodea canadensis*), pondweeds (*Potamogeton* spp.), stoneworts (*Chara* spp.) and filamentous algae. Hibernation takes place from October to May with larvae becoming fully-fed by May or June; pupation occurs in a silk cocoon at up to a metre depth beneath the water surface. Adult females are usually flightless with much-reduced wings, remaining submerged and swimming with long-fringed middle and hind legs until mating occurs on the water's surface; fully-winged females do occur and are larger than the males. It is locally abundant in ponds, lakes and slow-flowing rivers throughout Britain.

A number of other fully aquatic nymphulines have been recorded in Britain, but these are non-native species, generally with sparse records associated with greenhouses specialising in aquatic plants and are detailed in Goater (1986). However, there are some other species which produce larvae with some aquatic aspect to their life history. For example, *Schoenobius gigantella* and *Donacaula forficella* (subfamily Schoenobiinae) both have larvae that feed on plants such as common reed (*Phragmites australis*) and reed sweet-grass (*Glyceria maxima*), floating to new stems on rafts made from sections of the previous stem. *D. mucronellus* may not raft, but feeds and pupates in the lower sections of reed, *G. maxima* and sedge (*Carex* spp.) stems, and as such may need to tolerate wet conditions, especially if water levels are high. Similarly, within the subfamily Crambinae, the boggy heathland specialist *Crambus silvella* (known mainly from Surrey, Hampshire, Dorset and Norfolk) pupates in a cocoon in the soil which, in wet conditions, may again require tolerance of inundation, although this is not certain. *C. uliginosellus* is very local in wet bogs, but its larval biology is unknown and so its tolerance of wet conditions is less certain still.

Therefore, although it is clear that a number of species require research to determine their larval life history, Britain does have a known aquatic moth fauna, which — along with the global fauna — may expand as knowledge of larval biology increases.

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Further reading

For more detail about one European species invasive to North America (*Acentropus niveus*) visit: http://nas.er.usgs.gov/queries/factsheet.aspx?SpeciesID=2362

For more about the diversity of aquatic moth species, see:

Mey, W. & Speidel, W. 2008. "Global diversity of aquatic moths (Lepidoptera) in freshwater". *Hydrobiologia* **595**(1): 521-528

Weather Records 2010
Records made at 488 Bitterne Road East (SU454129)
Phil Budd

2010 was a colder, drier and duller year than 2009; it was about 10% drier than average and 0.5ºC colder than normal. A dull, cold and rather wet winter was followed by a very dry, warm and sunny spring and early summer period. After a wet and very cloudy August the autumn was a very mixed bag until the bitterly cold late November to December period.

January followed a similar pattern to that of January 2009. It was bitterly cold but fairly dry up to the 13th and then became cool, but variable, and wetter thereafter. Dominating easterly winds throughout resulted in the month being several degrees colder than average for January. The coldest night was the 5th (-7.2ºC) and the coldest day the 7th (-1.1ºC) maximum. The temperatures also remained below zero on the 9th. Southampton, as usual, got away lightly with the snow. The main falls were 2 to 3 inches on the 5th/6th and, again, on the 12th/13th. In the first of these periods Basingstoke, Reading and Fleet were 'buried' in nearly a foot of snow. The period from the 16th to the 24th saw milder than average temperatures but also 55mm of rain.

February was somewhat colder, wetter and cloudier than normal, with winds coming mostly from between north and south-east. The start and end of the month were mild, but there was a moderate cold spell between the 7th and the 22nd, with the coldest nights on the 1st (-3.9ºC) and the 20th (-3.3ºC), but no exceptionally cold days. There were some light snow falls from the 8th to the 11th and a heavy soft hail shower that covered the ground at 3pm on the 19th. However, we were spared the heavy snow suffered in northern Britain on the 23rd and the ferocious storm that hit Portugal and France on the 28th and which killed 22 people.

March was 'average' in temperature terms, but both sunnier and wetter than normal — good growing weather. The first half of the month was very dry — the 4mm of rain on the 12th being the only precipitation prior to the 19th. However, there were some cold nights in this period: -4.4ºC on the 5th, -4.2ºC on the 7th and the last air frost (-2.2ºC) on the 17th. After this it was milder (up to 17.2ºC on the 24th) but very wet. The most exciting event was a thunderstorm that dumped 16mm of rain and hail in 15 minutes at 2pm on the 25th. I missed it as I was in Somerset at the time.

April was drier and sunnier than normal and reasonably warm as well. Westerly winds in the first week turned northerly in mid-month then southerly in the final week. With only 19mm of rain, April was very dry and there was no rainfall recorded from the 5th to the 24th (20 days). In fact, there was only 16mm of rain

(just over half an inch) from 5th April to 26th May! The middle of the month was particularly sunny, with about 10 hours or more of sunshine every day from the 15th to the 24th and no days with less than 2 hours of sunshine. The temperatures were less exceptional, with only the 28th exceeding 20ºC (21.5ºC recorded that day). The volcanic eruption in Iceland from the 15th and lasting through May, didn't appear to affect the weather.

May was less sunny but, again, very dry with near average temperatures. Northerly or easterly winds dominated the first half and gave rather chilly conditions, but there were much warmer south-westerly winds thereafter. There was a frost in some rural areas on the 11th/12th and the temperature fell to 1.2ºC in my garden. The most notable spell of weather, however, was the 22nd to the 25th when there were 12 or more hours of sun each day and the glorious 24th saw 15.2 hours of sunshine and temperatures top 28.6ºC.

June was dry, very sunny and a little warmer than average. Winds started westerly then became north-easterlies in mid-month before turning back to south-westerly at the end. A disappointing start, though, with a maximum of 14.5ºC on the 1st. However, after the rain on the night of the 7th/8th it was a very dry month, with only 10mm of rain from then until 12th July. Three days early in the month recorded over 15 hours of sunshine (the 4th, 5th and 17th) and from the 20th to the 28th there were 10 hours or more of sunshine every day. The highest temperature of the year was 30.0ºC on the 27th.

July was certainly warmer and drier than normal but, after June, the amount of sunshine was rather disappointing. Westerly winds utterly dominated throughout, so it was surprising that it wasn't cooler and wetter. In general, the weather was fairly consistently good, but the 9th stood out as the warmest day (29.0ºC maximum) and the sunniest too (13.7 hours). There was a horrible but brief breakdown on the 15th with force 8 south-westerly gales and 8.5mm of rain. From 17th July to 3rd August there was only 2.5mm of rain recorded and the temperatures peaked again on the 26th (28.3ºC).

August saw a continuing domination of westerly winds, turning more north-westerly from the 11th onwards. Not surprisingly, it was a very dull month (only 4.3 hours of sunshine on average per day), wetter than normal, but with temperatures holding up around average. There were no exceptionally cool days, but there were no really hot days either — the highest was 26.1ºC on the 16th. On the 4th we saw our only thunderstorm of the summer from 2pm to 3pm, and then came the downpours of the evening of the 25th (15mm of rain from 5.30pm to 7pm). Also 23mm of rain on night of the 22nd/23rd contributed to the high total for the month. Also, there were five days between the 20th and the 26th with less

than 20 minutes of sunshine! However, conditions in August were excellent for early-season fungi.

September was a fairly average month, but significantly drier than normal. There were easterly winds in the first week, but either northerly or westerly thereafter. September was never completely dry for more than a week, but the only major rainfall (14.5mm) fell on the night of the 6th/7th. There were no really hot days, just consistent warmth, but there were some very mild nights such as the 11th (minimum 16.5ºC) and then another series of very mild nights from 27th September to 10th October (mostly staying over 10ºC). The month was rather eventless otherwise.

October was average in terms of temperature and rainfall, but sunnier than normal. There were south-westerly winds at the start and the end, but from the 6th to the 25th they were mainly from north to north-east. The month started very wet, with 50.5mm of rain in three days, but there was then no rain from the 7th to the 18th to redress the balance. Within this period there were three days with temperatures exceeding 21ºC from the 8th to the 10th (22.7ºC on the 8th) followed by a very high sunshine total of 10.4 hours on the 11th. Later October (after the 18th) was characterised by chilly weather and two early air frosts, the first on the 20th/21st when the mercury dropped to a very low -2.3ºC. Unusually, there were no October gales.

November was average in terms of rainfall, but duller and eventually colder than average. The first half of the month saw westerly winds, but the second half saw winds mostly from a north-east quarter. After a mild but cloudy start, a slow-moving, deep depression caused a burst of 49mm of rain from the 8th to the 11th and severe westerly gales on the latter date. Also on the 8th the barometric pressure remained around 963 millibars all day — a very low value. 17.5mm of rain fell on the 17th/18th and there was severe flooding in east Cornwall at this time. After the 20th the weather dried up but the temperatures nosedived. On the 29th the minimum was a near record -5.7ºC whilst the temperatures remained below 3.5ºC from the 25th onward. However, we were spared snow and the record November low temperatures recorded elsewhere in the UK.

December was an exceptionally cold month in the UK, but less extreme here. Nevertheless, the temperature here was 4.5ºC lower averaged over the whole month. From 21st November to 27th December maximum temperatures stayed below average every day. This also applied to the minimum values from 24th November to 27th December. The first three days of December, the 5th and the 25th saw temperatures remaining below freezing all day. The night of the 25th/26th was the coldest of 2010, with a minimum recorded in the garden of -7.4ºC. Also we saw more snow before Christmas than I have ever seen before — 9 inches (22cm)

depth on my garden lawn on the 4th/5th, with lighter falls on the 2nd and the 18th. A little frozen snow was still on the ground on Christmas Day. The late part of the month was rather dry, very dull and saw rising temperatures after Boxing Day. Nevertheless, between the 17th and the 25th the temperatures never exceeded 2ºC and from the 21st onward there was a dismal 10.5 hours of sunshine in total.

Month	Maximum temperature		Highest temperature	Minimum temperature		Lowest temperature	No. of air frosts	No. of wet days	Total rainfall		Sunshine
	ºC	ºF	ºC	ºC	ºF	ºC			mm	in	hrs
Jan	4.0	39.2	10.1	-0.5	31.1	-7.2	19	8	80.1	3.2	77.4
Feb	7.3	45.1	11.9	1.6	34.9	-3.9	11	14	79.1	3.1	67.2
Mar	11.7	53.1	17.2	2.7	36.9	-4.4	9	10	73.5	2.9	155.4
Apr	16.5	61.7	21.5	4.3	39.7	0.7	0	4	19.4	0.8	251.8
May	17.7	63.9	28.6	6.9	44.4	1.0	0	7	22.9	0.9	190.0
Jun	23.1	73.6	30.0	12.6	54.7	8.8	0	4	25.1	1.0	281.9
Jul	24.1	75.4	29.0	13.8	56.8	10.6	0	3	21.9	0.9	190.5
Aug	21.4	70.5	26.1	11.9	53.4	7.2	0	10	91.1	3.6	129.0
Sep	19.8	67.6	23.9	10.5	50.9	4.5	0	7	41.4	1.6	135.5
Oct	15.8	60.4	22.7	7.2	45.0	-2.3	2	9	91.5	3.6	143.4
Nov	9.1	48.4	15.8	3.8	38.8	-5.7	9	10	84.6	3.3	72.8
Dec	3.4	38.1	9.3	-1.5	29.3	-7.4	24	9	56.1	2.2	47.6
Means/ Totals	**14.5**	**58.1**	**30.0**	**6.1**	**43.0**	**-7.4**	**74**	**95**	**686.7**	**27.0**	**1733.8**

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

Phil Budd

MEMBERS' RECORDS FOR 2010

Contributors

AJB	Andy Barker	ARC	Andy Collins
BR	Barrie Roberts	BT	Barbara Thomas
CC	Catherine Corney	CO	Chris Oliver
DH	David Hubble	EW	Ted Wills
GC	Ginnie Copsey	GM	Graham Manchip
GH-W	Graham Harrison-Watts	GP	Gary Palmer
JH	John Horne	JM	Julian Moseley
JS	Jan Schubert	JV	John Vetterlein
JW	Julie Watson	KE	Kathy Emmott
KR	Kate Reeves	KP	Keith Plumridge
LP	Lizzie Peat	PB	Phil Budd
PBO	Paul Brock	PW	Paul Winter
RC	Richard Carpenter	SC	Simon Currie
TR	Tara Dempsey	VAJ	Vernon & Anthea Jones
VR	Vicki Russell	fm	Field meeting
mo	Many observers	Anon	Anonymous non-member

Note: Any records that are not credited were those of Phil Budd (PB).
Numbers after a date are the number recorded or maximum (max.) count.
LT refers to a light trapping.
MV refers to light trapping with a mercury vapour lamp. NF is New Forest.
CP refers to a colour plate.

Key to colour plates

Page 1. 1 & 3 Dahlia Anemone, Calshot (p8); 2 Snakelocks Anemone, Calshot (p8); 4 field meeting at Calshot (p8), 5 Dead Grey Trigger Fish *Balistes capriscus* in a fishing net, Weston Shore (p44); 6 *Haminoea navicula*, Calshot; 7. young Ballan Wrasse, Calshot (p8).

Pages 2-3. 1 & 3 *Amanita phalloides*, Marlborough Deeps (p25); 2 *Tricholomopsis rutilans* (Plums and Custard), Little Wootton; 4 *Boletus satanoides*, Marlborough Deeps (p25); 5 *Tricholoma atrosquamosum*, Marlborough Deeps (p27); 6 *Ramaria stricta*; 7 *Leccinum verspille*, Matley Wood; 8 *Tremella aurantia* Southampton Old Cemetery (p27).

Page 4. 1 *Euthycera fumigata*, Highbridge Farm (p41); 2 Ring-billed Gull, Gosport (p47); 3 Striped Hawk-moth; 4 Striped Lychnis larva (p38); 5 event at Southampton City College (p2); 6 Dark Green Fritillary; 7 *Leptura aurulenta* (a long-horn beetle) (p43).

Thanks to the photographers: Phil Budd, Andy Collins, Simon Currie, David Hubble and Gary Palmer.

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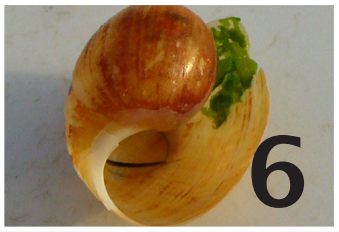

6

7

Fruits of the sea

5
Fruits of
1
2

6
7
8
the forest
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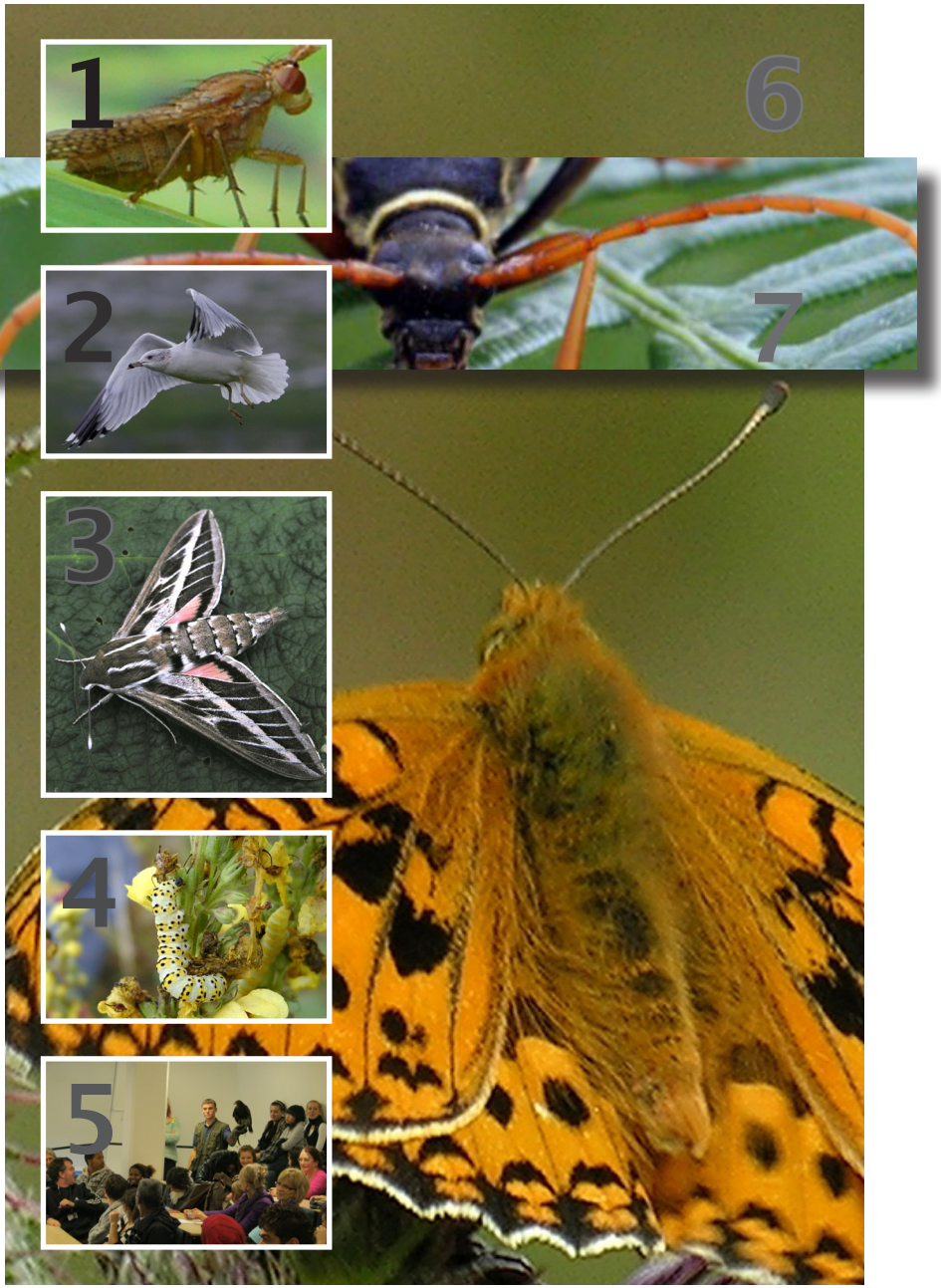
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MYCOTA
FUNGI

2010 was a fantastic year for fungi. Unlike 2009, there was a good clutch of records in the spring, most notably the morels *Gyromitra esculenta* at Lord's Wood and *Morchella elata* at Bishopstoke. After a dry June and July there was then a major flush of fungi in late summer. 2010 was probably the earliest fungus season in about thirty years as heavy rain in August and early September followed the hot weather of early summer. There were particularly large numbers of fungi in the New Forest, especially at sites on the headon beds such as Marlborough Deeps at Wootton. Here various rare boletes, *Amanita* species and others were reported in large quantities. Although they were not listed on the systematic list, the early season favoured the appearance of Death Caps *Amanita phalloides* at several localities **(CP2-3)**. There was also an exceptional number of reports of Nail Fungus *Poronia punctata* in the New Forest from August to Christmas.

After a drier period, there was another burst of fungi in mid to late October. This continued into November, but was cut short by severe frosts after the third week. Interesting fungi continued to be recorded such as *Helvella elastica* near Beaulieu, *Lepiota grangei* at Manor Farm Country Park and *Tremella aurantia*, a parasite on *Stereum hirsutum*, at Southampton Old Cemetery. Of particular interest was the appearance of Devil's Fingers *Clathrus archeri* at two 'new' sites in the New Forest: near Marchwood Inclosure and at Furzey Lodge. There was even a report of Red Cage Fungus *Clathrus ruber* at Lee-on-Solent.

Amanita franchetii (=A.aspera) Marlborough Deeps, NF 23/9

Amanita inaurata (=A.ceciliae) **(Snakeskin Grisette)** Marlborough Deeps, NF 23/9

Amanita pantherina **(Panther Cap)** Botley Wood 26/9 (RJC).
Lord's Wood at Colden Common 28/9

Amanita porphyria **(Grey Veiled Amanita)** Marlborough Deeps, NF 23/9.
Hilltop Wood, Beaulieu 5/10

Amanita virosa **(Destroying Angel)** Highland Water Inclosure 7/8 (GC), 22/8 (SC)

Boletus aereus (a bolete fungus) Marlborough Deeps, NF 23/9

Boletus satanoides (=B.legaliae) Marlborough Deeps, NF 25/9 (GP)
(confirmed by A.Lucas) **(CP3)**

Chroogomphus rutilus **(Copper Spike Toadstool)** Woodland Close, Thornhill Park 26/10

Clathrus archeri **(Devil's Fingers Fungus)** Furzey Lodge, NF 9/10 (anon).
Marchwood Inclosure — by north side of road 22/11 (anon)

Clathrus ruber **(Red Cage Fungus)** Magpie Lane, Lee-on-Solent 28/10 (anon)

Clavulinopsis subtilis (a coral fungus) Steamer Point Wood 13/11.
Holly Hill Woodland Park 19/11

Coprinus picaceus **(Magpie Inkcap)** Manor Farm Country Park 24/10

***Cordyceps militaris* (Scarlet Caterpillar Club)** Rufus Stone area 13/11 (SC)
Cortinarius amoenolens Dundridge Reserve 31/10
***Cortinarius bolaris* (Dappled Webcap)** Great Goswell Copse, Beaulieu 5/10
Cortinarius caerulescens Marlborough Deeps, NF 23/9
Cortinarius ochroleucus Gull Coppice, Whiteley 16/10.
Manor Farm Country Park 24/10
Cortinarius subbalaustinus Beaulieu Motor Museum car park 5/11
***Cortinarius torvus* (Stocking Webcap)** Manor Farm Country Park 2/11
***Craterellus cornucopioides* (Horn of Plenty)** Manor Farm Country Park 2/11
Dendrodochium citrinum (a Hyphomycete fungus) Stoke Park Wood 10/4 (DH)
***Fomes fomentarius* (Tinder Fungus)** Woodcrates, NF 24/4
***Geastrum fimbriatum* (Sessile Earthstar)** Holly Hill Woodland Park 27/8
***Geastrum triplex* (Collared Earthstar)** Hawkhill Inclosure 4/4 (TD).
Holly Hill Woodland Park 15/9
***Gloeophyllum sepiarium* (Conifer Mazegill)** Hursthill Inclosure 16/5(SC)
***Gyromitra esculenta* (False Morel)** Lord's Wood 13/4 (GM)
***Hapalopilus nidulans* (Cinnamon Bracket)** Manor Farm Country Park 24/10
Hebeloma anthracophilum Hartford Heath, Beaulieu 5/11
***Hebeloma radicosum* (Rooting Poisonpie)** Manor Farm Country Park 24/10
Helvella elastica Hartford Heath, Beaulieu 7/11
***Hericium erinaceus* (Bearded Tooth)** Fernycrofts, NF 27/12 (TD)
***Hydnellum concrescens* (Zoned Tooth)** Holidays Hill Inclosure 30/8 (SC).
South Oakley Inclosure, NF 9/10 (SC)
***Hydnellum spongiosipes* (Velvet Tooth)** Knightwood Inclosure 4/9 (SC).
South Oakley Inclosure, NF 9/10 (SC)
***Hygrophorus discoxanthus* (Yellowing Woodwax)** Dundridge Reserve 31/10
***Hygrophorus erubescens* (Blotched Woodwax)** West Wood, Netley 29/8
***Hypholoma capnoides* (Conifer Tuft)** Hartford Heath, Beaulieu 5/11
***Inocybe maculata* (Frosty Fibrecap)** Holly Hill Woodland Park 15/9
Lachnum brevipilosum Stoke Park Wood 10/4 (DH)
Lactarius acerrimus (a milkcap fungus) Marlborough Deeps, NF 23/9
Lactarius flexuosus (a milkcap fungus) Woodland Close, Thornhill Park 26/10
Lactarius hysginus (a milkcap fungus) Little Wootton Inclosure 23/9
***Leccinum crocipodium* (Saffron Bolete)** Little Wootton Inclosure 15/9 (GP)
***Lentinus torulosus* (Lilac Oysterling)** A324/A334 junction, central Bitterne 27/8.
Abbott's Barton, near Winchester 5/11 (anon)
***Lepiota grangei* (Green Dapperling)** Manor Farm Country Park 24/10
***Leucocoprinus brebissonii* (Skullcap Dapperling)** Cawte's Copse, Warsash 6/10
***Macrolepiota mastoidea* (Slender Parasol)** Manor Farm Country Park 24/10
Marasmius torquescens Great Goswell Copse, Beaulieu 10/10

Melastiza chateri (a disc fungus) Titchfield Haven 1/1 (RJC)
Morchella elata **(Black Morel)** Stoke Park Rd, Bishopstoke 28/4 (DH)
Mycena acicula **(Orange Bonnet)** Zionshill Copse, Valley Park 30/10
Mycena rorida **(Dripping Bonnet)** Zionshill Copse, Valley Park 30/10
Nidularia deformis Denny Lodge Inclosure 25/9 (GM)
Octospora roxheimii Hartford Heath, Beaulieu 5/11
Otidea cochleata Holly Hill Woodland Park15/9
Otidea onotica **(Hare's Ear Fungus)** Gull Coppice, Whiteley 16/10
Paxillus atrotomentosus (= Tapinella atrotomentosa) **(Velvet Rollrim)** Lord's Wood south-east 5/10
Peziza succosa **(Yellowing Cup)** Manor Farm Country Park 24/10
Pluteus luctuosus Cawte's Copse, Warsash 22/9
Pluteus petasatus Holly Hill Woodland Park 12/8
Pluteus podospileus Holly Hill Woodland Park 2/11
Polyporus tuberaster **(Tuberous Ploypore)** Lord's Wood 28/5 (GM)
Pseudohydnum gelatinosum **(Jelly Tooth Fungus)** North Oakley Inclosure 20/11 (SC)
Puccinia calcitrapae Highbridge Farm, Allbrook 24/8 (DH)
Rhodotus palmatus **(Wrinkled Peach Toadstool)** Royal Victoria Country Park — first record here 1/11 (anon)
Russula luteotacta (a brittlegill fungus) Marlborough Deeps, NF 23/9
Russula pseudointegra **(Scarlet Brittlegill)** Marlborough Deeps, NF 23/9
Russula virescens **(Greencracked Brittlegill)** Beaulieu Motor Museum car park 5/11
Suillus bovinus **(Bovine Bolete)** Lord's Wood 13/10 (GM)
Suillus granulatus **(Weeping Bolete)** East of Millers Pond, Sholing 29/8 (GM)
Thelephora penicillata Hartford Heath, Beaulieu 7/11
Tremella aurantia Southampton Old Cemetery 21/11 **(CP3)**
Tremella foliacea **(Leafy Brain Fungus)** Lucas Castle, NF 21/11 (SC)
Tricholoma acerbum Marlborough Deeps, NF 23/9.
Holly Hill Woodland Park 6/10
Tricholoma atrosquamosum Marlborough Deeps, NF 23/9 **(CP2)**
Tylopilus felleus **(Bitter Bolete)** Great Goswell Copse, Beaulieu 5/10
Typhula erythropus Holly Hill Woodland Park 23/11
Urocystis eranthidis (a smut-fungus) on Winter Aconite *Eranthis hyemalis* Boyatt Lane garden 18/4 (DH)
Velutarina rufo-olivacea Lord's Wood 5/4 (DH)
Xerocomus ferrugineus (a bolete fungus) Little Wootton Inclosure 11/9 (GP) (confirmed by A. Lucas)
Xerocomus porosporus **(Sepia Bolete)** Lord's Wood 29/7 (GM)

LICHENS

There was some recording of lichens around Southampton, especially early in the year and it was pleasing to find two more sites for *Parmelina tiliacea* on Southampton Common on 9th January. There were several specimens on an ash tree east of the Ornamental Lake and also some on a horizontal branch immediately behind the cowherds and only about 150 metres from the known site near the Hawthorns Centre entrance. There was also an interesting record of *Melanohalea laciniatula* at Upper Fleming Park, Eastleigh and a number of good finds on the concrete embankments of the coastal footpath at Bunny Meadows, Warsash (on 28th March).

Arthonia vinosa Holly Hill Woodland Park 15/2
Caloplaca chlorina (= Caloplaca isidiigera) Southampton Old Walls 28/3
Caloplaca crenularia Bunny Meadows, Warsash 28/3
Caloplaca decipiens Old Northam Bridge 13/2. Southampton Old Walls 28/3
Caloplaca lactea Bunny Meadows, Warsash 28/3
Caloplaca marina Bunny Meadows, Warsash 28/3
Catillaria chalybeia var. chalybeia Porters Lane area, Southampton Old Walls 28/1
Collema fuscovirens East Wellow Churchyard 27/11
Hymenelia prevostii Bramshaw Church 27/11
Melanohalea laciniatula Fleming Park Extension 21/2
Mycoglaena myricae Warwickslade — on *Myrica gale* stems 24/4
Parmelina tiliacea Southampton Common — north of Boating Lake 9/1.
Southampton Common — behind Cowherds 9/1
Phaeographis smithii Shedfield 2/3
Physcia tribacia Shedfield 2/3 (confirmed by N. Sanderson)
Pleurostica acetabulum Magdalen Hill Down Extension 15/4
Ramalina canariensis Fleming Park Extension 27/1
Thelotrema lepadinum Stoneham Golf Course — wet woodland to west 4/4

FLORA

BRYOPHYTES

Bryophytes were very under-recorded in 2010, but a few personal records from early in the year were listed. Unfortunately, very few people are interested in Bryophytes. Probably the most interesting find was of the liverwort *Reboulia*, abundant in ditches at Mincingfield Lane, Durley north of its junction with Gregory Lane at Brown Heath.

Cryphaea heteromalla **(Lateral Cryphaea)** Southampton Common —
near The Hawthorns 21/2
Hygroamblystegium varium **(Willow Feather-moss)** Stoneham Golf Course —
wet woodland to west 4/4

***Leptodictyum riparium* (Kneiff's Feather-moss)** south-east of Durley School 15/5
***Orthotrichum lyellii* (Lyell's Bristle-moss)** Fleming Park Extension 21/2. Southampton Common — Hawthorns Centre 21/2
***Platyhypnidium riparioides* (Long-beaked Water Feather-moss)** Stoneham Golf Course — wet woodland to west 4/4
***Rhynchostegium murale* (Wall Feather-moss)** Holly Hill Woodland Park 20/3
***Schistidium crassipilum* (Thickpoint Grimmia)** Stoneham Golf Course — wet woodland to west 4/4
***Syntrichia papillosa* (Marble Screw-moss)** Fleming Park Extension 21/2
***Zygodon viridissimus* (Green Yoke-moss)** Holly Hill Woodland Park 15/2

LIVERWORTS

***Reboulia hemisphaerica* (Hemispheric Liverwort)** Mincingfield Lane, Durley 27/2

VASCULAR PLANTS

Overall, there were surprisingly few flora records received for 2010 and not many new discoveries. Possibly the previous cold and dry winter did not help. However, these cold conditions may have triggered the prolific flowering of some species. There were some particularly interesting records from the New Forest. The record of Bird's-nest Orchid *Neottia nidus-avis* at Marlborough Deeps represents a site not known in the Hampshire Flora (Brewis *et al.* 1996) and 30 Marsh Violet *Viola palustris* in flower at Woodcrates was a surprise. There were also very large counts for Marsh Gentian *Gentiana pneumonanthe* (160) at Dur Hill Down and Green-winged Orchid *Orchis morio* (1,500) in St Mary's Extra Cemetery. The two most interesting alien records were of Coralroot Bittercress *Cardamine bulbifera* at Lord's Wood and Kashmir Balsam *Impatiens balfourii* at Cawte's Copse, part of Holly Hill Country Park. The former was identified at the site of an old bomb crater, as the garden variety *ptarmicifolia*, but it must have been overlooked for a long time and is remote from any garden. The *Impatiens balfourii* was growing with the familiar pest *I. glandulifera* and is thought to be a Hampshire first.Sadly, the club moss *Selaginella kraussiana* at the nearby Secret Garden at Holly Hill had disappeared and was probably a victim of the intense cold in January.

Reference

Brewis, A. et al. 1996 *The Flora of Hampshire*. Harley Books, Colchester, Essex.

NATIVE SPECIES

FERNS

***Ophioglossum vulgatum* (Adder's-tongue)** Fletcher's Thorns, NF 15/5 (SC)

ANGIOSPERMS (Flowering Plants)

***Allium ursinum* (Ramsons)** The Mount, Bishopstoke 1/5 (DH)
***Cardamine amara* (Large Bitter-cress)** Stoke Park Wood 10/4 (DH)
***Gentiana pneumonanthe* (Marsh Gentian)** Dur Hill Down 30/8 (160) (SC)

Hypericum x desetangsii (H. maculatum x H. perforatum) Southampton Old Cemetery 6/9
***Lemna trisulca* (Ivy-leaved Duckweed)** Highbridge Farm, Allbrook — in river 18/9
***Misopates orontium* (Weasel's-snout)** Highbridge Farm, Allbrook 18/9 (DH)
***Neottia nidus-avis* (Bird's-nest Orchid)** Marlborough Deep — a new site 12/5 (3) (SC)
***Oenanthe pimpinelloides* (Corky-fruited Water-dropwort)** Wintershill Nursery 30/6
***Ophrys apifera* (Bee Orchid)** Highfield Campus, Southampton University, June (JW)
***Orchis mascula* (Early-purple Orchid)** Ampfield Wood — east 3/6 (6)
***Orchis morio* (Green-winged Orchid)** Beaulieu Airfield 13/5 (53) (SC). Wilverley Plain 15/5 (SC). St Mary's Extra Cemetery, Sholing 19/5 (1,500)
***Orobanche elatior* (Knapweed Broomrape)** Kilmeston Down 17/7 (67) (RJC)
***Orobanche hederae* (Ivy Broomrape)** Fleming Park — by Monks Brook 6/2 (30 dead). Upper Shirley School 9/7 (5 of normal form)
***Oxalis exilis* (Least Yellow-sorrel)** Denny Wood — along woodland road 12/5
***Poa infirma* (Early Meadow-grass)** Warburton Road, High Town 21/3
***Polypogon monspeliensis* (Annual Beard-grass)** Town Quay, Southampton 10/7
***Sambucus nigra* (Elder)** — form with green berries Bishopstoke Recreation Ground — north edge 17/10
***Saxifraga granulata* (Meadow Saxifrage)** Magdalen Hill Down Original Reserve — Area 2 17/5
***Serratula tinctoria* (Saw-wort)** Highbridge Farm, Allbrook 7/8 (DH)
***Spiranthes spiralis* (Autumn Lady's-tresses)** Holly Hill Cemetery 23/11
***Trifolium medium* (Zigzag Clover)** Southampton Old Cemetery 28/8
***Valeriana dioica* (Marsh Valerian)** Kings Copse Inclosure 18/4 (SC)
***Viola palustris* (Marsh Violet)** Woodcrates 24/4 (c30 in bloom)

Non-native Species

***Arbutus unedo* (Strawberry-tree)** Hound Lane — north side 1/1
***Arum italicum subsp. italicum* (Italian Lords-and-Ladies)** Greenwood, Durley 26/2
***Bassia scoparia* (Summer-cypress)** A27 at Portsmouth Rd junction, Lowford 17/10
***Campanula poscharskyana* (Trailing Bellflower)** Weston Common Stream 4/3
***Cardamine bulbifera var. ptarmicifolia* (Coralroot)** Lord's Wood — circular patch 3 metres wide 30/4 (GM)
***Cornus mas* (Cornelian-cherry)** River Itchen near Ovington — north side 1/4
***Cotoneaster bullatus* (Hollyberry Cotoneaster)** Bishopstoke Recreation Ground — east edge 17/10
***Fritillaria meleagris* (Fritillary)** The Mount, Bishopstoke 5/4 (3) (DH)
***Gaultheria mucronata* (Prickly Heath)** Hannay Rise — still abundant here 11/10. Southampton Sports Centre — Cricket Pitch 25/10

***Geranium x magnificum* (Purple Crane's-bill)** Seymour Rd, Upper Shirley, Southampton 3/6
***Guizotia abyssinica* (Niger)** Renda Road, Holbury 8/9 (KP)
***Impatiens balfourii* (Kashmir Balsam)** Cawte's Copse, Holly Hill — 30 on east edge 15/9
***Lathraea clandestina* (Purple Toothwort)** Allbrook Knoll (= Broom Hill), Otterbourne 15/4
***Leycesteria formosa* (Himalayan Honeysuckle)** Sherfield English Church 27/11
***Pilosella aurantiaca* (Fox-and-cub's)** Sailor's Lane, Corhampton 31/5 (RJC)
***Prunus lusitanica* (Portugal Laurel)** Bacon Wood, West End 14/3
***Prunus serotina* (Rum Cherry)** Lord's Wood — Gipsy Mile area 25/10. Southampton Municipal Golf Course — north 25/10
***Pulmonaria saccharata* (Bethlehem-sage)** Donkey Common — by A324 21/3
***Rhus typhina* (Stag's-horn Sumach)** Botany Bay, Sholing Valley 4/3 (5)
***Rosa gallica* (Red Rose)** Southampton Old Cemetery 28/8
***Solidago gigantea* (Early Goldenrod)** Sholing Valley — east of Miller's Pond 15/7
***Spiraea japonica* (Japanese Spiraea)** Southampton Old Cemetery 24/8
***Viburnum tinus* (Laurustinus)** Bacon Wood, West End 14/3. Netley Common 9/5

FAUNA

INVERTEBRATES

The very cold weather of last winter does not appear to have affected many of the recent invertebrate colonists in the Southampton area. For example, records for the Girdled Snail *Hygromia cinctella*, the Wasp Spider *Argiope bruennichi* and the False Black Widow Spider *Steatoda nobilis* are too numerous to list. Additionally, there appears to be climate-related inland spread of the Pointed Snail *Cochlicella acuta*. A colony was found at Magdalen Hill Down this year and is 20km from the sea. Although this species occurs inland in Ireland, it is normally only found on the coast in Britain (Kerney and Cameron 1979).

Unfortunately, the Red-veined Darter *Sympetrum fonscolombii* was not seen at the Boating Lake on Southampton Common this year, but the Small Red-eyed Damsel *Erythromma viridulum* continues to do well there. There seems to have been an increase of the Woodland Grasshopper *Omocestus rufipes*, with many records, especially in the New Forest area. A particular Hemiptera highlight was the discovery of the Western Conifer Seed Bug *Leptoglossus occidentalis*. This spectacular American squash bug about 18mm long may be in the process of colonising southern England from introduced populations on the Contintent. Also of note was a spate of records, all listed, of the red-and-black Lygaeid bug *Corizus hyoscyami*. Interestingly, all of these were seen roughly in a triangle bounded by Romsey, Winchester and Eastleigh!

A particular highlight of 2010 was the colonisation or establishment of two particular insects in the Southampton area: the Ivy Mining Bee *Colletes hederae* and Rosemary Beetle *Chrysolina americana*. Despite its name, the latter species, which is mostly found on Lavender *Lavendula sp.*, is native to southern Europe. The Tree Bumble Bee *Bombus hypnorum* continues to spread, and the records for the hoverfly *Volucella zonaria* were so numerous that I have only listed the first and last of the year. Some other good finds were of several rare beetles and hoverflies in the New Forest and also the hoverfly *Volucella inflata* in Lord's Wood. There was a particularly large number of interesting records for Highbridge Farm by David Hubble, the subject of the November 2010 indoor talk.

The cold January weather seriously affected early butterfly sightings. Prior to March, the only sightings reported were of a Red Admiral at Holbury on 18th January and Peacock in Sholing in February. 2010 was a poor year for migrant butterflies; nevertheless, there were three records of Clouded Yellow and four of Painted Lady. Also there were just three reports of Hummingbird Hawk-moth. The most interesting butterfly report of the year was of a second-brood Small Blue well away from its usual habitat at Bursledon on 8th August. Although 2010 was also a poor year for moth migrants, there appeared to be a particularly high number of 'firsts' at garden moth traps, especially at Holbury and Sholing, in June and July.

Reference

Kerney, M.P. & Cameron, R.A.D. 1979 *A Field Guide to the Land Snails of Britain and North-west Europe.* Collins, London.

ANNELIDA

***Hirudo medicinalis* (Medicinal Leech)** Site in south of NF 11/4 (TD)

MOLLUSCA

***Anisus leucostoma* (White-lipped Ram's-horn)** River Itchen at Itchen Stoke 11/4 (DH)
***Cochlicella acuta* (Pointed Snail)** Magdalen Hill Down Extension 10/8 (c60)
***Cochlodina laminata* (Plaited Door Snail)** Dundridge Reserve 31/10
***Oxychilus helveticus* (Glossy Glass Snail)** Denny Wood 12/5. Matley Ridge 20/5
***Zonitoides excavatus* (Hollowed Glass Snail)** Southampton Common 30/5. Lord's Wood — west clearing 4/6 . Matley Ridge 20/5

CRUSTACEA

***Androniscus dentiger* (Rosy woodlouse)** Denny Wood 12/5
***Lepas anatifera* (Common Goose Barnacle)** Weston shore — dead in fishing net 16/1 (ARC)
***Platyarthrus hoffmannseggi* (Ant Woodlouse)** Manor Farm Allotments, Bishopstoke 21/11 (DH)

ARACHNIDA

Acari (Gall Mites)

Aceria fraxinivorus Highbridge Farm, Allbrook — galls on Ash 3/8 (DH)
Epitrimerus trilobus Highbridge Farm, Allbrook — galls on Elder 19/5 (DH)
Phytoptus avellanae Breach Sling Copse, Brambridge — galls on Hazel 19/5 (DH)
Steneotarsonemus phragmitidis Highbridge Farm, Allbrook — galls on Common Reed 2/9 (DH)

Aranae (Spiders)

Alopecosa accentuata Denny Wood Sand Pit 8/4, 20/5
Araneus marmoreus var. pyramidatus Magdalen North Down 17/7
Arctosa perita Longdown 8/4. Denny Wood Sand Pit 21/4
Dolomedes fimbriatus **(Raft Spider)** South Oakley Inclosure — 3 breeding nests 11/7 (TD)
Evarcha arcuata Grange Fields, Netley 19/7
Neoscona adiantum Grange Fields, Netley 19/7. Hamble Common 19/7
Nigma puella **(Bleeding Heart Spider)** Southampton Common 30/5
Scytodes thoracica Vespasian Rd, Bitterne Manor 9/4 (GHW)
Segestria senoculata Vespasian Rd, Bitterne Manor 23/4 (GHW)
Tegenaria silvestris North of Boldrewood car park 22/5
Theridion simile Peartree Green 4/6
Xerolycosa nemoralis Denny Wood 12/5. Highland Water Inclosure — west 22/5

Opiliones (Harvestmen)

Dicranopalpus ramosus Badminston Common 16/9 (KP)
Megabunus diadema North of Boldrewood car park 22/5. Highland Water Inclosure — west 22/5

ODONATA

Dragonflies

Brown Hawker Lord's Wood 24/6 (GM). Fritham Plain 21/7 (RJC). Denny Lodge Inclosure 25/9 (GM)
Common Darter Lord's Wood — on a very early date 6/7 (GM). Denny Lodge Inclosure 25/9 (GM)
Downy Emerald Broomy Pond, NF 5/6 (SC). Testwood Lakes 6/6 (2) (RJC). Lord's Wood 15/6 (GM)
Four-spotted Chaser Titchfield Haven — early date 14/5 (ARC)
Hairy Dragonfly Botley Wood 13/6 (2) (RJC)
Migrant Hawker Badminston Common 25/9 (KP). Great Goswell Copse, Beaulieu — last seen 28/10
Ruddy Darter Queen's Bower, NF — mating 24/10 (SC)
Scarce Chaser Testwood Lakes 6/6 (RJC). Lower Test Marshes 22/6 (ARC)
Southern Hawker Bishop's Waltham Church 31/10

Damselflies

Beautiful Demoiselle Lord's Wood — earliest date 24/5 (GM)
Blue-tailed Damselfly Starpole Pond 7/9 (TD)
Common Emerald Latchmoor Brook 25/7 (TD). Furzey Pool, NF 8/8 (TD)
Large Red Damselfly Whiteley Pastures, Botley Wood — first 17/4 (ARC). Crockford Bridge 18/4 (SC)
Small Red Damselfly Standing Hat 27/6 (TD)
Scarce Blue-tailed Damselfly Latchmoor Brook, NF 27/6 (SC). Ogdens (probably Latchmoor Brook again) 17/7 (TD)
Red-eyed Damselfly Eyeworth Pond 5/6 (TD)
Small Red-eyed Damselfly Swanwick Reserve 29/7 (ARC). Boating Lake, Southampton Common 2/9 (14) (PW)
Southern Damselfly Highbridge Farm, Allbrook 5/6 (DH). River Itchen near Bishopstoke 21/7 (DH)

ORTHOPTERA (Grasshoppers and Crickets)

***Conocephalus dorsalis* (Short-winged Conehead)** Botley Wood 11/7 (2) (RJC)
***Nemobius sylvestris* (Wood Cricket)** Pennysprings, The Drove, Blackfield 21/8 (heard)
***Omocestus rufipes* (Woodland Grasshopper)** Many records this year (mo)
***Stethophyma grossum* (Large Marsh Grasshopper)** (incl. purple var.) Moonhills, NF 11/8 (TD). Strodgemoor Bottom, west of Burley 12/9 (TD)
***Tetrix subulata* (Slender Ground Hopper)**Whiteley Pastures, Botley Wood 17/4 (ARC)

DICTYOPTERA

***Ectobius pallidus* (Tawny Cockroach)** Lord's Wood 10/6 (GM)

HEMIPTERA (Bugs)

Heteroptera

Aphanus rolandri (a ground-bug) Highbridge Farm, Allbrook 4/9 (DH)
***Coranus subapterus* (Heath Assassin Bug)** Vales Moor, NF 1/8 (PBO)
***Coriomerus denticulatus* (Denticulate Leatherbug)** Peartree Green 30/7 (PBO)
Corizus hyoscyamii (a Rhopalid bug) Zionshill Copse — east, Valley Park 2/8. Harestock, Winchester 15/8 (anon). Ampfield Wood East 23/8. St Marys Rd, Bishopstoke 24/8 (DH). Ashdown Close, Chandlers Ford 28/8 (AJB). Highbridge Farm, Allbrook 28/8 (DH)
***Eurydema oleracea* (Crucifer Shieldbug)** Highbridge Farm, Allbrook 28/8 (DH)
***Gonocerus acuteangulatus* (Box Bug)** East of Marlhill Copse 2/9
Himacerus boops (a damsel-bug) East of Marlhill Copse 2/9
***Himacerus major* (Grey Damsel-bug)** Southampton Old Cemetery 9/9
***Legnotus picipes* (Heath Shieldbug)** Southampton Old Cemetery 16/8

***Leptoglossus occidentalis* (Western Conifer Seed-bug)** Titchfield Haven Centre 10/10 (ARC). At light. Introduced to south Europe from USA and migrant to UK
***Nepa cinerea* (Water Scorpion)** Stockbridge Common 19/4 (anon)
Nysius thymi (a ground-bug) Stokes Bay, Gosport 19/7
Orsillus depressus (a ground-bug) Southampton Old Cemetery 9/9
***Piezodorus lituratus* (Gorse Shieldbug)** Peewit Hill, Bursledon 29/12
Plea minutissima (a water bug) Stockbridge Common 19/4
***Rhacognathus punctatus* (Heather Shieldbug)** Lord's Wood — central 8/4
Rhyparochromus pini (a ground-bug) Southampton Old Cemetery 16/8
Stictopleurus abutilon (a Rhopalid bug) Magdalen North Down 17/7. Grange Fields, Netley 19/7
Trapezonotus arenarius (a ground-bug) Denny Wood Sand Pit 21/4
***Zicrona caerulea* (Blue Shieldbug)** Durley School area 15/5. Southampton Old Cemetery 4/6 (PBO). Near Knowle Village 19/8

Homoptera

Colopha compressa (a gall aphid) — a rare species St Faith's, Winchester 17/7 (DH)
Patchiella reaumuri (a gall aphid) Breach Sling Copse, Brambridge 19/5 (DH)
Trioza apicalis (a jumping plant louse) Church Road, Bishopstoke — 8 galls on Wild Angelica 17/5 (DH)
Zygina flammigera (a leaf-hopper) Highbridge Farm, Allbrook 5/4 (DH)

LEPIDOPTERA

Butterflies

Brimstone Mon Crescent, Bitterne — first of year 1/3 (BT). Lord's Wood 24/3 (max. 41) (GM). Magdalen North Down — last of year 8/10
Brown Argus Westwood, Netley 5/6, 3/9 (1) (ARC). Zionshill Copse — east, Valley Park — female on bramble blooms 2/8. Southampton Old Cemetery 16/8
Clouded Yellow Brownwich 14/10 (2), 21/10 (1) (RJC). Lepe Shore 24/10 (KP)
Comma Lord's Wood — first of year 15/3 (GM). Lordsdale Greenway —first of year 15/3 (ARC). Lord's Wood — last of the year 22/9 (GM)
Common Blue Lord's Wood — first report of the year and very early too 26/4 (GM)
Dark Green Fritillary Wootton Coppice Inclosure — uncommon in the NF 3/7 (2) (ARC) **(CP4)**
Gatekeeper Vespasian Rd, Bitterne Manor — inner-city record 29/7 (GHW)
Holly Blue Vespasian Rd, Bitterne Manor — first of year 16/7 (GHW). Renda Rd, Holbury — first record for site 5/7 (KP). Denny Lodge Inclosure — last of year 26/9 (VAJ)
Large Skipper Old Bursledon Nature Haven — a very early record. 23/5 (JH)
Marbled White Wootton Coppice Inclosure — NF record 28/6 (SC). Renda Rd, Holbury — first record for site 9/7 (KP)
Orange-tip Valley Garden, Southampton University — first record of year 9/4 (PW)

Painted Lady Kathleen Rd, Sholing 6/6 (ARC). Southampton Old General Hospital 7/6 (ARC). Renda Rd, Holbury 7/8 (KP). Weston Shore 28/8 (ARC)

Peacock Gladstone Rd, Sholing — first of year February (EW). Lordsdale Greenway — first dated record for year 1/3 (ARC). Stoneham Golf Course — west — first dated record of year 4/4 (4). Lord's Wood 12 8/4 (12, a high number) (GM). Magdalen North Down — last of year 8/10

Purple Hairstreak Zionshill Copse, Valley Park — came to light at 12:20 8/7

Red Admiral Renda Rd, Holbury — first of year 18/1 (KP). Lord's Wood — second of year 1/3 (GM). Cedar Avenue, Shirley — late record 7/11 (GM). Renda Rd, Holbury — last of year 10/11 (KP)

Ringlet Stoke Park Wood, Fair Oak — the ringless arete form 18/7

Silver-studded Blue Hamble Common — female — proving colony is extant 19/7

Silver-washed Fritillary Lord's Wood 26/6 (max. 8) (GM)

Small Blue Old Bursledon Nature Haven — identified from a photograph — a female 8/8 (JH)

Small Copper Stoke Park Wood — first of year and only spring record 20/5 (DH). Magdalen Hill Down Extension — last of year 29/10

Small Tortoiseshell Lordsdale Greenway — first of year 15/3 (2) (ARC). Baddesley Common — second of year 21/3 (BR). Lower Test Marshes (20, a good number) (ARC)

Small White Hilltop Wood, Beaulieu — last of year 10/10

Speckled Wood Lord's Wood — first of year 8/4. Lord's Wood — last of year 3/11 (GM)

Macro-Moths

Barred Yellow Bitterne Rd East — first record by LT 29/6

Beautiful Snout Kathleen Rd, Sholing LT 3/7, 20/7 (ARC)

Beautiful Yellow Underwing Renda Rd, Holbury LT — first for site 26/7 (KP). Hall Lands, Fair Oak LT 30/7

Bordered Beauty Sky's Wood, Valley Park LT 19/7. Hall Lands, Fair Oak LT 30/7

Brown-veined Wainscot Kathleen Rd, Sholing LT 20/7, 23/7 (ARC)

Bulrush Wainscot Kathleen Rd, Sholing — first record by LT 29/7 (ARC)

Burnished Brass Renda Rd, Holbury LT 22/9 (KP)

Campion Renda Rd, Holbury LT — first for site 18/7, 8/8 (KP)

Channel Islands Pug Kathleen Rd, Sholing LT 28/6 (ARC) (confirmed by John Langmaid)

Cream-bordered Green Pea Bitterne Rd East — first record by LT 29/6. Kathleen Rd, Sholing — first record by LT 28/9 (ARC)

Cream-spot Tiger Renda Rd, Holbury LT — first for site 1/6 (KP)

Delicate Kathleen Rd, Sholing LT 28/6 (ARC)

Dingy Shears Hillhead — at MV light 2/6 (RJC)
Dog's Tooth Hillhead — at MV light 27/6, 18/7 (RJC). Kathleen Rd, Sholing LT 18/8 (ARC)
Dusky Sallow Grange Fields, Netley 19/7
Early Moth Brownwich Cliff 19/2
Feathered Gothic Sky's Wood, Valley Park LT 3/9
Feathered Thorn Upper Northam Rd, Hedge End 17/10
Frosted Green Zionshill Copse LT 27/4
Garden Tiger Kathleen Rd, Sholing LT 23/7 (ARC)
Goat Moth Renda Rd, Holbury LT — first for site 23/6 (KP). Blackfield Rd, Blackfield Larva squashed on road 16/9 (KP)
Humming-bird Hawk-moth Kathleen Rd, Sholing — on *Buddleia* 25/7 (ARC). Longstock, Stockbridge 24/7 (3) (ARC). Hillhead 2/8 (RJC)
Oak Lutestring Zionshill Copse, Valley Park LT 21/9 (15)
Light Orange Underwing Ampfield Wood — Portland Copse — 99% certain of ID as site contains much Aspen 9/4
Orange-tailed Clearwing Kathleen Rd, Sholing — 2 at pheromone at 10.25 am and 10.50 am 23/6 (ARC)
Pebble Prominent Renda Rd, Holbury — larva on black poplar 26/8 (KP)
Pine Hawk-moth Hall Lands, Fair Oak LT 30/7
Privet Hawk-moth Renda Rd, Holbury LT — first for site 9/6 (KP)
Poplar Kitten Hillhead — 2 at MV light 9/6 (RJC)
Poplar Lutestring Sky's Wood, Valley Park LT 19/7
Pretty Chalk Carpet Sky's Wood, Valley Park LT — unusual location 3/9
Rosy Marbled Kathleen Rd, Sholing LT 29/7 (ARC)
Scarce Umber Renda Rd, Holbury LT — first for site 9/6 (KP)
Six-belted Clearwing Swanwick Reserve — 60 at pheromones 27/6 (ARC)
Small Emerald Renda Rd, Holbury — daytime observation, first for site 28/7 (KP)
Small Waved Umber Hall Lands, Fair Oak LT 30/7
Small Yellow Underwing Durley Street 15/5
Striped Hawk-moth Kathleen Rd, Sholing — at actinic trap, third garden record 6/5 (ARC) **(CP4)**
Striped Lychnis Magdalen North Down — 31 larvae on Dark Mullein 14/8 (fm) **(CP4)**
Twin-spotted Wainscot Hillhead — at MV light 28/7 (RJC). Kathleen Rd, Sholing LT 31/7 (ARC)
Waved Black Sky's Wood, Valley Park LT 19/7
White-pinion Spotted Sky's Wood, Valley Park LT 3/6
White-point Hall Lands, Fair Oak LT 30/7
Yellow-legged Clearwing Kathleen Rd, Sholing — pheromone at 16.40 17/6 (ARC)

Micro-Moths

***Achroia grisella* (Lesser Wax Moth)** Kathleen Rd, Sholing LT 13/7 (ARC). Renda Rd, Holbury LT — first for site 27/7 (KP)

***Acrolepiopsis assectella* (Leek Moth)** Highbridge Farm, Allbrook — larvae abundant on leeks 18/9 (LP)

Amblyptilia acanthodactyla Renda Rd, Holbury — attracted to Herb Robert 6/4 (KP). Bitterne Rd East — first for garden 11/8

Catoptria pinella Hall Lands, Fair Oak LT 30/7. Zionshill Copse — heathland area LT 12/8

Coleophora peribenanderi St Marys Rd, Bishopstoke — mines on Spear Thistle 3/7 (DH)

Coleophora potentillae Highbridge Farm, Allbrook — mines abundant on Meadowsweet 3/8 (DH)

Cosmopterix zieglerella Highbridge Farm, Allbrook — mines on Hop 2/9 (DH)

Cydia amplana Renda Rd, Holbury LT— rare, also seen in 2009 26/7 (KP)

***Dichomeris marginella* (Juniper Webber)** Kathleen Rd, Sholing LT 9/7 (ARC)

Ectoedemia quinquella Zionshill Copse — heathland area — mines in *Quercus petraea* leaves 22/10

Evergestis limbata Renda Rd, Holbury LT 14/7 (KP)

Hedya salicella Renda Rd, Holbury LT — first for site 26/7 (KP)

Incurvaria pectinea Boyatt Lane — mines on Alder 5/9 (DH)

Marasmarchia lunaedactyla Renda Rd, Holbury 1/7 (KP)

Micropterix tunbergella Sky's Wood, Valley Park — 3 on Guelder Rose blossom 31/5

Monochroa cytisella Zionshill Copse, Valley Park LT 8/7, 12/8. Sky's Wood, Valley Park LT — associated with Bracken 19/7

Ochsenheimeria taurella East of Marlhill Copse 2/9 (2). Southampton Old Cemetery 6/9

Pempelia genistella Kathleen Rd, Sholing LT — new to garden 16/7 (ARC)

Psoricoptera gibbosella Zionshill Copse — heathland area LT 12/8 (identified by B. Elliott)

Pyrausta nigrata Kathleen Rd, Sholing LT — new to garden 25/7 (ARC)

Rhyacionia pinicolana Hall Lands, Fair Oak LT 30/7

Stenoptilia bipunctidactyla Magdalen North Down/Original/Extension — plentiful 14/8

Synaphe punctalis Bitterne Rd East LT 29/6. Renda Rd, Holbury LT — first for site 13/7 (KP)

Trichoptera

Mystacides azurea (a caddis-fly) Highbridge Farm, Allbrook 12/6 (DH)
Sericostoma personatum (a caddis-fly) Highbridge Farm, Allbrook 3/8 (DH)

HYMENOPTERA

Ancistrocerus parietum **(Wall Mason Wasp)** St Marys Rd, Bishopstoke 1/8 (DH)
Andrena cineraria **(Grey Mining Bee)** Stoke Park Wood, Fair Oak — west 18/7. St Marys Rd, Bishopstoke 8/8 (DH)
Andrena dorsata (a mining bee) Stoke Park Wood 10/4 (DH)
Anthophora plumipes **(Hairy Footed Flower Bee)** Bitterne Rd East — first of year 26/3
Astata boops (a digger wasp) Lord's Wood — carrying shieldbug nymph 3/8 (GM). Southampton Old Cemetery 15/8
Bombus bohemicus (a bumblebee) Lord's Wood 23/4 (GM). Brambridge Garden Centre 31/5 (GM)
Bombus hypnorum **(Tree Bumble Bee)** Shirley Valley, Southampton — first of year 12/3 (ARC). Lord's Wood 8/4 (GM). St Marys Rd, Bishopstoke 22/7 (DH)
Bombus ruderarius **(Red-tailed Carder Bee)** Lord's Wood — positively identified 11/4, 20/7 (GM)
Bombus sylvestris (a bumblebee) Lord's Wood 11/4 (GM)
Bombus terrestris **(Buff-tailed Bumble Bee)** Cedar Avenue, Shirley — last record of year 25/11 (GM)
Bombus vestalis (a bumblebee) Stoke Park Wood, Fair Oak 18/7 (fm)
Cerceris rybyensis **(Ornate Tailed Digger Wasp)** Ampfield Wood East 2/9
Chrysis ignita (a cuckoo wasp) St Marys Rd, Bishopstoke 5/7 (DH)
Colletes hederae **(Ivy Mining Bee)** Magdalen Hill Down Original Reserve — Area 3 — large colony 8/10. Weston Shore — nesting colony near playground 12/10. Southampton Municipal Golf Course — 2 on Ivy 25/10. County Museum, Chilcomb — on Ivy 1/11
Diastrophus rubi (a gall wasp) Stoke Park Wood 5/7 (DH)
Dolichovespula media **(Median Wasp)** Hillhead — at MV light 19/4 (RJC)
Euura atra (a sawfly) Highbridge Farm, Allbrook — galls on *Salix cinerea* 24/8 (DH)
Formica transkaucasica **(Black Bog Ant)** In a bog near Soarley, NF 11/7 (TD)
Hylaeus hyalinatus (a solitary bee) Near Knowle village 23/7 (2)
Lasioglossum calceatum **(Slender Mining Bee)** St Marys Rd, Bishopstoke 18/4 (DH)
Megachile ligniseca **(Wood-carving Leaf-cutter Bee)** St Marys Rd, Bishopstoke 5/7 (DH)
Megachile versicolor (a leaf-cutter bee) St Marys Rd, Bishopstoke — 5 on Spear Thistle 5/7 (DH)
Mutilla europaea **(Large Velvet Ant)** Grange Fields, Netley 19/7 (mo)
Nomada flava (a solitary bee) Grange Fields, Netley 19/7 (PBO)

Osmia leaiana (a mason bee) St Marys Rd, Bishopstoke 18/5 (6) (DH)
Pontania pedunculi (a sawfly) Stoke Park Wood 31/8 (DH)
Tenthredo scrophulariae (a sawfly) Highbridge Farm, Allbrook 2/9 (DH)
Vespa crabro **(Hornet)** Great Goswell Copse, Beaulieu — last of year 28/10
Vespula germanica **(German Wasp)** Bursledon Rd/Bitterne Bypass — last of year on Ivy 24/11
Vespula vulgaris **(Common Wasp)** Bursledon Rd/Bitterne Bypass — last of year on Ivy 24/11

DIPTERA

Agromyza idaeiana (a leaf-mining fly) Highbridge Farm, Allbrook — mine on Silverweed 24/8 (DH)
Agromyza igniceps (a leaf-mining fly) Boyatt Lane — 2 mines on Hop 5/9 (DH)
Amauromyza flavifrons (a leaf-mining fly) Boyatt Lane — 2 mines on Red Campion 5/9 (DH)
Amauromyza labiatarum (a leaf-mining fly) Boyatt Lane — mines on Wood Spurge 5/9 (DH)
Amauromyza verbasci (a leaf-mining fly) Boyatt Lane — mines on *Buddleia* 5/9 (DH)
Anisostephus betulinus (a gall-fly) Stoke Park Wood — galls abundant on birch 15/8 (DH)
Asilus crabroniformis **(Hornet Robber-fly)** Danebury 1/8 (ARC)
Atherix ibis (a snipe-fly) Highbridge Farm, Allbrook 12/5 (DH)
Aulagromyza hendeliana (a leaf-mining fly) Stoke Park Rd, Bishopstoke — 2 mines on Honeysuckle 18/5 (DH)
Bombylius major **(Common Bee Fly)** Lord's Wood — first of year 8/4 (6) (mo). Rownhams Rd, North Baddesley — last report of year 3/6 (BR)
Brachyopa bicolor (a hoverfly) Denny Wood 20/5
Brachypalpus laphriformis (a hoverfly) Denny Wood 20/5
Cerodontha caricicola (a leaf-mining fly) Boyatt Lane 5/9 (DH)
Cheilosia vernalis (a hoverfly) Highbridge Farm, Allbrook 12/5 (DH)
Chirosia betuleti (a gall-fly) Boyatt Lane — galls on Male Fern 5/9 (DH)
Chrysotoxum bicinctum (a hoverfly) Grange Fields, Netley 19/7 (2)
Chrysotoxum festivum (a hoverfly) Near Knowle village 19/8. Pennysprings, The Drove, Blackfield 30/8. Lord's Wood 22/9 (GM)
Conops quadrifasciatus (a thick-headed fly) Ampfield Wood East 23/8
Criorhina berberina (a hoverfly) Highbridge Farm, Allbrook 12/6 (DH)
Criorhina floccosa (a hoverfly) Denny Wood Sand Pit 20/5
Dasysyrphus tricinctus (a hoverfly) Southampton Old Cemetery 6/9
Epistrophe grossulariae (a hoverfly) Ampfield Wood — Portland Copse 2/9
Euthycera fumigata (a snail-killing fly) Highbridge Farm, Allbrook 18/9 (DH) **(CP4)**

Leucozona laternaria (a hoverfly) South side of A35 at Warwickslade 11/7. Near Knowle village 23/7

Liriomyza pascuum (a leaf-mining fly) Boyatt Lane — mines on Wood Spurge 5/9 (DH)

Microchrysa flavicornis (a soldier-fly) Hall Lands, Fair Oak 30/7

Nowickia ferox (a parasitic fly) Grange Fields, Netley 19/7. Bitterne Rd East 2/8. St Marys Rd, Bishopstoke 3/9 (DH). Ampfield Wood East 9/9

Oxycera rara (a soldier-fly) Near Knowle village 23/7

Pegomya hyoscyami (a leaf-mining fly) St Marys Rd, Bishopstoke — mines on spinach 6/6 (DH)

Physemocecis hartigi (a gall-fly) Breach Sling Copse, Brambridge — many galls on lime leaves 19/5 (DH)

Phytomyza angelicastri (a leaf-mining fly) Highbridge Farm, Allbrook — mines on Wild Angelica 18/9 (DH)

Phytomyza lappae (a leaf-mining fly) Highbridge Farm, Allbrook — mines on Burdock 24/8 (DH)

Phytomyza minuscula (a leaf-mining fly) Boyatt Lane — 3 mines on *Aquilegia* 5/9 (DH)

Phytomyza tetrasticha (a leaf-mining fly) Zionshill Balancing Pond area — mine on Water Mint 8/8

Platycheirus rosarum (a hoverfly) St Marys Rd, Bishopstoke 18/7 (DH)

Rabdophaga clausilia (a gall-fly) Highbridge Farm, Allbrook — many galls on White Willow 2/9 (DH)

Scaeva selenitica (a hoverfly) Lord's Wood 11/4 (GM)

Sericomyia silentis (a hoverfly) Lord's Wood — first of year 8/8 (GM). Ampfield Wood East 23/8. Lord's Wood — last of year 19/10 (GM)

Sicus ferrugineus (a thick-headed fly) Highbridge Farm, Allbrook 12/6 (DH). Stoke Park Wood, Fair Oak 18/7 (fm)

Syrphus torvus (a hoverfly) Lord's Wood 8/4 (2)

Tachina fera (a parasitic fly) Cedar Avenue, Shirley 26/10 (GM)

Tachina grossa (a parasitic fly) Highbridge Farm, Allbrook 3/8 (DH)

Terellia serratulae (a fly) St Marys Rd, Bishopstoke 10/7 (2) (DH)

Terellia tussilaginis (a gall-fly) Highbridge Farm, Allbrook 12/6 (DH). Near Knowle village 23/7

Volucella inflata (a hoverfly) Lord's Wood17/7 (GM). Cedar Avenue, Shirley 27/7 (GM)

Volucella zonaria **(Hornet Hoverfly)** Hillhead — first of year 8/7 (RJC). Gerard Crescent, Thornhill — last of year 18/9

Xanthogramma pedissequum (a hoverfly) Vespasian Rd, Bitterne Manor 4/6 (GHW)

COLEOPTERA

Altica lythri Highbridge Farm, Allbrook 12/6, 22/9 (DH)
Altica oleracea St Marys Rd, Bishopstoke 12/8 (DH)
Altica palustris Highbridge Farm, Allbrook 3/8 (12) (DH)
Anisosticta novemdecimpunctata **(Water Ladybird)** Highbridge Farm, Allbrook 27/8 (2) (DH)
Anoplodera sexguttata **(Six-spotted Longhorn)** Bank, near Lyndhurst 25/6 (2) (ARC)
Aphodius ater (a dung-beetle) Small Down — upper entrance — on dung 17/4 (fm)
Aphodius fimetarius (a dung-beetle) Small Down — upper entrance — on dung 17/4 (fm)
Atractotomus mali Hall Lands Copse, Fair Oak 8/6
Brachypterus glaber (a sap-beetle) Highbridge Farm, Allbrook — on nettles 19/5 (DH)
Cantharis decipiens (a soldier beetle) Highbridge Farm, Allbrook 12/6 (DH)
Cantharis pellucida (a soldier beetle) Highbridge Farm, Allbrook 19/5 (DH)
Carabus nitens (a ground beetle) Buckherd Bottom, NF 28/3 (TD)
Cassida murraea **(Fleabane Tortoise Beetle)** Grange Fields, Netley 19/7. Highbridge Farm, Allbrook 3/8 (DH)
Ceutorhynchus assimilis **(Cabbage Gall Weevil)** St Marys Rd, Bishopstoke 11/6 (DH)
Chilocorus bipustulatus **(Heather Ladybird)** Denny Lodge Inclosure 25/9 (GM)
Chrysolina americana **(Rosemary Beetle)** Bitterne Bypass 13/8-1/11. Victoria Rd, Woolston Co-op 18/9 (CC). East Park, Southampton 24/9. Newtown Rd, Southampton 29/9 (CC)
Clytra quadripunctata (a leaf beetle) Wootton Coppice Inclosure 8/7 (SC)
Coccinella hieroglyphica **(Hieroglyphic Ladybird)** West of Portman Ravine, Boscombe — one on fennel 17/8. A first for PB — not seen in ladybird survey
Coccinella undecimpunctata **(11-spot Ladybird)** Highbridge Farm, Allbrook 20/8 (2) (DH)
Cryptocephalus aureolus (a leaf beetle) Grange Fields, Netley 19/7 (PBO)
Cychrus caraboides (a snail-eating ground beetle) Holly Hill Woodland Park — inactive under a log 23/11
Donacia crassipes **(Water-lily Reed Beetle)** Clumber Inclosure area 11/7 (PBO)
Donacia simplex (a leaf beetle) Highbridge Farm, Allbrook 12/6 (DH)
Dorcus parallelipipedus **(Lesser Stag Beetle)** Vespasian Rd, Bitterne Manor 1/8 (GHW)
Grynobius planus (a wood-boring beetle) North of Boldrewood car park 22/5

Hypera punctata (a weevil) Peartree Green, Southampton — 5 at base of Black Medick 4/6

Lampyris noctiluca **(Glow-worm)** Lord's Wood — 3 larvae 14/5 (GM). Blackwell Common 30/6 (2) (KP)

Leptura aurulenta (a long-horn beetle) Holidays Hill Inclosure 19/7 (ARC) **(CP1)**

Leptura quadrifasciata (a long-horn beetle) Wootton Coppice Inclosure 20/6 (SC)

Longitarsus obliteratus (a leaf beetle) Highbridge Farm, Allbrook 12/6 (DH)

Lucanus cervus **(Stag Beetle)** Garnock Rd, Woolston 7/7 (CC). Archery Rd Recreation, Southampton 20/7 (CC). Vespasian Rd, Bitterne Manor 17/8 (GHW)

Melanimon tibialis Denny Wood Sand Pit 21/4

Meligethes difficilis Stoke Park Wood — on Wood Anemone flower 10/4 (DH)

Meligethes flavimanus Highbridge Farm, Allbrook — on a rose 19/5 (DH)

Meligethe morosus Highbridge Farm, Allbrook 5/6 (DH)

Meligethes rotundicollis Highbridge Farm, Allbrook 5/6 (DH)

Metoecus paradoxus (**Wasp-nest Beetle**) Kathleen Rd, Sholing — in Actinic trap — a garden first 26/7 (ARC)

Ocypus olens **(Devil's Coach-horse)** Bratley Plain 28/11 (SC)

Orsodacne cerasi (a leaf beetle) Southampton Common — tall grass near Boating Lake 18/7

Phaedon tumidulus **(Celery Leaf Beetle)** Peartree Green — off Wild Parsnip and Wild Carrot 2/9

Phyllopertha horticola **(Bracken Chafer)** Highbridge Farm, Allbrook 12/6 (DH). St Marys Rd, Bishopstoke — 5 larvae 5/8 (DH)

Phyllotreta undulata (a leaf-beetle) St Marys Rd, Bishopstoke — on cabbage 5/8 (DH)

Phymatodes testaceus **(Tanbark Borer)** Kathleen Rd, Sholing — first record by LT 29/6 (ARC)

Poecilus cupreus Stoke Park Rd, Bishopstoke 10/4 (DH)

Prionus coriarius **(Tanner Beetle)** Pignal Inclosure 1/8 (TD)

Prionychus ater Hall Lands, Fair Oak — 2 at moth lamp 30/7

Pseudovadonia livida (a long-horn beetle) North of Claylands, Bishop's Waltham — on Field Rose 30/6. Grange Fields, Netley 3 on Wild Carrot 19/7

Ptilinus pectinicornis **(Fan-bearing Wood-borer)** Hall Lands Copse, Fair Oak 8/6

Pyrochroa coccinea **(Black-headed Cardinal Beetle)** Sky's Wood, Valley Park — at moth lamp 3/6

Sitophilus oryzae **(Rice Weevil)** Swan Centre, Eastleigh — 3 in tub of dried mushrooms 3/12 (DH)

Stictoleptura scutellata **(Large Black Long-horn Beetle)** Holidays Hill Inclosure — one on hogweed heads 19/7 (ARC)

Thanasimus formicarius **(Ant Beetle)** Denny Wood 20/5

Thymalus limbatus New Copse Inclosure 8/4 (PBO)

Triplax russica Denny Wood 20/5 (PBO)
Trophiphorus elevatus (a weevil) Lord's Wood — a Notable Nb beetle 10/6 (GM)
***Typhaeus typhoeus* (Minotaur Beetle)** Lord's Wood 9/5 (GM).
Zionshill Copse, Valley Park 25/5

FAUNA:VERTEBRATES

There were a few really strange sightings in 2010. Firstly, at Weston Shore in January the remains of a cast-up fishing net were found with two dead Grey Trigger Fish *Balistes capriscus* **(CP1)** and a colony of equally dead Goose Barnacles *Lepas anatifera* tangled up in it. Then in November a dead Pipistrelle Bat was found dead and impaled on a gorse bush at Southampton Sports Centre. There must be a good fish population in Southampton Water these days, as there were many records of both Common and Grey Seals, especially the former species. Even more significant were the three Bottle-nosed Dolphins seen off Weston Shore in January.

There were a very large number of bird records with many unusual species or 'firsts' turning up at Weston Shore, a lot of New Forest records and some sightings of unexpected birds elsewhere such as Bluethroat (at Romsey), Wryneck (at Test Lane and East Park) and a White-tailed Eagle (at Hillhead). The eagle was probably the same individual as the juvenile that was seen in the Hordle area at the very end of December and into 2011. There were an exceptional number of Firecrest records. Finally in December there was a major invasion of Waxwings — with sightings in Romsey, Southampton and Hedge End.

FISH

Ballan Wrasse Calshot — a young specimen 9/10 (fm) **(CP1)**
Brook Lamprey Stockbridge Common — 5 in Marsh Court River 19/4
Grey Trigger Fish *(Balistes capriscus)* Weston Shore — 2 dead in old fishing net 16/1 (ARC) **(CP1)**
Stone Loach Stockbridge Common — 5 in Marsh Court River 19/4

AMPHIBIANS

Common Toad Sparsholt College — also spawn 15/3. Two ponds in the west of the NF 20 & 100 individuals 20/3 (SC). New Copse Inclosure — night observation 8/4. Stoke Park Wood 15/8 (DH). Lord's Wood 22/9 (GM)
Smooth Newt Pennysprings, The Drove, Blackfield — in garden pond 24/5

REPTILES

Red-eared Terrapin Holly Hill Woodland Park 13/5. Miller's Pond 29/8 (3)
Wall Lizard Portman Ravine, Boscombe 2/9 (20) (ARC)
Viviparous Lizard Southampton Old Cemetery 3/4
Smooth Snake Near Yew Tree Bottom 30/5 (TD)
Adder North of Ober Heath 5/4 (2) (TD). Yew Tree Bottom 25/4 (2) (TD)

BIRDS

Arctic Skua Woolston/Weston 2/10, 3/10 (mo)

Avocet River Itchen at St Denys, south of railway bridge 24/12 (ARC). Hook Links, Warsash. A single bird at Hook Stream outlet 28/12

Barnacle Goose Titchfield Haven 23/10 (JM, fm)

Bar-tailed Godwit Weston Shore — maximum count of 4. One first seen 7/3. Single birds seen up to 5/11 (ARC)

Bewick's Swan Meon Canal Path 10/1 (RJC)

Bittern Old Bursledon Nature Haven — first record here 21/2 (ARC)

Black Tern Off Weston Shore 10/8, 12/8 (2) — last seen 17/9 (ARC). River Hamble Estuary 10/10 (RJC)

Blackcap Peartree Green 1/1 (male). Bitterne Rd East 21/1-2/3 (female), 22/3 (male). Silverdale Rd, Southampton 31/1 (male and female), 27/9, 19/12 (male) (JW). Blackberry Terrace, Bevois Valley 20/11 (female) (JS). Sirdar Rd, Portswood 28/12 (KE)

Black-necked Grebe Off Weston Shore 15/1-31/1 (1), 5/12-22/12 (2) (ARC)

Black-tailed Godwit Riverside Park — south — unusual here 13/2

Blue Tit Bratley Plain — impaled on thorn by Great Grey Shrike 28/11 (SC)

Bluethroat FislLake, Romsey 1/10 (male) (DH)

Brambling Mark Ash Wood — last of 2009/10 winter 2/4, — first of 2010/11 winter 14/10 (SC). Roe Inclosure, Anses Wood and Denny Wood December (SC)

Canada Goose Titchfield Haven — leucistic individual 23/10 (JM)

Common Buzzard Cheesefoot Head 29/1 (10 — a high number together)

Common Crossbill Lord's Wood 27/1 (max. 10), 11/6 (max. 10) (GM)

Common Sandpiper Chessel Bay 12/1 (2). Riverside Park — south 28/11-22/12 (1). Old Redbridge 30/12

Common Scoter Weston Shore 10/8 (6 — maximum number ever recorded here) (ARC)

Common Swift Over Cedar Avenue, Shirley — first of year 30/4 (GM)

Corn Bunting Old Winchester Hill — almost extinct in east Hampshire 20/7 (RJC)

Cuckoo Acres Down —first of year in NF. Also 2 other places on same day 17/4 (SC). Stockbridge Common — first away from NF 19/4. Highbridge Farm, Allbrook — away from NF 19/5 (DH)

Curlew Sandpiper Warsash 25/9 (ARC)

Fieldfare Newtown Rd, Southampton 7/1 (CC). Renda Rd, Holbury 23/12 (40 in garden) (KP)

Firecrest NF — records from eleven sites 14/3-24/7 (SC). Ampfield Wood 9/4 (singing male), 3/6. Holly Hill Woodland Park 13/5 (singing male seen and heard). Cawte's Copse, Warsash, 200m south of Holly Hill site 15/9 (calling)

Gadwall Off Weston Shore — rarely recorded here. 2/12 (15) (ARC)

Gannet Off Weston Shore — first record here 15/7, 26/8 (juvenile) (ARC)
Garden Warbler Lord's Wood — first of year 14/4 (singing) (GM). Highland Water near Warwickslade 24/4 (singing)
Garganey Meon Canal Path 3/4 (1 drake) (RJC)
Golden Plover Weston Shore — unusual here 23/11 (1) (ARC)
Goosander Cadman's Pool, Stony Cross 6/2 (6) (SC). Weston Shore — unusual here. Seen at mouth of River Itchen 25/11 (ARC). Hillhead 13/12 (10 flying east), 31/12 (10) (mo)
Goshawk Denny Lodge Inclosure to Denny Wood 31/12 (SC)
Grasshopper Warbler Shatterford, NF 10/4 (SC). Grange Fields, Netley 24/4-26/4 (singing male) (ARC). Brownwich 26/9 (1 juvenile) (ARC)
Great Crested Grebe Weston Shore 10/1 (max. 110) (ARC)
Great Grey Shrike Brown Loaf, near Durley, NF 21/3 (SC). Shatterford, NF 7/11 (JS)
Great Northern Diver Off Weston Shore 24/1 (5 — max. for year) (ARC). The only record in the late year period 13/11 (ARC)
Green Woodpecker Bitterne Manor Open Space — a very urban site 21/2, 25/6 (GHW)
Greenshank Weston Shore 11/8 (3 — max. for year) (ARC)
Grey Wagtail Chilworth Common — south along Holly Brook 29/8 (20 — a high number) (GM). Bitterne Rd East — regular in garden 8/12-27/12 into 2011
Hawfinch Great Linford Inclosure 20/3 (12) (SC)
Hen Harrier Bratley area 2/1 (ringtail) (SC). Beacon Hill, Warnford 3/4 (ringtail) (RJC). King's Garden, Bratley 11/12 (male) (SC). Black Gutter Bottom 11/12 (SC)
Herring Gull Off Weston Shore 13/2 (1,400 roosting on sea with 150 Lesser Black-backed Gulls & 40 Great Black-backed Gulls) (ARC)
Hobby Fishlake Meadows, Romsey 9/5 (3) (GM)
House Martin East Meon village — first of year 17/4 (fm)
Isabelline Shrike Gosport area (mo) — a first for Hampshire 9/11 (ARC)
Knot Weston Shore 7/2-18/4 (max. 12), 7/11 -22/12 (max. 14)(ARC). Warsash — mouth of River Hamble 29/11 (5)
Lapland Bunting Farlington Marsh 19/9 (mo). A large flock near Cut Bridge, Keyhaven in December
Lapwing On amenity grass by River Itchen, St Denys — an unusual place to see this bird in urban location 22/12
Lesser Redpoll Greenwood, Durley 26/2 (30 on Larch with some Siskins and Goldfinches) 26/2 (fm). St Evox Close, Rownhams 1/3 (max. 9) (CO)

Lesser Spotted Woodpecker Lord's Wood (outside NF) 28/1 (GM). Mark Ash Wood, 8/3 (drumming) (SC). Brinken Wood 2/10 (2 — 1 drumming) (SC). Hook (Park Wood) (outside NF) 4/12 (RJC)
Lesser Whitethroat Muddy Bottom North Allotments, Bitterne 9/5 (singing male)
Little Gull Weston Shore 6/4 (1 adult), 3/10 (adult and juvenile) (ARC)
Little Egret Weston Shore 18/4 (19 — a large number for here) (ARC)
Mediterranean Gull Chilling area 9/9 (300 — a very large number) (RJC)
Merlin Weston Shore 8/11(1 female/immature flying west) (ARC). Black Gutter Bottom 11/12 (SC)
Nightjar Blackwell Common 24/5 (2), 5/6 churring (fm)
Osprey Lower Test Marshes 31/3 (ARC)
Peregrine Frame Heath Inclosure — fairly unusual in NF 24/12 (SC)
Razorbill Off Hillhead 24/9 (2), 26/9 (1), 18/10 (1) (mo)
Red Kite Millbrook Point 22/3 (over at 11:15) (anon). Lower Test Marshes 31/3 (ARC). Stag Break, east of Durley — still unusual in NF 4/4 (over) (SC). Greenwood, Durley 15/5 (4 over the wood) (fm)
Red-crested Pochard Hillhead Harbour 8/1 (female) (RJC)
Red-necked Grebe Off Weston Shore 12/1 (2 amongst Great Crested Grebe), 11/1 (1) (mo)
Red-throated Diver Off Hillhead 24/9 (RJC)
Redwing Broadlands Valley, Portswood 28/1 (30 with a Fieldfare) (KE). Thornhill Primary School 7/2 (90)
Ring-billed Gull Gosport — long-staying bird — photographed 20/11 (ARC) **(CP4)**
Ring Ouzel Weston Shore — first record for here 16/10 (1 first-year) (ARC). Brownwich 17/10 (RJC)
Sand Martin IBM North Harbour — first of year 16/3 (2)
Sanderling Weston Shore — first winter record here 3/12 (with 30 Turnstone) (mo)
Shag Off Town Quay 17/1 (4), 31/1 (6), 3/3 (3) (ARC). Off Weston shore 13/3, 14-15/3 (3) (ARC)
Shoveler Off Weston Shore — rarely recorded here 20/12 (4) (ARC)
Siskin Lord's Wood 30/1 (max. 12) (GM). Cedar Avenue, Shirley 17/12 (1 with flock of Goldfinches in garden) (GM)
Slavonian Grebe Off Weston Shore 2/12, 31/12 into 2011 (1) (ARC)
Smew Titchfield Haven 10/12 (2 females/red heads) (RJC)
Spotted Flycatcher Denny Walk, Woodfidely — only NF record 11/5 (SC) Highbridge Farm, Allbrook 2/9 (on passage) (DH). West Wood, Netley 3/9 (1) (ARC)
Starling Fair Oak 18/10 (500 - 1000 south-west) (DH)
Tree Pipit Kathleen Rd, Sholing 28/8 (1 north) (ARC)
Turnstone Weston Shore 17/3 (max. 100), 24/4 (max. 100) (ARC)

Velvet Scoter The Solent — off Brownwich Shore 19/2 (3 most of February) (RC)
Water Rail West Denny Bog, NF 11/9 (calling), 31/10 (SC). Weston Shore 'reed bed' 5/12-12/12 (ARC)
Waxwing Holbury 7/1 (9 in a garden) (anon). Hollybrook Cemetery — first winter report 13/12 (1 east) (ARC). Hedge End Retail Park 19/12 (9). 27 reported in Hedge End at a later date. Castle Hill, Midanbury 30/12 (100) (ARC). Blackberry Terrace, Bevois Valley 30/12 (30 in garden) (JS)
Wheatear Pigbush — only NF record 11/5 (SC). Weston Shore 12/9 (6 — max. for year) (ARC)
Whimbrel Weston Shore 26/4 (18 — max. for year) (ARC)
White-tailed Eagle Hillhead 12/12 (1 flying north-west) (RJC)
Wood Duck Eyeworth Pond, Fritham 22-24/4 (male escape)
Woodlark Weston Shore 7/1 (2), 9/1 (2 and 40 Skylark) (ARC)
Woodpigeon Weston Shore — a spectacular passage — 25,870 west over 7/11 (ARC)
Wryneck Test Lane Echo Offices 17/4 (PW). East Park, Southampton 2/10 (mo)
Yellowhammer Weston Shore — one flew west, first for several years 7/11 (ARC)

MAMMALS

Badger Shirley Valley — an urban area 29/7 (VR)
Bottle-nosed Dolphin Weston Shore — 3 offshore, recorder's first here 5/1, 6/1 (ARC)
Common Seal Weston Shore — an unusual summer record, regular in winter 25/8 (ARC). Brownwich Shore 12/4, 8/11 (RJC)
Grey Seal Goatee Shore, Eling — eating two flatfish 7/1. Weston Shore — only record this year 8/3 (ARC)
Hedgehog Cedar Avenue, Shirley — 3 including a young one, so breeding in gardens 6/5 (GM)
Otter Highbridge Farm, Allbrook — seen by bank of River Itchen 12/5 (DH). 10 spraints seen by river 22/11 (DH)
Pipistrelle species Southampton Sports Centre — found dead and impaled on gorse bush 13/11 (anon)
Polecat A31 east of Ringwood — crossing road to north side 29/6 (DH)
Stoat Breach Sling Copse, Bishopstoke 18/9 (DH)
Water Vole Alresford 11/4 (RJC). River Itchen at Bishopstoke — an urban section 25/5 (KR)
Wood Mouse Cedar Avenue, Shirley — breeding in garden 17/4 (GM)

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