



2010 International Year of Biodiversity



Bullfinch © Janet Craig



Autumn Lady's-tresses © John Newbould



Bird's-foot Trefoil © John Newbould

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WALKS: Monday mornings from Fox
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The editor is always pleased to receive
your photos and notes.

SUTTON POYNTZ BIODIVERSITY GROUP e NEWSLETTER September 2010.

It is now a little over two years since David Emery convened a meeting to discuss forming a biodiversity group. Initially based mainly on a list provided by Jon and Sue Campbell, we produced a Bird List for Sutton Poyntz. We also identified the importance of scrub on the downland north of the village, together with the short grass areas as being important for birds. In 2009, we initiated "Garden Bird Watch" which has also proved important in identifying the less common species seen only in one or two places e.g. Song Thrush, Bullfinch and Green Woodpecker. It has highlighted the growing population of House Sparrow.

We are also working with Wessex Water and Natural England in identifying management priorities of the S.S.S.I. and have only this week being asked to watch over ponies, which will graze West Hill this winter. Any problems ring David Emery.

The group has actively raised the profile of the village wildlife, with one resident very keen to cut his lawn, but there are over 200 Autumn Lady's-tresses in flower. This orchid is IUCN classified as Near Threatened.



**Grass Snake! not Adder
as captioned in the
August Newsletter**

We have also initiated small mammal surveys; bat surveys and around four residents are moth trapping. We have worked with the Wessex Water education team at two events this summer. A number of events have been organised for families.

On the negative side, we have not seen Dartford Warbler since 2009, Goldcrest, Grey Wagtail and Barn Owl have not featured in the 2010 bird surveys. The autumn migration is starting. Yellow Wagtails are already leaving and some Swallows are assembling in coastal fields. Watch out for Hobby following them.



Wasp's Nest in a tree © D. Emblem 2010

Michael Archer (and a couple of others books I've looked at) indicates that Genus *Vespula* nests are subterranean or in enclosed spaces if aerial. Genus *Dolichovespula* are the aerial nesters in open locations such as bushes and trees. There are 4 species in the UK, but as the nest is in SY78; NBN indicates we can probably rule out *saxonica*, leaving *media*, *norvegica* and *sylvestris*. I opened the picture file in a separate window and I think I'd be pretty happy with it being *media* as follows:

1. The wasp bottom right has yellow 1st antennal segment (= *Dolichovespula*) and four yellow spots visible on the thorax (= *media*; *norvegica* and *sylvestris* have only 2 spots, *saxonica* has only 2 too)
2. The other two wasps show the face pattern of a simple line on the clypeus, which fits *media* in Chinery *sylvestris* has a single small dot and *norvegica* has a line with a bulge at the end nearest the mandibles, *saxonica* has a single large spot)
3. The thoracic stripes (the wasps braces) have a tick at the top end near the head (visible in all three wasps). The pictures in Chinery show this only for *media*, not the other 3 *Dolichovespula*.

I've been collecting a few Vespidae workers recently, now that the colonies are getting towards the end of their life, and *media* is the most common of the Dolis.

Michael Edwards.

Whilst featuring insects, members of the group have been helping with Dorset wide surveys on groups such as Grasshoppers

and Bush Crickets and *Odonata* or Dragonflies and Damselflies.



Migrant Hawker © John Newbould 2010

Presently flying round Sutton Poyntz we have noted Migrant Hawker, Southern Hawker and Common Darter. Michael Edwards and John Newbould have also been making forays into generally unexplored areas of West Dorset looking for these groups, although the picture below was taken in Sutton Poyntz waterworks meadow.



Long-winged Conehead. © J. Newbould 2010

Finally the group has been successful in receiving a grant from the OPAL project (see www.opalexplornature.org/) to assist in increasing public awareness of biodiversity issues. This will be used to buy equipment to allow us to identify species where some technology helps. **As part of this grant we are required to outline our achievements to neighbouring villages in order to develop a local network of biodiversity recording in partnership with other Dorset agencies. Contact John Newbould**



August 23 - 29

	Ws	V C	Sp	Sside	old Bincombe Lane	Old Bincombe Brookmead	Old Bincombe	Old Bincombe	Old Bincombe	Sutton Rd	N F	St B	M Cottage	F Cottage	The Puddledocks	The Puddledocks	BC	Sutton Road	C, Sutton Rd	Sutton Road	Sutton Road	Wimslow Rd	Total No gardens	Maximum	Minimum	Median	
Barn Owl																							0	0	0	##	
Blackbird	2		2	2	3	1		2	1		2	2	2	2	2			4			3		14	4	1	2	
Blackcap																							0	0	0	##	
Blue Tit	6		4		2	3		1	2	1	5	2		2	2	2		5			1		14	6	1	2	
Brambling																							0	0	0	##	
Bullfinch	2																						1	2	2	2	
Buzzard	1			2					2	1	1				2								6	2	1	2	
Carrion Crow	3				2							2		2							2		5	3	2	2	
Chaffinch	7				3	1			1			4		3	1			8			2	1	10	8	1	3	
Chiffchaff											5			1									2	5	1	3	
Coal Tit	2		1											1									3	2	1	1	
Collared Dove	12		5	2	2	2		2	2	2	2	2	2				1		2		3		14	12	1	2	
Common Pheasant																							0	0	0	##	
Cuckoo																							0	0	0	##	
Dunnock	4		2		2	2			4		5	1		4	1				4	2			11	5	1	2	
Fieldfare																							0	0	0	##	
Goldcrest																							0	0	0	##	
Goldfinch	5							1	2		8	6		2					8	2			8	8	1	4	
Great Tit	6		1		2	3		2			2			2	2	1					1	3	11	6	1	2	
Gr. Sp. Woodpecker	1																					1	2	1	1	1	
Green Woodpecker				1							1				1								3	1	1	1	
Greenfinch	4		2		1	3					5	4		1							7	2	9	7	1	3	
Grey Wagtail																							0	0	0	##	
Grey Heron									1				1		1								3	1	1	1	
Herring Gull				3							6		3		2				1	1			6	6	1	3	
House Martin													1	12									2	12	1	7	
House Sparrow	40		2	6	5	30		20	20	10	12	13	7	40	6			1	12	30	6		17	40	1	12	
Jackdaw				4	2	2		1	2		2	4	5		4			4			4		11	5	1	4	
Kestrel	1										1												2	1	1	1	
Linnet																							0	0	0	##	
Long-tailed Tit									4	6													2	6	4	5	
Magpie	7		2	2	1	1		2	1	2	3	1	2		4	3		5			3		15	7	1	2	
Mallard																							0	0	0	##	
Mistle Thrush																							0	0	0	##	
Moorhen											2												1	2	2	2	
Nuthatch																							0	0	0	##	
Pied Wagtail											1												1	1	1	1	
Redstart																							0	0	0	##	
Redwing																							0	0	0	##	
Robin	1		3		1	1		2	2	1	3	1		1	1	1		2	1	2	1		16	3	1	1	
Rook	3		1	5	3				1		6	4	8						3				9	8	1	3	
Siskin																							0	0	0	##	
Song Thrush																							1	1	1	1	
Sparrowhawk						1				1	1			1							1		4	1	1	1	
Starling					3	10							1								12		4	12	1	7	
Stonechat																							0	0	0	##	
Swallow	2										6	4											3	6	2	4	
Swift																							0	0	0	##	
Tawny Owl	1										1										1		3	1	1	1	
Treecreeper																							0	0	0	##	
Whitethroat																							0	0	0	##	
Willow Warbler														1									1	1	1	1	
Wood Pigeon	8		4	2	2	1		2	2	2	3	4	2	2	2	4		5			2	2	17	8	1	2	
Wren	1		1								1												3	1	1	1	
Yellowhammer																							0	0	0	##	
* New on SP List																											
Counts	22	0	13	10	15	14	0	11	15	8	24	14	12	15	15	6	0	10	5	18	7	0	35				
Total Species seen	35																							20			
Total Records	##																										
Average	13																										
																								No of 0 records			
																							No of gardens				
																								18			

Addresses have been abbreviated

Sutton Poyntz Biodiversity Group
Garden Wildlife Watch 2010

Month 9
September 19-25

Name Address		Grid Reference	
Date	Species	No	Comment
	Blackbird		
	Blackcap		
	Blue Tit		
	Brambling*		
	Buzzard		
	Carrion Crow		
	Chaffinch		
	Chiffchaff		
	Coal Tit		
	Collared Dove		
	Common Pheasant		
	Cuckoo		
	Dunnock		
	Goldcrest		
	Goldfinch		
	Great Tit		
	Greater Spotted Woodpecker		
	Green Woodpecker		
	Greenfinch		
	Grey Wagtail		
	Grey Heron		
	Herring Gull		
	House Martin		
	House Sparrow		
	Jackdaw		
	Kestrel		
	Long-tailed Tit		
	Magpie		
	Mistle Thrush		
	Nuthatch		
	Pied Wagtail		
	Redwing		
	Robin		
	Rook		
	Song Thrush		
	Starling		
	Swallow		
	Swift		
	Treecreeper		
	Wood Pigeon		
	Wren		
	Yellowhammer		

If you have any observations made during September of wildlife in the area, please note this overleaf

Please return to 3 Brookmead Close, S.P. DT3 6RS after 26 September 2010 Thank you

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Sutton Poyntz Biodiversity Goup transfer data to Dorset Environmental Records Centre to act as data custodian who may use data for conservation purposes and data analysis by computer

Date	Species	No	Comment
	Adonis Blue Brimstone Brown Argus Clouded Yellow Comma Common Blue Dark Green Fritillary Green-veined White Hedge Brown (Gatekeeper) Holly Blue Large Skipper Large White Marbled White Meadow Brown Orange-tip Painted Lady Peacock Red Admiral Ringlet Small Copper Small Heath Small Skipper Small Tortoiseshell Small White Speckled Wood Wall If not seen in your garden, please say where you saw it.		