



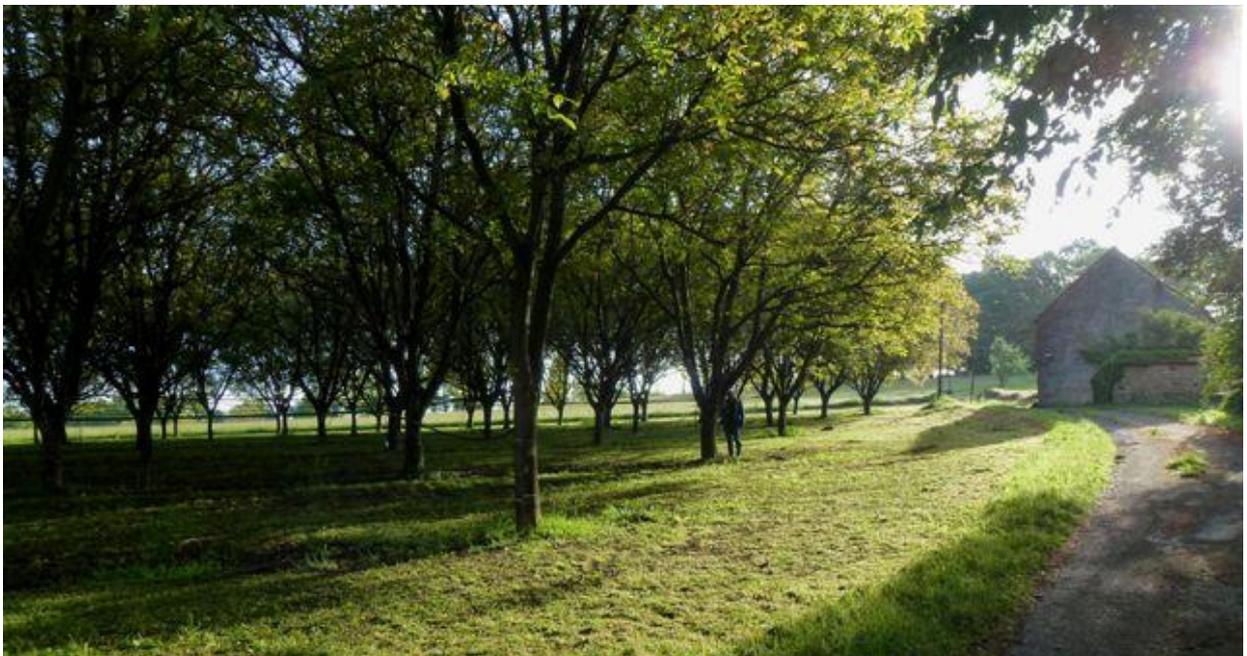
Honeyguide

WILDLIFE HOLIDAYS

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**The Dordogne
10 – 17 May 2018**

Holiday participants

David and Yvonne Buckland
Beryl Doran
David Nind and Shevaun Mendelsohn
Will Warham
Jim and Diana Ferguson

Leader and report by Chris Durdin.



Photos by Chris Durdin except western demoiselle by Jim Ferguson, all taken on the holiday.

Above: 'cheerful and ubiquitous' pyramidal orchids, as Shevaun put it;
and Glanville fritillary, the most regularly seen fritillary.

Cover, top: long-lipped serapias and tongue orchid together in Castang's meadow;
black-veined white next to the shell of its chrysalis. Bottom: walnut grove on a misty morning



Our hosts at Castang: Cathy and Keith Parker www.castang.info, front left, with the group.

This holiday, as for every Honeyguide holiday, also puts something into conservation in our host country by way of a contribution to the wildlife that we enjoyed. The conservation contribution this year of £40 per person towards the 'Refuges LPO' project was supplemented by gift aid through the Honeyguide Wildlife Charitable Trust, leading to a donation of £390.

The total for all conservation contributions through Honeyguide since 1991 was £124,020 to May 2018.

DAILY DIARY

Thursday 10 May – to Castang

Five of us flying together had an uneventful flight from Stansted and, having picked up bags from the low-tech luggage rollers at Bergerac Airport, stepped out into the warm sunshine. Our regular driver Gilles was in sight by his minibus and we were soon on the drive of somewhat under an hour to Castang. Along the way the road crossed the Dordogne River about three times and was squeezed between a railway line and a canal elsewhere. There were patches of pyramidal orchids, the odd black kite and swans on the river along the way. At Castang we were warmly greeted by Cathy, Keith and Olivia and met Jim and Diana, with dog Lily, who had just arrived by car from near Bergerac, and also David and Yvonne who had been here since early afternoon having come on the early flight from Southampton. We settled into rooms and gathered for a cup of tea on the terrace.

Everyone was keen to have a stroll to see the orchids in Castang's meadow. Beryl was quick to find the first species: four man orchids on the edge of the large uncut area. The early bloomers, green-veined and early spider orchids, were plentiful and already past their best. Bee and especially pyramidal orchids were also in good numbers among the sulphur clover and upright hedge bedstraw. A group of about three long-lipped tongue orchids was a good find: these appear only occasionally here. We heard a cuckoo and took a moment to pull apart the leaves of some dogwood by the quiet lane, opposite a nice patch of sainfoin. Grey clouds and some spits of rain came to nothing as we continued to a rougher meadow by the turn to Castang. Here were lady orchids, albeit many also past their best, and woodcock orchids. A wood white butterfly moved around with its typical weak flight and Jim found a violet fritillary, fairly static in the cloudy conditions. Diana had the best view of the short-toed treecreeper in the poplars, there was another static fritillary, this time a Glanville, and those with good ears could pick out the distant, fluty call of a golden oriole.

Kir was a popular choice of aperitif as we sat in the early evening sunshine, preparing for our first of Cathy's famous five course meals. Carrot soup was followed by cheese omelette, pork with mustard sauce and courgettes, a selection of cheeses and finally a *framboisier* (raspberry pudding) with a candle to mark Jim's birthday. After coffee or infusion of vervain everyone was ready for bed.

Friday 11 May – local walks around Castang

The pre-breakfast walk, starting at a civilised 7:45, needed to go nowhere for its first good bird: Castang's common redstart was in fine song perched on top of a silver birch. There were distant calls of cuckoo and hoopoe as we walked down the road and along the track past a restored *pigeonnier*. Beyond the hamlet of Langle a golden oriole called from the oaks. David B was the first to see it, and we all had good if brief views as it settled in three different open places over the following minutes. In the other direction to the oriole a nightingale was singing and the sound of a serin was coming from near the adjacent bungalow: a very French mix to enjoy on our first morning's walk.



The daily common redstart on a silver birch at Castang; Lagrave village and its pond.

After breakfast, and showing the redstart and a fine clump of rustyback ferns to those who hadn't yet seen them, we took a local walk. Beyond the ploughed field the first meadow tempted us with a show of pyramidal orchids and the odd broomrape, and soon there were meadow and Glanville fritillaries. Hawking over the long grass were several ascalaphids. Bracken and sweet chestnut suggested a small acidic outcrop along the road to the tumbledown barn and the left turn to the village of Lagrave, alongside which we found a mallow skipper, a new butterfly for Honeyguide in the Dordogne.

In Lagrave we admired the old communal bread oven, still used once a year for a community event, and the pond with pool frogs and floating conkers. A surprising sight was a group of rambles and, a little later, a small group on horseback. A scarce swallowtail dashed through a few times, and over the meadow beyond the village a 'real' swallowtail was equally quickly on the move this warm morning. We took a brief detour to look at an old stone washing feature. In some open woodland a hoopoe flew through and landed in a dead tree, holding a large though unidentified item of prey in its beak.



Mallow skipper; lady orchid; hoopoe.

Some of the group took the shortcut back to base opposite the walnut grove, under which were southern speckled woods. Grizzled skipper, singing melodious warbler and narrow-leaved helleborine were new species for those who did the full circuit. Lunch of quiche and salad was a leisurely affair back at Castang.

We set out for Le Coux at 3pm, at first on this morning's route then turning right along an old cart track through the woodland edge. Along the way was a magnificent lady orchid still at its best in the shade and the first narrow-leaved helleborine for many in the group. At Le Coux there were kites in the sky, somewhat surprisingly at least five red kites plus two or more black kites. Some of us bought ice creams or strawberries, which we sat and ate nearby once a few spoons for the ice creams had been gathered.

Descending again there was a short stop at the church before taking the turn to La Plage. A male broad-bodied chaser flew along a ditch by which there were flowers of large Venus's looking-glass, but otherwise the intensively farmed river valley was poor for wildlife with just oilseed rape and bare soil in the farming rotation this year. There were families enjoying the hot weather by playing in the muddy-looking Dordogne River. A common sandpiper on the far bank and a singing nightingale were the main points of wildlife interest. Everyone was happy to accept a lift back to base from Keith and Olivia.

There wasn't much time between checklists and tea and the usual pre-dinner aperitifs, so it was with glass in hand that I went with Beryl to see where two tongue orchid species were growing side by side on the far side of Castang's top meadow. Dinner began with tomato soup, followed by ham and cheese pastry parcels with sorrel sauce, lamb with flageolet beans, cheese, and apple tart. The meal was briefly interrupted by the sight of a green woodpecker on the grass outside.

Saturday 12 May – woodland walk and Limeuil

A grey morning with spits then more rain meant just Jim and dog Lily joined me for a pre-breakfast walk. Our reward was a fine view of a male cirl bunting and the only red-legged partridges of the week in the field by the Chateau of Cazenac. Golden orioles were vocal the whole time and one flew across Castang's big meadow.

Picnics prepared and loaded, it was raining heavily as we took the short drive to Bigaroque, with Jim, Diana and Lily following in their car. Happily the rain soon eased off and it was mostly dry for the morning, though cloudy and cool. Perhaps that kept vehicles away: only two came along the quiet road all morning. Wood bitter-vetch was a new flower and bush vetch another, the latter at first without its characteristic accompanying ants – perhaps that was the rain – but we did find some ants on bush vetch flowers farther up the road once it was a little drier. On the chalky slopes Nottingham catchfly, globularia, chalk milkwort and swallow-wort were good to see, with a good scattering of orange-skirted slugs out in the damp. Bonelli's and melodious warblers were heard, but not well, though blackcaps and song thrushes were obvious all morning. A buzzard was the only bird of prey and golden oriole called several times. Yvonne found an odd fly that was later identified as *Ectophasia crassipennis*, parasitic on bugs.

It was on the latter stages of the walk that orchids began to appear, starting with many narrow-leaved helleborines and a group of three violet birdsnest orchids. Woodcock orchids, groups of fly orchids and twayblades added the mix. A fine greater butterfly orchid was the final new species before we made our rendezvous with Gilles.



Fly *Ectophasia crassipennis*; fly orchids on today's walk; greater butterfly orchid.

Before eating we checked the first field to see *orchidée brûlée* – burnt-tip orchids – that Gilles had found. Jim was active in seeking out additional species, firstly a military orchid and, after we'd had picnics, a loose-flowered orchid. We were on our way to the final meadow when I spotted a small fire salamander on the road. Will guarded it from traffic while I fetched everyone else to see it, plainly only out in the early afternoon on account of the wet conditions. David N found a second salamander and Beryl successfully sought out adder's-tongue ferns, before keeping feet dry took priority over looking for anything else.

Both vehicles parked at the bottom of Limeuil, close to the confluence of the rivers Dordogne and Vézère, As Jim and Diana had been here recently they led several of us over a boules court and up a wooded path to the top of the village. From here six of us went round 'Les Jardins Panoramiques de Limeuil', one big and varied garden in reality and attractive despite the by now steady rain. It was interesting to see that the place was an official 'Refuges LPO', the conservation project supported by this holiday. They had made a big effort with the trail and educational work, including a bee hive with doors that allowed a look inside. The other three came up to the garden later before we all descended through the pretty but very wet streets. Large numbers of swallows and house martins were gathering in and around the garden overlooking the river but there was only the briefest view of one of the resident tree sparrows.



Fire salamander, a wet weather bonus; Gilles (on the right) introduces David, Shevaun and Chris to friends.

Having met at the minibus in good time Gilles took us on a little detour, in particular via the village of Audrix to meet two 'friends': large wood and straw sculptures of cave bears. We returned for tea, to dry out and for some quiet time before dinner of vegetable soup, mixed starter with goat's cheese, trout with roast potatoes, cheese, and walnut cake.

Sunday 13 May – the 'two views' walk at Berbiguières, and Montalieu Haut

The EMW – as Shevaun christened the Early Morning Walk – added wren to the bird list but there was more heard than seen, including orioles, hoopoes and cuckoo. We passed many violet birdsnest orchids and man orchids that, like everything else, were heavy with dew. It was a relief to see sunshine after yesterday's rain.

In Berbiguières a great spotted woodpecker dashed through, close but very quickly, as we stood by the bridge. Wearing lots of warm layers on this cool day we walked through the pretty village and as we looked back over the intricate pattern of roofs below the chateau there was a burst of the 'bubbling' call of a female cuckoo.



Pretty Berbiguières.

We turned by the yellow-topped post and up a path through a wood until we met the quiet road along the crest of the ridge. It was then orchids, orchids, orchids, with man orchid especially numerous to start with, probably several hundred in total. It was good to see some orchid-rich verges marked with string, plainly a sign not to cut, protecting everything from gone over lady orchids to still-to-flower lizard orchids. There was a good sprinkling of woodcock and bee orchids plus many spikes of violet birdnest orchid.



Man orchid with early morning dew; a hybrid of monkey orchid and lady orchid *Orchis simia x purpurea* with a small Roesel's bush-cricket; white helleborine at Montalieu Haut.

Two woodlarks landed on a dead tree and stayed there as we admired them through the telescope. A third bird on the same tree was a tree pipit. Mostly we stuck to the road but we dived off into an open area planted with small holm oaks – truffle oaks, in practice. There was enough warmth at this point to bring out a Berger's clouded yellow, which was caught and admired, plus some ascalaphids. Jim photographed a red-veined darter in the same area. Back by the road, another area marked with string was especially good for burnt-tip orchids.

We went almost to the end of the road before retracing our steps, noting fly honeysuckle alongside the many small trees of St Lucie's cherry. Then an orchid we'd missed caught my eye and I quickly realised it was the same extraordinary monkey x lady orchid hybrid I'd found here two years ago. A small Roesel's bush-cricket on the flower head added to the experience. Red helleborine in bud was the final orchid before we found Gilles and lunch by the field shared by some sheep and a huge number of pyramidal orchids.

After picnics Gilles showed us the birdnest orchids he'd found tucked away under the trees. There were also greater butterfly orchids here and we added pignut and bitter vetchling to the list before setting off for Montalieu Haut.

The sun showed briefly but it soon clouded over and remained cool, but at least it was dry as we descended. The first and narrow bit of the path had Montpellier maple growing by field maple for easy comparison, plus Mediterranean coriaria and Mediterranean buckthorn.

A white helleborine was a surprise new orchid: it looked like the leaves had been trimmed by an earlier grass cut but the flowers had come on nicely since. That made 23 orchid species so far, including those in bud and the hybrid.

As the path turned right there was a group of bastard balm flowers in pink or white, then many more later. The yellow pea argyrolobium and wild candytuft were unfamiliar new flowers; stinking hellebore and narrow-leaved lungwort were easier to recognise. It was generally too cool for butterflies but near the minibus at the bottom of the walk Glanville and meadow fritillaries showed, plus a single Adonis blue. Intensely-coloured blue gromwell flowers were at first tucked under the hedge until Beryl pointed out we could see them well from the other side. A medium-sized aquatic mammal dropped into a pond just after we set off – a coypu perhaps? – though the glimpses weren't enough to confirm an ID.

The drive back took us to the impressive villages-on-a-rock of La Roque-Gageac and Beynac, though as it was raining by now, plus a brief hailstorm, we didn't stop here, nor in St Cyprien where we passed one of Gilles's offices. Over tea and checklists we said farewell to Olivia who was heading back to her studies in Toulouse. Dinner was green soup, eggs 'mimosa' with tuna and salad for starter, *confit de canard* with ratatouille, cheese and strawberries.

Monday 14 May – Keith's walk

Spits of rain, then getting worse, meant the EMW for David B, Shevaun and me was more about fresh air and exercise than birdwatching. Still, there was a nightingale in full song just before Lagrave, and common redstarts in song at three places confirmed the impression that a once occasional bird here is now well established.

Jim and Diana used the wet day to drive to their Dordogne base and prepare for guests arriving soon, so that meant seven of us taking part in Honeyguide's Monday routine with Keith as guide, taking advantage of his local knowledge and background as a surveyor. The steady rain certainly limited the wildlife element as we looked, from a distance, at the *pigeonnier* (pigeon house) in a meadow, re-roofed since I last saw it so no longer under risk of collapse even if the job was not done to Keith's preferred standard. Almost under the path by a plantation of walnut trees was a now abandoned and overgrown *abreuvoir*, a combined sluice/cattle trough on a seasonal stream on former pasture. We looked at an old tobacco barn and roof tiles, ancient and modern, in Les Valades. Cathy picked up three of the group and the rest of us completed the rainy circuit by looking at the various water-based uses of a *lavoir* close to Castang.

After lunch, Shevaun and I watched the firecrest in Castang's garden come to life at the playback of another firecrest's song. That apart, it was essentially a case of 'rain stopped play' and the free afternoon was spent reading, writing postcards, playing or listening to music. Some ID checking established that the mini-beast on the carpet in David N and Shevaun's room was a glow-worm larva and that yesterday we'd seen the husk of thorn-apple fruit.

Dinner was vegetable soup, *paté*, beef with French beans, cheese and lemon (let's-not-call-it-drizzle-after-today's-weather) cake.

Tuesday 15 May – Le Bugue and the cave walk

A female great spotted woodpecker was eating cherries in the tree by our usual pre-breakfast gathering point on a dry, if a little gloomy, start to the day. We had no luck in finding a red squirrel in the wood.

Breakfast (8:30) and departure (9:30) were both a little earlier than usual to allow time for the morning market at Le Bugue. But we started on the hill above the town where Bonelli's warblers were singing in the open wood of oak and pine, and we had very good views. There were lots of orchids, too, including a single spike of long-lipped serapias; white (or Pyrenean) flax, *fumana* and *mignonette* were new flowers.

Walking down the hill we stopped to look at ivy broomrape, saw our first dunnock and a fine male black redstart in the road. We took especial care to look at a small patch of land behind a chain by an old piece of farm machinery. As well as some fine man orchids and almost-out lizard orchids there were two small orchids that had gone over. Later study of a photo strongly suggests these were yellow bee orchids, exactly where a Honeyguide group had seen them five years ago.

We split up for shopping in Le Bugue's weekly market though all gathered for coffee at Bar Menhir at the far end of the street with the market. The walk to our rendezvous with Gilles took us along the Vézère River by which the tiny *Campanula erinus* was growing in walls, the odd sand martin was glimpsed and Jim caught sight of a kingfisher. Picnics were eaten nearby overlooking the river.

Shortly after the start of the 'cave walk' we dropped off the main track into a rich meadow where there were many loose-flowered orchids in the damper parts as well as large numbers of burnt-tip and pyramidal orchids where it was drier. Yellow rattle and dropwort were new flowers here. A second diversion was inspired by Jim's exploration that found more military orchids, then a swarm of bees attached to a branch.

It was Beryl who saw the fragrant orchids, a group of five. Fragrant orchids have recently been 'split' into three species, and later study of photos revealed characteristics of marsh fragrant orchid, *Gymnadenia densiflora*, which (like chalk fragrant orchid) can occur on chalk downland as well as alkaline fens. See caption for details. Though fragrant orchids are common in many areas, it was a new species for Honeyguide in the Dordogne – in some ways a surprising omission in the past.



Marsh fragrant orchids *Gymnadenia densiflora* have robust, dark pink flower-spikes. The flowers have a lip that is broader than long with prominent lobes and the 'wings' (lateral sepals) are held roughly horizontal, rather than drooping.

Yvonne then noticed a black-veined white butterfly. Though the weather was dry now it was still too cool and cloudy for the range of butterflies one might hope for, but this was different as this black-veined white was plainly just emerging from the adjacent shell of its chrysalis. Back on the main path there was a stream of orchids to enjoy, albeit species we had seen previously, with many fly orchids and greater butterfly orchids especially notable. There was another good view of a Bonelli's warbler, this one in a small juniper.

Fairly open limestone scrub turned to woodland. Here we turned left then the path kinked right as we walked up the slope, emerging from the wood into a meadow thick with sulphur clover plus a scattering of both tongue orchid species. The search was then on for sombre bee orchids, which proved hard to find: just a handful of undersized plants and flowers for what is already a small species. They have been common here: my impression was that they were doing less well this year on account of the strong growth of other plants in a wet season coupled with the lack of the usual horse grazing here.

After meeting Gilles and some leaving bags in the minibus, several of the group enjoyed the 'crystal cathedral' experience of the Gouffre de Proumeyssac. It's a few years since I'd done the tour and it reminded me how the impressive physical nature of the cavern, its geological origins and social history make for an interesting mix, even if the light and sound show is somewhat corny. Gilles and minibus were now in the big lower car park where a nuthatch hopped along the ground as well on oak tree trunks. We all had tea back at Castang.

After dinner – of spinach soup, melon with port, maigret (breast) of duck with carrots, cheese and vacheron – most of us plus Keith walked to Lagrave to look for midwife toads. There was a persistent chorus of calls – loud would overstate the subtle sound – but finding one to see wasn't easy. Eventually I found two on an open area of paving, a male and a female. The female toad quickly disappeared into a cavity under the nearby wall but the male, carrying eggs on his lower back and hind legs, stayed there long enough for everyone to see him well.



Midwife toad; young raven on the nest.

Wednesday 16 May – Roque St-Christophe and Font de Gaume

We concentrated on bird songs and calls in the rather damp pre-breakfast conditions, including a female golden oriole's 'cat call' where we'd seen orioles before.

We drove past Les Eyzies and Font de Gaume and used the entrance to Cap Blanc to turn around for both vehicles (Jim and Diana were following the minibus in their car) to face the right way. We spent the next hour and a bit pottering along the quiet road that goes through a very wet meadow – as in standing water – with a rather different wildlife community. Diana discovered a lovely western demoiselle, close and still in the cool. Then we noticed azure damselflies and looked at ID features such as the 'Coenagrion spur' with the help of Jim's photo.

David N was alert to a Cetti's warbler that then called regularly. Marsh spurge was abundant, and a little farther up we found several early marsh orchids. In the meantime we'd located three juvenile ravens: one was on a nest in a hole in the cliff overlooking the marsh and two, clearly recently fledged, were taking rather tentative steps and flights in and around two large poplars. A turtle dove called but didn't show itself.

We moved on a short distance to a convenient pull-off for an early picnic lunch. It was by a big hide overlooking meadows, the hide with deer in mind, it said, presumably in autumn/winter. A nightingale sang from scrub and a superb southern white admiral landed first on the car then on a bloom of dogwood, the butterfly brought out by the warming weather. Next to the southern white admiral was a fine long-horned beetle *Cerambyx scopolii*.

At Font de Gaume we met Cathy and Keith and two friends of theirs, taking advantage of us having secured places on a tour of this celebrated prehistoric site with such limited access. The walk up to the cave entrance was botanically rich: pink convolvulus, white rockrose, yellow woundwort and the fern wall rue were all new plants, and large wall brown was a good butterfly to see close to. Our guide was quite an inspiration with excellent English, enriched by a strong French accent, with a clear enthusiasm for the polychromatic cave paintings of bison and deer that date from a colder period 14,000 – 15,000 years BP.



Southern white admiral; group members about to enter the cave of Font de Gaume.

At Roque St-Christophe we started with a drink and/or an ice cream. Some then visited the troglodyte caves. Beryl and I moved straight to the dry slopes above the woodland, finding bug orchids in bud.

Lower down in a wildlife-rich meadow we found Duke of Burgundy butterfly as did David N and Shevaun searching separately. Descending though the lower meadow there were many common spotted orchids as well as previously recorded orchid species, plus rampion bellflower, wood scabious and adder's-tongue fern.

A short drive took us under the cliff and we immediately located two big peregrine chicks in their regular nest site. Crag martins and meadow saxifrage were also new.

We shared holiday highlights (noted overleaf) and afterwards some songs at our final evening meal of vegetable soup, egg and crab paté, chicken in tarragon sauce with two whole cauliflowers to share, cheese and finally crème anglaise.

Thursday 17 May – Bergerac and home

The pre-breakfast walk again didn't yield a red squirrel, but we did see a hoopoe in the open wood where the song of common redstart revealed there was a fourth local territory. A golden oriole flew through as we walked back for breakfast.

After group photos Jim and Diana headed off to Bergerac, taking David and Yvonne to the airport for the earlier Southampton flight. The rest of us walked through Lagrave onto the Le Coux road and turned left down the avenue of irises to Les Tyssanderies where the quiet road wound through a small but pretty group of properties and gardens. We found a fifth common redstart territory and added various plants to the week's list, mostly ruderal species. We ended up in a dry meadow that held a selection of orchid species, though still no lizard orchid that was in flower. A Berger's clouded yellow attracted less attention than a close Mother Shipton moth.



Mother Shipton moth, with what looks like a witch's face on the wing; a wall lizard for Will, at last.

With the day warming, butterflies were coming out when we returned to Castang's meadow, with small heath and knapweed fritillary new sightings for the week. Will was especially pleased to see the wall lizards near the back door.

Eric was our driver for the hour's journey in the minibus to Bergerac Airport, where we found some benches to sit on, listening to a singing nightingale and watching goldfinches on a maidenhair tree while eating the picnics that Cathy had prepared. The return flight to Stansted was straightforward.

Group members' holiday highlights

- | | |
|---------|--|
| Shevaun | Firecrest; midwife toad; cheerful and ubiquitous pyramidal orchids. |
| Diana | Midwife toad; 'two views' walk at Berbiguières, especially the orchids behind the protection of marked areas; demoiselle. |
| Beryl | The patch of two types of tongue orchids at Castang; Chris's expertise. |
| Will | Wild flower meadows; black-veined white; ravens and peregrines |
| Yvonne | The view of the hoopoe on the first morning; finding black-veined white butterfly with its chrysalis shell; profusion of wild flowers. |
| David B | Finding the golden oriole; hoopoes; colourful meadows. |
| Jim | The two views walk and limestone meadows with broomrapes and orchids; the bee swarm. |
| David N | Flower-filled meadows; common redstart singing daily at Castang; kneeling down and smelling the fragrant orchid. |
| Chris | Fragrant orchid; midwife toad; two tongue orchid species together at Castang.
The food and hospitality at Castang by popular acclaim. |



Large wall brown; Duke of Burgundy.

WILDLIFE LISTS

BIRDS H = heard only

Little egret	Great spotted woodpecker	Chiffchaff H
Cormorant	Woodlark	Firecrest
Grey heron	Tree pipit	Long-tailed tit
Mute swan	Sand martin	Blue tit
Mallard	Crag martin	Great tit
Black kite	Swallow	Nuthatch
Red kite	House martin	Short-toed treecreeper
Buzzard	Grey wagtail	Golden oriole
Kestrel	White wagtail	Jay
Peregrine	Wren H	Magpie
Red-legged partridge	Robin	Jackdaw
Common sandpiper	Nightingale H	Carrion crow
Feral pigeon	Black redstart	Raven
Woodpigeon	Common redstart	Starling
Collared dove	Blackbird	House sparrow
Turtle dove H	Song thrush	Tree sparrow
Cuckoo H	Mistle thrush	Chaffinch
Swift	Cetti's warbler H	Serin
Kingfisher	Melodious warbler H	Greenfinch
Hoopoe	Blackcap	Goldfinch
Green woodpecker	Bonelli's warbler	Girll bunting

MAMMALS, REPTILES AND AMPHIBIANS			
Mole (tunnels/ hills)	Wild boar (rootings)	Wall lizard	Midwife toad
Fire salamander	Pool frog	Common frog	
BUTTERFLIES			
Swallowtail	Holly blue	Red admiral	Speckled wood
Scarce swallowtail	Brown argus	Glanville fritillary	Large wall brown
Black-veined white	Adonis blue	Knapweed fritillary	Mallow skipper
Berger's clouded yellow	Common blue	Meadow fritillary	
Brimstone	Duke of Burgundy	Weaver's (violet) fritillary	Grizzled skipper
Wood white	Southern white admiral	Small heath	
MOTHS			
British checklist numbers from Waring & Townsend			
170 Five-spot burnet	2021 Pine processionary (tent)	Micro-moth Spindle ermine (caterpillar/tent)	
1952 Common heath	2462 Mother Shipton		
	2463 Burnet companion		
OTHER INSECTS			
Western demoiselle	Robin's pincushion, gall caused by the larvae of a tiny gall wasp, <i>Dipoloepis rosae</i>		
Azure damselfly	<i>Ectophasia crassipennis</i> , a parasitic fly		
Broad-bodied chaser	Capricorn beetle <i>Cerambyx scopolii</i>		
Red-veined darter	Rosemary beetle <i>Chrysolina americana</i>		
Ascalaphid <i>Libelluloides coccajus</i>	Glow-worm larva		
<i>Oxythyrea funesta</i> a chafer	<i>Oxythyrea funesta</i> a chafer		
European hornet <i>Vespa crabro</i>	<i>Graphosoma italicum</i> – a black and red shield bug		
Paper wasp <i>Polistes dominula</i>	Seven-spot ladybird		
Honey bee	Roesel's bush-cricket		
Violet carpenter bee	Water skater		
OTHER INVERTEBRATES			
Roman (edible) snail		Slug <i>Arion ater</i>	



Graphosoma italicum; Capricorn beetle *Cerambyx scopolii*, a longhorn beetle.

PLANTS

Most species are in The Wild Flowers of Britain and Northern Europe by Fitter, Fitter & Blamey.
Others, in bold, are marked as follows: M = Mediterranean flora A = Alpine flora *Inula montana* is in neither!
NiF = not in flower P = planted

ACERACEAE (Maple)	
<i>Acer campestre</i>	Field maple
<i>Acer monspessulanus</i>	Montpelier maple
<i>Acer negundo</i> P	Box elder
ARACEAE (Arum)	
<i>Arum italicum</i>	Large (or italian) lords & ladies
ARALIACEAE (Ivy)	
<i>Hedera helix (hibernica)</i>	Ivy
ASCLEPIADACEAE (Milkweed)	
<i>Vincetoxicum hirundinaria</i>	Swallow-wort
BETULACEAE (Birch)	
<i>Alnus glutinosa</i>	Alder
BORAGINACEAE (Borage)	
<i>Borago officinalis</i>	Borage
<i>Cynoglossum creticum</i>	Blue houndstongue M
<i>Lithospermum purpureocaerulea</i>	Blue (or purple) gromwell
<i>Lithospermum officinale</i>	Common gromwell
<i>Myosotis arvensis</i>	Field forget-me-not
<i>Pulmonaria longifolia</i>	Narrow-leaved lungwort
<i>Symphytum tuberosum</i>	Comfrey
<i>Symphytum officinale</i>	Tuberous comfrey NiF
CAMPANULACEAE (Bellflower)	
<i>Campanula erinus</i>	M
<i>Campanula rapunculoides</i>	Rampion bellflower
<i>Legousia speculum-veneris</i>	Large Venus's looking-glass
CAPRIFOLIACEAE (Honeysuckle)	
<i>Lonicera periclymenum</i>	Honeysuckle NiF
<i>Lonicera xylosteum</i>	Fly honeysuckle
<i>Sambucus ebulus</i>	Dwarf elder NiF
<i>Sambucus nigra</i>	Elder
<i>Viburnum lanata</i>	Wayfaring tree
CARYOPHYLLACEAE (Pink)	
<i>Arenaria serpyllifolia</i>	Thyme-leaved sandwort
<i>Cerastium fontanum</i>	Common mouse-ear
<i>Lychnis flos-cuculi</i>	Ragged robin
<i>Sagina procumbens</i>	Procumbent pearlwort
<i>Silene alba</i>	White campion
<i>Silene nutans</i>	Nottingham catchfly
<i>Silene vulgaris</i>	Bladder campion
<i>Stellaria holostea</i>	Greater stitchwort
<i>Stellaria media</i>	Chickweed
CELASTRACEAE (Spindle)	
<i>Euonymus europaeus</i>	Spindle
CISTACEAE (Cistus)	
<i>Fumana procumbens</i>	Common fumana
<i>Helianthemum appenninum</i>	White rockrose
<i>Helianthemum nummularium</i>	Common rockrose
COMPOSITAE (Daisy)	
<i>Achillea millefolium</i>	Yarrow NiF
<i>Arctium minus</i>	Lesser burdock
<i>Artemisia vulgaris</i>	Mugwort NiF
<i>Bellis perennis</i>	Perennial daisy
<i>Carduus tenuiflorus</i>	Slender thistle
<i>Carlina vulgaris</i>	Carlina thistle
<i>Centaurea nigra</i>	Black knapweed
<i>Cirsium dissectum</i>	Meadow thistle
<i>Cirsium palustre</i>	Marsh thistle
<i>Cirsium vulgare</i>	Spear thistle NiF
<i>Hieracium maculatum</i>	Spotted hawkweed
<i>Inula montana</i>	NiF
<i>Lactuca serriola</i>	Prickly lettuce
<i>Lapsana communis</i>	Nipplewort
<i>Leucanthemum vulgare</i>	Ox-eye daisy
<i>Pilosella officinarum</i>	Mouse-ear hawkweed
<i>Senecio jacobea</i>	Ragwort
<i>Senecio vulgaris</i>	Groundsel

COMPOSITAE (cont'd)	
<i>Sonchus asper</i>	Prickly sow-thistle
<i>Sonchus oleraceus</i>	Smooth sow-thistle
<i>Taraxacum</i> (group)	Dandelion
<i>Tragopogon pratensis</i>	Jack go to bed at noon.
CONVOLVULACEAE (Bindweed)	
<i>Convolvulus arvensis</i>	Field bindweed
<i>Convolvulus cantabricus</i>	Pink bindweed M
CORIARIACEAE (Coriaria)	
<i>Coriaria myrtifolia</i>	Mediterranean coriaria M
CORNACEAE (Cornus)	
<i>Cornus sanguinea</i>	Dogwood
CORYLACEAE (Hazel)	
<i>Corylus avellana</i>	Hazel
CORYLACEAE (Hornbeam)	
<i>Carpinus betulus</i>	Hornbeam
CRASSULACEAE (Stonecrop)	
<i>Sedum acre</i>	Biting stonecrop
<i>Sedum album</i>	White stonecrop
<i>Umbilicus rupestris</i>	Navelwort/wall pennywort
CRUCIFERAE (Cress)	
<i>Alliaria petiolata</i>	Garlic mustard
<i>Arabis glabra</i>	Tower mustard
<i>Capsella bursa-pastoris</i>	Shepherd's-purse
<i>Cardamine impatiens</i>	Narrow-leaved bittercress
<i>Hesperis matronalis</i>	Dame's violet
<i>Iberis amara</i>	Wild candytuft
<i>Nasturtium officinale</i>	Watercress
<i>Sisymbrium officinale</i>	Hedge mustard
<i>Thlaspi alpestre</i>	Alpine pennycress
CUCURBITACEAE (Gourd)	
<i>Bryonia cretica</i>	White bryony
CUPRESSACEAE (Cypress)	
<i>Juniperus communis</i>	Juniper
DIOSCOREACEAE (Yam)	
<i>Tamus communis</i>	Black bryony
DIPSACACEAE (Scabious)	
<i>Knautia arvensis</i>	Field scabious
<i>Knautia dipsacifolia</i>	Wood scabious
<i>Dipsacus fullonum</i>	Teasel
EUPHORBIACEAE (Spurge)	
<i>Euphorbia amygdaloides</i>	Wood spurge
<i>Euphorbia cyparissias</i>	Cypress spurge
<i>Euphorbia hyberna</i>	Irish spurge
<i>Euphorbia lathyris</i>	Caper spurge
<i>Euphorbia peplus</i>	Petty spurge
<i>Euphorbia palustris</i>	Marsh spurge
<i>Mercurialis perennis</i>	Dog's mercury
FAGACEAE (Oak)	
<i>Aesculus hippocastanum</i>	Horse chestnut P
<i>Castanea sativa</i>	Sweet chestnut
<i>Quercus ilex</i>	Evergreen/holm oak
<i>Quercus petraea</i>	Sessile oak
<i>Quercus pubescens</i>	Downy oak
FUMARIACEAE (Fumitory)	
<i>Fumaria officinalis</i>	Common fumitory
GENTIANACEAE (Gentian)	
<i>Blackstonia perfoliata</i>	Yellow-wort NiF
GERANIACEAE (Geranium)	
<i>Erodium cicutarium</i>	Common storksbill
<i>Geranium columbinum</i>	Long-stalked cranesbill
<i>Geranium dissectum</i>	Cut-leaved cranesbill
<i>Geranium molle</i>	Dovesfoot cranesbill
<i>Geranium purpureum</i>	Little robin
<i>Geranium pusillum</i>	Small-flowered cranesbill
<i>Geranium robertianum</i>	Herb robert
<i>Geranium rotundifolium</i>	Round-leaved cranesbill

GERANIACEAE (cont'd)	
<i>Geranium sanguineum</i>	Bloody cranesbill
GLOBULARIACEAE (Globularia)	
<i>Globularia vulgaris</i>	Globularia
GRAMINEAE (Grasses, very incomplete)	
<i>Briza media</i>	Common quaking-grass
<i>Dactylis glomerata</i>	Cocksfoot
<i>Hordeum murinum</i>	Wall barley
<i>Melica uniflora</i>	Wood melick
HYPERICACEAE (Hypericum)	
<i>Hypericum perforatum</i>	Perforate St.John's wort NiF
IRIDACEAE (Iris)	
<i>Iris pseudacorus</i>	Yellow flag iris
JUGLANDACEAE (Walnut)	
<i>Juglans regia</i>	Walnut
LABIATAE (Mint)	
<i>Ajuga genevensis</i>	Blue bugle
<i>Ajuga reptans</i>	Common bugle
<i>Glechoma hederacea</i>	Ground Ivy
<i>Lamium galeobdolon</i>	Yellow archangel
<i>Lamium purpureum</i>	Red dead-nettle
<i>Lavandula angustifolia</i>	Lavender M NiF
<i>Melittis melissophyllum</i>	Bastard balm
<i>Mentha aquatica</i>	Water mint NiF
<i>Mentha suaveolens</i>	Apple (round-leaved) mint NiF
<i>Origanum vulgare</i>	Marjoram NiF
<i>Salvia pratensis</i>	Meadow clary
<i>Salvia verbenaca</i>	Wild clary
<i>Stachys recta</i>	Yellow woundwort
<i>Teucrium chamaedrys</i>	Wall germander NiF
<i>Thymus serpyllum</i>	Wild thyme
LEMNACEAE (Duckweed)	
<i>Lemna minor</i>	Common/Lesser duckweed
LILIACEAE (Lily)	
<i>Allium</i> sp.	a leek NiF
<i>Muscari atlanticum</i>	Grape hyacinth NiF
<i>Muscari comosum</i>	Tassel hyacinth
<i>Ornithogalum pyrenaicum</i>	Bath asparagus/Spiked star-of-Bethlehem
<i>Ornithogalum umbellatum</i>	Common star-of-Bethlehem
<i>Ruscus aculeatus</i>	Butcher's broom
LINACEAE (Flax)	
<i>Linum bienne</i>	Pale flax
<i>Linum catharticum</i>	Fairy (=purging) flax
<i>Linum suffruticosum</i>	Pyrenean or white flax
OLEACEAE (Olive)	
<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	Ash
<i>Ligustrum vulgare</i>	Wild privet
ORCHIDACEAE (Orchid)	
<i>Aceras anthropophorum</i>	Man orchid
<i>Anacamptis pyramidalis</i>	Pyramidal orchid
<i>Cephalanthera damasonium</i>	White helleborine
<i>Cephalanthera longifolia</i>	Narrow-leaved helleborine
<i>Cephalanthera rubra</i>	Red helleborine (bud)
<i>Dactylorhiza fuchsii</i>	Common spotted orchid
<i>Dactylorhiza incarnata</i>	Early marsh orchid
<i>Epipactis atrorubens</i>	Dark red helleborine
<i>Epipactis helleborine</i>	Broad-leaved helleborine NiF
<i>Gymnadenia (conopsea) densiflora</i>	Marsh fragrant orchid
<i>Himantoglossum hircinum</i>	Lizard orchid NiF
<i>Limodorum abortivum</i>	Violet birdsnest orchid (= limodor)
<i>Listera ovata</i>	Common twayblade
<i>Neottia nidus-avis</i>	Birdsnest orchid
<i>Ophrys apifera</i>	Bee orchid

ORCHIDACEAE (cont'd)	
<i>Ophrys fusca</i>	Sombre bee orchid M
<i>Ophrys insectifera</i>	Fly orchid
<i>Ophrys lutea</i>	Yellow bee orchid M
<i>Ophrys scolopax</i>	Woodcock orchid M
<i>Ophrys sphegodes</i>	Early spider orchid
<i>Orchis (coriofora) fragrans</i>	Bug orchid (bud)
<i>Orchis laxiflora</i>	Loose-flowered orchid
<i>Orchis militaris</i>	Military orchid
<i>Orchis morio</i>	Green-winged orchid
<i>Orchis purpurea</i>	Lady orchid
<i>Orchis purpurea x simia (hybrid)</i>	Lady x monkey orchid
<i>Orchis ustulata</i>	Burnt-tip orchid
<i>Platanthera chlorantha</i>	Greater butterfly orchid
<i>Serapias lingua</i>	Tongue orchid M
<i>Serapias vomeracea</i>	Long-lipped serapias A M
OROBANCHACEAE (Broomrape)	
<i>Orobanche caryophyllacea (O. vulgaris)</i>	Clove-scented (bedstraw) broomrape
<i>Orobanche hederaceae</i>	Ivy broomrape
<i>Orobanche minor</i>	Common broomrape
OXALIDACEAE (Wood-sorrel)	
<i>Oxalis fontana</i>	Upright yellow oxalis
PAPAVERACEAE (Poppy)	
<i>Chelidonium majus</i>	Greater celandine
<i>Papaver rhoeas</i>	Common poppy
<i>Papaver somniferum</i>	Opium poppy NiF
PAPILIONACEAE (Pea)	
<i>Anthyllis vulneraria</i>	Kidney vetch
<i>Argyrolobium sanonii</i>	Argyrolobium M
<i>Cercis siliquastrum</i>	Judas tree M P
<i>Coronilla scorpioides</i>	Annual scorpion vetch M (bud)
<i>Genista pilosa</i>	Hairy greenweed
<i>Hippocrepis comosa</i>	Horseshoe vetch
<i>Lathyrus aphaca</i>	Yellow vetchling
<i>Lathyrus montanus (=L. linifolius)</i>	Bitter vetchling
<i>Lathyrus pratensis</i>	Meadow vetchling
<i>Lathyrus setifolius</i>	Brown vetch A, M
<i>Lotus corniculatus</i>	Birdsfoot trefoil
<i>Medicago arabica</i>	Spotted medick
<i>Medicago lupulina</i>	Black medick
<i>Medicago sativa</i>	Lucerne (= alfalfa) NiF
<i>Onobrychis vicifolia</i>	Sainfoin
<i>Robinia pseudacacia</i>	False acacia or Locust tree
<i>Robinia pseudacacia P</i>	False Acacia - 'Purple Robe'
<i>Spartium junceum</i>	Spanish Broom (introduced)
<i>Sarothamnus (=Cytisus) scoparius</i>	Broom
<i>Trifolium campestre</i>	Hop trefoil
<i>Trifolium pratense</i>	Red clover
<i>Trifolium repens</i>	White clover
<i>Trifolium ochroleum</i>	Sulphur clover
<i>Ulex europaeus</i>	Gorse
<i>Vicia orobus</i>	Upright vetch or wood bitter-vetch
<i>Vicia hirsuta</i>	Hairy tare
<i>Vicia sativa</i>	Common vetch
<i>Vicia sepium</i>	Bush vetch
PLANTAGINACEAE (Plantain)	
<i>Plantago lanceolata</i>	Ribwort plantain
<i>Plantago major</i>	Greater plantain
<i>Plantago media</i>	Hoary plantain
PLATANACEAE (Plane tree)	
<i>Platanus hybrida</i>	London plane

POLYGALACEAE (Milkwort)	
<i>Polygala calcarea</i>	Chalk milkwort
<i>Polygala vulgaris</i>	Common milkwort
POLYGONACEAE (Dock)	
<i>Rumex acetosa</i>	Common sorrel
<i>Rumex acetosella</i>	Sheep's sorrel
<i>Rumex crispus</i>	Curled dock
<i>Rumex obtusifolius</i>	Broad-leaved dock
<i>Polygonum aviculare</i>	Knotgrass
PRIMULACEAE (Primrose)	
<i>Primula veris</i>	Cowslip
PTERIDOPHYTA (Fern)	
<i>Adiantum capillus-veneris</i>	Maidenhair fern
<i>Asplenium adiantum-nigrum</i>	Black spleenwort
<i>Asplenium ruta-muraria</i>	Wall rue
<i>Asplenium trichomanes</i>	Maidenhair spleenwort
<i>Ceterach officinarum</i>	Rusty-back fern
<i>Dryopteris filix-mas</i>	Male fern
<i>Ophioglossum vulgatum</i>	Adderstongue
<i>Phyllitis scolopendrium</i>	Hart's-tongue fern
<i>Pteridium aquilinum</i>	Bracken
<i>Polystichum setiferum</i>	Soft shield fern
<i>Polypodium vulgare</i>	Common polypody
RANUNCULACEAE (Buttercup)	
<i>Aquilegia vulgaris</i>	Common columbine
<i>Clematis vitalba</i>	Traveller's joy NiF
<i>Helleborus foetidus</i>	Stinking hellebore
<i>Ranunculus acris</i>	Meadow buttercup
<i>Ranunculus bulbosus</i>	Bulbous buttercup
<i>Ranunculus lingua</i>	Greater spearwort
<i>Ranunculus penicillatus</i>	Stream water-crowfoot
<i>Ranunculus repens</i>	Creeping buttercup
<i>Thalictrum minus</i>	Lesser meadow rue
RESEDAACEAE (Mignonette)	
<i>Reseda lutea</i>	Wild Mignonette
RHAMNACEAE (Buckthorn)	
<i>Rhamus alaternus</i>	Mediterranean buckthorn M
<i>Rhamus catharticus</i>	Buckthorn
ROSACEAE (Rose)	
<i>Aphanes arvensis</i>	Parsley piert
<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	Hawthorn
<i>Filipendula ulmaria</i>	Meadowsweet NiF
<i>Filipendula vulgaris</i>	Dropwort
<i>Fragaria vesca</i>	Wild strawberry
<i>Geum urbanum</i>	Herb bennet
<i>Potentilla reptans</i>	Creeping cinquefoil
<i>Prunus mahaleb</i>	St Lucie's cherry
<i>Prunus spinosa</i>	Blackthorn
<i>Rosa canina</i>	Dog rose
<i>Rubus fruticosus agg.</i>	Bramble
<i>Sanguisorbia minor</i>	Salad burnet
<i>Sorbus domestica</i>	True service tree P
<i>Sorbus torminalis</i>	Wild service tree

RUBIACEAE (Bedstraw)	
<i>Cruciata laevipes</i>	Crosswort
<i>Galium album</i> (<i>G. mollugo</i> ssp. <i>erectum</i>)	Upright hedge bedstraw
<i>Galium aparine</i>	Cleavers
<i>Sherardia arvensis</i>	Field madder
<i>Rubia peregrina</i>	Wild madder
SALICACEAE (Willow)	
<i>Populus alba</i>	White poplar
<i>Populus tremula</i>	Aspen
<i>Salix caprea</i>	Goat willow
<i>Salix fragilis</i>	Crack willow
SAXIFRAGACEA (Saxifrage)	
<i>Saxifraga granulata</i>	Meadow saxifrage
SCROPHULARIACEAE (Figwort)	
<i>Cymbalaria muralis</i>	Ivy-leaved toadflax
<i>Digitalis lutea</i>	Small yellow foxglove NiF
<i>Rhinanthus minor</i>	Yellow rattle
<i>Scrophularia auriculata</i>	Water figwort
<i>Veronica arvensis</i>	Wall speedwell
<i>Veronica chamaedrys</i>	Germander speedwell
<i>Veronica persica</i>	Common field speedwell
SOLANACEAE (Nightshade)	
<i>Datura stramonium</i>	Thorn-apple (seed head)
TILIACEAE (Lime)	
<i>Tilia cordata</i>	Small-leaved lime
ULMACEAE (Elm)	
<i>Ulmus minor</i>	Small-leaved elm
UMBELLIFERAE (Carrot) (= Apiaceae)	
<i>Anthriscus sylvestris</i>	Cow parsley
<i>Chaerophyllum temulentum</i>	Rough chervil
<i>Conopodium majus</i>	Pignut
<i>Eryngium campestre</i>	Field eryngo NiF
<i>Foeniculum vulgare</i>	Fennel NiF
<i>Heracleum sphondylium</i>	Hogweed
<i>Heracleum sphondylium</i> <i>var. sibiricum</i>	Hogweed (greenish flowered)
<i>Oenanthe pimpinelloides</i>	Corky-fruited water dropwort
<i>Sanicula europaea</i>	Sanicle
<i>Silaum silaus</i>	Pepper saxifrage
URTICACEAE (Nettle)	
<i>Parietaria judaica</i>	Pellitory-of-the-wall
<i>Urtica dioica</i>	Stinging nettle
VALERIANACEAE (Valerian)	
<i>Centranthus ruber</i>	Red valerian
<i>Valeriana officinalis</i>	Common valerian
<i>Valerianella locusta</i>	Cornsalad
VIOLACEAE (Violet)	
<i>Viola arvensis</i>	Field pansy/heartsease
<i>Viola riviniana</i>	Common dog violet



Bastard balm; western demoiselle.



AGIR pour la Refugeso

BIODIVERSITÉ

Un programme pour protéger la nature de proximité

To : Chris Durdin
Honeyguide Wildlife Holidays
36 Thunder Lane
Thorpe St Andrew
Norwich NR7 OPX

Rochefort, May 9th, 2018

Dear Chris,

LPO, French Birdlife partner, would like to thank you for your generous donation of Honeyguide Wildlife Charitable Trust, to our program "Refuges LPO" further to your wildlife holidays in Dordogne this year. Thanks to this support, we will be able to improve garden's wildlife protection and keep expand our sanctuaries Refuges network which represents today 24,000 protected sites, many of them private gardens and public parks, covering 30,000 ha all over France.

Many thanks for your support for birds and wildlife.

Best regards,

Stéphanie Berens
Urban Wildlife Manager
Ligue pour la Protection des Oiseaux

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