

The Best of Dorset's Wildlife

Naturetrek Tour Report

3 – 6 June 2014



Badger by Brian Nobbs



Bee Orchid by Ed Drewitt



Smooth Snake by Ed Drewitt



Sika Deer stag, Arne by Brian Nobbs

Report compiled by Ed Drewitt
Images courtesy of Ed Drewitt and Brian Nobbs



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Introduction

During this four-day holiday we packed in a huge variety of habitats, wildlife and landscapes to enjoy what Dorset has to offer. With the best grassland habitats in the country and seabirds nesting on nearby cliffs, Durlston Country Park provided a sunny introduction to the county. Our time the heathland was rewarded with all six species of UK reptiles as well as a range of birds including Dartford Warbler, Tree Pipit and Hobby. The reedbed habitats didn't disappoint and the group had close views of the secretive Bearded Tits while walkways were decorated with Bee Orchids and Southern Marsh Orchids. Badger watching enabled us to see three Badgers within metres of our hides during the evening sunlight. And a few hours on Charmouth beach gave everyone the chance to find their very own fossils that were once living squids and ammonites 200 millions years ago.

Day 1

Tuesday 3rd June

Our first tour in Dorset started off well as we headed off after a welcome to Durlston Cliffs near Swanage where we met our guide Ali to explore the special limestone grassland across Durlston Country Park. While we were waiting for Ali a Lesser Whitethroat was singing loudly from nearby bushes and a male Broad-bodied Chaser dragonfly was perched on the brambles. Ali showed us some incredible plants including many in flower ranging from the Corky-fruited Water Dropwort to fresh Common Spotted Orchids. One field was full of Oxeye Daisies while Yellow Rattle, a parasite of grass, was carpeting many of the areas we walked through. A former quarry is now lined with shallow alkaline soil ideal for Horseshoe Vetches, Bird's Foot Trefoil and an endemic to the UK and mainly found here in Dorset, the Early English Gentian. A pair of Yellowhammers were sat on top of a bush and a family of newly fledged Whitethroats were exploring along a scrubby stonewall.

After our fascinating tour with Ali we ventured down to the cliff wall and looked down to the sea below. Rafts of Guillemots were on the water and in amongst them we spotted a few Razorbills, black with a white line on their beaks. A few Fulmars glided along the cliff tops and Shags flew along the coastline. A Great Black-backed Gull was feeding on a dead seabird and further out at least half a dozen different Gannets flew by. A displaying Rock Pipit gave brief views as it parachuted down to the rocks below.

After popping into the visitor's centre we headed back to the vehicles (not before looking for some Bee Orchids which remained hidden!) and drove back to our cosy hotel in Corfe Castle ready for a delicious dinner in the evening before completing our species checklist and discussing the plan for the following day.

Day 2

Wednesday 4th June

After a delicious buffet and cooked breakfast we headed out to the RSPB's Arne Reserve, one of the most visited in the country. The area is a mix of habitats is predominantly heathland with some woodland, pools and estuary added in. Despite the rain we spent the morning exploring the heath and were quickly rewarded with a pair of Spotted Flycatchers nesting close to the car park. Song Thrushes and Blackcaps were in full song and across the heath we saw at least half a dozen Tree Pipits and a few Meadow Pipits, many in song. Two stunning male Stonechats showed well – the males have such a jet-black head at this time of the year. Green Woodpeckers were common and in the background we often heard a Cuckoo or two.

From a few vantage points we looked out onto some open, tidal water and short grassland where Canada Geese, a Sika Deer and a Shelduck were resting. The tide was rising, but out on tidal river which was half empty, a sleeping Spoonbill was hidden by a flowing ditch. Magically and out of nowhere, another three Spoonbills appeared further along, sweeping their bills side-to-side and snatching up small items of food. One was certainly an immature bird with black wing tips. Close by a family of Shelducks were feeding – the ducklings looked like mint humbugs! From the reserve hide we watched a Red Fox being dive-bombed by a crow and a male Roe Deer, with antlers and a fresh summer coat was feeding further along the tidal lagoon. With the blink of an eye a pipit was chasing off a Cuckoo – both disappeared behind some trees. On the mud and water we spotted Mallards, Shelducks and a single Gadwall while two Whimbrel, a Curlew, Redshanks, and a flock of Black-tailed Godwits were all spotted either on the mud or flying past.

As the rain eased off we headed back to the car park, stopping to look at a wood ant nest, busy with the ants themselves, and checked out a pool for Raft Spiders but to no avail. Back at the car park the small visitor centre was open with lots of natural history objects from Sika Deer skulls to Nightjar feathers on display. On the wall drawings of different individual Smooth Snakes that have been tagged revealed their unique spot patterns on their head and neck. Outside birdfeeders were at rush hour with Great Tits, Blue Tits, Chaffinches, a few Nuthatches, Siskins and a Greenfinch all feeding together. A family of Great Spotted Woodpeckers were in the oak tree nearby and the parents were coming down to the peanut feeder before taking the food back to the fledged young.

Just before lunch we headed down to the fields and the edge of some woodland where we heard another Cuckoo. Sika Deer were in abundance here – in small groups to begin with but as we headed back a herd of 50 or so appeared out of nowhere. The hedgerows supported Dunnock, Goldfinch and Chaffinch, while Swallows swooped low over nearby cows. Goldcrests were singing in pine trees all across the reserve, while Song Thrushes and a few Blackcaps sang in trees along the lane back to the car park.

We stopped for lunch at the Kings Arms in Stoborough and then headed for Charmouth, an hour's drive away. In the sunshine Ed introduced the cliffs and geology of the area and talked about Mary Anning who first found various important fossil back in the early 1800s. The cliffs were formed 200 million years ago when the UK was down near the Equator and shallow, tropical seas surrounded islands. Here lived the west's very own dinosaur (the *Thecodontosaurus*) alongside ammonites, belemnites, seadragons (Ichthyosaurs and Plesiosaurs) and much more. As we took time to scan the tide line which had been recently sieved and sorted by the outgoing tide everyone began to find fragments of belemnites, the internal bones of ancient squids, and the perfect fossils of ammonites that are now composed of Fool's Gold or iron pyrites. Some were more gnarled and knobbly, but you could still make out the shape of the ammonite. Elizabeth found a nautiloid, like an ammonite but with a single smooth shell that isn't divided up into segments. Everyone found an assortment of both ammonites and belemnites before we stopped for a hot drink (or an ice cream).

After dinner (which included a delicious local crab dish) we headed out back to Arne to listen for Nightjars. In the pouring rain we met our RSPB guide Michael and decided to hang on at the visitor's centre to let the rain ease off. Here we watched baby Buzzards being sheltered by their mum on the web camera, a baby Barn Owl in its nest, and an incubating Kestrel. Michael gave an introduction to the Nightjar and after half an hour we decided to brave the weather and walk to the favoured area. The rain did in fact ease off and four Swifts flew on the back of this weather front. At 9.30pm on the dot our first Nightjars began to sing – we heard three or four in total and cup our ears to hear them better. The cool, damp air meant they didn't sing for long, ten minutes at most. We continued to explore the heath and walked around a circular route as it got darker and darker. We headed back to the buses, thanking Michael and headed back to the hotel, happy that despite the rain we did manage to hear the Nightjars, a first for many of the group.

Day 3

Thursday 5th June

The rain had cleared and we were greeted with sunshine and warmth. We headed out to the RSPB's Radipole Lake in Weymouth and spent the morning exploring this reedbed set in the middle of the town. Reed Warblers were singing throughout the reserve with their regular strumming notes while an obliging male Sedge Warbler sang from a bush with a more varied and grasshopper-like song. The location of Cetti's Warblers was easy to make out as they suddenly gave out their distinctive, explosive song, and in the distance we could hear the 'pinging' sounds of Bearded Tits. On a semi-circular boardwalk we paused to watch a few male and a female Bearded Tits flying across the reeds, sometimes come to feed low down on the water's edge where the fresh, new growth of reeds were growing. A male Pochard and tame Mallards were lingering nearby as we watched the tits in glorious, warm sunshine.

Coots were abundant along with a few Great Crested Grebes, Cormorants and Gadwall, just beginning to go into their summer eclipse plumage prior to moulting. Along the paths we found some Bee Orchids just flowering and looking very fresh, while further along tall Southern Marsh Orchids were flowering with bright purple spikes. From the hide a stunning male Marsh Harrier was quartering the reeds showing off its silver-grey wing patches, while a female was heading into the reeds in the far corner with some nest material. A flock of Gadwall were out on the water and a Little Egret was fishing by a pool. A pair of Common Terns were circling and fluttering over small areas of open water. Reed Buntings, House Sparrows and warblers were feeding in the herb-rich patches of vegetation. Dragonflies were flying around in the heat though not stopping long enough to identify while hairy, drinker moth caterpillars were common along the paths. As we headed back we had very close views of a male Bearded Tit feeding on the edge of some reeds – his black ‘moustache’, yellow bill, and elongated cream-orange body were easy to make out. Back by the visitor centre Tufted Ducks, Mallard and Herring Gulls were all very tame and looking for an easy meal.

After a quick coffee or tea we headed to the RSPB's Lodmoor reserve, an area of wetland and reeds squeezed between affluent housing and the seawall and road. Looking out across the reserve we encountered a few more Bearded Tits, including one flying across the reeds. A female Pochard was swimming along with her ducklings and a Great Crested Grebe also had some young. Gadwall, Mallards, and a male Shoveler were all present along with Little Grebe, Canada Geese, and Reed Bunting.

For lunch we stopped at the Taste Café, part of the Chesil Beach centre at Ferrybridge run by the Dorset Wildlife Trust. We had views out across the Fleet as the tide receded and were able to spot a few summer-plumage Sanderling, Turnstone, Ringed Plover, and Dunlin while eating our lunch which arrived very promptly. We then walked out onto Chesil Beach to look closer at the Little Tern colony that has 24-hour wardening and thanks to greater protection has 25 pairs of this dainty, rare tern nesting. We were able to see many sitting on eggs and over 20 birds chasing off gulls that dared to come too close. Up on the top of the shingle the breeze was pretty chilly so we headed back down where a few Linnets were flying over and lots of salt-loving plants or halophytes were growing on the saltmarsh, including Great Sea Spurrey and Common Glasswort.

We headed off to Portland Bill on the Isle of Portland close by and despite the breeze the air was very clear. We could see right along the coastline towards Dawlish in Wales in one direction, and towards Swanage in the other. The deep blue sea saw over 100 Guillemots and a few Razorbills bobbing around like miniature boats while Herring Gulls and a few Great Black-backed Gulls followed fishing boats coming back in after a day out on the sea. A few Rock Pipits displayed overhead and the odd Gannet flew low over the sea further out. After an ice cream we headed north for an hour to a pub, the Poacher's Inn, just outside of Dorchester for a delicious and very prompt starter and main.

At 6.30pm we drove just five minutes up the road to Henley Hillbillies for an evening of Badger watching. In soft evening sunshine we split ourselves between two hides and waited for just under an hour before our first badgers arrived. Between 7.30pm and 8.15pm we enjoyed watching up to three Badgers feeding metres away in front of us.

Their sett is under a nearby copse and in front of us the long grass was hiding peanuts and other foods put out for the mustelids. Well-trodden paths gave clue to where the three would appear from. Sniffing the air on their arrival they gradually got closer and closer; one even fed right under the hide where a new tunnel had been dug over the winter. We were able to enjoy looking closely at their silver coats, tiny eyes, and distinctive head and ear patterns. During our wait for them to appear there was plenty else to spot including a fox, a Wren, a Blackcap, corvids and Yellowhammers. When the last Badger disappeared we headed back to the vehicles with just enough time to stop off to listen to Nightjars near Corfe Castle. By 9.20pm most of the group heard a very loud Nightjar very close to the road, and Brian spotted one quite close in flight. As the beautiful sunset gave way to the darkness and silhouetted trees on the horizon a Cuckoo still sang in the distance and both Little Owl and a young Tawny Owl began to call. A Snipe drummed in the background and Jean caught sight of a Teal in flight. The Nightjars went silent and just after 10pm we headed back to the hotel for a well-earned sleep.

Day 4

Friday 6th June

With another bright day ahead we arrived at Arne at 8.45am and met Rob, our RSPB guide and an expert on the reptiles here. We headed first for the untidy farmyard – a perfect habitat for reptiles. Lifting up some felt and corrugated iron it wasn't long before Rob had found us two baby Slow Worms (with black bellies) and an adult female. Rob is trained in handling reptiles and has a licence to pick up the rare species. He carefully showed us the legless lizards up close. On the edge of a hedge near the yard a few young Bank Voles scuttled away and under another corrugated iron a male Adder, a more unusual species to see here on the reserve and predated by Smooth Snakes, was resting. Before heading back to the heath Rob managed to carefully capture a young Bank Vole – a definite contender for the cutest mammal of the holiday.

On the heath, despite a breeze, the temperature was rising and reptiles were becoming active. Rob managed to capture a male Common Lizard and show us his orange-yellow belly, long toes and cryptic back and tail. Near a pool we were able to see an adult Common Toad up close while a pair of Keeled Skimmers was resting on the heather. To help monitor the Smooth Snakes, a very rare snake in the UK, sheets of corrugated iron are placed in strategic circles on certain parts of the heath. Most sheets didn't have anything under them, but one had the shed skin of a rather long Smooth Snake that everyone was able to feel. One final sheet of iron came up trumps and Rob brought over a lovely, dark female Smooth Snake – and an individual he hadn't seen before. Each Smooth Snake has a distinctive pattern of spots on the back of their head and neck – these get recorded for a national database to monitor the species. This rather small-headed snake is a constrictor and feeds largely on other snakes and lizards. This female had recently been mated with and showed signs of a male snake clinging onto her upper side where the scales were slightly ruffled.

As the temperature rose for the rest of the morning we enjoyed seeing all the different plants including Ling, Bell Heather, Cross-leaved Heather, Bog Myrtle, Oblong and Round-leaved Sun Dew, and Cotton Grass. Bare patches were home to the bright red Matchstick Lichen and small holes along the track revealed old places where Sand Lizards has been testing out potential burrows to lay eggs.

A few Siskins and Linnets flew overhead while Tree Pipits and Stonechats were often spotted on the trees or bushes. A Peregrine flew overhead along with the odd Kestrel. Before lunch, we headed back to the part of the heath especially good for nightjars to look for more reptiles. Unusually for this area Rob found an adult Grass Snake basking under a sheet of corrugated iron. Perhaps the recent rain had encouraged it on to the heath to search for food. It had released its smelly, defensive poo onto Rob's hands and was certainly a good deterrent for would-be predators. It was playing dead, dropping its head and opening its mouth to look venomous. Once it was put back down and realised it was free, the snake dashed off remarkably quickly. Before we headed back a few stunning male Stonechats were seen, and in an area that was sheltered from the breeze we found two singing Dartford Warblers, including a male sat out on a bush showing off his purple-red breast.

After lunch at the Kings Arms in Stoborough we finished off the holiday by visiting Morten Bog, another area of heathland. In the hot sunshine we spotted more Stonechats and before we headed back had good views of three or four Hobbies swooping high and low across the heath catching dragonflies (and eating them in the air). It was worth looking through the passing gulls as one was an adult Mediterranean Gull. Dan, who also has a reptile licence found another adult female Smooth Snake for us to observe at close view. A Yellowhammer was singing near the roadside and a Mistle Thrush headed over the adjacent meadow. We headed back to the hotel to say our farewells, and dropped Gail, Victoria and Eve off at Wareham Station on our way there. Everyone was very pleased to catch up with so many species they had hoped to see for the very first time, and loved the variety of habitats, plants and birdlife that live here in Dorset.

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Group photo by Ed Drewitt



Grass Snake by Ed Drewitt

Species Lists

Birds (✓ = recorded but not counted; h = heard only)

	Common name	Scientific name	June			
			3	4	5	6
1	Mute Swan	<i>Cygnus olor</i>		1	✓	
2	Canada Goose	<i>Branta canadensis</i>		✓	✓	✓
3	Common Shelduck	<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>		✓	✓	✓
4	Gadwall	<i>Anas strepera</i>		1	✓	
5	Eurasian Teal	<i>Anas crecca</i>			1	
6	Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓
7	Common Pochard	<i>Aythya ferina</i>			✓	
8	Tufted Duck	<i>Aythya fuligula</i>			✓	
9	Red-legged Partridge	<i>Alectoris rufa</i>		2		
10	Common Pheasant	<i>Phasianus colchicus</i>		1	h	h
11	Little Grebe	<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>			✓	
12	Great Crested Grebe	<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>			✓	
13	Fulmar	<i>Fulmarus glacialis</i>	2			
14	Northern Gannet	<i>Morus bassanus</i>	✓		1	
15	Great Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>			✓	
16	European Shag	<i>Phalacrocorax aristotelis</i>	✓			
17	Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>	6		1	
18	Grey Heron	<i>Ardea alba</i>		3	✓	1
19	Eurasian Spoonbill	<i>Platalea leucorodia</i>		4		
20	Western Marsh Harrier	<i>Circus aeruginosus</i>			2	
21	Eurasian Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter nisus</i>			1	
22	Common Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓
23	Common Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	1	✓	✓	✓
24	Eurasian Hobby	<i>Falco subbuteo</i>				4
25	Peregrine Falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>				1
26	Common Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>			✓	
27	Common Coot	<i>Fulica atra</i>			✓	
28	Eurasian Oystercatcher	<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>	2			2
29	Common Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>			✓	
30	Dunlin	<i>Calidris alpina</i>			✓	
31	Sanderling	<i>Calidris alba</i>			2	
32	Common Snipe	<i>Gallinago gallinago</i>			h	
33	Black-tailed Godwit	<i>Limosa limosa</i>		10		
34	Whimbrel	<i>Numenius phaeopus</i>		2		
35	Eurasian Curlew	<i>Numenius arquata</i>		1		
36	Common Redshank	<i>Tringa totanus</i>		✓		
37	Ruddy Turnstone	<i>Arenaria interpres</i>			4	
38	Kittiwake	<i>Rissa tridactyla</i>			✓	
39	Black-headed Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓
40	Mediterranean Gull	<i>Ichthyaeetus melanocephalus</i>				1
41	European Herring Gull	<i>Larus argentatus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓
42	Great Black-backed Gull	<i>Larus marinus</i>	2		✓	
43	Little Tern	<i>Sternula albifrons</i>			20+	
44	Sandwich Tern	<i>Thalasseus sandvicensis</i>			3	
45	Common Tern	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>	2		✓	
46	Guillemot	<i>Uria aalge</i>	100+		✓	
47	Razorbill	<i>Alca torda</i>	2		2	

	Common name	Scientific name	June			
			3	4	5	6
48	Feral Pigeon	<i>Columba livia</i>	✓		✓	✓
49	Common Wood Pigeon	<i>Columba palumbus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓
50	Eurasian Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓
51	Common Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus canorus</i>		1 (3 h)	2 h	1 h
52	Little Owl	<i>Athene noctua</i>			h	
53	Tawny Owl	<i>Strix aluco</i>			h	
54	European Nightjar	<i>Caprimulgus europaeus</i>		h	2	
55	Common Swift	<i>Apus apus</i>		4	✓	✓
56	European Green Woodpecker	<i>Picus viridis</i>		2+	h	1
57	Great Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos major</i>		Family		h
58	Eurasian Skylark	<i>Alauda arvensis</i>	1		✓	h
59	Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓
60	House Martin	<i>Delichon urbicum</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓
61	Tree Pipit	<i>Anthus trivialis</i>		✓		✓
62	Meadow Pipit	<i>Anthus pratensis</i>	1		✓	✓
63	Eurasian Rock Pipit	<i>Anthus petrosus</i>	1		2+	
64	Pied Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba</i>		6	✓	
65	Winter Wren	<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>	h	h	1	h
66	Dunnock	<i>Prunella modularis</i>	✓	1	✓	
67	European Robin	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>	h	✓	✓	
68	Stonechat	<i>Saxicola torquatus</i>		3		2
69	Northern Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe oenanthe</i>		3		
70	Common Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>	h	1	h	h
71	Song Thrush	<i>Turdus philomelos</i>	h	h	h	h
72	Mistle Thrush	<i>Turdus viscivorus</i>		3+		1
73	Cetti's Warbler	<i>Cettia cetti</i>			✓	
74	Sedge Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus schoenobaenus</i>			1	
75	Eurasian Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus scirpaceus</i>			✓	
76	Eurasian Blackcap	<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>	h	2+	✓	✓
77	Lesser Whitethroat	<i>Sylvia curruca</i>	1		h	
78	Common Whitethroat	<i>Sylvia communis</i>	✓			
79	Dartford Warbler	<i>Sylvia undata</i>				2+
80	Common Chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>	6+	h	h	h
81	Goldcrest	<i>Regulus regulus</i>		h	h	✓
82	Spotted Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa striata</i>		2		1
83	Bearded Reedling	<i>Panurus biarmicus</i>			5+	
84	Long-tailed Tit	<i>Aegithalos caudatus</i>				✓
85	Eurasian Blue Tit	<i>Cyanistes caeruleus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓
86	Great Tit	<i>Parus major</i>	h	✓	✓	✓
87	Coal Tit	<i>Parus ater</i>		✓		h
88	Eurasian Nuthatch	<i>Sitta europaea</i>		2		1
89	Eurasian Jay	<i>Garrulus glandarius</i>		2		2
90	Eurasian Magpie	<i>Pica pica</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓
91	Western Jackdaw	<i>Corvus monedula</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓
92	Rook	<i>Corvus frugilegus</i>		✓	✓	✓
93	Carrion Crow	<i>Corvus corone</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓
94	Northern Raven	<i>Corvus corax</i>	3			
95	Common Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>		✓	✓	✓
96	House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>		✓	✓	✓
97	Chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>	h	✓	✓	✓

	Common name	Scientific name	June			
			3	4	5	6
98	European Greenfinch	<i>Carduelis chloris</i>	6+	✓	✓	✓
99	European Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>		✓	✓	✓
100	Linnet	<i>Carduelis cannabina</i>	h	2		4
101	Siskin	<i>Carduelis spinus</i>		✓		✓
102	Eurasian Bullfinch	<i>Pyrrhula pyrrhula</i>		2	4	
103	Yellowhammer	<i>Emberiza citrinella</i>	2		2	h
104	Common Reed Bunting	<i>Emberiza schoeniclus</i>		1	✓	1

Mammals

1	Red Fox	<i>Vulpes vulpes</i>	1	1	1	
2	Badger	<i>Meles meles</i>			3	
3	European Rabbit	<i>Oryctolagus cuniculus</i>			3	✓
4	Roe Deer	<i>Capreolus capreolus</i>		1		
5	Sika Deer	<i>Cervvus nippon</i>		✓	1	1
6	Grey Squirrel	<i>Sciurus carolinensis</i>		✓	✓	✓
7	Eurasian Water Shrew	<i>Neomys fodiens</i>				1
8	Common Shrew	<i>Sorex araneus</i>	h			
9	Bank Vole	<i>Myodes glareolus</i>				3

Reptiles

1	Adder	<i>Vipera berus</i>				1
2	Grass Snake	<i>Natrix natrix</i>				1
3	Smooth Snake	<i>Coronella austriaca</i>				2
4	Common or Viviparous Lizard	<i>Zootoca vivipara</i>				1
5	Sand Lizard	<i>Lacerta agilis</i>				1
6	Slow Worms	<i>Anguis fragilis</i>				4

Amphibians

1	Common Toad	<i>Bufo bufo</i>				1
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Selected Plants

1	Corky-fruited Water Dropwort	<i>Oenanthe pimpinelloides</i>	✓			
2	Hemlock Water Dropwort	<i>Oenanthe crocata</i>			✓	
3	Cow Parsley	<i>Anthriscus sylvestris</i>	✓			
4	Hogweed	<i>Heracleum sphondylium</i>	✓			
5	Wild Carrot	<i>Daucus carota</i>	✓			
6	Yellow Rattle	<i>Rhinanthus minor</i>	✓			
7	Common Flax	<i>Linum usitatissimum</i>	✓			
8	Fairy Flax	<i>Linum catharticum</i>	✓			
9	Bladder Campion	<i>Silene vulgaris</i>	✓			
10	Sea Campion	<i>Silene maritima</i>	✓		✓	
11	Red Campion	<i>Silene dioica</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓
12	Herb Robert	<i>Geranium robertianum</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓
13	Mallow	<i>Malva sylvestris</i>	✓			
14	Common Spotted Orchid	<i>Dactylorhiza fuchsii</i>	✓			
15	Bee Orchid	<i>Ophrys apifera</i>			✓	
16	Pyramidal Orchid	<i>Anacamptis pyramidalis</i>	✓			
17	Southern Marsh Orchid	<i>Dactylorhiza praetermissa</i>			✓	
18	Rough Hawkbit	<i>Leontodon hispidus</i>	✓			

	Common name	Scientific name	June			
			3	4	5	6
19	Salad Burnet	<i>Sanguisorba minor</i>	✓			
20	Horseshoe Vetch	<i>Hippocrepis comosa</i>	✓	✓	✓	
21	Bird's Foot Trefoil	<i>Lotus corniculatus</i>	✓			
22	Tor Grass	<i>Brachypodium pinnatum</i>	✓			
23	Glaucous Sedge	<i>Carex flacca</i>	✓			
24	Eyebright	<i>Euphrasia officinalis</i>	✓			
25	Centaury	<i>Centaureum erythraea</i>	✓			
26	Milkwort	<i>Polygala vulgaris</i>	✓			
27	Mouseear	<i>Cerastium fontanum</i>	✓			
28	Yarrow	<i>Achillea millefolium</i>	✓			
29	Wild Thyme	<i>Thymus serpyllum</i>	✓			
30	Early English Gentian	<i>Gentianella anglica</i>	✓			
31	Crosswort	<i>Cruciata laevipes</i>	✓			
32	Cut-leaved Cranesbill	<i>Geranium dissectum</i>	✓			
33	Stinking Iris	<i>Iris foetidissima</i>	✓			
34	Yellow Iris	<i>Iris pseudacorus</i>			✓	
35	Common Reed	<i>Phragmites australis</i>			✓	
36	Oxeye Daisies	<i>Leucanthemum vulgare</i>	✓			
37	Sainfoin	<i>Onobrychis viciifolia</i>	✓			
38	Ribwort Plantain	<i>Plantago lanceolata</i>	✓			
39	Common Broomrape	<i>Orobanche minor</i>	✓			
40	Bittersweet	<i>Solanum dulcamara</i>	✓			
41	Grass Vetchling	<i>Lathyrus nissolia</i>	✓			
42	Wild Clematis	<i>Clematis vitalba</i>	✓			
43	Ivy-leaved Toadflax	<i>Cymbalaria muralis</i>	✓			
44	Greater Sea Spurrey	<i>Spergularia media</i>			✓	
45	Common Glasswort	<i>Salicornia ramosissima</i>			✓	
46	Ling	<i>Calluna vulgaris</i>				✓
47	Bell Heather	<i>Erica cinerea</i>				✓
48	Cross-leaved Heather	<i>Erica tetralix</i>				✓
49	Bog Myrtle	<i>Myrica gale</i>				✓
50	Cotton Grass	<i>Eriophorum angustifolium</i>				✓
51	Round-leaved Sundew	<i>Drosera rotundifolia</i>				✓
52	Oblong-leaved Sundew	<i>Drosera intermedia</i>				✓
53	Matchstick Lichen	<i>Cladonia cristatella</i>				✓

Fossils

1	Pyritised Ammonites			✓		
2	Pyritised Nautiloids			✓		
3	Calcite and limestone Ammonites			✓		
4	Belemnites			✓		