

A trip to Hungary

8-14 August 2012



Report compiled by Bozena Kalejta-Summers

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Group Members

Bill Burlton
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Balazs Shigetti (guide and driver)



Summary:

Altogether, 118 species of birds were recorded on the trip, with no apparent winner as a bird of the trip. Also, five mammals, 11 invertebrates and 170 plant species were recorded.

Bird of the trip:

Bill : Hawfinch
Brian: Common Crane (coming to roost)
John: Lesser-spotted Woodpecker
Ian : Goshawk
Bozena: Long-eared Owl

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Itinerary

Day 1

8 October, Monday

We all met up at Dusseldorf airport and boarded a plane to Budapest together. On arrival, I panicked as no guide was waiting for us at the exit. Soon though, Balazs emerged and, after friendly greetings and introduction to new participants, we left.

The journey took us mainly through a flat landscape, where Magpie, Common Buzzard (at least four) and Green/Grey-headed Woodpecker were spotted. After just over an hour, we arrived at a lovely chalet-type accommodation on the outskirts of the village of Tiszafured.

It took us 15 minutes to sort ourselves out and we were on our way for an evening meal. The heads of some big specimen fishes decorated the walls of the restaurant and the owner joined us for a brief discussion about his fishing skills, showing us pictures of Pike and Perch Pike. We had bullion soup, followed by pork in a lovely mushroom sauce with dumplings. A fruit salad with almonds and raisins, topped with light cream, complemented the meal well.

Day 2

9 October, Tuesday

A bright sunny day with a blue sky welcomed us in the morning and encouraged us to do some birding on our doorstep. A quick stroll around the chalets produced Great Spotted Woodpecker, Syrian Woodpecker, Great Tit, Tree Sparrow, Great Tit, Collared Dove and Greylag Geese. After a hearty breakfast, some of us recorded four Little Terns flying overhead.

Soon after breakfast, we took off in the direction of the Hortobagy National Park and stopped at the park's office, where we had to get the entrance tickets. Covering 82,000 hectares, Hortobagy National Park is the largest grass steppe in Europe. It has been a UNESCO World Heritage site since 1999.

A little wander around the premises produced good views of Goldcrest, Tree and House Sparrows, Common Buzzard and a flock of over 100 cranes, whose calls echoed in the distance. We then undertook a short walk in search of roosting owls, but instead, we encountered a flock of Corn Buntings, Greylag Goose, Chaffinch, Great Tit and Song Thrush. A Red Admiral butterfly amused some of us.

As we drove further, a dead Red Fox by the side of the road was included in the "stiff-list", to Brian's amusement. Kestrel and more flocks of cranes appeared in the distance. A short stop by a pond was rewarding, with good views of our first White-tailed Eagle in the company of three Common Buzzards. Soon we added a Sparrowhawk, a female Marsh Harrier, Blue Tit, Reed Bunting, a flock of Mallards and Greylag Geese floating on the water. Three Cormorants flew past and a Pygmy Cormorant followed them shortly. A Penduline Tit was also heard.

We made a detour and during a short walk, a Robin, Kingfisher (only heard) and Curlew were added to our bird list. A spiky shrub generated some discussion and was soon identified by Bill as Downy Rose. Peacock and Small White Butterflies were seen here as well. Black Woodpecker called and then flew over, giving a good view.



As we proceeded further, three Roe Deer posed for a picture by the side of the road. A Great Grey Shrike flew across the road and perched on a pile of straw. As we reached some fish ponds, at least five White-tailed Eagles appeared in different places.

A scan over the shallow fishpond produced at least 100 Teals, and an amazing array of waders. Those included at least 40 Lapwings, Redshank, Spotted Redshank, Curlew, Whimbrel, Dunlin, Ruff, Ringed Plover, Grey Plover, Black-tailed Godwit and the most amazing discovery of all, an unexpected Buff-breasted Sandpiper. While debating on its identification, we had a coffee and biscuits.

Soon it was time for lunch and we took off in the direction of the village of Hortobagy. *En route*, we encountered a group of at least 8 Stonechats, female Common Redstart, Great White Egret and the occasional Starlings perched on electrical wires. In the village, we briefly visited the Tourist Information Centre to buy some postcards and then had an *al fresco* lunch at a picnic table.

Balazs took us on a short walk along the main road in the village in search for, what he made us believe, a Syrian Woodpecker. He, however, had something else up his sleeve and led us to an oak tree, in the middle of the village, where at least 20 Long-eared Owls roosted. The cameras were busy clicking away, and we could not get over that the owls were not bothered by the noise from a busy road and the people. Our first three Swallows were seen flying overhead.

In the afternoon, we travelled to see a roost of Common Cranes. *En route*, we got a glimpse of at least four Great White Egrets and two Buzzards. The sun was setting and the sky started to attain a

bright multi array of colours. We placed ourselves strategically on a bridge and waited. We could see a big flock Greylag Geese grazing close by. There were two White-fronted Geese amongst them. In the distance, there were thousands of cranes congregating in a field, but not ready to move yet to the roosting site. Soon though, it started to get busy and flocks of cranes appeared here, there and everywhere. They were all flying in the direction to their roosting site.



Forty thousand of them are present in Hortobagy, but the peak numbers reaches 100 thousand. We were close enough to witness the spectacle, but we were not on the crane-roosting flyway, so could observe them only from a distance. It was getting dark by then and temperature dropped considerably, so we decided to return to the hotel.

As we were ready to leave, a male Bearded Tit with a juvenile came in to view by the side of the bridge and, soon after, a Moustached Warbler gave us a performance. As we were leaving the area, we had a glimpse of a Little Owl taking off from a tree by the side of the road and further along, a Red Fox appeared from nowhere.

Dinner that evening was delicious and included Tarhonya (Hungarian egg barley) soup with some miniature dumplings, “compressed” chicken breast with tasty salad and chips. However, the epitome of the night was a chocolate desert, Somloi Galuska (Hungarian trifle consisting of three layers of sponge cake, pastry cream and chocolate sauce).



Altogether, 73 species were seen today with the highlight being roosting Long-eared Owl for the majority.

Day 3

10 October, Wednesday

We had our breakfast at 7:30 and by 8:30 our lunch was packed, thermoses collected, and off we went for the day.

The first stop was the village of Nagyivan, where we collected Gabor Kovacs, a ranger from the Hortobagy National Park. As we drove with him through the vast expanse of open space, we picked up a Crested Lark. A brief stop at a likely site for the Great Bustard provided good views of Hen Harrier, numerous Skylarks, and a flock of Goldfinches.



Soon, we entered puszta and undertook a long walk in search for Dotterels. A Clouded Yellow Butterfly was warming up in the first rays of the morning sun, but in the bitterly cold wind. Although the search was unsuccessful and we had to call it off, it was wonderful to be in the middle of the great expanse of one of the last remaining examples of this natural European habitat. On the way back, a young Imperial Eagle appeared in the distance and gave us an injection of enthusiasm.

We tried another site, and as we were ready to get off the bus, a Short-toed Eagle appeared in front of us. It was a good record, so good in fact, that Balazs later announced it as his best bird of the trip. Flocks of Red-throated and Meadow Pipits, White Wagtail and flocks of flying and foraging cranes entertained us for a while.



Despite our thorough search, no Dotterels were found that morning and soon it was time to say good-bye to Gabor. We headed for the Hortobagy fishponds, where we spent the rest of the afternoon.

On our arrival at the ponds, the “choo-choo” train was already waiting for us, but it took a while to get going. Once the train took off, the beauty of the wetland appeared in front of us. Two Black Woodpeckers flew along the train, and so did Cormorants and Pygmy Cormorants. Ferruginous Ducks were also seen in the distance.

We got off at the last station and took a short walk to the hide to view a huge flock of Greylag Geese, in hope of spotting a Lesser White-fronted Goose. However, only a minimum of 12 White-fronted Geese were picked up. An immature White-tailed Eagle was also seen. We had our lunch here, while scanning the water, where numerous ducks and waders were also present, including Black-tailed Godwits. In the nearby reeds, Bearded Tits were active as well as Red Buntings, Chiffchaffs and Sedge Warblers.



We hung around in the area for an evening arrival of cranes, and having some time on our hands, we took a ride on the “choo-choo” train. We got off at the first stop and climbed a viewing tower, where a wonderful view stretched over the

wetland, giving us a true impression of the expanse of the area. Here, we saw our first Great Crested Grebe, as well as plethora of other wildfowl, including Pintails, Gadwalls, Shovellers, Ferruginous Ducks, amongst others. A rather confused Red Fox generated some commotion amongst us.

A walk back gave us close views of Great White Egret, Robins, Chiffchaffs, Sedge Warblers, Tree Sparrows and a controversial Marsh Warbler. At least three Penduline Tits' nests were visible amongst the falling foliage, but although the birds were heard, none of them came close enough for a satisfying glimpse.



The highlight of the day came much later when, with the back drop of the setting sun, flock after flock of hundreds of cranes started to arrive. We witnessed the spectacle on a grand scale: forty thousands of them come to roost here during their migration and we were in the middle of the event. The activities of flying cranes from all directions and the noise they generated were breath-taking. As the day came to a close and the daylight was gone, it became difficult to see the birds and only the noise reminded us of the ongoing spectacle.



Another group also arrived to witness this and soon we decided to call it a day.

Our journey back on the “choo-choo” train produced the silhouette of a Little Owl taking off from a nearby tree.

We had a lovely evening meal in our friendly restaurant again and celebrated the eventful day with garlic soup, turkey covered in smoked cheese and Hungarian pancakes with walnut sauce. An inventory of the check list revealed that 95 species were recorded today. There were 12 new species, including Wigeon, Teal, Garganey, Gadwall, Red-crested Pochard, Glossy Ibis, Black Kite, Honey Buzzard, Greenshank, Great Bustard, Icterine Warbler and Ruff. The majority of them were not seen again on the trip.

Day 4

11 October, Thursday

We awoke to stunning weather and a cloudless blue sky, yet again. Although still chilly, the air was crisp and fresh. The morning found us busy because it was time to pack our belongings. Our

destination today was the Bukk National Park. However, the morning was still available to spend time in Hortobagy National Park to find those illusive Great Bustards.

As we drove through the park, Brian reflected on the past trips and shared with us his personal desires and observations: *“I like those cultured splots”* and *“I was never designed to be a hermit”*. Oh, yes, we know that Brian!



As we picked up Gabor again and drove to the heart of the Hortobagy National Park, a Grey-headed Woodpecker, two Buzzards and Cranes in different flocks were recorded.

We passed a small wetland filled with Wigeons, Teals, Shovellers, Pintails and Coots. Grey Heron and Pygmy Cormorant were also present and a Hen Harrier put on a brief display. We also stopped briefly at a patch of dense reeds, where a Bearded Tit was fooled by Balazs’s lure and allowed us to take full frame pictures. None of us had seen them so close and for such a prolonged period of time!

Soon, Gabor spotted Great Bustards grazing in the distance. They were a bit wary and, as we approached them, a helicopter flew by and they took off. However, in no time at all, Gabor tracked them down again. We had distant, but great views of about 17 of them scattered around, that morning. Gabor told us that in Hortobagy, there are about 200 of them, whereas in the whole of Hungary, they are about 1600.



Hungary is estimated to hold 3% of the world’s Great Bustards. However, over the last century, a switch to more intensive farming practices, winter food shortages and fragmentation of bustard habitats led to their decline here. Since the 1990s, the population has increased through conservation by the Túzokvédelmi Program (Bustard Protection Program) as well as changes in land-use.



We proceeded through the green fields to a spot where Przewalski horses are kept. A short climb gave us a view over the surrounding fields, and three horses. As we enjoyed a coffee break, two White-tailed Eagles and flocks of Cranes came to our view.

After dropping Gabor off, we stopped in the village of Nagyivan to search for Syrian Woodpecker, who had its breeding territories here in spring. Only some of us had a brief glimpse of the bird flying overhead, but all

of us had prolonged views of Goldcrest. We were captivated by the village church, but not for long, as Balazs managed to locate the Syrian Woodpecker again. We had a good view of the bird and its head and could not see a black bar on side of its neck, a diagnostic feature.

After an exciting record of Rough-legged Buzzard soaring high in the sky, it was time for lunch. We were treated to a lovely cream tarragon-veal soup, followed by traditional Hungarian poppy seed and walnut cakes in the Hortobagy village restaurant. The restaurant had a unique traditional atmosphere, as live music was played by a gipsy band.



As we started our journey towards our next destination, we searched briefly for Saker Falcon on the pylons and fields. As this proved to be rather unsuccessful, Balazs found a new entertainment for us. He took us to the village of Balnazujvaros, where on three False Acacia trees about 50 Long-eared Owls were roosting. It was pretty amazing to see these birds again; some

packed in groups of three/four on narrow branches totally oblivious to the persistent paparazzis!

We took a few detours in hope of seeing a Saker Falcon or any other raptors. The weather was warm, the sky was blue and there was no apparent reason why we should not encounter them. We stopped briefly by a cattle farm to take pictures of Hungarian Grey cattle grazing in the field.

Hungarian Grey cattle probably arrived with the 9th century Hungarian immigration from the east. In the Middle Ages and early modern times the breed was used as a draught animal but from 1861 has been bred for early maturity and its beef quality. Nowadays they are kept as a tourist attraction. And gene banks, due to their resistance to cattle diseases, such as BSE, and reported low cholesterol level.

Grey cattle were a major Hungarian export in the Middle Ages. Up to 100,000 of them were driven as far as southern Germany and northern Italy. By 1975 there were only 300 cows left in two herds. Today, thanks to a successful breeding scheme in the Hortobagy National Park, there are 9,000.



At Tiszacsege, we took a ferry across the river Tiszaby. It was a sunny afternoon and with the reflection of the fading autumn foliage of the trees along the river, the crossing was very pleasant and we even managed to have a brief coffee break.

We drove further through rolling fields, where Black Redstart, female Hen Harrier and Sparrowhawk were recorded. There was no sign of the Saker Falcon though. However, the best was kept to last, because in the sun-set light, we were treated to a superb view of a pair of them on the pylon. One of them took a flight to a neighbouring pylon, giving us even a better view. Superb! A Great Grey Shrike also came to good view in the nearby trees. Further down the route, we saw at least 10 Roe Deers, two Red Foxes and a few Buzzards flashed from trees by the side of the road.

In the late afternoon, we arrived to the village of Noszvaj and our charming Nomad Hotel. The hotel was conveniently situated on the outskirts of the village and surrounded by forested hills. It is run by the whole family; the parents, two brothers and a sister. Antique artefacts decorated the hotel beautifully and added a unique character to the place. There was even a swimming pool and jacuzzi.

After a short break to unpack, we soon rejoined for dinner. Our dinner that evening was a shocking affair of size and splendor; bullion soup, was followed by smoked salmon fish fingers on delicious green salad. And then two main course were served: a succulent duck in a delicious rhubarb sauce and mouth-watering beef slowly cooked in red wine sauce. If this was not enough, desert consisted of traditional apple strudel.

Altogether, 73 species were seen today, with Imperial Eagle being a star of the day.

Day 5

12 October, Friday

Having recovered from the last night's over-indulgence, we started a similar feast the next morning, when a variety of breakfast choices were laid down for us; different choices of cereals, platters of cold and warm dishes, fruit and even cakes.

A Hawfinch posing for us on the top of a tree in front of the hotel was the aperitif for what was to come later in the day. Jays were active as well, flying about and carrying their acorns to hide them for the winter.

As we drove through an open countryside, we picked up a flock of Goldfinches, Black Redstart and a Great Grey Shrike. Most of the day was devoted to birding in a wooded nature reserve of the Buk Valley. As we entered the forest, a mix of Hornbeam, Ash and Beech, a flock of Hawfinches came into view, a sick Roe Deer was spotted in the bushes and a Red Squirrel posed for a picture.



A rather bumpy road took us to a quarry, where Rock Buntings were breeding. We spent some time searching for a bird, and although no bird was recorded, our patience paid off, because we had stunning views of Lesser Spotted Woodpecker, Marsh Tit, Long-tailed Tit and Raven. While having a coffee break, we enjoyed a sunny afternoon and a good display of birds. The area was heaving with plants in spring, but even at this time of the year, they kept Bill busy. A Green-veined Butterfly was seen here.

We then had a long walk in this delightful forest, where Balazs tried in vain to lure a White-backed Woodpecker for us. Despite his efforts, only some of us had a quick glimpse of the birds, but instead, we saw quite a few Great Spotted Woodpeckers and Nuthatches. The sign of disturbed soil indicated quite extensive activities of Wild Boars by the side of the road.



We drove a bit further and reached an open meadow, where we had our delightful lunch. Brian tried to share his left-overs from last night's lavish dinner. He managed to persuade some of us, but Ian found the opportunity for a cheeky comment: "*Your generosity is only outshined by your beauty, Brian*".

It was getting late and we decided that there was just time to include a cultural aspect to the tour, so we turned back allocating some time to visit the "Tufa rock village" before dinner. However, we did not manage to drive far, when we spotted Hawfinches on the top of the dead tree trunks. Slowly, one by one we emerged from the bus and joined in a true feast of birds: Willow Tit, Blue Tit, Nuthatch, Lesser and Great Spotted Woodpeckers, and delightful Bramblings, male and two females, all performing for us. However, the noise from a hunting party put us off and soon we were forced to leave.

Tufa rock (25-million-year-old volcanic rock) houses on the Farkasko Hills were curiously spectacular and the beauty of their shape and design astounded us. In the past, lack of housing forced people to use the rock, which has been carved into a living quarters.

Today, the place has been turned



into a museum, where local artists display their work. Particularly interesting was our meeting with a lady who had lived there for 20 years.

We were dining and wining tonight at the local wine estate, situated just a few km from our hotel. Our visit to the estate, started with a tour in the cellars, carved into the tufa rock of the hillside. We had a guided walk through tunnels of which 2,000 square meters were carved by hand and a further 2,000 square meters were added by drill in 2002.

On the completion of the tour, we moved to a restaurant, built in a cave cut into the rock. We were seated at a big wooden table and received a warm welcome from Éva, the daughter of the owner of the winery. They say that wine goes best with food, so where there is fine wine there must also be good food too. We were not disappointed. Our set dinner started with *Egri Csillag 2010* and a cheese, apple and bread platter. The three types of cheese went down well with everybody: goat cheese with saffron, cream cottage cheese and everybody's favourite, cow cheese with clover. This was followed by a light *Kékfrankos-Merlot Rose 2010* and a succession of fantastic, authentic peasant dishes prepared in a large, wood-fired oven. The dishes were piled onto the table and soon our culinary feast began. We had tender duck stuffed with peaches, cubes of roast potatoes and pork knuckle on a bed of stewed cabbage spiced with juniper berries and thyme. The latter was fatty but so soft and delicious that it did not seem heavy or overwhelmingly unhealthy at all; especially alongside an easy-drinking *Chardonnay 2009*, smooth, mature and full-bodied *Cabernet Sauvignon* and rounded *Egri Bikaver Bull 2006*. Very tasty pastries filled with plum preserve were served for the desert and accompanied by light *Egri Muscotaly*.

John failed to resist the temptation of a good drink and finally gave up after many years of abstinence! The whole feast was completed by a *Törköly pálinka* (made from the skin and seeds left over in the wine press), but majority of us could not manage this strong alcohol at all and passed it on to a delighted Brian. It was somehow difficult to concentrate on the check-list, but we managed to tick all the important birds.

Altogether, 71 species were seen today, with Middle Spotted and Great Spotted Woodpeckers, Robin, Treecreeper, Jay, Yellowhammer, Black Stork, Red-footed Falcon and Whitethroat recorded for the first time. The latter species was not seen again.

Day 6

13 October, Saturday

We all enjoyed again our scrum-delicious breakfast and soon after we were ready to undertake a stroll around the village. The hotel grounds were rich in birds. We observed here a Grey-headed Woodpecker flying about and being teased by the lure.

Over an hour's walk along the main road produced Nuthatch, Greenfinch, Marsh Tit, Siskin, Blue Tit and a glimpse of flying Middle-spotted Woodpecker. Brian felt a bit rusty after last night's drinking session, so he was a bit slower than normal, but none the less, he did not miss anything. We soon reached a forested area, where an effort was made to find White-backed Woodpecker, but only Great Spotted Woodpecker revealed itself in a satisfying manner. Long-tailed Tits, Great Tits, Wren, Marsh and Blue Tits, all compensated for the not very obliging woodpeckers.



We drove again to cultivated fields in search for an Imperial Eagle, but after a fruitless search we gave up and stopped for a coffee by the side of the road, overlooking open fields. As we drove further

and turned right, following my intuitive suggestion (ha ha...), Balazs immediately dragged us out of the minibus by shouting enthusiastically, “Yes, *Imperial Eagle*”!

So, we admired this magnificent bird for a while and then moved to the other side of the road, where we viewed, another individual that was clearly showing white shoulders and the sides of mantle. The last year’s nest of the eagle was also visible through fading foliage.



Our next stop was at Lake Bogacs, where a Goshawk perching on a dead trunk generated great excitement and remained the most memorable bird species seen on the trip for Ian. In addition, at least 10 Grey Herons were spread around the lake, with Teals and Mallards roosting and swimming around. Sparrowhawk, Yellow-legged Gull and Great White Egret were also seen on the other side of the lake and Grey Plover and a small flock of Dunlins enjoyed their feast in the shallow waters. Linnets, Yellowhammer and Stonechat were also present here. It was a warm and sunny afternoon and insects started to emerge, with Hummingbird Moth, Wolf Spider, Grasshopper, ladybirds and Holly Blue, Clouded Yellow and Great White being most notable. We decided to go for a little walk around the lake, but failed see anything new.

We arrived back at the hotel just before 16:00, with plenty of time to relax and pack for the very early morning that we had to face the next day. Balazs had to leave for the evening and could not join us for the last meal. The evening dinner was earlier than normal and, once again, consisted five courses. First, we had a bullion soup, followed by grilled fish (possibly Perch Pike) on the salad. For the main course, we were served two dishes: chicken fillets in a lovely vegetable sauce and rice and Vienna schnitzels on a bed of chips and vegetables.



The dinner was completed with a brownie topped with ice-cream and cream. A bottle of red wine accompanied our feast, but even Brian could not repeat last night’s drinking session.

The last inventory of the check list revealed that, altogether, 95 species were recorded today. Stock Dove, Swift, Red-breasted Flycatcher, Collared Flycatcher, Marsh Tit, Nuthatch, Grey-headed Woodpecker, Wren, Rock Bunting and Scops Owl were recorded for the first time.

We concluded that, once again, Hungary did not disappoint, and although, the total number of birds seen was lower than during the last spring, we saw quality birds and some spectacular birding events on a grand scale!

Day 7

14 October, Sunday

It was a very early morning for all of us, as we had to leave by 5 am. After picking up our packed breakfast, we sadly said good-bye to our lovely hostess Barbara and took off on the empty road to Budapest. Most of us had a little snooze and woke up an hour and half later at the airport, missing a Badger crossing the road in front of the bus. After saying good-bye to Balazs, we checked in and, some of us, even managed to have a coffee and muffin, before parting to the departure gates.

Birds seen on the trip (118)

| | |
|----|--------------------------|
| 1 | Greater Crested Grebe |
| 2 | Little Grebe |
| 3 | Cormorant |
| 4 | Pygmy Cormorant |
| 5 | Great White Egret |
| 6 | Grey Heron |
| 7 | Mute Swan |
| 8 | Greylag Goose |
| 9 | White-fronted Goose |
| 10 | Mallard |
| 11 | Gadwall |
| 12 | Teal |
| 13 | Shoveler |
| 14 | Pintail |
| 15 | Red-crested Pochard |
| 16 | Pochard |
| 17 | Ferruginous Duck |
| 18 | Marsh Harrier |
| 19 | Hen Harrier |
| 20 | Sparrowhawk |
| 21 | Goshawk |
| 22 | Common Buzzard |
| 23 | Rough-legged Buzzard |
| 24 | Imperial Eagle |
| 25 | White-tailed Eagle |
| 26 | Short-toed Eagle |
| 27 | Saker Falcon |
| 28 | Kestrel |
| 29 | Pheasant |
| 30 | Water Rail |
| 31 | Moorhen |
| 32 | Coot |
| 33 | Common Crane |
| 34 | Great Bustard |
| 35 | Oystercatcher |
| 36 | Lapwing |
| 37 | Ruff |
| 38 | Ringed Plover |
| 39 | Grey Plover |
| 40 | Dunlin |
| 41 | Buff-breasted Sandpiper |
| 42 | Black-tailed Godwit |
| 43 | Bar-tailed Godwit |
| 44 | Curlew |
| 45 | Whimbrel |
| 46 | Redshank |
| 47 | Spotted Redshank |
| 48 | Snipe |
| 49 | Black-headed Gull |
| 50 | Little Gull |
| 51 | Mediterranean Gull |
| 52 | Herring Gull |
| 53 | Common Gull |
| 54 | Yellow-legged Gull |
| 55 | Lesser Black-backed Gull |
| 56 | Wood Pigeon |
| 57 | Feral Pigeon/Rock Dove |
| 58 | Stock Dove |
| 59 | Collard Dove |

| | |
|-----|---------------------------|
| 60 | Little Owl |
| 61 | Long-eared Owl |
| 62 | Kingfisher |
| 63 | Black Woodpecker |
| 64 | Syrian Woodpecker |
| 65 | Green Woodpecker |
| 66 | Grey-headed Woodpecker |
| 67 | Middle Spotted Woodpecker |
| 68 | Great Spotted Woodpecker |
| 69 | Lesser Spotted Woodpecker |
| 70 | White-backed Woodpecker |
| 71 | Skylark |
| 72 | Crested Lark |
| 73 | Swallow |
| 74 | Meadow Pipit |
| 75 | Red-throated Pipit |
| 76 | White Wagtail |
| 77 | Dunnock |
| 78 | Robin |
| 79 | Stonechat |
| 80 | Black Redstart |
| 81 | Redstart |
| 82 | Blackbird |
| 83 | Song Thrush |
| 84 | Mistle Thrush |
| 85 | Marsh Warbler |
| 86 | Moustached Warbler |
| 87 | Chiffchaff |
| 88 | Goldcrest |
| 89 | Bearded Tit |
| 90 | Penduline Tit |
| 91 | Long-tailed Tit |
| 92 | Marsh Tit |
| 93 | Willow Tit |
| 94 | Coal Tit |
| 95 | Blue Tit |
| 96 | Great Tit |
| 97 | Nuthatch |
| 98 | Wren |
| 99 | Great Grey Shrike |
| 100 | Jay |
| 101 | Magpie |
| 102 | Rook |
| 103 | Hooded Crow |
| 104 | Jackdaw |
| 105 | Raven |
| 106 | Starling |
| 107 | Tree Sparrow |
| 108 | House Sparrow |
| 109 | Chaffinch |
| 110 | Brambling |
| 111 | Linnet |
| 112 | Siskin |
| 113 | Greenfinch |
| 114 | Goldfinch |
| 115 | Hawfinch |
| 116 | Corn Bunting |
| 117 | Yellowhammer |
| 118 | Reed Bunting |

Other animals seen on the trip

Mammals

| | | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat | Sun |
|---|------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| 1 | Red Squirrel | | | | | x | x | |
| 2 | Roe Deer | | x | x | x | x | | |
| 3 | Fox | | x | x | x | x | | |
| 4 | Przewalski Horse | | | | x | | | |
| 5 | Bat sp. | | | | | | x | |

Butterflies

| | | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat | Sun |
|---|-----------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| 1 | Peacock | | x | x | | | | |
| 2 | Red Admiral | | x | x | x | | | |
| 3 | Clouded Yellow | | | x | | | | |
| 4 | Eastern Pale Clouded Yellow | | | | x | | x | |
| 5 | Large White | | | | x | | x | |
| 6 | Small White | | x | x | | | | |
| 7 | Green-veined Butterfly | | | | | x | | |
| 8 | Holly Blue | | | | | | x | |

Other invertebrates

| | | | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat | Sun |
|---|-------------------------|-----------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| 1 | Common Field Grasshoper | <i>Chorthippus brunneus</i> | | | | x | | | |
| 2 | Harlequin Ladybird | <i>Harmonia axyridis</i> | | | | x | | | |
| 3 | Wolf Spider | <i>Hogna lenta</i> | | | | x | | | |

Plants recorded on the trip

by

Bill Burlton

| | Latin name | English name |
|----|-----------------------------------|----------------------|
| 1 | <i>Acacia spp</i> | |
| 2 | <i>Acer campestre</i> | Field maple |
| 3 | <i>Acer platanoides</i> | Norway maple |
| 4 | <i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i> | Sycamore |
| 5 | <i>Achillea millefolium</i> | Yarrow |
| 6 | <i>Aegopodium podagraria</i> | Ground elder |
| 7 | <i>Aesculus hippocastanum</i> | Horse chestnut |
| 8 | <i>Agrimonia eupatoria</i> | Agrimony |
| 9 | <i>Ajuga reptans</i> | Bugle |
| 10 | <i>Alnus glutinosa</i> | Common alder |
| 11 | <i>Alnus incana</i> | Grey alder |
| 12 | <i>Amaranthus hybridus</i> | Common amaranth |
| 13 | <i>Anagallis arvensis</i> | Scarlet pimpernel |
| 14 | <i>Anthriscus sylvestris</i> | Cow parsley |
| 15 | <i>Arctium minus</i> | Lesser burdock |
| 16 | <i>Artemisia maritima</i> | Sea wormwood |
| 17 | <i>Artemisia vulgaris</i> | Mugwort |
| 18 | <i>Asarum europaeum</i> | Asarabacca |
| 19 | <i>Aster tripolium</i> | Sea aster |
| 20 | <i>Astrantia major</i> | Astrantia |
| 21 | <i>Atriplex prostrata</i> | Spear leaved orache |
| 22 | <i>Ballota nigra</i> | Black horehound |
| 23 | <i>Betula pendula</i> | Birch |
| 24 | <i>Bidens tripartita</i> | Trifid burr marigold |
| 25 | <i>Bryonia cretica</i> | White bryony |
| 26 | <i>Calystegia sepium</i> | Hedge bindweed |
| 27 | <i>Cannabis sativa</i> | Hemp |
| 28 | <i>Capsella bursa-pastoris</i> | Shepherd's purse |
| 29 | <i>Carduus nutans</i> | Musk thistle |
| 30 | <i>Carex rostrata</i> | Bottle sedge |
| 31 | <i>Carlina vulgaris</i> | Carlina thistle |
| 32 | <i>Carpinus betulus</i> | Hornbeam |
| 33 | <i>Centaurea jacea</i> | Brown knapweed |
| 34 | <i>Chelidonium majus</i> | Greater celandine |
| 35 | <i>Chenopodium album</i> | Fat hen |
| 36 | <i>Chenopodium bonus-henricus</i> | Good King Henry |
| 37 | <i>Cichorium intybus</i> | Chickory |
| 38 | <i>Cirsium arvense</i> | Creeping thistle |
| 39 | <i>Cirsium vulgare</i> | Spear thistle |
| 40 | <i>Clematis vitalba</i> | Old man's beard |
| 41 | <i>Clinopodium vulgare</i> | Wild basil |
| 42 | <i>Colchium autumnale</i> | Meadow saffron |
| 43 | <i>Conium maculatum</i> | Hemlock |
| 44 | <i>Conopodium majus</i> | Pignut |

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| 45 | <i>Consolida ajacis</i> | Larkspur |
| 46 | <i>Convulvulus arvensis</i> | Field bindweed |
| 47 | <i>Cornus sanguinea</i> | Dogwood |
| 48 | <i>Coronilla coronata</i> | Scorpion vetch |
| 49 | <i>Corylus avellana</i> | Hazel |
| 50 | <i>Crataegus monogyna</i> | Hawthorn |
| 51 | <i>Cruciata laevipes</i> | Crosswort |
| 52 | <i>Cydonia oblonga</i> | Quince |
| 53 | <i>Datura stramonium</i> | Thorn apple |
| 54 | <i>Daucus carota</i> | Wild carrot |
| 55 | <i>Dipsacus fullonum</i> | Teasel |
| 56 | <i>Echium vulgare</i> | Viper's bugloss |
| 57 | <i>Epilobium montanum</i> | Broad leaved willow herb |
| 58 | <i>Eryngium campestre</i> | Field eryngo |
| 59 | <i>Euonymus europaeus</i> | Spindle |
| 60 | <i>Eupatorium cannabinum</i> | Hemp agrimony |
| 61 | <i>Euphorbia cyparissias</i> | Cypress spurge |
| 62 | <i>Fagus sylvatica</i> | Beech |
| 63 | <i>Filependula ulmara</i> | Meadowsweet |
| 64 | <i>Fragaria vesca</i> | Wild strawberry |
| 65 | <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i> | Ash |
| 66 | <i>Galeopsis tetrahit</i> | Common hemp nettle |
| 67 | <i>Galinsoga parviflora</i> | Gallant soldier |
| 68 | <i>Galium odoratum</i> | Sweet woodruff |
| 69 | <i>Galium verum</i> | Lady's bedstraw |
| 70 | <i>Gentiana cruciata</i> | Cross gentian |
| 71 | <i>Glechoma hederacea</i> | Ground ivy |
| 72 | <i>Gypsophila muralis</i> | Annual gypsophila |
| 73 | <i>Hedera helix</i> | Ivy |
| 74 | <i>Helleborus viridis</i> | Green hellebore |
| 75 | <i>Heracleum sphondylium</i> | Hogweed |
| 76 | <i>Hieracium pilosella</i> | Mouse ear hawkweed |
| 77 | <i>Hippophae rhamnoides</i> | Sea buckthorn |
| 78 | <i>Humulus lupulus</i> | Hop |
| 79 | <i>Iberis amara</i> | Wild candytuft |
| 80 | <i>Juglans regia</i> | Walnut |
| 81 | <i>Juncus effusus</i> | Soft rush |
| 82 | <i>Lapsana communis</i> | Nipplewort |
| 83 | <i>Ligustrum vulgare</i> | Wild privet |
| 84 | <i>Limonium vulgare</i> | Sea lavender |
| 85 | <i>Linaria vulgaris</i> | Common toadflax |
| 86 | <i>Lotus corniculatus</i> | Birds foot trefoil |
| 87 | <i>Lunaria rediviva</i> | Perennial honesty |
| 88 | <i>Malus sylvestris</i> | Crab apple |
| 89 | <i>Malva sylvestris</i> | Common mallow |
| 90 | <i>Medicago sativa</i> | Lucerne |
| 91 | <i>Mercurialis perennis</i> | Dog's mercury |
| 92 | <i>Mycelis muralis</i> | Wall lettuce |
| 93 | <i>Myosoton aquaticum</i> | Water chickweed |
| 94 | <i>Ononis spinosa</i> | Spiny restharrow |
| 95 | <i>Persicaria hydropiper</i> | Water pepper |
| 96 | <i>Petasites hybridus</i> | Butterbur |
| 97 | <i>Phragmites communis</i> | Common reed |
| 98 | <i>Picea abies</i> | Norway spruce |
| 99 | <i>Picris hieracioides</i> | Hawkweed oxtounge |
| 100 | <i>Pinus nigra</i> | Corsican pine |
| 101 | <i>Pinus sylvestris</i> | Scots pine |
| 102 | <i>Plantago lanceolata</i> | Ribwort plantain |
| 103 | <i>Plantago major</i> | Greater plantain |
| 104 | <i>Platanus x hispanica</i> | London plane |
| 105 | <i>Polygonatum odoratum</i> | Angular Solomon's seal |

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| 106 | <i>Polygonum aviculare</i> | Knotgrass |
| 107 | <i>Populus alba</i> | White poplar |
| 108 | <i>Populus nigra</i> | Black poplar |
| 109 | <i>Potentilla reptans</i> | Creeping cinquefoil |
| 110 | <i>Prunella lacinata</i> | Cut leaved selfheal |
| 111 | <i>Prunella vulgaris</i> | Selfheal |
| 112 | <i>Prunus avium</i> | Wild cherry |
| 113 | <i>Prunus domestica</i> | Wild plum |
| 114 | <i>Prunus spinosa</i> | Blackthorn |
| 115 | <i>Pulicaria vulgaris</i> | Small fleabane |
| 116 | <i>Quercus cerris</i> | Turkey oak |
| 117 | <i>Quercus robur</i> | Oak |
| 118 | <i>Robinia pseudoacacia</i> | False acacia |
| 119 | <i>Rosa arvensis</i> | Field rose |
| 120 | <i>Rosa tomentosa</i> | Downy rose |
| 121 | <i>Rubus caesius</i> | Dewberry |
| 122 | <i>Rubus fruticosus</i> | Bramble |
| 123 | <i>Rumex hydrolapathum</i> | Water dock |
| 124 | <i>Rumex obtusifolius</i> | Broad leaved dock |
| 125 | <i>Salicornia europaea</i> | Glasswort |
| 126 | <i>Salix cinerea</i> | Grey willow |
| 127 | <i>Salix fragilis</i> | Crack willow |
| 128 | <i>Salvia nemorosa</i> | Wild sage |
| 129 | <i>Salvia pratensis</i> | Meadow clary |
| 130 | <i>Sambucus ebulus</i> | Dwarf elder |
| 131 | <i>Sambucus nigra</i> | Elder |
| 132 | <i>Sanguisorba minor</i> | Salad burnet |
| 133 | <i>Sanicula europaea</i> | Sanicle |
| 134 | <i>Scabiosa canescens</i> | Yellow scabious |
| 135 | <i>Sedum album</i> | White stonecrop |
| 136 | <i>Senecio squaladis</i> | Oxford ragwort |
| 137 | <i>Senecio vulgaris</i> | Groundsel |
| 138 | <i>Silene alba</i> | White campion |
| 139 | <i>Solanum dulcamara</i> | Bittersweet |
| 140 | <i>Solanum nigrum</i> | Black nightshade |
| 141 | <i>Solidago canadensis</i> | Canadian golden rod |
| 142 | <i>Sonchus arvensis</i> | Perennial sowthistle |
| 143 | <i>Sonchus asper</i> | Priekly sowthistle |
| 144 | <i>Stachys arvensis</i> | Field woundwort |
| 145 | <i>Stachys palustris</i> | Marsh woundwort |
| 146 | <i>Stellaria media</i> | Chickweed |
| 147 | <i>Symphytum officinale</i> | Comfrey |
| 148 | <i>Tanacetum vulgare</i> | Tansy |
| 149 | <i>Taraxacum officinale agg</i> | Dandelion |
| 150 | <i>Thymus polytrichus</i> | Wild thyme |
| 151 | <i>Tilia platyphyllos</i> | Large leaved lime |
| 152 | <i>Trifolium arvense</i> | Hares foot clover |
| 153 | <i>Trifolium campestre</i> | Hop trefoil |
| 154 | <i>Trifolium dubium</i> | Lesser trefoil |
| 155 | <i>Trifolium pratense</i> | Red clover |
| 156 | <i>Trifolium repens</i> | White clover |
| 157 | <i>Tripleurospermum inodorum</i> | Scentless mayweed |
| 158 | <i>Trollius europaeus</i> | Globeflower |
| 159 | <i>Tussilago farfara</i> | Coltsfoot |
| 160 | <i>Typha angustifolia</i> | Lesser bullrush |
| 161 | <i>Ulmus glabra</i> | Wych elm |
| 162 | <i>Urtica dioica</i> | Nettle |
| 163 | <i>Verbascum blattaria</i> | Moth mullien |
| 164 | <i>Verbascum phlomoides</i> | Orange mullien |
| 165 | <i>Verbascum thapsus</i> | Great mullien |
| 166 | <i>Viburnum opalis</i> | Guelder rose |
| 167 | <i>Vicia cracca</i> | Tufted vetch |
| 168 | <i>Vicia sepium</i> | Bush vetch |
| 169 | <i>Viola riviniana</i> | Common dog violet |
| 170 | <i>Vitis vinifera</i> | Grape |