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THE SELBORNE SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

CHAIRMAN'S NOTES.

Enter the reserve now - through the wonderful memorial gates - and on the right you will see the old and much loved reserve 'hut'. Just behind and partly hidden by trees are the tool shed and a smaller hut known as the 'visitor centre'.

This may all soon change if our work to build a new reserve hut comes to fruition. It is not an easy thing to achieve and has involved - still involves - a lot of discussion. We have limited resources and must use them wisely so we have allocated part towards the new building project and part to remain to enable us to carry on the normal and essential work involved in running a local nature reserve.

Is it worth all the effort and expense? Well, we must do something about drainage and our toilet facilities at the very least. We have the chance of acquiring materials from a soon to be demolished suitable building so that may help defray some of the costs. However, our resources are not sufficient to complete the project as we would like so we must try for grants. I hope we are successful as I firmly believe that it is the right time to update our 'hut' so that we can continue the wonderful work we do at Perivale Wood with much improved facilities.

Elsewhere in this newsletter you will find more details of where we have got to with the project but please do contact myself or Andy Pedley for the very latest information. Finally, I would like to thank all of those who have contributed to the project so far and who have the future well-being of the Reserve close to their hearts!

Tom Berry, Chairman

CHANGE OF OFFICIAL ADDRESS

Readers may already be aware of this fact but the Selborne Society, as well as being a registered charity, is also a limited company and Companies House, who regulate these things, require us to have an official address for governance purposes.

For quite some time, this has been the home address of our esteemed Membership Secretary but we have now decided to change our office address to the following:

36, Ferrymead Gardens, Greenford, Middlesex UB6 9NF

This does not affect the arrangements for your annual subscriptions which should still be sent to the Membership Secretary at the usual address:

89 Daryngton Drive, Greenford, Middlesex UB6 8BH.

P.S. Are you one of the forgetful members whose subscription for 2012 is still overdue? Then see overleaf.

A NOTE OF THANKS

The Society's Trustees would like to thank local electrician, John Morrell, for his great generosity in donating his time and effort to test the Reserve's electrical appliances and installations.

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NOTES AND LETTERS

RESERVE KEYS

Did you know that Society members may borrow a key to the gate of the Reserve from Perivale Library by leaving their membership card with its staff? You should note, however, that Ealing Council has recently announced changes to the Library's opening hours, as detailed on the Ealing Council website (shortcut: <http://snipr.com/ssoc006>).

Security of access to the Reserve is very important, and we would ask you all, when visiting Perivale Wood, to lock the gates after entering, as well as when you leave. Borrowed keys should be returned promptly to the Library upon leaving the Reserve so that other members are not inconvenienced.

Finally, just a reminder that the area around the Reserve is a Controlled Parking Zone (CPZ) from Monday to Friday. To avoid a hefty fine, only park there during the allowed hours. Up-to-date information on this CPZ is available on the Ealing Council website (<http://snipr.com/ssoc007>)

SUBSCRIPTIONS

Annual subscribers are reminded that your subscriptions were due on 2nd January. Rates remain unchanged:

Adult subscription	£4 (minimum)
Couple at same address	£6 (<i>ditto</i>)
Juniors	£1

Make out cheques to "Selborne Society" and send them to the Membership Secretary at:

89 Daryngton Drive, Greenford, Middlesex UB6 8BH.

Please include a SAE if you would like your membership card to be sent to you directly. Otherwise, it will be enclosed with your copy of the next newsletter.

PERIVALE WOOD COLOURING BOOK

This is available for just £5 per copy, plus £3 post and packaging. You can obtain yours by sending a cheque to "The Selborne Society Ltd." for £8 to:

The Editor, Selborne Society Newsletter,
3 Lindfield Road, London W5 1QS

Regarding Charlotte Mason - Mary Parrilla writes:

I always read the Selborne Society Newsletter with interest, particularly the latest with the article about Charlotte Mason because my mother was one of her students - I am not sure exactly when but I know it was before 1918.

All my growing-up years I was fascinated by her books of wildlife sketches - part of her course at Ambleside. I don't know what happened to that book - we evacuated from Islington in a hurry in 1939 and our belongings, which were put in store in the T R Roberts warehouse, were burnt in a bombing, so it probably 'went' then.

My particular favourite sketch was of a green woodpecker. I had never seen one then. I am sure it was those sketches that, together with my mother's interest in wildlife, awoke my own lifelong interest and support for conservation, including the Society's nest-box scheme.

So, you see, all this grew from Charlotte Mason's work!



RAE AND HER JAM JARS

Our Membership Secretary, Rae Hall, has finally called it a day on her Herculean (or should that be Amazonian?) jam-making efforts on behalf of the Society. Teamed up with helpers and fruit growers, Rae has raised many thousands of pounds from sales at Open Days to support the Society's work.

While we hope that someone will step into the breach in the not-too-distant future, we make an earnest plea on behalf of Rae herself:

**PLEASE,
NO MORE
JAM JARS!**

However, Rae still has some preserves left after Open Day, so if you'd like to buy some to support the Society's work, then contact her on



(020) 8578 3181

BLUEBELLS, A BEEKEEPER AND RAIN (AND THEN, A POEM)

Bluebells and rain awaited visitors to the Annual Open Day 2012 at Perivale Wood Local Nature Reserve. The wrought iron gates to West London's best-kept secret open once a year to reveal the ancient oak-and-bluebell woodland neatly hidden behind suburban homes.



Heavy rain added to the adventure of the day as children splashed in puddles and adults trudged through mud in wellies and raincoats. The wet weather also made the charm of a guided bluebell tour beneath the thick, dark canopy of oaks more appealing.

Perivale Wood's habitat has largely remained unchanged for centuries and may reveal what plant and insect species lived in Britain almost 9,000 years ago. The Open Day coincides with the appearance of the carpet of bluebells within the woods each year. 'Bluebells are an indicator of ancient woodlands,' said Ed, our guide through the uneven paths and muddy trail. Bluebells are at their peak in May and the incredible explosions of blue covering the woodland floor were breathtaking. A member of our group had generously brought a flask of hot masala chai, so we paused for a while to enjoy a warming cup of spiced tea and listen to the sound of rain falling on leaves.

After a few moments, rumour reached our group that there was a beekeeper among them and that the woods might be home to a nest of feral bees. While I couldn't comment, the children had our group moving along the trail again like the intrepid honey hunters of Nepal. The secret bees,

however, remained hidden deep inside the trunk of a tree and out of the rain.

Arriving back at the Selborne Society's HQ, the sun came out long enough to explore the tents of various conservation and environmental organisations, notably the group campaigning to stop HS2. There were also various refreshments on offer, home-made jams and jellies for sale, and honey made by local bees. It was a great day out.

Emma Sarah Tennant

POETRY CORNER

Member *Alex Nieora* wrote to us recently to offer this poem which he'd written a couple of years ago. It is a tribute to our own Perivale Wood.

ARBORETUM IN REGINA SUBURBIAE

Bluebell lagoons awash in bloom,
When once ribbon danced Maypoles,
Were raised up in glade and coomb,
And Penguin paperback stacks

For sale, honey and 50p tea,
Drew many to the Open Day,
To explore Gilbert White's lea,
And nearby grazing horses lay

Summer soon seized the sun soaked sky,
Fenestrations of light filtered through,
To the flourishing fern furnished floor,
Habiting hedgehogs and badgers too

While painted Lady and Small Copper,
Small Tortoiseshell papillionidae,
Red Adm'ral and Essex Skipper,
The native butterflies fluttered by

Yet sciuromorphic rodents scavenged afoot,
Awhile, as gath'ring autumn befalls
Leaves rustling, twigs snapping underfoot
Owl hoots and pied wagtail calls

Nigh is winter, no time to brood
Battle down the hatches!
Drones's wings chewed,
They're left to die

NEWS FROM THE RESERVE

DAWN CHORUS IN THE WOOD

The annual Perivale Wood Dawn Chorus event was held in the reserve on 6th May this year. Perhaps with the preceding weekend's deluge in mind, the turnout was low compared with previous years, with just seven participants. These hardy (or foolhardy?) souls met at the hut at 4am and were greeted by the usual 'first-footers' of Blackbird and Robin, which will sing all night at this time of year. A brief walk through the wood to the central clearing produced the expected Woodpigeons (identified by their clattering wing beats as we disturbed them from their roost) and raucous Carrion Crows.

The central clearing thermometer boasted a healthy six degrees Celsius at 4.30am, by which time we had amassed a meagre five species. We tarried a while in the central clearing, not wanting to blunder around the wood in the dark and waited for the gradual introduction of further songsters as the grey traces of dawn prompted increased activity. Wren, Blackcap and Chiffchaff were added along with Great Tit and Blue Tit. Mallards and Herring Gulls were sighted overhead.

With several dawn chorus events under my belt, I was not expecting anything particularly different this year. However, one obvious 'absence' was immediately noteworthy. The crows were almost quiet! Usually the pre-dawn period is swamped with a cacophony of cawing and crowing Corvids, but this year, after a brief increase in noise levels, the local crows were extremely subdued. A further notable absence was the hooting of our Tawny Owls, usually guaranteed on dawn chorus. We know they are around the wood as they have been recorded several times during recent nocturnal visits, but they refused to make an appearance for the event.

As with life in general, a negative is often balanced out with a positive and we were able to record the first Pheasant that I have personally witnessed on a Perivale dawn chorus. It was calling quite regularly and was fairly distant, but possibly just in the wood - probably at the north end of the Paddock. Perhaps this was a different bird to the pair that has spent some time on Horsenden Hill since early in the spring?

Once it was reasonably light, we wandered to the northwest corner of the wood, adding birds from the canal such as Grey Heron, Moorhen, Coot and Cormorant as well as a subdued Whitethroat scratching out its distinctive song from the bushes on the north side. A further notable absentee was Common Tern, which we have always seen during this phase of the event. They have been scarce locally this year.

A male Chaffinch was singing from bushes around the canal entrance before we made our way down the eastern perimeter of the reserve, adding Hobby, Dunnock, Jay and Bullfinch. And that was it! Back at the hut at 6.50am with 34 species recorded for the event, perhaps a little under par. Warming drinks were provided before participants drifted away - some back to bed, others headed off for breakfast and others continued with further local birding. It was Spring, after all.

Andy Culshaw

RECENT SIGHTINGS

Wild Angelica

(*Angelica sylvestris*):

A rare native plant locally, and only our second record ever of this handsome umbellifer (the first was of a juvenile near Upper Woodland Pond in 2010, which did not grow to maturity). A large plant on the wood-bank of the Western end of the Blackthorn Hedge, a rather unusual habitat for it in these parts, where it is largely confined to wet woodland sites or little marshy areas.



Wood Spurge (*Euphorbia amygdaloides*):

Another handsome native, has not been seen for many years, one small two stemmed plant in flower at the SW corner of The Wood. This species is restricted to ancient woodland sites in the SE of England, and indeed is one of the suite of plants here that point to the long continuity of woodland at a site, referred to as 'Ancient Woodland Indicator Plants'.

NEWS FROM THE RESERVE

RECENT SIGHTINGS (continued)

Grass snake: one large one in SW Little Elms Meadow in September, seen gliding through long grass towards the LEM Pond. First record for a long time, good to see that we have this declining species in our reserve. I doubt that I would have seen it if I had not been sitting still and quiet on the soggy grass totally for about five minutes. Often the best way to see many animals is to be motionless and quiet, and it's good to this for at least five minutes in any day anyway!

Common Toad: A large adult of this declining species seen in September in the SW corner of the Pondfield. Again, rarely recorded in the last two decades.

Peter Edwards

(details have been submitted to our Records Officer).

RESERVE MANAGEMENT REPORT

As members will be aware, the reserve does not entirely look after itself, even though, in a nature reserve, the wild plants and animals mostly do their own thing.

Our main mechanism for carrying out management on the reserve is the monthly 'Conservation Days' which take place on the second Sunday of every Month. A wide range of activities is carried out - here is just a small selection of tasks from the past year:

- Repairing fences and hedges (they need to be horse-proof)
- Removing encroaching scrub in pastures
- Clearing paths
- Restoring the hide
- Trimming and laying hedges
- Coppicing
- Removing reeds from the Big Pond
- Clearing and where necessary burning 'arisings'
- Making new seats

The biggest tasks in the past year were performed by 'Community Payback' group from August 2011

through till Feb 2012. They cleared all the 'temporary' weldmesh fencing that had been placed along the eastern boundary while the housing estate was being built. They also cleared significant amounts of scrub along the eastern boundary (but leaving enough for us to use to create a hedge).

There has been concern about the massive increase in holly over the past few decades. Peter Edwards composed a detailed report and, as a result, a programme of partial clearance was instituted. This was carried out by 'Community Payback', but work had to be suspended in February to avoid damaging the bluebells.

We had our usual contractors in to do the heavier clearance work which requires machine tools such as a mower and chainsaw. We also had specialist tree contractors to remove a broken high oak branch overhanging a path and to fell a leaning aspen.

BTCV (British Trust for Conservation Volunteers) gave us a day in which they re-laid a stretch of hedge. There was also 'give and gain' day where a team came from Imperial College to do some management work and also contributed £500

towards materials etc. They repaired and replaced fencing and freshened up the Nature Trail posts.

Underpinning the physical management of the reserve, we have meetings of the management committee and a continuing programme of monitoring and recording of wildlife. Various aspects of these are reported on in the newsletters.

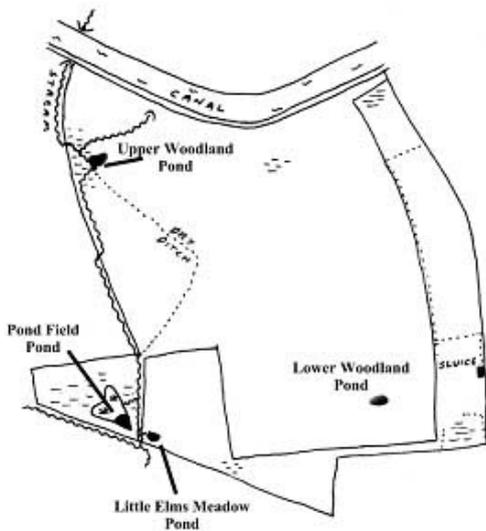
It can be seen that a lot has been going on. We are always keen to get more members involved, whether coming to Conservation Days or doing other things. Contact Nic on (020) 8930 4119, if you are interested.



Nic Ferriday

POND DIPPING FOR ADULTS - 5/5/2012

Unusually - not a fine afternoon for this outing. In fact, it was raining slightly a little before 2pm. It did brighten through the afternoon. The temperature moved up from 10.1°C to 13.2°C - about 10°C cooler than usual. The wet April and early May meant that the ground under foot was often wet and marshy in many parts of the reserve. A select (8) group of us set off to examine the ponds in the reserve, as indicated by the map below:



We started by looking at the crater of **Lower Woodland Pond**. Which was dry in spite of recent rain - confirming that the ground water level has not been significantly replenished. So no results to report here.

A short walk past the bluebells in the wood and across the rather damp pasture brought us to **Little Elms Meadow Pond**. This was quite full having been filled by run off from the meadow and by soak through from Pond Field next door. It was fuller on Open day but some water had drained away onto railway land and hence through their pipes under the railway and away southwards. Using our normal technique of sweeping with a stout net, and emptying the contents into white trays only seven different species were found here. Not entirely surprising as this pond is shaded by trees and has no aquatic plants. This may change now that a large poolside Poplar has been cut down.

We then moved into Pond Field. **Pond Field Pond** is the largest of our ponds, although its full extent is hidden by a significant growth of reeds. This pond is quite deep in parts, its water is clear with some aquatic vegetation (starwort). Partly in full sunlight and unlikely to dry up it would be

expected to have a wider range of species than the other ponds (although only a disappointing 8 this time), since its food chains are supplied by aquatic plant growth and phytoplankton (microscopic green algae). The water level was high - above 60 on the marker in the pond. This was really to have been expected, as water was flowing in the Boundary Stream which brings water down the west side of the reserve. Partly from a stream that originates under the canal, but also from water coming through a pipe from run off from the Post Office land next door. However in spite of this the number of species found, as mentioned above, was disappointing. It is possible that the cool recent weather has meant that some more active species may have gone semi-dormant at the bottom of the pond and therefore escaped the net. (Often these investigations raise more questions than they answer.) The most interesting specimens caught so far were diving beetle larvae (Probably *Agabus* spp - medium sized black diving water beetles.)



Diving beetle larva (*Agabus* spp) x6 lifesize

The afternoon was, as always, brought to a pleasant end by tea in the Hut, provided by our Membership Secretary, Rae Hall.

Discussion

It has already been noted that the results may have been depressed by cool weather. However some of the usual species were much in evidence. Waterfleas were at least abundant although it is interesting that the populations vary between ponds. Waterlice were notable in that their population was relatively low, they are usually at least common in Little Elms Meadow Pond. The main predators seen were the diving beetle larvae.

As a postscript it was suggested that a look at the flooded ditch on the east boundary north of the hut might be worth a look. Waterfleas were found in superabundance but nothing else. This would suggest that their eggs could remain dormant in the dry bottom of the ditch for some time until flooded again.

Organism	Feeding level	Pond Field	Upper Woodland	Little Elms Meadow	Lower Woodland
unidentified beetle larva	Carnivore	rare	rare	rare	DRY - N/A
blood worm midge larva	Detritivore			occasional	
freshwater shrimp	Detritivore	abundant		frequent	
gnat/mosquito larva	Detritivore		rare	occasional	
gnat/mosquito pupa	Detritivore		rare		
lesser water boatman	Herbivore	rare			
mayfly nymph	Herbivore	common			
midge pupae	Detritivore		frequent		
ostracod	Detritivore		rare		
phantom midge larva	Carnivore	abundant	occasional	occasional	
pond snail	Herbivore	occasional			
waterflea	Herbivore	abundant	abundant	superabundant	
waterlouse	Detritivore	rare	occasional	occasional	
pond species total		8	8	7	

Key: abundant = 100+ individuals; superabundant = 1000s
 common = 20; frequent = 10; occasional = 5; rare = 1; blank = not seen

References:

1. Wildlife in the Suburbs: Perivale Wood Nature Reserve 1973 edition.
2. Pond and Stream Life of Europe Blandford Press 1963 edition.
3. The Freshwater life of the British Isles by John Clegg 1952 edition published by Warne.

Peter Warne May 2012

PROPOSED VISITORS CENTRE FOR PERIVALE WOOD

For some time, a new building at the Perivale Wood Reserve has been just a dream - our existing buildings, mainly constructed with DIY Labour, are small, cramped, uninsulated and unheated - but now there's some exciting progress to report.

Ealing Council are taking down a couple of buildings from Walpole Park (the former Animal Centre and another behind it) and it appears that components of these buildings could be recycled. The Council have indicated that we can salvage components to use them in a new building of our own. Behind the scenes a lot of work has been going on, architects have been appointed, first-draft drawings prepared and a planning application is imminent. The new building will be to the North of the existing "Hut" - where the garage and "Visitors Centre" are at the moment. If

you visit the Reserve, you'll see the area marked out with posts and tape.

The vision is for a building of about 125 square metres, which will contain a good-sized meeting room, suitable for use as a classroom so we can increase use of the Reserve for educational use; also a small office/laboratory, which will enable us to undertake more "science" at the Reserve, and improve its use by others for research. There will be better storage for the Society's records and books, and also improved facilities for the tools and equipment that we use in the day to day management and conservation of the re Reserve. A better kitchen ... what else could we want oh, yes, LOOS! proper, plumbed in, main drainage connected toilets, accessible to disabled people.

/cont'd overleaf.

PROPOSED VISITORS CENTRE (continued)

There will need to be re-landscaping around the building, and we hope to replace the present access with a new pedestrian gate, complete with new locks.

We want the building to be as “green” as possible, and had initially considered, for instance, a straw bale building. Reusing components from an existing building is in itself environmentally desirable, and reduces the Carbon Footprint of the build (the carbon was embedded in the 1970s when the existing building was built). It will be fitted out to be as environmentally friendly as possible - the current plans include a green roof, solar panels, recycling some beautiful timber cladding, perhaps some of the windows and internal fittings, and some of the structural steels.

The Society has some money in the bank for this, but probably not enough! A prudent, step by step approach is being adopted by the Society's Council who will be meeting in July to review the situation and decide on the next step.

We will be launching an appeal to members, for both money and voluntary labour (we already have

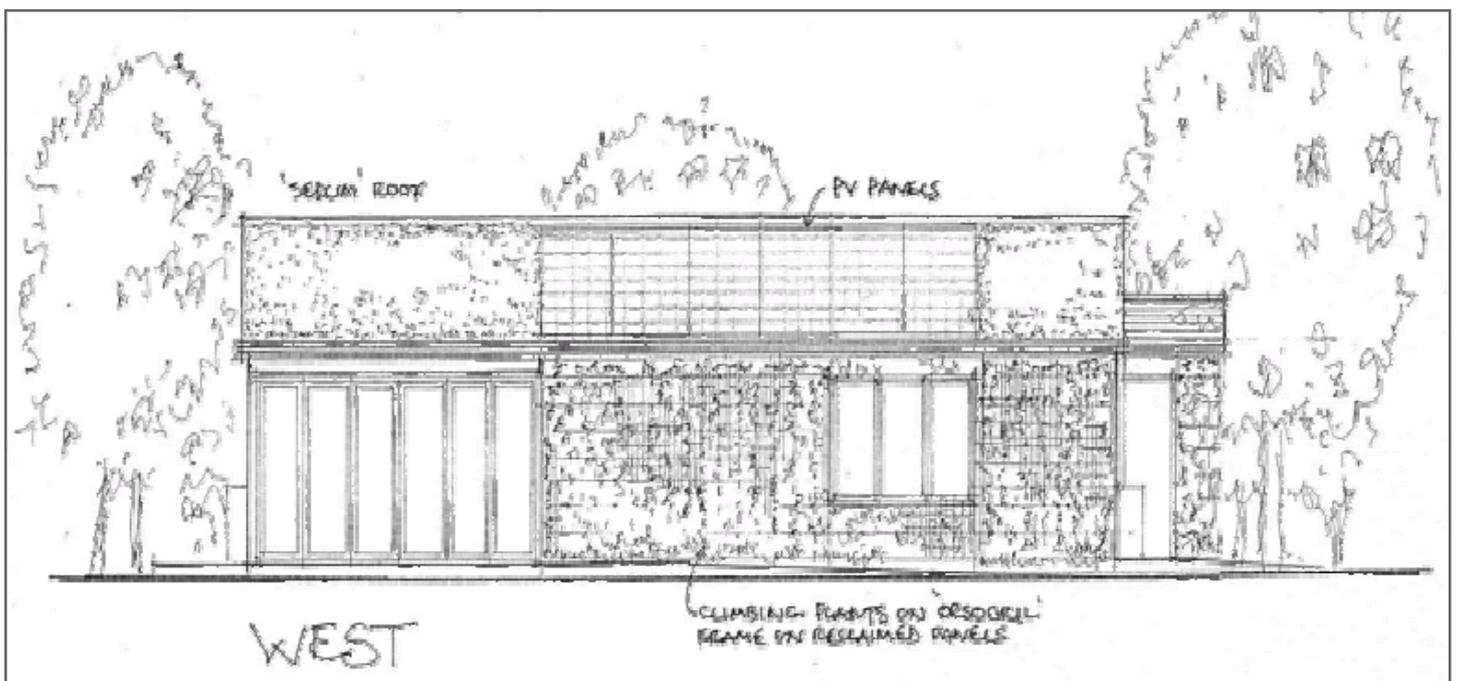
some offers of help), and we'll be applying to local businesses for sponsorship and for grants - the advice we've been given is that the scheme ought to attract grant assistance.

We've quite a tight timescale - the Walpole buildings will be taken down in October or November and ideally we'd like to have ground work done so that the new building takes shape more or less immediately the components become available. Fingers crossed, but if all goes to plan, by Christmas there will be a wind- and weather-tight “shell” of the new building, with fitting out in progress. We'll keep you posted.

In the meantime, donations, fund-raising and sponsorship will be most welcome - the simplest way to donate to the project is to send cheques made out to the Selborne Society to our registered office (see page 1). Equally important is to get involved in actually preparing the site and helping with basic construction and administration tasks. Email your offers of assistance to contact@selbornesociety.org.uk.

Andy Pedley

The architect's preliminary drawing for the proposed Visitors Centre at Perivale Wood is shown below. These drawings will evolve as our requirements are fleshed out and detailed specifications decided upon.



AN EYE ON THE BIRDS

It is only relatively recently that studies have been done in any great detail on the eyes of birds. What do birds see, with the eyes of some birds on the sides of their heads, and some facing forward? As long ago as 1690, William Molyneux, an Irish philosopher, wrote:

***'The eye is only the organ or instrument ,
'tis the soul that sees by means of the eye.'***

If we substitute 'brain' for 'soul', then we can follow up the theory that the brain sorts out the images coming into the retina. We know that the images which fall upon our retinas are inverted by the eye's lens and the brain rights them. Studies have even shown that, where test subjects are fitted with special (re-)inverting spectacles, their brains will still make sense of the rotated images.

Studies of the 3D visual areas of different birds have been divided into three types by Graham Martin at the University of Birmingham.

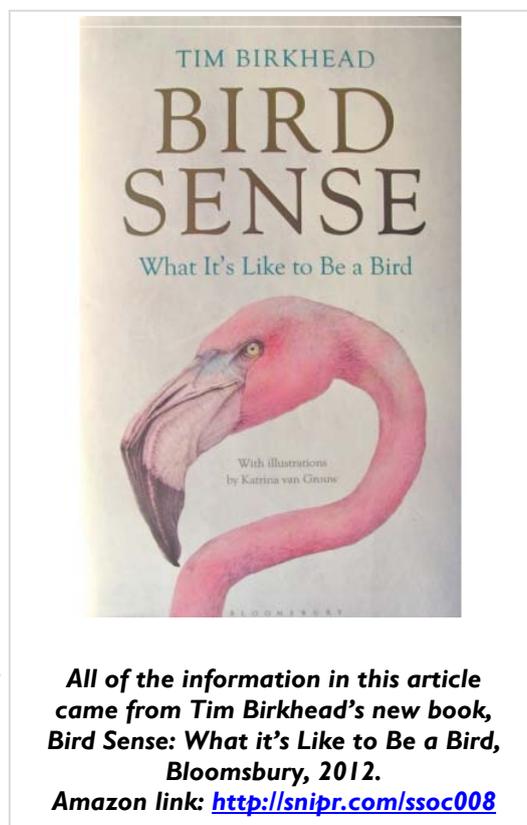
Type 1 birds have some forward vision, excellent lateral vision, but no vision behind. These birds cannot even see their own bill tips! They have just enough binocular vision to feed their chicks. Examples are blackbirds, robins, warblers.

Type 2 birds have eyes high up and on the sides of their heads. Examples are ducks and woodcocks. They have a restricted forward view, also cannot see their bill tips, but can see above and behind and probably see two different images. These will be differentiated and prioritized in the brain.

In fact most birds use their left and right eyes for different tasks. Sometimes entire species exhibit 'sidedness', as in domestic fowl, which use their left eye to scan for aerial predators. Their right eye searches for food. Studies by Fernando Nottebohm brought 'sidedness' to light in the 1970s.

Type 3 birds have forward-facing eyes, like us, and have no vision behind. These include owls and raptors. Raptors have excellent visual acuity, an ability to see fine detail. Owls have excellent sensitivity, an ability to see in low light levels.

For an owl to see in poor light it needs large eyes to take in more visual information on the retina. It uses these large eyes to avoid obstacles while flying. Because the owl also needs large ears to locate its prey, the only place its head with room for large eyes is at the front, therefore the eyes are forward-facing.



Raptors also have large eyes, but to fulfil their need for visual acuity, this large retinal area is filled with cones, the photoreceptor cells that detect colour. They also have two foveas, where humans have one. Foveas are slight depressions in the retina with a high density of cones, each with a nerve cell sending information to the brain. Raptor retinas have one million cones per square millimetre. Humans have about 200,000. A raptor has twice the visual acuity of a human.

Humans have three types of cones to see colour - Red, Green and Blue. Dogs only have two. But birds have four! They can also see ultraviolet (UV). This also was only discovered in the 1970s. Before that it was thought

only insects had UV vision. Bees use it to differentiate between flowers. We now know that a kestrel can track a vole prey by following the UV in their urine trails. Male bird plumage also reflects UV light to aid in sexual selection.

And we thought we saw everything!

Judith Gordon

BOOK NEWS

David Howdon, who recently took on the role of Society Vice-Chairman, has been hard at work surveying moths and butterflies in Perivale Wood. His research has now borne fruit in the shape of a new Selborne publication, "Lepidoptera of Perivale Wood", which will shortly be available from the Hut and at our monthly evening meetings at Greenford Community Centre.



David has a real enthusiasm for his subject and you can experience this and share his extensive knowledge at first-hand when, together with John Hollingdale of the Hertfordshire and Middlesex Bat Group, he leads our next field meeting as part of National Moth Evening. The combined Moth Evening and Bat Walk will take place from 10pm on 22nd June.

INSECT SURVEY

Peter Edwards and Nic Ferriday have been given the go-ahead by Council to organise a review of the Reserve's extensive set of insect records.

Insects are a very large and important group of organisms but there are few people who know much about them and are able to identify them reliably. For that reason, they will use the services of a professional entomologist, John Dobson, who did some survey work on flies at PW many years ago, especially hoverflies, and found lots of new species for us.

John will collate, validate and review our records and the output of his work will be a validated list of the insects (except Lepidoptera) for PW from before 1960 to the present, together with comments and suggestions for future survey work.

EDITOR'S BIT

These days, you can't pick up a paper or switch on the TV without seeing a report on 'social media' channels such as Facebook and Twitter. Whilst many of you may well regard the rise of Facebook, Twitter etc. as being irredeemably anti-social, displacing the truly social mechanisms of talking and writing letters, they do have their uses. For example, by creating a [Facebook page](#) for the Society, we were able to publicise our recent Open Day and quickly share photographs of the event.

Don't worry, this doesn't mean you can expect to see inane posts on the merits of TV's 'Big Brother' or 'Britain's Got Talent' but we **can** keep you informed of Society events such as our programme of talks at Greenford Community Centre.

Even better news is that you may not even have to visit our Facebook page to see our diary. Many calendar programs (e.g. Outlook, Sunbird or iCal for the Mac) or Web-based services (e.g. Google, Yahoo or Windows Live) will allow you to import a friend's calendar. Column space does not allow me to give instructions for each program or service but if you use their Help functions, you should be okay. There is a link for the Selborne Calendar below * which you should copy into whatever program you are using on your computer or mobile device.

NEXT COPY DATE: Mid-September or sooner.

Best wishes,

* Selborne Calendar address:

webcal://www.facebook.com/ical/u.php?uid=100001366366296&key=AQDkkukcJv2yK2U1

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