

## HOLIDAY HIGHLIGHTS

### YORKSHIRE IN SUMMER

1-8 JULY 2023

Guide: Sally Nowell

Guests: Richard & Christine Loversidge, John Duerden, Angela Mackersie, Vivien Emery, Heather James

Day 1 We meet up with four of our guests at York Station promptly at 3pm and make our way through the bustling crowds of summer visitors lining the streets of York. We are soon out of the city after passing the magnificent York Minister looking particularly glorious in the summer sunshine.

We drive up over the Yorkshire Wolds and eventually drop down over the 600 acre pasture of Beverley Westwood with St Mary's Church ahead of us which will be right outside our hotel when we arrive. We admire the Georgian building and its belvedere on top as we turn through North Bar and find the narrow street that takes us to the hotel car park. We check in and within the hour meet up again, this time including our other two guests, Richard and Chris who have been at the hotel for the previous two nights.

We set off for a stretch of our legs and a brief explore which turns out to be a 1.3/4 hour birding session. We initially walk along the street admiring the buildings and absorbing a bit of local history especially regarding Beverley Westwood. It's a breezy afternoon and there's not much sign of any birdlife though we are all delighted to see Swifts swooping through the air above us. We follow a grassy track which leads across the open grass pasture and enters the woodland. It's a thicket of brambles, holly, hawthorn, lime, horse chestnut and elder, a real mix of ancient woodland. We soon start to hear a bit of activity, a short call sounds like it might have come from a Garden Warbler but despite our patience we don't see anything after the first short burst of song. A bit further on we hear Blackcap and spot what looks like a family group of them amongst some thick ivy. A short piercing call attracts our attention next and we see hidden deep in the branches a young Marsh Tit, the call was it being fed. It's really difficult to see so we wait in the hope that the parent bird will return.

We move on and admire a magnificent Lime tree festooned with scented blossoms. Viv thinks she has seen a Whitethroat, a short burst of song and a couple of fleeting glimpses but nothing concrete. As we watch we see a singing Dunnock perched on some lichen covered branches, a Kestrel takes to the air just beside us and as we move around the ancient scrubby

woodland we catch sight and sound of young Long-tailed, Coal, Blue and Great Tits all the while we are hearing Magpies so for all these young tits to have survived is quite miraculous! We head back to the hotel past some beautiful houses and gardens which Sally and Heather enjoy. We have our pre dinner gathering in the car park in the sun and discuss plans for the following day.

## Day 2

Well the plan for today changed because of the weather conditions so after picking up our sandwiches from a local deli we head to our first stop of the day which is a small Yorkshire Wildlife Trust reserve just a few miles from our base in Beverley. The area is a chalk quarry which we enter after crossing an old railway track. As soon as we cross the boundary fence we are surrounded by flowers and butterflies. Meadow Cranesbill, Bladder Campion, Greater Knapweed, Ox-eye Daisy and so on. Sally excitedly sees a Banded Demoiselle but it does not linger and heads off. But the Marbled White butterflies are much more cooperative. In the hour and a half we spend here they pose beautifully for us. It seems that every head of Greater Knapweed has its own Marbled White, they are just delightful. John is in his element with all the different plants in this chalk quarry and by the end of the day he has identified 63 different plant species. We wander through in the morning sun enjoying the mixed butterflies, mostly Meadow Brown, some Common Blue and Small Skipper. We also see Pyramidal Orchid, Common Centaury and John spots a tiny but glorious Yellow wort. A Mistle Thrush appears, Yellowhammer, Chiffchaff and Willow Warbler sing and we are impressed by gathering of 30 or more Linnets seemingly feeding on the chalk walls of the quarry.

We end our time here and then cut through quiet single track country lanes, past gorgeous cottages and tempting village pubs. to our next reserve again a small tucked away treasure teeming with life. As we arrive a Whitethroat sings and then Sedge Warbler pops up. Chiffchaff sings persistently and Cettis Warbler make a statement as does a very vocal Blackcap. But it's not the birds here that steal the show it's the Banded Demoiselles. These stunning Demoiselles glide over the water with their delicate paddle shaped wings looking just beautiful with their iridescent blue bodies. Viv finds a more subtle but equally stunning female. A larger dragonfly flies by and allows us to get a good view, this one is a Southern Hawker. The crystal clear river holds huge Grayling drifting in the current and we also spot smaller Brown Trout. It's a warm but blustery morning so small birds are lying low but they are certainly still pretty vocal as are the green Marsh Frogs who surprise us with their loud and varied croaking! Marsh frogs, we discovered, were in fact introduced from Hungary in the 1930's and now threaten our native Common frog and its habitat.

We wander back to the van for lunch and then take a final walk around the wetland habitat now overgrown with Hemlock, Bullrushes and Greater Willowherb, but amongst the plants Sedge Warblers sing and we finally see our Whitethroat. We are pleased to see a female Marsh Harrier drift over but our greatest find is an Emperor Dragonfly which helps us with it enormously by landing on a tree to eat its prey allowing us to watch it through the scope.

We move on from here cutting once again down narrow lanes to Tophill Low Yorkshire Water reserve. We pay our entry fee and then take a brief look out over one of the reservoirs, a few Coots, Tufted Ducks and preening Great Crested Grebes are loafing about with busy Common Terns fishing around them. We wander along the well made paths looking for Bee Orchid. After the dry weather the orchids are almost over, there are still a lot of Common Spotted Orchids and the verges here are thick with a magical mix of wildflowers but no Bee Orchids. We continue on to the hides spotting Little-ringed Plover and Common Sandpiper. Healthy numbers of Lapwing, adults and immature, Redshank and male Marsh Harrier. On our return we find a rather tired sun bleached Bee Orchid. Back in the van and heading back to the hotel we spot a field with five or more Brown Hare.

After dinner we go 'owling'. We drive down country lanes in the hope of seeing some evening wildlife. We are not disappointed, Brown Hares abound and we are all thrilled to see so many and a couple of handsome Roe Deer bucks. Heather is also thrilled to see a wonderful glowing full moon, this month called a "Buck Moon", it looks huge and is tinged with apricot as it rises and then disappears into the clouds. After Richard asked for one today, we have a wonderful Barn Owl perched on a gate and then giving us a fabulous view as it flies down the hedge and then in front of the van across the road. We all cheer!! We continue and Sally spots another Barn Owl on top of telegraph pole but it flies as we pass. We continue but see nothing more and its time for bed.

### Day 3

Today we are heading a bit further afield and cheating slightly by briefly leaving Yorkshire and heading into north Lincolnshire. We wend our way along the maze of roads that cross this area and Sally is assisted throughout the day by her co-pilot Heather with a bit of navigation on some of the more complicated stretches of the road. On route we stop briefly overlooking the Humber Estuary. A hundred or so Shelduck are busily feeding on the mudflats with Oystercatchers and a few Curlew. We do not linger on this busy road and unfortunately there is a change in the weather and there are a few spots of rain. We continue and are on our way through the pretty village of Alkborough and down to the Alkborough flats. There is nobody there but a couple of workmen so we have the entire reserve to ourselves. We are soon walking flanked by reed beds and the

sound of Sedge Warblers. We hear a distant Bearded Tit call and Angela sees one fly into the nearby reed bed. We watch and it pops up and then flies off again, we all see it but not well. We hear it again and retrace our steps, we all manage to see a beautiful female perched up on the reeds waving about in the breeze.

The rain starts again and is getting a bit more persistent so we head for the hide nearby to take shelter. A Great Egret is feeding alongside a Little Egret, good for comparison. A few mixed waterfowl, a lot in eclipse plumage but amongst them some Wigeon, Teal, Gadwall and Mallard. The rain starts to ease so we decide to return to the van enjoying the fresh smell of the vegetation after the rain.

We continue from here to Blacktoft again down winding country roads. Sally spots a Peregrine on a pylon drying off after the rain, its not looking too happy but it sits obligingly for us all to see. A very exciting sighting as we drive is a pair of Grey Partridges that run across the road in front of the van quickly disappearing but clearly and excitingly a bird many of us rarely get to see. Eventually we arrive at RSPB Blacktoft Sands nature reserve, it's raining again so we decide to have lunch in the car park where there is a bit of shelter.

After lunch we head into the reserve and are greeted by Darren who tells us a bit about the reserve and planned expansion locally as well as work that the RSPB are doing elsewhere in this vital area rich in habitat for migratory birds. We head to Marshland hide where we are once again the only ones there and languish in some great birding for the next hour and a half. Sally's plan to go to North Cave afterwards is changing, there is plenty to see here and the hides make great shelters from the afternoon rain so we decide to just relax and enjoy all that Blacktoft has to offer. From this hide we are treated to a group of 40 or so stunning summer plumage Black-tailed Godwits, Spotted Redshank, Green Sandpiper, Common Sandpiper, Dunlin, Snipe, Greenshank, Redshank, Avocet, Lapwing and more great views of Bearded Tits feeding below the reeds, Reed Warblers and Marsh Harriers, but even the birds are affected by the sometimes very heavy rain, huddling for shelter and more restless but as the rain stops the birds become more active and relaxed, as the sun comes out they start to preen. It's altogether a delightful scene of ever changing birdlife. Viv is concerned about an Avocet which appears to be having a spasm every few minutes but the rest of us are intent on finding different species or watching other activity. Angela spots a Waterrail behind some Mallard ducklings and we are all delighted by the beautiful Godwits in the sun and the graceful Greenshanks feeding in the shallows right in front of the hide.

We eventually move on as the sun has come out and suddenly the reserve is alive with small birds feeding, Ringlet butterflies and the occasional dragonfly. We walk around the reserve enjoying flocks of Long-tailed Tits, Little Grebe, a Mute Swan family, a Gadwall family but probably a highlight of the day is the number of great views we have of Marsh Harrier. The juveniles have just taken to the wing and their dark chocolate brown plumage and tangerine heads is quite a sight. They are flying back and fore over the water occasionally stalking a duckling but not very practiced attempts so far. We are the last car to leave Blacktoft which we had pretty much to ourselves this afternoon. What a great few hours birding. We head home a different route following the route of the River Ouse and Humber on the north bank. Fields of rape are covered in feeding hirundines and we are delighted that so far this trip we are seeing lots of Swifts. We are finally on our road back to Beverley for our final night at the Beverley Arms after a very full and satisfying days birding.

#### Day 4

We leave the Beverley Arms today. Our first stop, for those who wish to, is to visit Beverley Minister. John, Chris and Richard all opt to look around Beverley having visited the minister before. We arrive a little early and decide to take a short drive where we discover Beveley Flats, a small reserve that we wander about in the morning sun. The hedgerows are filled with fruit, mainly damsons and crabapples, its going to be a feast for the birds in the autumn! There are brambles too and the butterflies are making the most of the flowers. It's covered with Meadow Browns and we even spot a Gatekeeper. Heather finds a ladybird which looks like it's shedding its skin.

We wander for a short time enjoying the warm sun and busy insects but we soon head back to the magnificent minster where Sally drops everyone off returning 30 minutes later to pick them up and then eventually our group is reunited and we are all on our way to the Yorkshire Wolds, first stop Burdale. We travel down some beautiful lanes flanked on either side by huge Ash trees, we all look out for Little Owl but search in vain. The valley walls become steeper and we become enclosed in the deep wolds valleys. As we continue we come to a quarry where we stop to scour the rocky sides in search of Peregrine. A Common Buzzard is disturbed as we arrive and it soars back over towards us. We can hear Yellowhammer below us in the hawthorn and Chiffchaff is calling in the distance. Heather is sure she heard a Cuckoo but we just aren't quite sure as it doesn't call again. Sally is delighted to find an adult Peregrine sitting under a hawthorn tree at the top of the cliff, we enjoy good but distant views and then notice another bird sitting just below it, both adults and the lower slightly smaller male is looking spectacular in his white and slate grey contrasting plumage.

We continue on from here to our lunch spot where once again we hear Yellowhammer and are serenaded by a Common Whitethroat. On route here the Greater Knapweed flowers are just covered in Marbled Whites butterflies, every flower on the plant has its own butterfly which means some have 15 or more on them, a stunning sight.

We continue to Robert Fullers Gallery. A lot of folk wonder why we go here but Robert is quite a character. His passion for wildlife and sharing its wonders is boundless. As well as an artist whose art we can see and appreciate he also has 100 live cameras recording activity of everything from Kingfishers to Kestrel and Badgers. His youtube videos are now becoming world famous but Robert always seems to find a bit of time to spend with us. This time he was able to show us some young Tawny Owls that had recently fledged and one of his team, Sam, showed us round the wildlife garden and told us a bit more about the work the team to do rescue orphaned wild animals.

We leave the gallery and make our way just a few miles down the road to Wharram-le-street Quarry, such a fabulous place especially for the plant and butterfly lovers. The quarry is just heaving with butterflies especially Marbled Whites. Some Common Blues, Small Heath, Meadow Browns and Ringlets. The area we are in is carpeted with wildflowers just too numerous to mention. But the jewel like Pyramidal Orchids and Clustered Bellflowers are like jewels amongst the quaking grass, Birdsfoot Trefoil, Yellow Rattle, Rest Harrow etc. The area is famed for its Woolly Thistle and Thistle Broomrape but for the latter and many of the orchids the dry weather means its not been a great year for them, however this beautiful place that we wander though on our own is still spellbinding every time we visit.

We leave the quarry and head over the Yorkshire Wolds towards the coast, enjoying beautiful expansive views over the gentle rolling landscape and patchwork of corn fields interspersed with flocks of sheep and cattle. We arrive in Filey and after settling in take a short walk along the cliff tops and down to the sea to drink in some fresh sea air and enjoy the powerful waves as the high tide crashes against the seawall. Its time for dinner and the birdlist and to hear plans for tommorrow.

## Day 5

Today we are due to set sail, we are going out onto the North Sea aboard the Yorkshire Belle. But first we head to Filey Dams, a small local reserve just a couple of miles from the hotel. We arrive to discover that there is a reserve working party busily cleaning the hides so our stay is brief. As we position ourselves behind a rather unaccommodating screen, (like so many the slots are all at the wrong height), we are thrilled to see a pair of Avocets and two chicks, how wonderful that these birds have found this tiny reserve and made it their home. The chicks are still covered in fluff but

their behavior reflects their parents as they sweep their bill across the surface of the water to feed. One of the chicks takes refuge under its mother whilst sadly a Lesser Black-backed Gull is eyeing up the youngsters! Eagle eyed Viv who carefully searches around the small wetland area in front of us, spots Common Sandpiper, so well camouflaged as it works its way along the waters edge. Richard and Viv enjoy watching the Tufted Duck chicks diving for food like they've been doing it for years, these chicks are tiny but they have mastered their diving techniques very quickly. A Stock Dove perches on one of the nest boxes and a young Kestrel on another, presumably the box has been used by the Kestrels for nesting. Our first Canada Geese of the trip and Richard also spies a Little Grebe feeding a well grown chick.

Quite a coup for a half hour session in a small Yorkshire Wildlife Trust reserve and we will return, this is such a super spot and just round the corner from our hotel.

We continue on to Bridlington where we immediately get parked and disembark to the sound of Kittiwakes that are nesting on some nearby window ledges, what a delightful sight but will the owners of the window ledges be quite so keen?! We walk past the ice cream and fresh seafood stalls to join the queue for the boat. Soon we are boarding and are entertained by the local pirate boat who do a 10 minute tour of the bay for £3, great fun for kids but our guests prefer the idea of the Yorkshire Belle. The sun is out but we are rightly prepared for all weathers and as we leave the shelter of the harbour our extra layers go on.

We work our way along to Flamborough admiring the magnificent chalk cliffs and the auks and Gannets that are beginning to appear the closer we get to Bempton Cliffs. The commentary on the boat is excellent and we sit back and enjoy the ride. As we near the Bempton Cliffs the numbers of birds increase, around us Kittiwakes, Guillemots, Razorbills, Puffins, Fulmars, and Gannets whirl around feeding and simply resting on the water. As we near the cliffs the sounds are immense, the Kittiwakes at Flamborough are spectacular but the Gannet colonies at Bempton seen from the sea are incredible. We enjoy the seabirds but as we leave the cliffs the sea conditions become a little more challenging as we head out further towards Filey Brigg, the boat skipper refers to the conditions as "a bit roll poly" I think even the crew hadn't quite anticipated that we would be encountering such a swell and those at the front of the boat got quite a drenching.

We continue to the Brigg and as soon as we enter Filey Bay the sea is becalmed and we all relax as the wind drops and we can enjoy our lunch. On the way back the sun shines and we gaze out at the sea mesmerized,

almost hypnotized by the waves and the comings and goings of the Gannets and other seabirds. What a relaxing end to our cruise as we head back to Bridlington Harbour.

The afternoon is running short so we head to Flamborough south landing and walk down to the sea. A few Goldfinches call as we walk and once by the shore John spots a couple of Redshank. Not much more activity around the beach and cliffs so we make our way back up the steps through the wood, though Viv chooses to return by road only to meet us later at the top of the wood. We climb the steep steps and are glad to pause for breath at the top where we hear a Bullfinch and see it fleetingly. Apart from an enormous, but to date unidentified fungus, we see little else other than a very cooperative Wren who perches for several minutes on a branch. We arrive back at the van and decide to head back to the hotel as we are due to head out this evening to look for Nightjar.

After dinner we head to Wykeham forest and a spot Sally has been before to see Nightjar and Woodcock. When we arrive there are several cars who turn out to be the Bridlington and Driffeld bird club. They are very welcoming and we spend the next hour chatting quietly and waiting for the first sound of Nightjar. The churring eventually starts and we have several fast fly bys as well as a perching bird in the fading light. Woodcock flies overhead but both species are proving tricky to get on in the fading light. The churring is so atmospheric and despite the fact that there are nearly 20 folk present we don't make a sound.. We are determined to see a Nightjar and after everyone leaves we have a very close and atmospheric churring but no sign of the bird.

## Day 6

Today we head to the North Yorkshire Moors. First to look for beautiful Turtle Doves but sadly there are none to be seen and we hear no 'purring' where could they be this year?

Not far along the road we spot a manmade lake and pause briefly only to realize that's there's quite a lot of activity here so we pull off the road and scan across the water and water edges. Its good to see quite a number of Lapwing have found this haven along with Curlew and Oystercatcher with chicks.

The scenery here is beautiful, wooded hillsides and lush green fields and we drive through the area stopping briefly in Forge Valley where the feeders attract an array of different small birds including Marsh Tit, Nuthatch and Great-spotted Woodpecker.



We drive on to Wykeham Forest raptor viewpoint. There are a few folk there looking out across the valley so we make ourselves comfortable and begin scouring the horizon. There are numerous sightings of Common Buzzard but what we are really hoping for here is Honey Buzzard. We have a distant view of Goshawk and are pleased to hear Siskin and Crossbill flying overhead and eventually thrilled to have a male Common Crossbill perch on top of a larch tree not far away giving us some splendid views. John finds a curious caterpillar which turns out to be a Rusty Tussock Moth Caterpillar.

From here we find a sheltered lunch spot once again we hear Whitethroat singing and Goldfinches drop in to feed on the thistles. Our next stop is the beautiful village of Thornton-le-Dale where we all eye up the gorgeous cottages and go on a bit of an expedition to find the toilets.

We've a new destination to explore next and enter Dalby Forest to try and locate it. We drive to the visitor centre and a young ranger immediately is able to point us in the right direction. We retrace our steps, passing an amazing sculpture of 'Lumberjills' who worked in the forest during World War II. We are soon parked up and out of the van to take a short walk through some delightful woodland. Here we hear our first and only Spotted Flycatcher but despite our efforts we can't locate it, it must be perched somewhere in the dense forest. Not far along the path we reach our destination, Ellerburn Flower Meadow. The area is an SSSI and the wide open area is filled with a mix of wildflowers who have sadly suffered a bit in the hot dry weather preceding our visit.

As we enter the field we hear our first Garden Warbler. Again this bird is evading us, its singing deep in vegetation and Angela is determined to spot it but to no avail. Some of us wander the field in search of any remaining Orchids, in particular we are hoping to find Fly Orchid but all we find is a rather dried up Bee Orchid. However as we are enjoying being in this beautiful space Angela spots a Sparrowhawk over the trees, but is it a Sparrowhawk? No it's a Goshawk but no sooner have we identified it, it has disappeared from view. As we leave the open area and return to the woodland a mixed flock of small birds including Long-tailed Tits makes its way through the dense vegetation and on the way back we are treated to some fabulous views of a perching male Bullfinch and our first Dark Green Fritillary. As always John has been on the lookout for plants, our list is getting longer and longer.

Our day is not over yet as we are now heading through the picturesque market town of Pickering and up onto the huge expanse of the Yorkshire Moors. As we drive Angela is on top spotting form and quickly sees Red Grouse and then Golden Plover. We stop and scan out, we see Red Grouse very close and hear the echoing call of Golden Plover, one perches

up on an old stone wall, As we stand and enjoy the scene there are discussions about the cricket scores and Wimbledon, maybe everyone has had enough birding after quite a long day so though it is lovely to be up on the moor its time to head back to our hotel.

## Day 7

Today we are spending closer to home. We head to Filey Dams, the first thing we see are four sleeping Avocet chicks, everyone is thrilled with this reserve which we explore more extensively today. There are several spacious hides which give good views over the scrape. There's lots happening here, Green and Common Sandpipers and adult and juvenile Avocets feeding very close to hide. The Avocet parents are very protective and even chase off a pretty harmless young Moorhen that appears close to the young avocet chicks who are oblivious to their apparent vulnerability. For a group of birdwatchers there are a surprising number of cat lovers amongst us so we are delighted when the reserves resident cat puts in an appearance and starts rolling over for attention.

From this delightful little reserve we continue on to Filey Brigg. A well known location for birders over many years particularly during migration time. From here the views looking down onto Filey Bay are magnificent. As we admire the views we can hear Skylarks singing and as we wander along the cliff tops there are an array of different plants including Seaside Centaury. On the cliffs below us we can see Fulmar and Kittiwake and return to our debate about whether the pigeons are Feral or Rock Dove. Angela finds a young Peregrine huddled up on the cliffs, its not looking very happy, perhaps its waiting for its lunch? Around it the seabirds and pigeons are perhaps surprisingly getting on with life. Out on the water we see Mallard but Viv picks up something else, ducks, but they are diving, on closer inspection we see that they are Common Scoter.

After our morning enjoying Filey we make our way to Bempton Cliffs. On route we stop by some local farmland to look for Corn Bunting. As we are turning the vehicle, a farmer stops us, he's a bit wary about what we are up to but as we explain we had been in the area last year and had seen Corn Bunting he soon relaxes and tells us where to go to see them. He then starts to talk about some of the challenges and changes in farming and the need for rough pasture for the birds, he's a keen wildlife photographer and clearly very interested in habitat management and what birds need, we struggle to get away once he's in full swing but we need to get on with our day.

As RSPB Bempton Cliffs the car park is packed so we are ushered into the overflow area park and have our lunch here. As we approach the reserve

we are greeted by the sound of Tree Sparrows deep in the bramble thicket, it's actually quite hard to see them but they are definitely there, the noise they make is a constant chatter.

It's a beautiful clear sunny day, perfect for an afternoon on the top of the cliffs, no wonder the place is busy, there are lots of visitors enjoying the spectacle of seabirds that awaits us. As always it's the Gannets that are the stars here, being able to see them so close is just thrilling. Their agility in the air, their effortless flight and their stunning plumage and often quite mischievous behavior are captivating. Sadly though we can see some dead birds on the cliffs and it's clear that bird flu is still having an impact. But the next generation of chicks are growing fast and offering lots of optimism for the years to come.

Our final stop of the holiday is Flamborough and our main priority here is to get an ice cream. We make our choices and sit looking out over a beautiful blue sea and the white cliffs below us. We are really hoping for Puffins here but today they must be out fishing so after wandering the cliff tops and enjoying the Grey Seals on the rocks below us we return to the van and make our way back to the hotel hearing Common Bunting singing from telegraph wires as we drive. It's a beautiful evening so we sit outside in the sunshine to do our final birdlist of the trip.

After dinner we spot a sudden explosion of Herring Gulls from the nearby buildings, they have been flushed by a Buzzard who is being seen off by their angry and aggressive cries, our final wildlife moment of the trip!

## Day 8

After breakfast we say goodbye to Richard and Chris and the rest of us make our way to York Station keeping our fingers crossed that the trains we are all needing to catch are running. Thankfully they are all running as hoped so we say goodbye at the station and hope to meet again before too long.

### Favourite Species

Viv	Gannet
John	Watching the Avocet activity
Angela	Summer plumage Golden Plover
Heather	Yellowhammer
Chris	Peregrine
Richard	Bearded Tit
Sally	Golden Plover

### Favourite Place

Richard	Filey Dams
Heather	Kiplingcotes Quarry
John	Kiplingcoates Quarry
Viv	Bempton
Angela	Being on the North Yorkshire Moors
Chris	Filey Dams
Sally	Ellerburn

### Magic Moment

Chris	Seeing the Grey Partridge
Viv	Watching the Avocet and its chicks at Filey Dams
Richard	Seeing the Barn Owl on the night drive
John	The boat trip, especially when we went from the rough seas to the calm of Filey Bay
Angela	The boat trip and Robert Fullers Gallery and surroundings.
Heather	Seeing the sunset and moonrise on the night drive, the 'Buck Moon' and the Roe buck
Sally	Seeing the Banded Demoiselles at Skerne

## BIRDS

Mute Swan  
Greylag Goose  
Canada Goose  
Shelduck  
Mallard  
Gadwall  
Shoveler  
Wigeon  
Teal  
Tufted Duck  
Common Scoter  
Red-legged Partridge  
Grey Partridge  
Pheasant  
Red Grouse  
Little Grebe  
Great-crested Grebe  
Fulmar  
Gannet  
Cormorant  
Shag  
Little Egret  
Great Egret  
Grey Heron  
Red Kite  
Marsh Harrier  
Common Buzzard  
Sparrowhawk  
Goshawk  
Kestrel  
Peregrine  
Water Rail  
Moorhen  
Coot  
Oystercatcher  
Avocet  
Dunlin  
Little Ringed Plover  
Golden Plover  
Lapwing  
Common Sandpiper  
Green Sandpiper  
Redshank  
Spotted Redshank  
Black-tailed Godwit  
Curlew  
Woodcock  
Snipe  
Black Headed Gull  
Common Gull  
Herring Gull  
Great Black-backed Gull  
Lesser Black-backed Gull  
Kittiwake  
Common Tern  
Guillemot  
Razorbill  
Puffin  
Rock Dove  
Stock Dove  
Woodpigeon  
Collared Dove  
Tawny Owl  
Barn Owl  
Nightjar  
Swift  
Great Spotted Woodpecker  
Skylark  
Sand Martin  
House Martin  
Swallow  
Meadow Pipit  
Pied Wagtail  
Dunnock  
Robin  
Song Thrush  
Mistle Thrush  
Blackbird  
Garden Warbler (H)  
Blackcap  
Whitethroat  
Cetti's Warbler (H)  
Reed Warbler  
Sedge Warbler  
Willow Warbler  
Chiffchaff

Wren  
Spotted Flycatcher (H)  
Great Tit  
Coal Tit  
Blue Tit  
Marsh Tit  
Bearded Tit  
Long-tailed Tit  
Nuthatch  
Magpie  
Jackdaw  
Rook  
Carrion Crow  
Starling  
House Sparrow  
Tree Sparrow  
Chaffinch  
Linnet  
Goldfinch  
Greenfinch  
Siskin  
Bullfinch  
Common Crossbill  
Reed Bunting  
Yellowhammer  
Corn Bunting

### **MAMMALS**

Grey Seal  
Roe Deer  
Grey Squirrel  
Brown Hare  
Rabbit  
Common Pipistrelle

### **BUTTERFLIES**

Small Tortoiseshell  
Marbled White  
Speckled Wood  
Ringlet  
Meadow Brown  
Common Blue  
Red Admiral  
Small Heath  
Small Skipper  
Large Skipper  
Comma  
Large White  
Green-veined White  
Gatekeeper  
Dark Green Fritillery

### **DRAGONFLIES/DAMSELFLIES**

Emperor  
Banded Demoiselle  
Four Spotted Chaser  
Common Blue Damselfly  
Southern Hawker  
Blue-tailed Damselfly

John Duerden has very kindly created a plant list for the trip below. Thank you John

Common Name	Botanical Name	Remarks
Stinging Nettle	<i>Urtica dioica</i>	
Amphibious Bistort	<i>Persicaria amphibia</i>	
Knotgrass	<i>Polygonum aviculare</i>	
Common Sorrel	<i>Rumex acetosa</i>	
Bladder Campion	<i>Silene vulgaris</i>	
Red Campion	<i>Silene dioica</i>	
Meadow Buttercup	<i>Ranunculus acris</i>	
Celery-Leaved Buttercup	<i>Ranunculus sceleratus</i>	
Climbing Corydalis	<i>Ceratocarpus claviculata</i>	Wykeham
Common Poppy	<i>Papaver rhoeas</i>	
Weld	<i>Reseda luteola</i>	Tophill Low
Wild Mignonette	<i>Reseda lutea</i>	Ellerburn Bank
Meadowsweet	<i>Filipendula ulmaria</i>	Everywhere!
Agrimony	<i>Agrimonia eupatoria</i>	Dalby Forest
Lady's Mantle	<i>Alchemilla vulgaris</i>	
Dog Rose	<i>Rosa canina</i>	
Bramble	<i>Rubus fruticosus</i>	
Herb Bennet	<i>Geum urbanum</i>	
Silverweed	<i>Potentilla anserina</i>	
Meadow Vetchling	<i>Lathyrus pratensis</i>	
Rest-Harrow	<i>Ononis repens</i>	
Kidney Vetch	<i>Anthyllis vulneraria</i>	
Ribbed Melilot	<i>Melilotus officinalis</i>	Kipling Cotes
Birdsfoot Trefoil	<i>Lotus corniculatus</i>	
Hop Trefoil	<i>Trifolium campestre</i>	
Red Clover	<i>Trifolium pratense</i>	
White Clover	<i>Trifolium repens</i>	
Common Storksbill	<i>Erodium cicutarium</i>	
Fairy Flax	<i>Linum catharticum</i>	
Meadow Cranesbill	<i>Geranium pratense</i>	
Herb Robert	<i>Geranium robertianum</i>	
Common Milkwort	<i>Polygala vulgaris</i>	
Slender St. John's Wort	<i>Hypericum humifusum</i>	
Common Rock-Rose	<i>Helianthemum nummularium</i>	Ellerburn Bank
Enchanter's Nightshade	<i>Circaea lutetiana</i>	Tophill Low (Actually a willowherb)
Rosebay Willowherb	<i>Chamerion angustifolium</i>	Widespread
Great Willowherb	<i>Epilobium hirsutum</i>	Widespread
Broad-leaved Willowherb	<i>Epilobium montanum</i>	
Purple Loosestrife	<i>Lythrum salicaria</i>	
Upright Hedge Parsley	<i>Torilis japonica</i>	Blacktoft Sands & elsewhere
Wild Carrot	<i>Daucus carota</i>	Filey Brigg
Pignut	<i>Conopodium majus</i>	

Hogweed	Heracleum sphondylium	
Hemlock	Conium maculatum	Skerne and other wetlands
Heather/Ling	Calluna vulgaris	
Common Centaury	Centaureum erythraea	Kipling Cotes
Seaside Centaury	Centaureum littorale	Filey Brigg
Yellow-Wort	Blackstonia perfoliata	Kipling Cotes
Hedge Bindweed	Calystegia sepium	
Field Bindweed	Convolvulus arvensis	Not as common as Hedge
Marsh Bedstraw	Galium palustre	
Lady's Bedstraw	Galium verum	Everywhere!
Common Cleavers/Goosegrass	Galium aparine	Everywhere!
Field Forgetmenot	Myosotis arvensis	
Water Forgetmenot	Myosotis scorpiodes	
Wood Sage	Teucrium scorodonia	
Self-Heal	Prunella vulgaris	
Ground Ivy	Glechoma hederacea	
Hedge Woundwort	Stachys sylvatica	
Betony	Stachys officinalis	Dalby Forest
Marjoram	Origanum vulgare	Dalby Forest
Wild Thyme	Thymus polytrichus	
Great Mullein	Verbascum thapsus	
Water Figwort	Scophularia auriculata	
Ivy-leaved Toadflax	Cymbalaria muralis	Filey!
Foxglove	Digitalis purpurea	
Germander Speedwell	Veronica chamaedrys	
Brooklime	Veronica beccabunga	Skerne
Eyebright	Euphrasia officinalis	
Common Cow-Wheat	Melampyrum pratense	Semi-parasitic on grass
Thistle Broomrape	Orobanche pallidiflora	Wharram Quarry (past its best!)
Ribwort Plantain	Plantago lanceolata	
Sea Plantain	Plantago maritima	Filey Brigg
Buckshorn Plantain	Plantago coronopus	
Marsh Valerian	Valeriana dioica	Skerne
Elder	Sambucus nigra	The familiar shrubby tree
Honeysuckle	Lonicera periclymenum	
Field Scabious	Knautia arvensis	
Small Scabious	Scabiosa columbaria	Ellerburn Bank
Teasel	Dipsacus pratensis	Thixendale
Harebell	Campanula rotundifolia	
Clustered Bellflower	Campanula glomerata	Wharram Quarry
Nettle-leaved Bellflower	Camapanula trachelium	Tophill Low
Daisy	Bellis perennis	
Scentless Mayweed	Trileurospermum inodorum	
Pineapple Mayweed	Matricaria discoidea	
Yarrow	Achillea millefolium	



Ox-eye Daisy	<i>Leucanthemum vulgare</i>	
Common Ragwort	<i>Senecio jacobaea</i>	Alkborough
Marsh Ragwort	<i>Senecio aquaticus</i>	Skeme
Lesser Burdock	<i>Arctium minus</i>	Thixendale
Creeping Thistle	<i>Cirsium arvense</i>	
Spear Thistle	<i>Cirsium vulgare</i>	Wykeham
Woolly Thistle	<i>Cirsium eriophorum</i>	
Musk Thistle	<i>Carduus nutans</i>	Kiplingcotes
Marsh Thistle	<i>Cirsium palustre</i>	
Common Knapweed/Hardhead	<i>Centaurea nigra</i>	
Greater Knapweed	<i>Centaurea scabiosa</i>	Usually with Marbled White attached!
Goatsbeard	<i>Tragopogon pratensis</i>	Alkborough
Chicory	<i>Cichorium intybus</i>	Dalby Forest
Prickly Sow-Thistle	<i>Sonchus asper</i>	
Marsh Sow-thistle	<i>Sonchus oleraceus</i>	
Great Lettuce	<i>Lactuca virosa</i>	Alkborough & Tophill Low
Nipplewort	<i>Lapsana communis</i>	
Dandelion	<i>Taraxacum Sect Ruderalia</i>	
Mouse-Ear Hawkweed	<i>Pilosella officinarum</i>	
Yellow Iris/Yellow Flag	<i>Iris pseudacorus</i>	Filey Dams
Bee Orchid	<i>Ophrys apifera</i>	Tophill Low
Late Spider Orchid	<i>Ophrys fuciflora</i>	Ellerburn Bank
Pyramidal Orchid	<i>Anacamptis pyramidalis</i>	
Common Spotted Orchid	<i>Dactylorhiza fuchsii</i>	