

FRIENDS OF MARKSTAKES COMMON

ANNUAL REPORT 2010 - 11

Welcome to our Second Annual Report

Contents

- Chairman's Summary
- Treasurer's Summary
- Ranger's Report
- Survey Reports and Results

Vascular Plants

Bryophytes

Fungi

Lichens

Rirds

Reptiles

• Forthcoming Events and Diary Dates

Chairman's Summary

Last year saw continued activity both in terms of monitoring of flora and fauna and practical conservation work. There are a number of reports containing lists of species observed, together with a comparison of pond surveys undertaken in 2008 and 2010.

One clear trend is that the number of species being recorded has increased very significantly over the last three years. This is a function of two factors:

- The site is being much more intensively surveyed
- The practical conservation work is having a positive impact on botanical diversity

The positive impact of conservation activity is borne out both by the pond surveys and by more detailed surveying, based on transects, in the birch glade and mire where activity has been most intense.

During the year, the Common was surveyed for ancient trees under the leadership of Jacqui Hutson. This has confirmed the presence of 34 ancient trees. The report covering the survey together with photographs can be found on the Chailey Commons Website on the Friends of Markstakes page. www.chaileycommons.org.uk.

The Common is a complex mosaic comprising different habitats. In order to help our understanding of these habitats we record not just what has been seen on the Common but where it has been seen. More precise information on the location of species will be published in due course.

Three years have passed since survey work and activities began in earnest and during this time our knowledge of what is present on the site has increased. The confirmation that there are dormice on the site is exciting news and the discovery of Great Crested Newts in the High Pond has together with the presence of Adders and Bechstein's Bats brought the tally of Bio-diversity Action Plan (BAP) species to four.

While no plants have been identified as nationally or locally scarce the site was originally Wood Pasture which has been identified as a priority habitat under the Bio-diversity Action Plan. Restoration of wood pasture may conflict with the needs of BAP species and the challenge going forward will be find a way forward that incorporates the different objectives.

Treasurer's Summary

Here is a Summary of Income and Expenditure for our accounting year which runs for 1st March through to the following 28th February. I would like to thank the Chailey Parish Council for their most generous grant this year and also the Chailey Commons Society for their continued support.

Our funds are important to us and enable us to do our advertising and publicity and purchase tools as required.

Our thanks also to the Lewes District council and their Rangers for all their help and advice.

FRIENDS OF MARKSTAKES COMMON

Year 01/03/10 to 28/02/11

INCOME & EXPENDITURE		Year 01/03/10 to 28	/02/11
INCOME		EXPENDITURE	
Subscriptions	14.00	TOOLS	98.49
Donations	30.00	PRINTING	0.00
Grants	500.00	POSTAGES	0.00
Other	0.00	Other	0.00
Total	544.00	Total	98.49
		Income over Expenditure	445.51

544.00	544.00

BANK RECONCILIATION					
Opening Bank Balance 01.03.10	56.00	Income over Expenditure Closing Balance	445.51		
	56.00	28.02.11	501.51		

BALANCE SHEET		
ASSETS		
BANK BALANCES	501.51	
OTHER ASSETS		
TOTAL ASSETS	501.51	
LIABILITIES		
CREDITORS		
OTHER LIABILITIES		
TOTAL LIABILITIES	0.00	
NET ASSETS(LIABILITIES)	501.51	

Ranger's Report

This year has been another eventful one in the management of Markstakes and there's one piece of big news.

It's official – dormice are breeding at Markstakes Common. It is very exciting to discover we have this protected, endangered species breeding at Markstakes Common. We have erected dormouse boxes in the woods and a few have been used for summer nests including one which had a mother and three young dormice in it in September.

Compared to other small mammals, dormice live at low densities so we do not expect there to be very many on Markstakes Common. Most small mammals such as wood mice and voles survive using a strategy of producing large numbers of young each year which allows for plenty of 'wastage' – getting eaten by owls or kestrels, or not surviving a harsh winter. Dormice have a different strategy. They have fewer young, look after them for longer and generally only have one litter each year. Because of this, populations of dormice are often very fragile and vulnerable to local extinction, so we haven't publicised our dormouse population widely - we do not want them disturbed by people coming looking for them. If you see a dormouse box PLEASE do not disturb a dormouse by looking inside.

Unfortunately for us humans they only come out at night and they live in trees and bushes, rarely coming down to ground level. So the likelihood of coming across one in the wild is really very remote. I certainly never have.

During the early spring newts have returned to the ponds to breed. Adults spend the most of the year living on land in damp places feeding on slugs, small insects, worms and snails but from Feb or March, they head for the ponds looking for mates especially at night when they become more active.

We are trying to keep dogs out of the High Pond (by far the best pond for wildlife at Markstakes) especially during the amphibian breeding season, so I have put up signs asking people not to let their dogs in the water. We try to keep the signs at Markstakes Common to a minimum but dogs love water and there are a number of dog walkers that simply do not know that letting dogs in the pond disturbs the wildlife.

We will be watching with interest any changes to the ponds at Markstakes Common which dry out in the summer, since the work in the autumn by the Friends, volunteers and contractors has deepened the western 'Shallow Pond' and allowed more light to the water. In 2009 the high pond had some very dark areas with almost no vegetation. The work we did in Autumn 2009 letting light in to some of these areas produced quite dramatic results with pond plants all through the areas that now get light to the water. We are not expecting such immediate results for the Shallow Pond yet but we hope to see some improvement. Thanks to Jon Wood for all his help and advice with the ponds.

The rangers have been working closely with the Friends of Markstakes Common continuing the creation of the glades and the mire, with extra care being taken in special areas, and surveying the wildlife and running guided walks. Lewes District Council thanks the group for all their ongoing hard work again this year and congratulates them on all they have achieved.

We also thank the South Downs Volunteer Ranger Service and Brighton Conservation Volunteers for the work they have contributed this year.

For such a small site Markstakes Common has a lot of wildlife interest and is lucky to have so many knowledgeable Friends interested in surveying. Between the Friends and the Council this means that there are now good detailed records for reptiles, newts, bats, birds, dormice, lichens, plants and ancient trees, as can be seen by the tables in this report.

Survey Reports and Results

Vascular Plants: Records 1991-2010

Recorders: 1991: Sue Jordan, Val Martin, Paula Walkinshaw; 1997: Jenny Barbour, Honor Lamb; 2008-10: Friends of Markstakes. (Grasses, sedges and rushes were not surveyed in 1997.)

Reference for names: Streeter, D., Hart-Davies, C., Hardcastle, A., Cole, F. and Harper, L. (2009) *Collins Flower Guide.* HarperCollins.

Scientific name	English name	1991	1997	2008-10
FERNS				
Blechnum spicant	Hard Fern			*

Scientific name	English name	1991	1997	2008-10
Dryopteris filix-mas	Male-fern			~
Dryopteris dilatata	Broad Buckler-fern			~
Pteridium aquilinum	Bracken			~
CONIFERS				
PINACEAE				
Pinus sylvestris	Scots Pine		~	
Tsuga canadensis	Eastern Hemlock			~
TAXACEAE				
Taxus baccata	Yew	~	~	~
FLOWERING PLANTS				
RANUNCULACEAE				
Aconitum napellus	Monk's-hood	~		
Anemone nemorosa	Wood Anemone	~	~	~
Aquilegia vulgaris	Columbine	~		
Ranunculus acris	Meadow Buttercup	~	~	~
Ranunculus ficaria	Lesser Celandine	~	~	~
Ranunculus flammula	Lesser Spearwort	~	~	~
Ranunculus repens	Creeping Buttercup	~	~	~
URTICACEAE				
Urtica dioica	Common nettle	~	~	~
FAGACEAE				
Fagus sylvatica	Beech	~	•	~
Quercus robur	Pedunculate Oak	-	-	~
BETULACEAE				
Alnus glutinosa	Alder			~
Betula pendula	Silver Birch		~	~

Scientific name	English name	1991	1997	2008-10
Betula pubescens	Downy Birch			~
Carpinus betulus	Hornbeam	~	~	~
Corylus avellana	Hazel	~	~	~
CHENOPODIACEAE				
Chenopodium polyspermum	Many-seeded Goosefoot			~
CARYOPHYLLACEAE				
Cerastium fontanum	Common Mouse-ear	~	~	~
Cerastium semidecandrum	Little Mouse-ear	~		~
Lychnis flos-cuculi	Ragged-robin		~	
Moehringia trinervia	Three-nerved Sandwort	~		~
Silene dioica	Red Campion	~	~	~
Stellaria graminea	Lesser Stitchwort	~	~	~
Stellaria holostea	Greater Stitchwort			~
Stellaria media	Common Chickweed	~	~	~
Stellaria uliginosa (alsine)	Bog Stitchwort	~	~	
POLYGONACEAE				
Persicaria (Polygonum) hydropiper	Water-pepper	~		~
Persicaria lapathifolia	Pale Persicaria	~		
Persicaria maculosa (Polygonum persicaria)	Redshank	~	~	-
Rumex acetosa	Common Sorrel	~	~	~
Rumex acetosella	Sheep's Sorrel	~		
Rumex crispus	Curled Dock		~	~
Rumex obtusifolius	Broad-leaved Dock		~	~
CLUSIACEAE				
Hypericum elodes	Marsh St John's-wort		~	

Scientific name	English name	1991	1997	2008-10
Hypericum pulchrum	Slender St John's-wort	~	~	
Hypericum tetrapterum	Square-stalked St John's-wort		~	
Hypericum humifusum	Trailing St John's-wort			~
MALVACEAE				
Malva moschata	Musk-mallow	~		
Malva sylvestris	Common mallow			~
VIOLACEAE				
Viola canina	Heath Dog-violet	~		
Viola riviniana	Common Dog-violet	~	~	~
SALICACEAE				
Salix caprea	Goat Willow	~	~	~
Populus tremula	Aspen			~
BRASSICACEAE				
Alliara petiolata	Garlic Mustard	~	~	~
Cardamine flexuosa	Wavy Bitter-cress	~		~
Cardamine hirsuta	Hairy Bitter-cress	~	~	
Cardamine pratensis	Lady's-smock	~	~	~
Rorippa nasturtium-aquaticum	Water-cress		~	
Teesdalia nudicaulis	Shepherd's Cress		~	
ERICACEAE				
Calluna vulgaris	Heather			~
PRIMULACEAE				
Lysimachia nemorum	Yellow Pimpernel	~	-	~
Lysimachia nummularia	Creeping-Jenny		-	
Primula vulgaris	Primrose	•	~	~

Scientific name	English name	1991	1997	2008-10
GROSSULARIACEAE				
Ribes rubrum	Red Currant			~
ROSACEAE				
Crataegus monogyna	Hawthorn	~	~	~
Crataegus laevigata	Midland Hawthorn			~
Filipendula ulmaria	Meadowsweet	~		
Geum urbanum	Wood Avens		~	~
Malus domestica	Apple			~
Malus sylvestris	Crab Apple		~	~
Potentilla anserina	Silverweed	~	~	~
Potentilla erecta	Tormentil	~	~	~
Potentilla x mixta (P. erecta x P. reptans)	Hybrid Cinquefoil			~
Potentilla reptans	Creeping Cinquefoil	~	~	~
Potentilla sterilis	Barren Strawberry	~	~	~
Prunus avium	Wild Cherry			~
Prunus domestica	Wild Plum			~
Prunus serotina	Rum Cherry		~	~
Prunus spinosa	Blackthorn	~	~	~
Pyrus communis	Pear			~
Rosa arvensis	Field Rose			~
Rosa canina	Dog-rose	~	~	~
Rubus fruticosus	Bramble	~	~	~
Sorbus torminalis	Wild Service Tree			~
FABACEAE				
Lathyrus pratensis	Meadow Vetchling		~	

Scientific name	English name	1991	1997	2008-10
Lotus corniculatus	Common Bird's-foot Trefoil	~	~	~
Lotus pedunculatus	Greater Bird's-foot Trefoil	~	~	~
Trifolium repens	White Clover	~	~	~
Ulex europaeus	Gorse	~	~	~
Vicia cracca	Tufted Vetch		~	
Vicia sativa	Common Vetch	~	~	~
Vicia sepium	Bush Vetch		~	~
LYTHRACEAE				
Lythrum portula	Water-purslane			~
ONAGRACEAE				
Chamerion angustifolium	Rosebay Willowherb	~	~	~
Circaea lutetiana	Enchanter's-nightshade	~	~	~
Epilobium montanum	Broad-leaved Willowherb			~
Epilobium palustre	Marsh Willowherb		~	
Epilobium obscurum	Short-fruited Willowherb			~
CELASTRACEAE				
Euonymus europaeus	Spindle	~		~
AQUIFOLIACEAE				
Ilex aquifolium	Holly	~	~	~
EUPHORBIACEAE				
Euphorbia amygdaloides	Wood Spurge		~	~
Mercurialis perennis	Dog's Mercury		~	~
RHAMNACEAE				
Frangula alnus	Alder Buckthorn			~
ACERACEAE				

Scientific name	English name	1991	1997	2008-10
Acer campestre	Maple			~
Acer pseudoplatanus	Sycamore			~
GERANIACEAE				
Geranium robertianum	Herb Robert	~	~	~
BALSAMINACEAE				
Impatiens glandulifera	Indian Balsam			~
ARALIACEAE				
Hedera helix	Ivy	~	~	~
APIACEAE				
Aegopodium podagraria	Ground-elder	~	~	~
Angelica sylvestris	Wild Angelica			~
Anthriscus sylvestris	Cow Parsley	~	~	
Conopodium majus	Pignut			~
Heracleum sphondylium	Hogweed	~	~	~
Hydrocotyle vulgaris	Marsh Pennywort	~	~	
GENTIANACEAE				
Centarium erythraea	Common Centaury	~		~
BORAGINACEAE				
Myosotis arvensis	Field Forget-me-not	~	~	
Myosotis discolor	Changing Forget-me-not	~		
LAMIACEAE				
Ajuga reptans	Bugle	~	~	~
Ballota nigra	Black Horehound		~	
Glechoma hederacea	Ground-ivy	~	~	~
Lycopus europaeus	Gipsywort	~	~	~
Prunella vulgaris	Selfheal	~	~	~

Scientific name	English name	1991	1997	2008-10
Scutellaria minor	Lesser Skullcap	~	~	~
Stachys sylvatica	Hedge Woundwort			~
Teucrium scorodonia	Wood Sage	~	~	~
CALLITRICHACEAE				
Callitriche stagnalis	Water-starwort			~
PLANTAGINACEAE				
Plantago major	Greater Plantain			~
OLEACEAE				
Fraxinus excelsior	Ash			~
SCROPHULARIACEAE				
Digitalis purpurea	Foxglove	~	~	~
Pedicularis sylvatica	Lousewort	~		
Scrophularia auriculata (aquatica)	Water Figwort	~		
Scrophularia nodosa	Common Figwort		~	~
Veronica chamaedrys	Germander Speedwell	~	~	~
Veronica officinalis	Heath Speedwell	~	~	~
Veronica persica	Common Field- speedwell	~		
Veronica montana	Wood Speedwell	~	~	~
Veronica serpyllifolia	Thyme-leaved Speedwell	~	~	~
RUBIACEAE				
Galium aparine	Cleavers	~	~	~
Galium palustre	Common Marsh- bedstraw		~	~
Galium saxatile	Heath Bedstraw	~	~	~
ADOXACEAE				
Adoxa moschatellina	Moschatel			~

Scientific name	English name	1991	1997	2008-10
CAPRIFOLIACEAE				
Lonicera periclymenum	Honeysuckle	~	~	~
Sambucus nigra	Elder		~	~
Viburnum opulus	Guelder Rose	~	~	~
DIPSACACEAE				
Dipsacus fullonum	Wild Teasel	~		
Succisa pratensis	Devil's-bit Scabious		~	~
ASTERACEAE				
Achillea ptarmica	Sneezewort	~	~	
Bellis perennis	Daisy	~	~	
Centaurea nigra	Common Knapweed	~	~	
Cirsium arvense	Creeping Thistle	~	~	
Cirsium palustre	Marsh Thistle	~	~	~
Cirsium vulgare	Spear Thistle			~
Gnaphalium sylvaticum	Heath Cudweed		~	
Gnaphalium uliginosum	Marsh Cudweed	~		~
Hypochaeris radicata	Cat's-ear		~	
Lapsana communis	Nipplewort		~	
Leontodon saxatilis (taraxacoides)	Lesser Hawkbit	~		
Pulicaria dysenterica	Common Fleabane	~	~	
Senecio jacobaea	Common Ragwort	~	~	~
Serratula tinctoria	Saw-wort		~	
Sonchus arvensis	Perennial Sow-thistle		~	
Taraxacum officinale	Dandelion	~	~	~
ALISMATACEAE				
Baldellia ranunculoides	Lesser Water-plantain		~	

Scientific name	English name	1991	1997	2008-10
POTAMOGETONACEAE				
Potamogenton natans	Broad-leaved Pondweed	~	~	~
ARACEAE				
Arum maculatum	Lords-and-ladies	~	~	~
LEMNACEAE				
Lemna minor	Common Duckweed	~	~	~
JUNCACEAE				
Juncus bufonius	Toad Rush			~
Juncus effusus	Soft Rush			~
Juncus articulatus	Jointed Rush			~
Luzula campestris	Field Wood-rush			~
Luzula pilosa	Hairy Wood-rush			~
CYPERACEAE				
Carex sylvatica	Wood Sedge			~
POACEAE				
Agrostis canina	Velvet Bent			~
Agrostis capillaris	Common Bent			~
Agrostis stolonifera	Creeping Bent	~		
Aira praecox	Early Hair-grass			~
Alopecurus pratensis	Meadow Foxtail	~		
Anthoxanthum odoratum	Sweet Vernal-grass	~		
Brachypodium sylvaticum	False Brome			~
Bromus sterilis	Barren Brome			~
Dactylis glomerata	Cock's-foot	~		~
Deschampsia cespitosa	Tufted Hair-grass	~		~
Festuca ovina	Sheep's Fescue	~		

Scientific name	English name	1991	1997	2008-10
Glyceria fluitans	Floating Sweet Grass			~
Holcus lanatus	Yorkshire Fog	~		~
Molinia caerulea	Purple Moor-grass	~		~
Poa annua	Annual Meadow Grass	~		~
Poa trivialis	Rough Meadow Grass	~		~
LILIACEAE				
Hyacinthoides non-scripta	Bluebell	~	~	~
Narcissus pseudonarcissus	Wild Daffodil		~	
Ruscus aculeatus	Butcher's-broom	~		~
IRIDACEAE				
Crocosmia x crocosmiiflora	Monbretia	~		
DIOSCOREACEAE				
Tamus communis	Black Bryony	~	~	~
ORCHIDACEAE				
Dactylorhiza fuchsii	Common Spotted-orchid	~	~	~
Neottia (Listera) ovata	Common Twayblade		~	~
Orchis mascula	Early-purple Orchid		~	~

Bryophytes 2004-2010

Recorders: 2004: Malcolm Macfarlane; 2008-10: Jacqui Hutson

Reference for Names: Atherton, I., Bosanquet, S. & Lawley, M. (2010) Mosses and

Liverworts of Britain and Ireland: A Field Guide. British Bryological Society.

Scientific name	English name	2004	2008-10
LIVERWORTS			
JUNGERMANNIALES			
Calypogeia fissa	Common Pouchwort	~	
Frullania tamarisci	Tamarisk Scalewort	~	
Jungermannia gracillimum	Crenulated Flapwort	~	
Lophocolea bidentata	Bifid Crestwort	~	~
Lophocolea heterophylla	Variable-leaved Crestwort	~	~
Microlejeunea (Lejeunea) ulicina	Fairy Beads	~	
Plagiochila porelloides	Lesser Featherwort		~
Radula complanata	Even Scalewort	~	~
METZGERIALES			
Metzgeria furcata	Forked Veilwort	~	~
Metzgeria temperata	Whiskered Veilwort	~	
Pellia epiphylla	Overleaf Pellia	~	~
MOSSES			
SPHAGNALES			
Sphagnum denticulatum	Cow-horn Bog-moss		~
Sphagnum fimbriatum	Fringed Bog-moss		~
POLYTRICHALES			
Atrichum undulatum	Common Smoothcap	~	~
Polytrichastrum (Polytrichum) formosum	Bank Haircap		~
DICRANALES			
Campylopus introflexus	Heath Star-moss		✓
Dicranella heteromalla	Silky Forklet-moss	-	~
Dicranoweisia cirrata	Common Pincushion	~	✓
Dicranum scoparium	Broom Fork-moss	~	~

Scientific name	English name	2004	2008-10
Fissidens bryoides	Lesser Pocket-moss	~	~
Pleuridium acuminatum?	Taper-leaved Earth-moss		~
POTTIALES			
Tortula muralis	Wall Screw-moss	~	
FUNARIALES			
Funaria hygrometrica	Bonfire-moss		~
BRYALES			
Bryum capillare	Capillary Thread-moss	~	~
Mnium hornum	Bordered Thyme-moss	~	~
Plagiomnium rostratum	Long-beaked Thyme-moss	~	
Plagiomnium undulatum	Hart's-tongue Thyme-moss	~	~
Rhizomnium punctatum	Dotted Thyme-moss	~	~
ORTHOTRICHALES			
Orthotrichum affine	Wood Bristle-moss	~	~
Ulota crispa	Crisped Pincushion	~	~
Zygodon rupestris (baumgartneri)	Park Yoke-moss	~	
Zygodon viridissimus	Green Yoke-moss	~	
HYPNALES			
Amblystegium serpens	Creeping Feather-moss	~	~
Brachythecium rutabulum	Rough-stalked Feather- moss		~
Calliergonella cuspidata (Calliergon cuspidatum)	Pointed Spear-moss	~	
Cirriphyllum piliferum	Hair Pointed Feather-moss		~
Cryphaea heteromalla	Lateral Cryphaea	~	
Eurynchium striatum	Common Striated Feathermoss		~

Scientific name	English name	2004	2008-10
Homalothecium sericeum	Silky Wall Feather-moss	~	~
Hypnum andoi	Mamillate Plait-moss		~
Hypnum cupressiforme	Cypress-leaved Plait-moss	~	~
Hypnum jutlandicum	Heath Plait-moss		~
Hypnum resupinatum	Supine Plait-moss	~	
Isothecium myosuroides	Mouse-tail moss	~	~
Kindbergia praelonga (Eurhynchium praelongum)	Common Feather-moss	~	~
Neckera complanata	Flat Neckera	~	
Plagiothecium sp.	A Silk-moss	~	
Pseudoscleropodium purum	Neat Feather-moss		~
Rhynchostegium confertum	Clustered Feather-moss		~
Rhytidiadelphus squarrosus	Springy Turf-moss	~	~
Thuidium tamariscinum	Common Tamarisk-moss	~	~

Fungi records

Recorders: 1991, 1997, 2004: Rosalie Sinclair-Smith; 2010: Rosalie Sinclair-Smith, lan Woolsey and Jacqui Hutson

Reference for (most) names: Buczacki, S. (1989) Fungi of Britain and Europe. Collins.

Scientific name	English name	1991	1997	2004	2010
BOLETACEAE					
Boletus appendiculatus					16 Oct
Boletus badius	Bay Boletus		Nov	23 Oct	4 Oct
Boletus chrysenteron	Red-cracked Boletus	Oct	Jul	3 Sep	16 Oct
Boletus edulis	Cep or Penny Bun		Jul		

Scientific name	English name	1991	1997	2004	2010
Boletus piperatus	Peppery Boletus			23 Oct	
Boletus scaber		Oct			
Gyroporus (Boletus) castaneus				3 Sep	
Leccinum scabrum	Brown Birch Bolete		Jul		
Leccinum versipelle (Boletus versipellis)	Orange Birch Bolete			16 Oct	
GOMPHIDIAECEAE					
Gomphidius glutinosus	Slimy Spike Cap	Oct			
AMANITACEAE					
Amanita citrina		Oct	Oct	Oct	
Amanita citrina alba	False Death Cap				3 Oct
Amanita excelsa			Jul		
Amanita fulva	Tawny Grisette				3 Oct
Amanita muscaria	Fly Agaric		Oct	29 Sep	16 Sep
Amanita phalloides	Death Cap				3 Oct
Amanita rubescens	The Blusher		Jul		3 Oct
Amanita vaginata	Grisette			3 Sep	
Amanita virosa	Destroying Angel		Oct		
LEPIOTACEAE					
Lepiota (Macrolepiota) procera	Parasol Mushroom		Oct		16 Oct
TRICHOLOMATACEAE					
Armillaria mellea	Honey Fungus	Oct	Oct	29 Sep	3 Oct
Clitocybe asterospora				29 Sep	
Clitocybe clavipes	Club Foot	Oct			
Clitocybe flaccida	Tawny Funnel Cap		Oct	16 Oct	16 Oct
Clitocybe fragrans			Oct		

Scientific name	English name	1991	1997	2004	2010
Clitocybe houghtonii				3 Sep	
Clitocybe infundibuliformis	Common Funnel Cap	Oct	Jul	10 Jul	4 Oct
Clitocybe nebularis	Clouded Agaric	Oct	Oct	23 Oct	16 Oct
Clitocybe odora	Aniseed toadstool				16 Oct
Clitopilus prunulus	The Miller		Nov		16 Oct
Collybia butyracea	Butter Cap		Jan	3 Jan	16 Oct
Collybia dryophila	Russet Shank		Jul	10 Jul	
Collybia fusipes	Spindle Shank		Jul		16 Oct
Collybia (Rhodocollyobia) maculata	Spotted Tough-shank		Oct		
Flammulina velutipes	Velvet Shank			29 Sep	3 Oct
Laccaria amethystea	Amethyst Deceiver	Oct	Nov	16 Oct	16 Oct
Laccaria laccata	Deceiver		Jul	16 Oct	4 Oct
Lepista nuda (Tricholoma nudum)	Wood Blewit	Oct	Oct	11 Nov	
Marasmius calopus			Jul		
Mycena sp.			Jan	16 Oct	
Mycena pura					16 Oct
Mycena vitilis			Nov		
Oudemansiella mucida	Porcelain Fungus	Oct	Oct	3 Sep	16 Oct
Oudemansiella radicata	Rooting Shank	Sep	Jan	23 Oct	4 Oct
Panellus stipticus			Nov		
Tricholoma cingulatum					16 Oct
Tricholoma fulvum	Birch Knight			23 Oct	
Tricholoma saponaceum	Soap-scented Tricholoma		Nov		28 Oct
RUSSULACEAE					

Scientific name	English name	1991	1997	2004	2010
Lactarius blennius	Slimy Milk Cap	Oct		23 Oct	
Lactarius chrysorrheus			Jul		
Lactarius quietus	Oak Milk Cap				16 Sep
Lactarius tabidus					3 Oct
Lactarius turpis	Ugly Milk Cap			29 Sep	3 Oct
Russula atropurpurea	Black-Purple Russula	Oct?			16 Sep
Russula cyanoxantha	The Charcoal Burner	Sep	Nov		16 Sep
Russula fragilis	Fragile Russula		Jul		
Russula nigricans	Blackening Russula			29 Sep	3 Oct
Russula ochroleuca	Common Yellow Russula	Oct	Nov	29 Sep	16 Oct
Russula violeipes	Velvet Brittlegill			3 Sep	
Russula virescens		Oct			
Russula xerampelina	Crab Brittlegill		Jul	3 Sep	
PLEUROTACEAE					
Pleurotus cornucopiae	Branching Oyster		Feb	3 Jan	3 Oct
Pleurotus dryinus					3 Oct
Pleurotus pulmonarius	Pale Oyster	Sep		29 Sep	
PLUTEACEAE					
Pluteus salicinus	Willow Shield		Oct	16 Oct	16 Oct
ENTOLOMATACEAE					
Entoloma rhodopolium			Jul		
CORTINARIACEAE					
Crepidotus luteola				3 Jan	
Cortinarius betuletorum				16 Oct	
Hebeloma pusillum				23 Oct	

Scientific name	English name	1991	1997	2004	2010
Inocybe patouillardii	Red-staining Inocybe	Oct			
BOLBITIACEAE					
Conocybe tenera	Brown Bell Cap				28 Oct
PAXILLACEAE					
Paxillus atrotomentosus					16 Oct
Paxillus involutus	Brown Roll-rim		Jul	3 Jan	16 Oct
AGARICACEAE					
Agaricus silvaticus					16 Oct
Agaricus silvicola	Wood Mushroom	Oct	Jul	3 Sep	
Agaricus sp.				11 Nov	
STROPHARIACEAE					
Hypholoma fasciculare	Sulphur Tuft	Oct		3 Jan	16 Sep
COPRINACEAE					
Coprinus comatus	Shaggy Ink Cap	Oct			
Coprinus disseminatus	Fairies' Bonnets		Jul		
Coprinus impatiens					3 Oct
Coprinus micaceus	Glistening Ink Cap	Oct	Jul	3 Sep	
Coprinus picaceus	Magpie Fungus				3 Oct
Coprinus silvaticus					16 Oct
Lacrymaria velutina	Weeping Widow			29 Sep	
Panaeolus subbalteatus		Oct			
Panaeolus sphinctrinus			Jul		
Psathyrella candolleana			Jul		
Psathyrella spadicea			Oct		
CANTARELLACEAE					
Cantharellus cibarius	Chanterelle				16 Sep

Scientific name	English name	1991	1997	2004	2010
CLAVARIACEAE					
Clavulina cinerea	Grey Coral Fungus			29 Sep	
Typhula erythropus		Oct	Jan		
CORTICIACEAE					
Hyphodontia (Hypoderma) sambuci	Elder Whitewash			3 Jan	
Hypochnicium vellereum			Jul	3 Jan	
Merulius tremellosus (pale form)			Nov		
Peniophora quercina				3 Jan	
HYDNACEAE					
Hydnum repandum	Hedgehog Fungus		Oct		16 Oct
HYMENOCHAETACEAE					
Inonotus cuticularis			Oct		
Phellinus (Polyporus) ferreus	Cinnamon Porecrust		Jan	3 Jan	3 Oct
FISTULINACEAE					
Fistulina hepatica	Beefsteak Fungus	Oct	Oct		
GANODERMATACEAE					
Ganoderma adspersum			Jan	3 Jan	16 Sep
Ganoderma applanatum	Artist's Fungus			3 Jan	
POLYPORACEAE					
Bjerkandera adusta	Smoky Bracket		Jan	10 Jul	
Coriolus (Trametes) versicolor	Many-zoned Polypore		Jan	3 Jan	16 Oct
Daedalea quercina	Maze-gill		Oct		
Daedaleopsis confragosa	Blushing Bracket	Sep	Feb	3 Jan	16 Oct
Meripilus giganteus	Giant Polypore		Oct		
Piptoporus betulinus	Birch Polypore		Jan	3 Jan	16 Sep

Scientific name	English name	1991	1997	2004	2010
Polyporus varius				15 Apr	
Pseudotrametes (Trametes) gibbosa			Nov		
Schizopora paradoxa	Split Porecrust		Oct	3 Jan	
Tyromyces caesius			Oct		
Tyromyces lacteus			Nov		
STEREACEAE					
Stereum gausapatum		Oct	Jan		
Stereum hirsutum		Oct	Jan		16 Oct
Stereum rugosum	Bleeding Broadleaf Crust			16 Oct	
THELEPHORACEAE					
Thelephora terrestris	Earth Fan		Jul		
DACRYMYCETACEAE					
Calocera cornea			Jul		28 Oct
Dacrymyces stillatus (deliquescens)		Oct	Jul		
TREMELLACEAE					
Tremella foliaceae			Nov		
Tremella mesenterica	Yellow Brain Fungus		Jul		
AURICULARIACEAE					
(Hirneola) Auricularia auricula- judae	Jelly Ear (Jew's Ear)		Jan	3 Jan	
SCLERODERMATACEAE					
Scleroderma areolatum			Oct		
Scleroderma citrinum	Common Earthball	Sep	Oct	16 Oct	28 Oct
GEASTRACEAE					

Scientific name	English name	1991	1997	2004	2010
Lycoperdon echinatum	Spiny Puff Ball			29 Sep	
Lycoperdon foetidum				16 Oct	
Lycoperdon perlatum	Puff Ball	Oct	Oct	3 Sep	4 Oct
Lycoperdon pyriforme	Stump Puff Ball	Oct		29 Sep	3 Oct
PHALLACEAE					
Mutinus caninus	Dog Stinkhorn			16 Oct	
Phallus impudicus	Stinkhorn	Sep	Jul	10 Jul	16 Oct
HYPOCREACEAE					
Nectria cinnabarina	Coral-spot	Oct		3 Jan	
DIATRYPACEAE					
Diatrype disciformis	Beech Barkspot			3 Jan	
XYLARIACEAE					
Daldinia concentrica	King Alfred's Cakes	Sep	Jan	3 Jan	16 Oct
Hypoxylon fragiforme	Beech Woodwart		Jan	3 Sep	
Hypoxylon nummularium				3 Jan	
Xylaria hypoxylon	Candle-snuff Fungus	Oct	Jan	3 Jan	
Xylaria polymorpha	Dead Man's Fingers	Oct		16 Oct	
HELOTIACEAE					
Ascocoryne sarcoides		Oct			
Bulgaria inquinans	Black Bulgar		Feb	3 Jan	
Chlorosplenium	Green Wood Cup		Feb	3 Jan	
(Chlorocibonia) aeruginascens					
Neobulgaria pura	Beech Jellydisc	Oct	Jan	3 Jan	
PEZIZACEAE					
Otidea onotica	Hare's Ear			16 Oct	

Lichens recorded on 3 October 2009 by Sussex Lichen Recording Group

Reference for most names: Dobson, F.S. (2000) *Lichens: An Illustrated Guide to the British and Irish Species*. 4th Edition. Richmond.

Scientific name	Substrate and comments
Arthonia radiata	Oak
Cladonia chlorophaea	Ash
Cladonia coniocraea	Dead wood, post etc
Cliostomum griffithii	Oak
Enterographa crassa	Corticolous, old hornbeam trunk
Evernia prunastri	Oak twig
Flavoparmelia caperata	Oak
Fuscidea lightfootii	Corticolous, on willow
Graphis elegans	Corticolous, very common in this wood, especially on hornbeam
Graphis scripta	Corticolous, on hornbeam
Hypogymnia physodes	Oak twig
Hypogymnia tubulosa	Corticolous, hawthorn
Hypotrachyna revoluta	Corticolous
Lecanora albella	Oak and willow
Lecanora chlarotera	Oak
Lecanora expallens	Worked wood, oak post, also hornbeam
Lecanora polytropa	Oak, on lignin of seat
Lecanora symmicta	Worked wood, oak seat
Lecidella elaeochroma	Oak

Lepraria incana	Oak
Melanelia elegantula	Ash
Melanelia fuliginosa subsp. glabratula	Oak
Melanelia subaurifera	Oak twig
Parmelia saxatilis	Oak
Parmelia sulcata	Oak twig
Parmotrema perlatum	Oak
Pertusaria amara	Oak
Pertusaria hymenea	Oak
Pertusaria leioplaca	Corticolous, hornbeam
Pertusaria pertusa	Corticolous, hornbeam
Phlyctis argena	Corticolous
Physcia adscendens	Worked wood, oak seat
Physcia tenella	Oak
Porina aenea	Corticolous, hornbeam
Punctelia reddenda	Oak. On New Index of Ecological Continuity List.
Punctelia subrudecta	Oak
Pyrrhospora quernea	Oak
Ramalina farinacea	Oak
Schismatomma decolorans	Oak
Scoliciosporum chlorococcum	Oak twig
Xanthoria parietina	Oak
Xanthoria polycarpa	Oak twig

Birds

Our survey for 2010 showed some 45 species and is well up on the 35 seen on the last survey in 2009. This year we carried out more surveys, 9 in total, starting in January and ending in December.

Species	Common Name	Distribution	2008	2009	2010
Anas platyrhynchos	Mallard	Pair seen on High pond	Р	NS	Р
	Grey Heron	Seen on High pond in June			
Falco peregrinus	Peregrine Falcon	Pair overflying		NS	O(2)
Buteo buteo	Buzzard	Occasionally seen overhead	0	O(2)	O(3)
Accipiter nisus	Sparrow hawk	Not seen this year	NS	O(2)	NS
Falco tinnunculus	Kestrel	1 male seen several times hunting	Р	Р	Р
Phasianus colchicus	Pheasant	Occasional birds seen in woods	Р	Р	Р
Larus argentatus	Herring Gull	Group seen overflying		NS	O(6)
Columba palumbus	Wood Pigeon	At least 6 breeding territories	3	5	6
Streptopelia decacto	Collared Dove	Pair seen near gate		NS	Р
Cuculus canorus	Cuckoo	One heard	Р	NS	Р
Strix Aluco	Tawny Owl	1 seen roosting during day	NS	Р	Р
Caprimulgus europaeus	Nightjar	Not seen or heard	NS	Р	NS
Picus Viridis	Green Woodpecker	Occasionally seen or heard	Р	Р	Р
Dendrocopos major	Greater Spotted Woodpecker	1 confirmed breeding territory possibly 2	3	2	2
Hirundo rustica	Swallow	Occasionally seen overhead		NS	O(5)
Delichon urbica	House Martin	Occasionally seen overhead		NS	O(6)

Motacilla cinerea	Grey Wagtail	Seen by High pond in November	NS	Р	Р
Motacilla alba	Pied Wagtail	One seen	NS	NS	Р
Troglodytes troglodytes	Wren	At least 9 breeding territories	3	10	9
Prunella modularis	Dunnock	At least 2 breeding territories	Р	2	2
Erithacus rubecula	Robin	At least 9 breeding territories	5	9	9
Turdus merula	Blackbird	At least 8 breeding territories	13	9	8
Turdus pilaris	Fieldfare	Migrant group seen		NS	O(18)
Turdus philomelos	Song Thrush	At least 3 breeding territories	3	3	3
Turdus iliacus	Redwing	Migrant group seen feeding		NS	O(11)
Turdus viscivorus	Mistle Thrush	Occasionally seen	Р	Р	Р
Sylvia communis	Whitethroat	1 possible breeding territory	NS	1	1
Sylvia borin	Garden Warbler	Not seen	Р	NS	NS
Sylvia atricapilla	Blackcap	At least 3 breeding territories	2	4	3
Phylloscopus collybita	Chiffchaff	At least 6 breeding territories	4	5	6
Phylloscopus trochilus	Willow Warbler	At least 2 breeding territories	1	2	2
Regulus regulus	Goldcrest	2 possible breeding pairs	1	1	2
Aegithalos caudatus	Long tailed Tit	At least 2 family parties seen	2	2	2
Parus ater	Coal Tit	Occasional sightings of 2 pairs	NS	1	2
Parus caeruleus	Blue Tit	At least 12 breeding territories	9	11	12
Parus major	Great Tit	At least 8 breeding territories	6	8	8
Sitta europaea	Nuthatch	At least 3 breeding territories	3	3	3
Certhia familiaris	Treecreeper	At least 2 breeding territories	2	2	2
Garrulus glandarius	Jay	At least 2 breeding territories	1	1	2

Corvus monedula	Jackdaw	At least 2 breeding territories	1	2	2
Corvus frugilegus	Rook	Not seen this year	O(6)	O(25)	NS
Corvus corone	Carrion Crow	At least 2 breeding territories	0	2	2
Sturnus vulgaris	Starling	Small flocks seen during year	NS	O(9)	O(6)
Passer Domesticus	House Sparrow	Small group near stables		NS	Р
Fringilla coelebs	Chaffinch	At least 4 breeding territories	4	6	4
Carduelis chloris Greenfinch Small group seen feeding on buds			NS	O(5)	
Carduelis cabaret Lesser Redpoll Migrant group feeding on buds			NS	O(15)	
Pyrrhula pyrrhula	Bullfinch	2 pairs seen several times	NS	1	2
	Totals =			35	45
Recorders			RH/IW	RH/IW	RH/IW

Recorders were Rupert Hall and Ian Woolsey in 2008, 2009 and in 2010

Amongst the more notable breeding successes this year were the **Blue Tits** with an estimated twelve breeding territories, **Wrens** and **Robins** with at least nine breeding territories, and **Blackbirds** and **Great Tits** had at least eight territories. **Chaffinches** seemed to be down to only four. In the case of the **Chiffchaff**, **Willow Warbler** and the **Blackcap** whilst the number of territories was low they were consistent with previous years. Also several pairs of **Greater Spotted Woodpeckers**, **Nuthatches** and **Tree creepers** also appeared to have been successful.

The number of surveys and the survey period was extended this year to pick up winter migrants and the sightings of **Fieldfares**, **Redwings and Lesser Redpolls** helped to increase the number of species seen. Amongst the more unusual sightings were a pair of Peregrine Falcons seen flying overhead and two pairs of Bullfinches that were seen on a number of occasions.

lan Woolsey and Rupert Hall with additional observations by Thyone Outram and Jonathan Wood.

Note:-

Total species seen over last 4 surveys:-

2004	2008	2009	2010
26	30	35	46

Reptiles

Encounters with Grass snakes, Adders and Slow worms has been a regular occurrence during task days, and survey work and in 2010 a formal reptile survey was initiated.

An initial survey to identify likely locations was undertaken in March when snakes were coming out of hibernation and twenty mats made of roofing felt were placed in sites that were felt to be favorable. The preferred locations were south facing with adjacant cover close by and not adjacent to paths. During the season three of the mats were taken or destroyed.

We found reptiles at some point during the season under 15 of the 20 mats and the total number of observations are detailed in the table below.

Date	Adders	Grass Snake	Slow Worm	Common Lizard
18/03/2010	5	4	1	0
08/04/2010	1	7	1	0
16/04/2010	2	4	2	0
15/05/2010	0	5	0	0
07/06/2010	2	3	3	0
22/07/2010	0	1	6	0
16/09/2010	1	4	7	2
17/10/2010	0	2	0	1
Total sightings	11	30	20	3

The survey approch is inherently an imprecise measure of reptile numbers but it has confirmed that the Common has a healthy population of reptiles and established the presence of Common Lizards which have been seen once before on the Common but several years ago. The results include juveniles of both slow wormsand greass snakes which would imply that successful breeding is taking place.

This year, the number of shelters will be doubled and Lewes District Council has funded further survey work by a Reptile specialist.

Adders are a Bio-diversity action plan priority species and it is important not to damage their habitat. We have ensured that when clearing glades and the Mire we have retained edges of rough litter to provide shelter.

Forthcoming events in 2011 and Diary Dates



Thursday May 12th 2011

Bluebell Walk on Markstakes Common 9.30.a.m.

Meet at the gate in the flint wall Markstakes Lane South Chailey (2 hours) – Leader Rupert Hall – Friends of Markstakes Common

Wednesday July 27th 2011

Evening Stroll around Markstakes Common 7.30.p.m.

Meet at Setfords Field Green lane South Chailey (2 hours). Leader Thyone Outram – Asst Ranger Lewes DC

Saturday July 30th 2011

Night Time at Markstakes Common 9.30.p.m. with Sussex Moth Group

Meet at gate in flint wall – Markstakes Lane South Chailey

Bring a torch – booking on 01273 484344

Leader - Steve Teale Sussex Moth Group

Tuesday August 16th 2011

Hidden Common Land Trails 10.00.a.m.

Meet at Horns Lodge Pub South Street South Chailey – Leader Dan Ross – Ranger Lewes DC

Tuesday April 17th 2012

AGM – Friends of Markstakes Common

Horns Lodge Pub South Chailey 7.30.p.m.

