

Pyrenees 2015
A Greentours Trip Report

Led by Amanda Borrows & Fiona Dunbar

Daily Report by Fiona, Systematic Lists by Amanda

8th – 21st June 2015

Day 1 8th June Toulouse Airport to Valcebollere

By 12 noon we had gathered all parts of the group from the Heathrow Flight, the American contingent Joe and Mary had found us after a night in Toulouse and a few days in Paris, the New Zealand representative Raylene was the last piece of the puzzle before we made our way to the cars to begin the journey up to the village of Valcebollere and our first Hotel, the rather special l' Auberge Les Ecureuils. The city was left behind and we began to climb and the gentle fields changed to increasingly dramatic cliffs gorges waterfalls and mountains. There were few birds, but there were a few buzzards, Red and Black Kites and a large flock of Alpine chough. The road edges were thick with *Viccia* and Mulleins, Alpen rose and the yellow Aplen Honeysuckle adorned rock faces, too many plants to identify but a few stood out. A show of Pyrenean Lillies on rocks with Alpine Honeysuckle whetted our appetit. Patches of purple flowered *Pinguicula grandiflora*, *Lilium pyrenaicum* & *Asphodelus albus* hung precariously from the rock faces as we passed by. We kept going until Ax le Therme was behind us, then stopped at some picnic tables for lunch. From here it was not far to the top of the pass at Col de Puymorens, and having driven through showers that were stormy with heavy rain and lightening, we parked up and walked a short way to where a show of *Dactylorhiza sambucina* was a delight to the group, even with a little light rain. A dense population of both the red and the pale yellow forms formed a colourful swathe through the grass. There had been Chamois – a female and kid grazing here on our way to the airport this morning.

Approaching the village, we pulled over at a place where delicate spikes of *Anthericum liliago* were growing along the roadside. The sun was out after the showers, and butterflies which were perched on so many of the roadside flowers were stirring. We spent a lovely half hour studying a pair of Moroccan Orangetips, Large and Grizzled Skippers, Mazarine, and Common Blues, a Black-veined White and last but not least a fresh and very obliging Apollo. Hugh demonstrated a determination to scramble up anything to get to the best plants that was to become very familiar! A barn below the road here was notable for the beautiful slates on the roof, roughly semi-circular but of graduated size, like reptilian scales. We arrived at the hotel at five, and had tea & coffee before making our way to our lovely rooms, some with four poster beds and all with fine views. There was time to unpack and wash, walk round the tiny old stone village or swim in the spring fed plunge pool (29 degrees) in the hotel. Supper was prepared by our host and chef Etienne, in the beautiful beamed dining room with some really wonderful stained glass windows. The cuisine here is very French and very good.

Day 2 9th June Meadows above Ferges and the Pinewood Walk

We boarded the minibuses at 9 and headed for the nearby town of Mont Louis, stopping on the way for a wheat field edged with a very fine show of Field Poppy, Corn Flower and Corn Cockle. The Catalan people in this area love their horses, and there was a particularly fine group in front of the towering walls of Mont Louis fort. This mornings plan was to walk along a small, quiet road. The verges were thick with flowers such as *Dianthus carthusianorum*, *Antirrhinum majus*, *Trifolium montanum*, *Astragalus austriacus*, *Dactylorhiza fuscii*, at least before the tractor came along and cut the verges. Little meadows on either side were full of *Armeria maritima* subsp *alpina*, *Chamaespartium sagittale*, *Phyteuma orbiculare*, *Lotus alpinum*, *Trollius europaeus* and and even a few *Narcissus poeticus*. Mary and Joe found some Burnt-tip Orchids, and Richard, Bug Orchid. Semi-parasitic plants were good here with two Yellow Rattles and at least two Broomrapes – Slender and Clove-scented. The rich variety of flowers in the meadows and verges attracted all sorts of butterflies and insects including Hummingbird Hawkmoths. As we worked our way up the hill, the richness seemed to increase still further and the *Narcissus poeticus* became increasingly dominant,

until we culminated in wonderful meadows near a small reservoir. In a sea of *Narcissus*, were *Caltha palustris*, *Gymnadenia conopsea* and *Orchis ustulata*, Red, White, Zigzag, and Mountain Clovers, as well as photography heads of *Phyteuma orbiculare*. I don't think that any of us had seen displays of daffodils like this before. We ate our picnics (home made rolls, blue cheese and French salami today) surrounded by the meadows.

A wooded walk by some marshy meadows was our plan for the afternoon. Mary had a good find, a white-flowered *Hepatica nobilis*, and a Trumpet Gentian was examined that could be *Gentiana clusii*. Scented Solomons Seal was found in the pasture areas, with *Aquilegia vulgaris*. There were Crossbills and a Hawfinch in the top of the pine trees, and a wood warbler.

Despite some spectacular and very close cracks of thunder, the first rain of the day came in as we stopped briefly for a stand of *Dactylorhiza majalis alpestris* and *Pedicularis comosa* by the roadside. It was decided that disgression was the better part of valour and retired to the dry of the minibus.

Day 3 10th June

Val d'Eyne – Eyne Road – Mont Louis

During breakfast we watched the heavens open and went back upstairs for extra waterproof clothes and coricles. As we began our walk up the Valle d'Eyne, however, the rain had stopped. A couple of dodgy looking men were collecting fungi to sell to the restaraunts by the bagful. The stony woodland path was lined with plants such as *Chamaespartium sagittale* and *Genista tinctoria*, *Thalictrum aquilegiaefolia*, budding *Lilium martagon*, *Astrantia major* and *Primula elatior* still in flower. Ferns included Male Fern, Common Polypody, and Narrow Buckler Fern. There was also a *Dianthus monspessulanum*, an *Adonis distorta* (a small yellow Pheasants Eye) *Daphne alpina*, Bears Breaches in leaf and lots of *Polygonum alpinum*. Walking out into a meadow with the steep sided upper Valle d'Eyne as a backdrop we could spread out and admire large patches of *Dianthus deltoids*, the Carrot *Endressia pyreneaca*, our first flowering *Gentiana lutea* and some lovely *Paradisea liliastrum* in good flower. Walking further up through the Black Pine and Silver Birch Woodland my Red Squirrel was thoroughly ignored in favour of *Pyrola minor* & *Pyrola rotundifolia*.

Lunch was taken sat on rocks near the beautiful tumbling stream. Hugh saw a male Bullfinch, and there were Wrens in under the trees. Ray found our first flowering Yellow Turks Cap Lily not counting those through the car window, and nearby was a very fine plant of *Molopospermum peloponnesiacum* with a healthy population of red and black striped shield bugs. Near the stream were Radish leaved Cardamine, Alpenrose and Marsh Marigold.

By request we stopped next to the *Dactylorhiza* in the ditch, a very good show of them next to another fine display of the Whorled Lousewort, and there was Brooklime here too. I found some nice Common Butterwort with purple flowers and Hugh did us proud finding a new Gentian – deep blue *Gentiana pyreneica*. Lovely... Numerous Red-backed Shrikes on the way back to the Auberge.

Day 4 11th June

Valcebollère – La Guingueta d'Aneu via Andorra

We said our goodbyes to Etienne and Patricia, and set off to cross the border. The first stop was at the Col de Puymorens to explore the area where the *Dactylorhiza sambucina* were along with the impressive Acanthus-leaved Carline Thistle In a carpark just over the brow we could see, and with care get close to, the intense yellow Alpine Pasque Flower. Richard and Ray found Dark Vanilla Orchids. Fifty yards back along the stream there were fantastic dense patches of Spring Gentian in a wet flush, along with Water Saxifrage and Common Butterwort.

Our second pull in was close by, as Amanda had spotted some *Anemone narcissiflora*. They were stunning, but were possibly topped by the 'rock garden', which had the advantage of being easy to walk onto – not always the case on a mountain pass. It looked as if the turf had been transplanted from an Alpine enthusiasts' garden. There were *Narcissus pseudonarcissus*, Spring Gentian, Pyrenean Lousewort, a new Thrift - *Armeria alliacea*, *Antennaria dioica* amongst the species. A flock of Alpine Chough gamboled overhead.

Then it was time to put Andorra behind us, a strangely built-up area of duty-free shops and petrol stations in an otherwas superb landscape. By lunchtime we were in Spain and stopped at a peaceful spot, much appreciated after our dip into 'civilisation'. Butterflies Safflower Skipper, Orange-tip, and Pearl-bordered to name a few, while Hummingbird Hawkmoths fed on *Echium vulgare* while we fed on our picnic lunches and stared at the wooded hills.

Our last stop of the day was up a side track, where we found a stately patch of the *Digitalis lutea*, *Prunella laciniata* and *Campanula persicifolia*.

By five we had reached our new hotel, Hotel Pollo, which backs onto a large river. Supper was excellent, and a Scops Owl was calling as I went to sleep.

Day 5 12th June Aigues Tortes

And there were Nightingales to wake up to. After an excellent buffet breakfast we drove 10 minutes to the village where we transferred to Landrovers which would take us up to the refuge. The last 500 m of track proved what Landrovers were capable of! It is hard to describe how spectacular the scenery is here – a ring of sharp peaked mountains surrounding mixed deciduous woodland slopes, mountain lakes and clear blue tumbling rivers and waterfalls. We were well up above the first snow patches when the two lady drivers dropped us off, and it was well worth walking over 40 metres of snow to reach a small lake where *Soldanella alpina* and *Primula integrifolia* were flowering between the waters edge and the snow itself. There were *Anemone narcissifolia*, both the lemon and white sub species of *Pulsatilla alpina* ssp. *apiifolia*, and hundreds of the Trumpet Gentian *Gentiana acaulis*. Marmots were calling and there were clear Chamois routes across the snow patches. There were stunning patches of *Silene acaulis* densely covered with purple flowers growing from cracks in the granite rocks and cliffs.

We began to walk back down the track the lake where the landrovers would pick us up at 4pm. People walked at their own pace, taking in the superb views and many alpine flowers. A system of marking the track with arrows scratched in the dirt track to indicate plants of particular interest worked very well! John had a hard time at the first rocky part of the track as the sole of his walking boot fell off, but went on much better when the track levelled out. There were *Asphodelus albus*, *Ranunculus pyrenaicus*, patches of the purple xxx – not sure what you mean here, more of the very special *Soldanella alpina* in good clumps, the strange creeping *Sesamoides clusii*, Beech, Male and Holly Fern and Trailing Azalia. Griffon Vultures passed regularly overhead, but birds were otherwise scarce with a few Citril Finches and Mistle Thrushes. We had lunch staring out at one of the mountain lakes, in which natural 'bonsai' pine trees clung to rocks. Some of them are quite ancient. A wet flush around a stream by the track was a rich mixture of *Cardamine raphanifolia*, *Saxifraga stellaris*, *Saxifraga aquatica* and *Pinguicula grandiflora*. We arrived down at the 'taxi pickup' lake with time to look around and take more pictures of the views. There were Jays and Citril Finches hopping around on the grass nearby, and just before we left, Ray spotted movement on a mountain meadow – a Wild Boar with stripey piglets, near a Chamois grazing.

Day 6 13th June Porto de la Bonaigua and meadows near Vielha Tunnel

Our first pull-in was for the fantastic scenery; the magnificent horses and Marmots were an after thought! On the edge of the road were large patches of the Pyrenean Thistle and Blue Lettuce in flower. At the top of the pass we could wander at will over the meadow slopes. There were several sedums, with *acre*, *alpestre* and *dasyphyllum* all present. Trumpet Genians were plentiful, with *Gentiana acaulis*, *alpina* and *occidentalis* all found and photographed. At first we were a little disappointed to find huge numbers of fruiting Dog-toothed Violet in the short turf, but Hugh soon found an area near a patch of snow where there were still plenty in flower, along with Snowbell and cousin it. Pink Rock Jasmine formed attractive tufts. Alpine Pasque flower was here with both white and lemon subspecies and some in between. Spring Pasque Flower was also here, in feathery seed. *Ranunculus amplexicaulis* and *gouanii* were two very large, attractive buttercup species here.

It was quite chilly up on the pass so we stopped for tea and biscuits in a nice café in Arties before continuing on through the Vielha Tunnel.

Amanda led us into a side-track with meadows between a boulder-strewn river and a beautiful Beech wood. I have never seen such density of Yellow Rattle in my life, and as we sat to eat our lunch, it became obvious that there were many and varied other goodies here too. Large examples of *Botrychium lunaria* were everywhere, shiny green fronds overshadowed by the fruiting bodies. The Elderflower Orchids were over, but the Greater Butterfly Orchids were perfect, along with Marsh, Early Spotted and Frog Orchids. There were one or two Small White Orchids. Burnt-tipped were frequent a little further along the path, and a group of five found by John were much photographed. (Betony-leaved Rampion was a very stately plant – needs to be removed does not occur here, only in the Alps), and we found a couple of Pyrenean Hyacinths. By the river were numerous Fragrant Orchids, Common Butterwort, Toefields Asphodel, Welsh Poppy, Marsh and Brittle Bladder Fern. There was a great deal of signs of Wild Boars digging for bulbs and roots, and more still within the shady Beech Wood, the understory of which consisted almost entirely of fruiting Spanish Bluebells, and Wood Ruff. Towards the end of the meadows some ranker vegetation round an old ruined shepherds hut had purple Foxgloves, Yellow Archangel, the large-flowered Pyrenean Violet and the very large and attractive Aconite-leaved Buttercup. The list goes on – Alpine Bartsia, Common and also the

very statuesque Leafy Louswort, Birdseye Primrose, Nettle-leaved Bellflower. The cloudy weather kept butterfly numbers low, and birds were quiet too – a few Citril Finches were well worth noting. Along the roads to and from this site there were eye-catching clumps of Heartsease, (Clumped Bellflower – this should be clustered not clump) and xxx.

Day 7 14th June Gaudi's Inspiration, Congost de Collegats – Santa Engrácia – Salas

The morning was spent walking along road at the bottom of the gorge known as Gaudi's inspiration - those that have been to see Gaudi's cathedral in Barcelona will know why. Along track were mediterranean species like Hoary Mulleins, *Sedum alba* and *sediforma*, Chickory and Oregano. Trees included Black and Italian Poplar, Ash and Nettle Tree. The Towering limestone cliffs have been worn into beautiful sinuous shapes, with water running down stalactites clothed with vegetation consisting largely of Maidenhair Spleenwort and Maidenhair Fern, with Solomons Seal and various saxifrages too. The cushion-like rosettes of *Saxifraga longifolia* stood out clearly and some were in very fine flower. After some searching we also found *Ramonda myconi* in flower too. Hugh found the wonderful endemic *Sarcocapnos enneaphylla*. Above there were twenty or more Griffon Vultures, and in amongst them was an Egyptian Vulture, and then what we had been waiting for – a Lammergeier. This circled back and forth over the gorge for some time. As we were leaving we had a great view of a Griffon Vulture gliding in a landing at her nest quite near us. Towards Tremp, it was interesting to note the change in building style from the mountains and even more from the French side of the Pyrenees. Now we were in a land of sandstone villages and elegant arching bridges.

Lunch was in an arid open area in the valley below the little village of Sant Engracia. The woodland here was *Quercus pubescens* with many Olive groves too. Various insects and butterflies were feeding here attracted to plants of Sanfoin, and Vipers Bugloss, including a Banded Grayling, Swallowtail, Ilex & False Ilex Hairstreak, Blue-spot Hairstreak & Marbled Whites, a Goldenring Dragonfly, a large Preying Mantis and a shimmering turquoise Forester Moth.

For our final stop of the day we headed into some old terraces, now overgrown with Holm Oak, Field Maple and Montpellier Maple. Underneath these we looked for and found the truly odd but beautiful *Lutzia conifera*, with a papery shimmering imitation of a pine cone topped with pink fluff for a flower. There were also a number of Helleborines, *Epipactis helleborine*, *E. tremolsii* & *E. microphylla*.

Day 8 15th June Col de Perbes – Cami de l'aigua – Montañana Road

Driving the winding roads to the Col de Perbes the red banded cliffs and biscuit coloured old villages made for superb scenery, and there were tempting glimpses of plants at the roadside such as the very large flowered Pink Everlasting Pea, the pink Phlomis *Catananche caerulea*, *Campanula persicifolia* with open bells 3-4 cm long, and *Campanula speciosa*. On the col we were able to wander through meadows largely with a short turf of which *Brizia media* was a large component. The more delicate *Brizia minima* was here also. There was an excellent selection of ferns, with Adders Tongue in the sward and very healthy Black and Maidenhair Spleenworts in an old stone wall. A more unusual fern in the same wall was the diminutive Alpine Woodsia. The meadow had some beautiful flowering plants too – the white Cut-leaved Selfheal or *Prunella laciniata*, lots of Rock Sanfoin, the pink cistus *Helianthemum canum ssp. piloselloides* and Fragrant and Fly Orchids, the latter being new for the trip. Ray found a speciality, the Brown Bluebell. There was the pink *Linum viscosum*, lots of Clary or *Salvia officinalis*, Dodder and *Lavendula dentata*. One had to be careful of the low growing but very spiny *Echinospartum horridus*.

Just before lunch hail stopped play and we took the opportunity to move on to the next stop where we had lunch.

Here we were next to a river and a mixed woodland, with *Salix elaeagnos*, Box and the more unusual Hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna*. In under an established pine plantation we found many *Epipactis helleborine* in bud and Hugh found some good examples of *Cephalanthera rubra* in flower. Last but not least Ray spotted a stand of Violet *Neottia nidus-avis*. Then we headed home on long and winding, but very scenic, roads.

Day 9 16th June Tor

A shorter drive to the winding road up to the summer hamlet of Tor, following a steeply descending river

through a deep gorge. The rock type seemed to mainly be slate. The mixed deciduous woodland consisted largely of Ash, Hazel, Silver Birch and Dog Rose. Once in the village we parked the vehicles and walked on up the track. The verges were full of Scabious Bistort and Yellow Rattle, with Yellow Foxgloves, *Geranium sylvatica* St Bernards Lillies, *Linum repens* and white Spiked Rampion. Pinks included Maiden and Clustered. Rocky outcrops and cliffs were populated by the many delicate plants of *Saxifraga crustata* with nodding flower spikes. *Antirrhinum molle* was there too in good flower. There were many birds about in this beautiful valley, with Black Redstart and Cirl Bunting and Crag Martins round the village, Griffon Vultures overhead and a little further up, Siskins, Grey Wagtails, Dipper and a Kingfisher.

Behind the village, on a cliff face, just after a puddle where the Crag Martins were collecting mud for nests, there was a fantastic display of Large-flowered Butterwort.

After Lunch we headed back down, stopping and walking in various places. The sun brought out some great butterflies – Scarce Copper, Queen of Spain Fritillary and Scarce Swallowtail being highlights. The final site was for *Botrychium matricariifolium*, which Alistair and I spotted. I shouted Amanda over for it (she had gone on about this one quite a lot) but did not get much interest so we photographed away. A few minutes later as we were leaving Amanda suddenly woke up and realized what we had been trying to tell her – she was back over the hillside like a woman on a mission. Very easy to over look, this, and a very rare species.

We were back at the hotel early today, in time for a cup of tea before those that wanted took a walk by the river behind the hotel. John spotted a Golden Oriole on the way back. We were treated to two bottles of champagne as well as the usual wine with the meal tonight, a nice touch added to an already very good meal.

Day 10 17th June La Guingueta d’Aneu – St Lary Soulen via Arreau – Reserve Neouvielle

We said goodbye to the lovely family that had looked after us and fed us so well – were the vans a little more weighed down than on arrival? Ray took on the task of translating the recipes for the venison and the chicken for us. Stopped for teas and coffees and a little shopping in the beautiful medaevil town of Arreau, which has a very beautiful old town centre. From there it was only about 20k to the village where we were staying, and we had our picnic up a winding road in a wooded valley behind it. There were many dark buzzards flying and a couple of Red Kites and Griffon Vultures. There was a Common Copper and a Green Hairstreak on some Vipers Bugloss by the vehicles. By now it was time to make our way to the hotel to drop off our bags and get settled into our rooms before heading up towards Lac d’Oredon. This was a very winding road! There were *Cephalanthera longifolia*, *Anemone narcissiflora*, lots of newly emerged ferns, and a big patches of saxifrages on the way up. Unfortunately the road was closed that would have taken us to the area that Amanda had planned to spend some time in, so we took some time to walk down with the vehicles never too far away, admiring the views and numerous waterfalls as we went.. There were some splendid patches of the short yellow *Saxifraga aizoides* and the red flowered *Saxifraga cotyledon* which must be one of the parents of the well known garden saxifrage ‘Londons Pride’. There were fantastic displays of Large-flowered Butterwort, and the white Alpine Pasque Flower. Primulas this day *Lysimachia nemorum* & *Primula hirsuta*

Day 11 18th June Rioumajou – Gedre via Col d’Aspin & Col du Tourmalet
Cirque Gavarnie

Thanks to a dawn raid by Amanda to check a site, we started the day by some cottage sized boulders next to a stream in a deciduous woodland. One boulder in particular was carpeted in perfect *Ramonda myconi* with a light scattering of polypody and ivy mixed in. And then the sun rose over the high peaks and it got even better. Another good find here was a perfect Birds Nest Orchid. For some this was the highlight of the trip so far.

Then we were on our way over the Col de Aspin and the Col de Tourmalet. We stopped at the latter, having wound our way slowly up the hair pin bends with a lot of cyclists practicing for the Tour du France. There was a herd of cows standing contentedly in the road, and llamas grazed nearby. There were Alpine Chough and Griffons flying low, and Northern Wheatears. Alpines were few right at the top, with *Gentiana verna* and *Ranunculus pyrenaicus*, while Hugh found *Primula hirsuta*.

We lunched by a mountain stream. There were Dippers and Grey Wagtails, and Dusky Cranesbill at the roadside.

Having dropped our luggage off at the Breche du Roland Hotel in Gedre and admired the stunning views from our rooms, we headed out for the short drive to the Cirque du Gavarnie. Following the footpath towards the Cirque – a semi basin of snow-topped peaks and waterfalls – the meadows were rich in flowers. Yellow Rattle, Quaking Grass, Bladder Campion, Scabious, Fragrant Orchid, Scorzonera-leaved Rampion, all the usual suspects. Ray pointed out the bluish leaved *Rosa gauca*, and there was Adonis in

leaf. Saxifrages included *Saxifraga crustata* mixed with Stonecrops, all in healthy flowering clumps. The furthest point of the walk found us at a rock garden covered with *Saxifraga exarata* ssp. *moschata*, and flowering Thick-leaved Stonecrop. Large butterfly orchid, two catchflies and *Ramonda myconi*. Swallowwort was another interesting, scented green-lowered plant just here. The hire horses came past us on the track, having been released at the end of their working day to graze freely in the meadows. Once again we commented on how healthy and glossy all the stock look on their free-range alpine diet! The evening meal was good, though not improved by the lamb chops being grilled over the open fire setting the fire alarm off!

Day 12 19th June Col de Tentes – Ossau Valley

Today was to be spent locally and in the Osseau Valley. As we drove up, there were numerous Marmots close by which we stopped to watch and photograph. I spotted a cliff with some *Saxifraga longifolia* in perfect flower quite low down on the cliffs, but as Amanda did not hear me peeping the horn I took a note of the mileage so as to stop on the way back down. At the head of the valley, we followed a broad footpath towards the pass which took one over to the Spanish side of the Pyrenees. The views were again stunning, and there was the dwarf snapdragon *Chaenorhinum origanifolium*. The group then began to make their way back down the road with Amanda and I bringing the vehicles down stage by stage. There was a patch of *Primula xxx Erinus alpinus*, *Veronica nummularia*, *Campanula scheuchzeri* and *Phyteuma hemisphaericum*. We reached an interesting area of limestone – black veined with white and weathered into wave-like peaks and hollows in places. This was a natural rock garden, so we spent some time here with *Geranium cinereum*, pink veined with darker pink, *Globularia repens* and two species of Spring Gentian. There were Water Pippits and Linnets. Finally it was time to get back in the vans, stopping for more Marmots, and around 8 Griffon Vultures gathered around a dead animal of some sort. I refound the *Saxifraga longifolia* and we spent some time photographing the long sprays hanging heavy with white blossom on the cliffs. They were stunning! *Lonicera pyrenaica* was also in flower here. For lunch we drove up the narrow track into the Ossau Valley. The wet valley bottom was carpeted with *Dactylorhiza majalis alpestris* and a new Yellow Rattle *Rhinanthus glacialis*. Alpine Chough were in abundance. After a buffet picnic lunch from the local supermarket with local breads cheeses and juices etc, the group began strolling and botanizing their way back down the track in the sunshine. There were *Narcissus psuedonarcissus*, *Lathyrus ochraceus*. Hugh spotted more *Saxifraga longifolia*, one group of tightly group rosettes had 6 flowers! There were fantastic clumps of *Phyteuma hemisphaericum*. Alpine Chough were abundant. Further down was a *Saxifraga longifolia* which one could get next to for close-ups. The sun brought out lots of butterflies with Apollo, Swallowtail, Little Blue, Mountain Small White, Purple-edged Copper. There were Pyrenean hyacynths and a pair of mating black-veined whites, one of which had only just emerged from its nearby pupae case. Finally there were more Marmots, one basking on a rock pinnacle, a stunning patch of Alpine Aster and some fresh *Ramonda myconi*. We rounded off the afternoon with a cup of tea at a café in Gavarnie and a spot of shopping.

Day 13 20th June The Circ du Troumouse

On our last morning, we left our luggage ready to go at the hotel and drove the short way to the Circ du Troumouse. There marmots were very close – one risking life and limb running across in front of Amanda's van. Richard spotted a cluster of Griffon Vultures waiting for the air to warm up sufficiently for thermals to form, and we got some good photos of them. Flocks of Alpine Chough were around all morning, and a Golden Eagle was sighted. The first area we stopped at to walk around had a Chamois resting at the top of a patch of snow. It began trotting down the snow patch, only go into reverse as Hugh 'the arrow' circled round in search of plants below. There was a lovely selection of alpines such as *Lathyrus niger* and the first Mountain Male Fern I had noticed. There were stemless Creeping Globularia and flowering *Polygala alpine* and *rupestris*. Richard spotted a large flock of Chamois higher up on the mountain side and we had a good look at them through the scope. A few hairpin bends higher we reached the circ itself mats of *Primula integrifolia* lined the mossy steamlets, and the dryer turf had *Primula hirsuta* and *Daphne cneorum*. *Gentiana verna* and *Gentiana occidentalis* made a beautiful display. Our lunch stop was overlooking a rushing stream a little further down, with a fantastic waterfall and gorge off to one side.

Day 14 21st June Departure

Pyrenees Systematic Lists June 8th – 21st 2015

Itinerary

Day 1	Monday 8 th June	London – Toulouse – Valcebollère
Day 2	Tuesday 9 th June	Ferges slopes – Pinewood walk (N116)
Day 3	Wednesday 10 th June	Val d’Eyne – Eyne Road – Mont Louis
Day 4	Thursday 11 th June	Valcebollère – La Guingueta d’Aneu via Andorra
Day 5	Friday 12 th June	Parque Nacional de Aiguestortes
Day 6	Saturday 13 rd June	Port de la Bonaigua – Vielha Tunnel
Day 7	Sunday 14 th June	Congost de Collegats – Santa Engràcia – Salas
Day 8	Monday 15 th June	Col de Perbes – Cami de l’aigua – Montaña Road
Day 9	Tuesday 16 th June	Tor Valley
Day 10	Wednesday 17 th June	La Guingueta d’Aneu – St Lary Soulen via Arreau – Reserve Neouvielle
Day 11	Thursday 18 th June	Rioumajou – Gedre via Col d’Aspin & Col du Tourmalet – Cirque Gavarnie
Day 12	Friday 19 nd June	Col de Tentes – Ossoue valley
Day 13	Saturday 20 th June	Cirque Troumouse – Toulouse
Day 14	Sunday 21 st June	Departure

Systematic List – Plants

The number indicates the date the species was seen.

FERNS & their Allies

Equisetaceae

- Equisetum palustre* **Marsh Horsetail** – scattered records around damp areas (13)
Equisetum sylvaticum **Wood Horsetail** – damp areas Rioumajou (18)
Equisetum telmateia **Giant Horsetail** – oak woodlands Santa Engràcia (14) [Robust whitish stems, regular whorls and sheaths with 20-30 teeth]

Ophioglossaceae

- Botrychium lunaria* **Moonwort** – large specimens of this interesting plant around Vielha (13) & Col de Perbes (15) [Forked frond: sterile 1-pinnate (moon-shaped segments and fertile like grapes)]
Botrychium matricariifolium **Branched Moonwort** – several large fantastic specimens of this unusual species Tor (16)
Ophioglossum azoricum **Adder’s-tongue Fern** – very small specimens found at Col de Perbes (15)

Cryptogrammaceae

Cryptogramma crispa **Parsley Fern** – scattered records at high altitudes around rocky screes [Low dimorphic 3-pinnate fern, resembling parsley]

Adiantaceae

Adiantum capillus-veneris **Maidenhair Fern** – on rocks near ‘Gaudi’s Inspiration’ (14)

Polypodiaceae

Polypodium vulgare **Common Polypody** – scattered around shaded areas [small-medium singly pinnate, outline lanceolate]

Hypolepidaceae

Pteridium aquilinum **Bracken** - widespread [Familiar tall branched fern]

Aspleniaceae

Asplenium adiantum-nigrum **Black Spleenwort** – Val d’Eyne (10); Vielha (13); Col de Perbes (15) [Small 2-3 pinnate leathery fern]

Asplenium ruta-muraria **Wall-rue** – Ossoue Valley (19) [Small dark green 2-pinnate tufted fern, diamond-shaped segments]

Asplenium trichomanes **Maidenhair Spleenwort** – rock crevices, Santa Engrácia (14); Col de Perbes (15) [Small 1-pinnate tufted fern, dark rhachis]

Ceterach officinarum **Rusty back Fern** - walls and rocks Gaudi’s Inspiration (14)

Woodsiaceae

Athyrium filix-femina **Lady Fern** – woods [Graceful, large 2-3 pinnate fern, sickle-shaped indusia]

Cystopteris fragilis **Brittle Bladder-fern** – stony crevices (10 & 13) [Delicate, 2-3 pinnate, tufted]

Gymnocarpium dryopteris **Oak Fern** – some lovely specimens of this delicate fern, Aiguestortes [Triangular 3-pinnate, creeping]

Dryopteridaceae

Dryopteris filix-mas **Male Fern** – Eyne Valley (10) & Col de Perbes (15) [Familiar large 2-pinnate fern, pinnule with acute teeth]

Dryopteris dilatata **Broad Buckler Fern** – scattered records

Dryopteris oreades **Mountain Male Fern** – Ossoue Valley (19)

Polystichum aculeatum **Hard Shield-fern** – Rioumajou (18) [Like Male Fern, but leathery, bristle-like teeth]

Polystichum lonchitis **Holly Fern** – Aiguestortes (12) [1-pinnate, leathery, pinnae with auricle at base]

CONIFERS

Pinaceae

Picea abies **Norway Spruce** – scattered across both sides [From last by leaves borne on persistent pegs]

Pinus nigra salzmannii **Austrian Pine** – widespread [Like Scots Pine, but needles 6-18cm & 1-2mm wide subsp.]

Pinus sylvestris **Scots Pine** – widespread & locally dominant [2 needle pine, leaves <7cm long, cones pendent. Mainly “var. *pyrenaica*”]

Larix decidua **Larch** – forest, locally dominant [deciduous conifer]

Cupressaceae

Cupressus sempervirens **Italian Cypress** – mainly planted around urban areas (14 & 15) [Conifer tree with tiny paired scale-like leaves - columnar form, var. *pyramidalis*]

Juniperus communis subsp. alpine **Dwarf Juniper** – prostrate Juniper in the higher altitudes (9 & 10) [Aromatic shrub, needle-leaves (whorls of 3), black berry-like cone]

DICOTYLEDONS

Salicaceae

Populus alba **White Poplar** – scattered

Populus nigra **Black Poplar** - scattered [Tall tree, fluttering leaves shaped like ace of spades]

Populus tremula **Aspen** – widespread [From last by rounded, sinuate-toothed leaves]

Salix aurita **Eared Willow** – water areas around La Guingueta d’Aneu

Salix caprea **Sallow** - scattered, e.g. Eyne [Big shrub, ovate leaves grey-hairy beneath]

Salix elaeagnos **Olive Willow** – riversides (12, 15 & 17) [Waterside shrub with narrow leaves, white-woolly beneath]

Salix pyrenaica **Pyrenean Willow** – Eyne valley (10), Aiguestortes (12) & Reserve Neouvielle (17)

Salix x sepulchralis **Weeping Willow** – urban areas [Large-tree, narrow yellowish leaves, pendant branches]

Juglandaceae

Juglans regia **Walnut** – scattered recordings mainly around urban areas [Tree with alternate pinnate leaves, 7-9 ovate leaflets - chambered pith]

Betulaceae

Alnus glutinosa **Common Alder** – mainly recorded by streams [Familiar tree with blunt roundish leaves and fruits like small cones]

Betula pendula **Silver Birch** – familiar tree frequent across the trip [Familiar slender tree with whitish bark and small heart-shaped leaves]

Corylaceae

Corylus avellana **Hazel** – woodland areas (9 & 10) [Familiar shrub with roundish leaves]

Fagaceae

Castanea sativa **Sweet Chestnut** - Val d’Eyne (10)

Fagus sylvatica **Beech** – the lovely woodland at Vielha (13) [Majestic forest tree: grey bark & oval leaves]

Quercus coccifera **Kermes Oak** – mainly around the sub-Mediterranean (14 & 15) [Shrub or tree with evergreen, holly-like leaves]

Quercus ilex **Holm Oak** – recorded across the trip [Evergreen tree with lanceolate leaves paler (downy) beneath]

Quercus petraea **Sessile Oak** – scattered across the trip mainly lower down (14)

Quercus pubescens **Downy Oak** – the commonest oak on the trip, widespread

Ulmaceae

Celtis australis **Nettle Tree** – Collegats & Santa Engrácia (14) [Deciduous tree, alternate leaves, 1-serrate, asymmetric base]

Ulmus minor **Small-leaved Elm** – Collegats (14) [Similar, but leaves doubly serrate, rounder; tree freely suckering]

Moraceae

Ficus carica **Fig** – common on the Mediterranean days (14 & 15) [Familiar tree with large palmately-lobed leaves and large dark fruit]

Urticaceae

Parietaria Judaica **Pellitory-of-the-wall** – Collegats

Urtica dioica **Stinging Nettle** - common everywhere [Familiar coarse stinging weed]

Loranthaceae

Viscum album **Mistletoe** – enroute to Spain (11)

Santalaceae

Thesium pyrenaicum subsp. *pyrenaicum* **Pyrenean Bastard Toadflax** – arable margins (2)

Polygonaceae

Polygonum alpinum **Alpine Knotgrass** – common in the first part of the tour

Polygonum bistorta **Bistort** – meadows in the first part of the tour (9 & 10) [Pink spikes, leaves lanceolate with winged stalk]

Polygonum viviparum **Alpine Bistort** – meadows (9) [White spikes, giving way below to reddish bulbils, linear-lanceolate leaves]

Reynoutria japonica **Japanese Knotweed** – mainly along roadsides

Rumex acetosa **Common Sorrel** – meadows Val d'Eyne (10) [Like a dock with arrow-shaped leaf, and no warts on fruit]

Rumex acetosella **Sheep's Sorrel** – Val d'Eyne (10) & Aiguestortes (12) [More slender, spreading leaf-lobes; ssp. *pyrenaicus*]

Rumex alpestris **Mountain Dock** – Aiguestortes (12)

Rumex crispus **Curled Dock** – meadows (9)

Rumex obtusifolius **Broad-leaved Dock** – meadows Val d'Eyne (10) & Aiguestortes (12) [Familiar coarse weed with broad leaves]

Chenopodiaceae

Chenopodium bonus-henricus **Good King Henry** – common in the latter part of the tour along waste ground (15, 17 – 19) [More spicate head leaves broad arrow-shaped]

Caryophyllaceae

Agrostemma githago **Corncockle** – fields (9 & 10)

Cerastium alpinum **Alpine Mouse-ear** – Aiguestortes (12)

Cerastium fontanum **Common Mouse-ear** – meadows (9)

Dianthus armeria **Deptford Pink** – meadows & roadside edges (9 & 10)

Dianthus carthusianorum **Carthusian Pink** – meadows across the first part of the trip [From last by deep pink clusters, not flat-topped]

Dianthus deltoids **Maiden Pink** – Meadows (9, 10 & 13)

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- Dianthus monspessulanum* (**a fringed pink**) – Val d’Eyne (10)
- Dianthus pyrenaicus* **Pyrenean Pink** – Richard had this lovely species (13)
- Dianthus seguieri* **Seguier’s Pink** – meadows around the first half of the trip
- Lychnis alpina* **Alpine Catchfly** – only recorded the once Port de la Bonaigua (13) [Low, tufted perennial: compact head of dark pink flowers, deeply notched petals]
- Lychnis coronaria* **Rose Campion** – high altitudes Aiguestortes (12) [Like dark pink campion, but plant densely white hairy]
- Lychnis flos-cuculi* **Ragged Robin** – wet damp areas (9 & 10) [Familiar perennial with 4-lobed dark pink petals]
- Paronychia kapela* (**the paper plant**) – only recorded in the latter part of the trip (9 – 13) [Low mat-forming perennial with very prominent silvery stipules and sepals]
- Petrorhagia prolifera* **Proliferous Pink** – Richard recorded this species (11) with the rest of us finding it on the mediterranean days (14 & 15) [Slender annual pink, flower cluster with brown papery bracts]
- Saponaria ocymoides* **Rock Soapwort** – scattered around the first half of the trip (9, 11 & 12) [Low sprawling perennial, branched clusters of dark pink flowers 6-10mm, narrow oval leaves]
- Silene acaulis* **Moss Campion** – at Aiguestortes there was a beautiful clump for us to admire (12); while at Col de Tentes the clump was a lot smaller (19) [Moss-like cushions, linear leaves, pink flowers and very short stems [ssp.*bryoides*]]
- Silene alba* **White Campion** – French side of the trip (9 & 10)
- Silene dioica* **Red Campion** – recorded around Vielha (13) [Familiar large hairy red campion]
- Silene nutans* **Nottingham Catchfly** – scattered shade paths first part of the trip (10 & 13) [Sticky perennial, spatulate leaves, nodding white flowers, petals rolled back and capsule 8-12mm]
- Silene rupestris* **Rock Campion** – high altitudes Aiguestortes (12) [Low grey hairless perennial, clusters of 1cm white flowers]
- Silene vulgaris* **Bladder Campion** – woodland edges [Grey hairless perennial: white flowers, inflated calyces]
- Stellaria holostea* **Greater Stitchwort** – shade Val d’Eyne (10) & Aiguestortes (12) [Long narrow leaves & white flowers 15-30mm]
- Stellaria nemorum* **Wood Stitchwort** – Val d’Eyne (10)

Ranunculaceae

- Adonis vernalis* **Yellow Pheasant’s-eye** – only one single specimen just coming out in flower (10)
- Anemone narcissiflora* **Narcissus-flowered Anemone** – this attractive Ranunculus covered the slopes as we made our way into Andorra, with scattered records there after (11, 12 & 17)
- Caltha palustris* **Marsh-marigold** – wet sites across the trip [Heart-shaped leaves and head of beaked pods (follicles)]
- Delphinium montanum* **Mountain Larkspur** – unfortunately only recorded in leaf at Val d’Eyne (9 & 10)
- Helleborus foetidus* **Stinking Hellebore** – woodland shade (12 & 16) [Typical hellebore with digitate leaves (all on stem) and pale green flowers, edged purple]
- Helleborus viridis* ssp.*occidentalis* **Green Hellebore** – around Eyne valley (9 & 10) [Has basal leaves, pure green flowers]
- Isopyrum thalictroides* **Rue-leaved Isopyrum** – damp shady woodland areas, a fine specimen was found near our lunch spot, Val d’Eyne (10)
- Trollius europaeus* **Globe-flower** – only recorded in the latter part of the trip (9 – 11) [Like large palmate-leaved buttercup with almost spherical yellow flowers 3-5cm]
- Hepatica nobilis* **Hepatica** – what a treat when Ray found this species as it had white flowers rather than the usual blue. In fact all the plants we found had white flowers (9, 10, 12, 13, 15 & 17) [Basal leaves 3-lobed, purple beneath]
- Pulsatilla alpina* ssp. *alpina* **Alpine Pasque-flower** – mainly recorded at altitude (11 & 17)

Pulsatilla alpina ssp. *apiifolia* **Alpine Pasque-flower** – a common plant across the alpine turf (11 & 12)

Pulsatilla vernalis **Spring Pasque-flower** – only record in flower at Aiguestortes (12) [Stem-leaves unstalked, 1-pinnate, “petals” flushed pink]

Clematis vitalba **Traveller’s Joy** – only recorded around Santa Engrácia (14) [Similar but more robust and 1-pinnate]

Ranunculus aconitifolius **Aconite-leaved Buttercup** – a lovely clump around Vielha (13) [Leaves 5-7 lobed, leafy with numerous white flowers]

Ranunculus acris **Meadow Buttercup** – meadows [Familiar perennial, palmate leaves & yellow flowers]

Ranunculus amplexicaulis **Amplexicaule Buttercup** – slopes at Aiguestortes (12) [White-flowered; lanceolate leaves clasp stem]

Ranunculus bulbosus **Bulbous Buttercup** – meadows [Bulbous, reflexed sepals, 3-lobed leaves]

Ranunculus pyrenaicus **Pyrenean Buttercup** – this lovely white ranunculus decorated the alpine turf (11, 12, & 17 – 19) [White flowered; leaves blue-green, linear to lanceolate, not clasping stem]

Ranunculus repens **Creeping Buttercup** – meadows, roadsides [Familiar creeping herb, three distinct leaflets, sepals not reflexed]

Ranunculus montanus s.l. **Mountain Buttercup** – high altitudes (9 & 10)

Ranunculus gouanii **Gouan’s Buttercup** – high altitudes common in narcissus field (9); Aiguestortes (12)

Aquilegia vulgaris **Columbine** – common in the first half of the trip [Familiar blue-purple flower with hooked spurs, not sticky – staminodes blunt]

Thalictrum aquilegifolium **Great Meadow-rue** – only recorded in the meadow at Val d’Eyne (10) [2-3 pinnate, oval leaflets, branched flowerheads with prominent stamens]

Papaveraceae

Chelidonium majus **Greater Celandine** - Val d’ Eyne (10) [Familiar plant: orange sap, yellow flower]

Meconopsis cambrica **Welsh Poppy** – Vielha amongst the rocks (13) [Perennial yellow poppy, yellow latex and ribbed ovoid-oblong pod]

Papaver argemone **Prickly Poppy** – road verge at our first stop (9)

Papaver dubium **Long-headed Poppy** – mixed among the poppy field (9) [Long-fruited poppy whose pods have no bristles]

Papaver rhoeas **Corn Poppy** – the dominate poppy that coloured the fields & roadside verges [Typical red poppy, often with black blotches, globular pods]

Fumariaceae

Sarcocapnos enneaphylla **Sarcocapnos** – Hugh found a lovely clump of this species at ‘Gaudi’s Inspiration’ (14) [2-3 divided leaves, white corydalis-type flowers, short spurs]

Brassicaceae

Arabis alpina **Alpine Rockcress** – around our lunch site Val d’Eyne (10)

Biscutella laevigata **(a buckler-mustard)** – verges (11 – 13)

Brassica repanda **Alpine Cabbage** – rocky ledges (9 – 12)

Capsella bursa-pastoris **Shepherd’s-purse** – common around waste areas [Familiar white cress with triangular fruit]

Cardamine raphanifolia **Radish-leaved Bittercress** – widespread by water Val d’Eyne (13), Aiguestortes (12) & Tor (16) [Reddish-violet perennial, pinnate (leaflets 3-11 and roundish) – narrow flattened pods]

Cochlearia pyrenaica **(a scurvy grass)** – altitude areas in Gavarnie (17 & 19)

Coincya monensis ssp. *recurvata* **Wallflower Cabbage** – this interesting species recorded at high altitudes Aiguestortes (12), Tor (16) & Ossoue Valley (19) [Like pinnate-lobed yellow hairy cabbage, long (3-9cm) beaked pods]

Hugueninia tanacetifolia subsp. *suffruticosa* **Tansy-leaved Rocket** – common in the first part of the tour

(9 – 12) [Like Hedge Mustard, but perennial with 2-pinnately cut leaves and pods not appressed]

Iberis spathulata **Spoon-leaved Candytuft** – flowering on the river gravel at Troumouse (20) [Flat-topped fruiting head, flowers white or purplish]

Lunaria rediviva **Perennial Honesty** – large clumps of this white stock around the road verges (9 – 16)

Pritzelago alpina **Chamois Cress** – high altitudes Aiguestortes (12) & Cirque Gavarnie (18)

Sisymbrium austriacum **Austrian Mustard** – common [yellow cress, differing from *S. officinale* by pods more spreading, & slightly twisted]

Sisymbrium officinale **Hedge Mustard** – roadsides enroute to Spain (11) [Erect yellow cress, pinnately-lobed leaves, pods appressed to stem]

Resedaceae

Reseda glauca **Pyrenean Mignonette** – scattered around Gavarnie area (18 – 20) [Typical mignonette but with whitish flowers and linear leaves]

Reseda lutea **Wild Mignonette** - dry grassy & rocky verges, scattered records (9, 10 & 14) [Differs in pinnatifid leaves and pale yellow flowers]

Sesamoides clusii **Sesamoides** - turf & rocks, a nice clump was found along the path at Aiguestortes (12) [Like tiny tufted mignonette, but arching linear leaved, dwarf perennial]

Crassulaceae

Sedum acre **Wallpepper** - dry stony site Aiguestortes (12) & Col de Perbes (15) [Typical yellow thick-leaved perennial stonecrop, peppery taste]

Sedum album **White Stonecrop** – Congost de Collegats (14) [Typical white perennial stonecrop, alternate glabrous leaves]

Sedum alpestre **(a stonecrop)** – there was many debates of this species (12) [small fleshy yellow red tinted stonecrop]

Sedum anglicum **English Stonecrop** – road side verges (9)

Sedum dasyphyllum **Thick-leaved Stonecrop** - acid rocks in the first part of the trip (9 – 11) [From *S. album* by opposite ovoid leaves]

Sedum sediforme **(a stonecrop)** – warmer climes (14) [More robust, pale yellowish flowers and oblong flat-topped leaves]

Sempervivum arachnoideum ssp. *tomentosum* **Cobweb Houseleek** – woodland walk area (9) & Tor (16) [Like *S. tectorum* but red-pink & dense cover of cobweb hairs]

Sempervivum m. montanum **Mountain Houseleek** – acid rocks Eyne (9), Col de Perbes (15) & Tor (16) [From last by wine-red flowers and short hairs]

Sempervivum tectorum **Common Houseleek** – Aiguestortes (12) & Tor (16) [Familiar succulent hairless rosettes of overlapping acute leaves; branched head of pinkish flowers]

Saxifragaceae

Saxifraga aizoides **Yellow Mountain Saxifrage** – recorded around Gavarnie (17,19 & 20) [Yellow saxifrage, (petals often red-dotted) fleshy oblong leaves]

Saxifraga aquatica **Water Saxifrage** – Aiguestortes (12) & Tor (16) [Stout, erect leafy saxifrage, leaves 3-lobed and shiny; flowers white and 15-20mm]

Saxifraga clusii **French Saxifrage** – Tor around damp acid rock (16) [Hairy, oval leaves (10-20 toothed) in rosette, 3 long & 2 short white petals]

Saxifraga cotyledon **Pyramidal Saxifrage** – Reserve Neouvielle (17)

Saxifraga exarata ssp. *moschata* **White Musky Saxifrage** – Aiguestortes (12) & Gavarnie (18) [Hairy cushion saxifrage, 3-5 lobed leaves (not grooved), white oblong petals.]

Saxifraga granulata **Meadow Saxifrage** – the commonest saxifrage found among the grassland areas [Kidney-shaped toothed leaves, bulbils at base and white flowers]

Saxifraga longifolia **Pyrenean Saxifrage** – this endemic species is a bit of a spectacular mind –blower, we had some fantastic spikes in the Ossoue Valley (14, 15 & 19) [From next by single big rosette, linear

strap-like leaves and large white “fox-brush spire” inflorescence]

Saxifraga paniculata **Paniculate Saxifrage** – This was the species with encrusted leaves common across the trip Aiguestortes (12), Tor (16) & Gavarnie (18 & 19) [Lime encrusted rosettes, many white flowers, erect]

Saxifraga stellaris **Starry Saxifrage** - damp rocks Aiguestortes (12) [Like *S. clusii* but leaves 6-10 toothed, petals usually equal]

Saxifraga umbrosa **Wood Saxifrage** – Rioumajou (17) & Gavarnie (18)

Hydrangeaceae

Philadelphus coronaries **Mock Orange** – urban areas across the trip [naturalised popular sweetly scented white-flowered garden shrub]

Grossulariaceae

Ribes petraeum **Rock Redcurrant** – Aiguestortes (12) [Typical currant, racemes horizontal or drooping]

Platanaceae

Platanus x hispanica **London Plane** - planted on roadsides [Tree with alternate palmate leaves, scaling bark]

Rosaceae

Agrimonia eupatoria **Agrimony** – Col de Perbes (15) [Long spike of yellow flowers, bur fruit, leaves pinnate with alternating large and small leaflets]

Alchemilla alpina **Alpine Lady’s-mantle** – shade area on rocks Val d’Eyne walk (10) [Lvs 5-7 lobed, toothed at apex, green above, silvery-hairy beneath]

Alchemilla vulgaris s.l. **Common Lady’s-mantle** – only true ID of this hard family Val d’Eyne (10) [As *A. fallax* but spreading hairs on stems and on underside of leaves]

Aruncus dioicus **Goat’s-beard Spiraea** – roadsides around the French side in the first half of the trip [Tall herb with 2-pinnate leaves, pyramidal head of white spikes]

Cotoneaster integerrimus **Wild Cotoneaster** – Collegats (14)

Crataegus monogyna **Hawthorn** – widespread

Filipendula ulmaria **Meadowsweet** – meadows (9) [Tall herb with =5 pairs of large elm-like leaflets alternating with tiny leaflets; many creamy fragrant flowers]

Fragaria vesca **Wild Strawberry** – woodlands (15) & around Tor (16) [Familiar wild strawberry – short flower-stalks]

Geum montanum **Alpine Avens** – Richard noted this plant (18) [Like *G. urbanum*, but flowers 25-40mm and fruit with many unhooked styles]

Geum rivale **Water Avens** – damp wet areas (9 & 16) [From other avens by its nodding cream or pale pink flowers]

Geum pyrenaicum **Pyrenean Avens** – Tor valley (16)

Geum urbanum **Herb Bennet** – Tor (16) & Ossoue Valley (19) [Yellow flower <15mm, pinnate (big terminal leaflet), fruit barbed style]

Potentilla alchimilloides **Alchemilla-leaved Cinquefoil** – a lovely specimen of this plant on the walk along the Ossoue Valley (19) [Leaves like those of *Alchemilla basaltica*, but only toothed at tip; white flowers ca 2cm]

Potentilla erecta **Tormentil** – Santa Engrácia (14) & Tor (16) [Ascending herb with yellow 4-petalled flowers]

Potentilla reptans **Creeping Cinquefoil** – Santa Engrácia (14) & Tor (16) [Familiar prostrate herb, solitary yellow flowers]

Potentilla rupestris **Rock Cinquefoil** – rocks Ossoue Valley (19) [Pinnate leaves, white flowers]

Potentilla pyrenaica **Pyrenean Cinquefoil** – Neouvielle (17) & road along Ossoue Valley (19)

Prunus avium **Gean** – Tor (16) & Reserve Neouvielle (17) [Tall wild cherry tree, white flowers in sessile umbels]

Prunus spinosa **Blackthorn** – probably widespread but only noticed (9)

Rosa canina s.l. **Dog Rose** – only noted in the first half of the trip, but probably widespread [Deciduous briar with hooked prickles, some sepals divided]

Rosa glauca **Blue-leaved Rose** – Raylene pointed out this stunning flurry of colour (18) [From *R. canina* by blue-green or purplish leaves, sepals not cut or lobed]

Rosa pimpinellifolia **Burnet Rose** – Eyne area (9 – 11)

Rubus fruticosus s.l. **Bramble** – ubiquitous across various habitats [Variable but typical bramble]

Sanguisorba minor ssp. *muricata* **Salad Burnet** – widespread on base-rich grassland [Familiar herb, pinnate cucumber-tasting leaves and round greenish heads]

Sanguisorba officinalis **Great Burnet** – meadows around Eyne (9 – 11) [From *S. minor* by oblong dull crimson heads]

Sorbus aria **Whitebeam** – Aiguestortes (12) [Tree with obovate leaves, white beneath]

Sorbus aucuparia **Rowan** – widespread across the trip [Familiar pinnate-leaved small tree]

Fabaceae

Anthyllis montana **Mountain Kidney-vetch** – Ossoue Valley (19) [red/purple heads, uninflated calyx]

Anthyllis vulneraria ssp. *vulnerarioides* **Kidney Vetch** – Eyne area (9 – 10) & Ossoue Valley (19) [yellow flowers with red tips, calyx 7-9mm]

Anthyllis vulneraria ssp. *pyrenaica* **Kidney Vetch** = *alpestris* – higher altitudes Andorra (11), Tor (16) & Ossoue (19) [Typical kidney vetch with calyx inflated when flowering, pink flowers]

Argyrobolium zanonii **Argyrobolium** – Mediterranean days (14 & 15) [Low sub-shrub, silver hairy, heads of 1-3 yellow flowers]

Astragalus alpinus **Alpine Milkvetch** – common around meadows (9 & 10)

Astragalus glycyphyllos **Wild Liquorice** – woodland site near lunch (15) [Procumbent herb with pinnate leaves and heads of creamy flowers]

Chamaespartium sagittale **Winged Greenweed** – French side around Eyne [Leafless winged stems, heads of yellow flowers]

Colutea arborescens **Bladder Senna** – around meadows (9 & 15) [Pinnate yellow spineless bush, heads of 3-8 and inflated pod]

Coronilla emerus **Scorpion Senna** – only found at lower altitudes on our Mediterranean days

Coronilla valentina subsp. *glauca* (a scorpion-vetch) – recorded on the more Mediterranean days (13 – 15)

Coronilla vaginalis (a scorpion-vetch) – higher altitudes common around the French side (10 & 11); common around the path edges above Tor (16)

Coronilla varia **Crown Vetch** – scattered sightings (11 & 15)

Cytisus purgans **Pyrenean Broom** – abundant across the slopes on the French side (9 – 11) [Very similar to *C. scoparius*, spineless shrub, but <1m, standard 10-12 not 16-18mm]

Dorycnium pentaphyllum (a dorycnium) – lower altitudes in Spain (15)

Echinospartum horridum **Echinospartum** – abundant at Col de Perbes (15) [Like dwarf gorse, opposite branches and trefoil leaves, oblong leaflets]

Genista hispanica **Spanish Gorse** – first part of the trip [Similar to a dwarf gorse]

Genista tinctoria **Dyer's Greenweed** – meadows at Val d'Eyne (10) [Resembles dwarf broom, simple leaves]

Lathyrus latifolius **Broad-leaved Everlasting-pea** – Santa Engrácia (14) [Large clambering, 1 pair of leaflets, tendrils, broad winged stem and 2-3cm pink flowers]

Lathyrus niger **Black Pea** – Gavarnie area (19 & 20) [deep red single pea]

Lathyrus ochraceus **Yellow Pea** – Ossoue Valley (19)

Lathyrus pratensis **Meadow Pea** – damp grasslands [Familiar yellow vetch with tendrils and only one pair of leaflets]

Lotus alpinus **Alpine Bird's-foot Trefoil** – high alpine turf [Similar to *L. corniculatus*, but heads of 1-3

flowers and leaflets 2-6mm]

Lotus corniculatus **Common Bird's-foot trefoil** – widespread in meadows [Familiar herb: 5 “leaflets” (each 5-15mm) & heads of 3-6 yellow flowers]

Medicago lupulina **Black Medick** – roadsides on the first day (9) [Familiar medick with black fruit & many flowered heads]

Medicago s. sativa **Lucerne** – common across the trip [Purple-headed, fruit spineless and curved]

Melilotus alba **White Melilot** – lower altitudes (14 & 15) [Typical tall melilot – white-flowered]

Melilotus officinalis **Common Melilot** – lower altitudes (14 & 15) [Typical tall melilot differing from *M. alba* by yellow flowers each 4-7mm]

Onobrychis viciifolia **Common Sainfoin** – fields & road verges (9 – 11)

Onobrychis saxatilis **Rock Sainfoin** – lower altitudes (14 & 15)

Ononis cristata **Mt. Cenis Restharrow** – meadows at Col de Perbes (15)

Ononis n. natrix **Large Yellow Restharrow** – roadsides along to Vielha (13) & a lovely bunch at the lunch site (15) [From *O. aragonensis* by petals reddish-veined; sticky hairy]

Ononis repens **Common Rest-harrow** – lower altitudes (14 & 15)

Psoralea bituminosa **Pitch Trefoil** – sub-Mediterranean habitat (14 & 15) [Dull green trefoil, smelling of bitumen & violet-blue heads]

Robinia pseudacacia **False Acacia** – scattered records in France (9 – 11) [Spiny tree with pinnate leaves, pendent white racemes]

Spartium junceum **Spanish Broom** – lower altitudes (14 & 15) [Bush: rush-like branches; large yellow flowers]

Tetragonolobus maritimus **Dragon's-teeth** – meadows at Col de Perbes (15) [Hairy trefoil herb, pale yellow flowers, big winged pods]

Trifolium alpinum **Alpine Clover** – higher altitudes (9 – 13) [A typical clover: linear lanceolate leaflets, heads of 3-12 flowers, each 18-25mm]

Trifolium badium **Brown Clover** – only recorded at Col de Perbes (15) [Resembles next i.e. large golden yellow trefoil, but turns chestnut]

Trifolium campestre **Hop Trefoil** – common meadow plant [Annual yellow trefoil, heads of 20-30 flowers]

Trifolium hybridum **Alsike clover** – roadside before the woods (9) [cross between *T. pratense* & *T. repens*]

Trifolium medium **Zigzag Clover** – meadows around Eyne (10 – 11)

Trifolium montanum **Mountain Clover** – widespread in meadows [Erect white/sulphur perennial with lanceolate leaflets; individual flowers 7-9mm]

Trifolium pratense **Red Clover** – mainly recorded in the first part of the trip, meadows (9 – 11) [Erect red clover, usually with pale crescents on leaflets]

Trifolium repens **White Clover** – widespread [Familiar: white, creeping (rooting at nodes), papery fruit]

Trifolium thalii **Thal's Clover** – rocky areas higher altitudes

Trifolium tomentosum **Woolly Clover** – Santa Engrácia (14) [cotton-ball like heads]

Vicia cracca **Tufted Vetch** – meadows widespread [Familiar purple vetch, silvery leaves]

Vicia pyrenaica **Pyrenean Vetch** – Val d'Eyne (10) [3-6 pairs of roundish leaflets and solitary bright violet flowers 16-25mm]

Vicia sativa **Common Vetch** - scattered [Familiar pink leafy vetch; 1-2 flowers together]

Oxalidaceae

Oxalis acetosella **Wood Sorrel** – Val d'Eyne woodland (10) [Trefoil leaves (acid-tasting), nodding white 5-petalled flowers]

Geraniaceae

Geranium cinereum **Ashy Crane's-bill** – some lovely displays around Col de Tentès (19) & Troumouse (20) [low growing, leaves deeply divided & grey-green; flowers dark eye with veins]

Geranium molle **Dove's-foot Crane's-bill** - noted in France (9) [From *G. dissectum* by its wedge-lobed leaves, more purplish- pink flowers (7-15mm)]

Geranium phaeum **Dusky Crane's-bill** – woodland edge at Rioumajou (18) [Perennial: pairs of blackish-purple to brownish-purple flowers, each 15-20mm]

Geranium robertianum **Herb Robert** – woodland area near lunch spot (15) [Aromatic, fern-like leaves, un-notched pink petals, orange pollen]

Geranium sanguineum **Bloody Crane's-bill** – woodland edges Val d'Eyne (10) [Cut leaves, 3-4cm crimson flowers]

Geranium pratense **Meadow Crane's-bill** – meadows Eyne (10) [Perennial with well-cut leaves and bright violet-blue 25-30mm flowers]

Geranium sylvaticum **Wood Crane's-bill** – woodland edges & opens (9) & Aiguestortes (12) [Shade/meadows: from *G. pratense* by its red-purple flowers 12-25mm]

Linaceae

Linum catharticum **Fairy Flax** – meadow area Vielha (13) [Tiny opposite-leaved white flax, typical round capsule]

Linum narbonense **Beautiful Flax** – meadows around Eyne & Vielha (10, 11 & 13) [Tall blue flax 5-6cm flowers]

Linum pubescens **Hairy Pink Flax** – Mediterranean area (15)

Linum suffruticosum ssp. salsoloides **Pyrenean Flax** – lower altitudes in Spain (14 & 15) [Sprawling perennial, linear leaves, 2-3cm white flowers]

Euphorbiaceae

Euphorbia characias **Large Mediterranean Spurge** – only on Santa Engrácia day (14) [Like Wood Spurge but more robust and with hairy capsule]

Euphorbia cyparissias **Cypress Spurge** – widespread [Patch forming perennial with linear leaves & yellowish bracts]

Euphorbia helioscopia **Sun Spurge** – Santa Engrácia (13) [Familiar weedy spurge, toothed leaves]

Euphorbia hyberna **Irish Spurge** – Reserve Neouvielle [Perennial, leaves hairy beneath, fruit warty, ray-leaves not joined]

Euphorbia serrata (a spurge) – roadside edges Santa Engrácia (14) & Tor (16)

Simaroubaceae

Ailanthus altissima **Tree of Heaven** – Mediterranean areas (14 & 15) [Suckering tree, alternate pinnate leaves (teeth have gland beneath)]

Polygalaceae

Polygala alpina **Alpine Milkwort** – Cirque Troumouse (20)

Polygala comosa **Tufted Milkwort** – scattered records (9, 10 & 13) [Leaves more even, and flowers lilac-pink 4-6mm long]

Polygala rupestris **Rock Milkwort** – Ossoue Valley (19) & Troumouse (20)

Polygala vulgaris **Common Milkwort** – scattered across the first half of the trip (9 & 10)

Hippocastanaceae

Aesculus hippocastanum **Horse Chestnut** – around Val d' Eyne (10) [Popular 'conker' tree with large compound palmate leaves]

Anacardiaceae

Cotinus coggygria **Smoke Tree** – the delicate Smokey tree along auto-route to Toulouse [Shrub with ovate untoothed leaves, feathery fruit-stalks]

Pistacia lentiscus **Mastic Tree** – Collegrats [Evergreen shrub: pinnate leaves normally have no terminal

leaflet]

Aceraceae

Acer campestre **Field Maple** – frequent across both sides [Maple with blunt lobed leaves (latex in stalk), and erect flower-head]

Acer monspessulanum **Montpelier Maple** – Santa Engrácia (14); Cami de l'aigua (15) [From other *Acer* by 3-lobed leaves, leathery, lobes untoothed]

Acer platanoides **Norway Maple** [Resembles sycamore, leaves 5-7 lobed and long-pointed lobes]

Acer pseudoplatanus **Sycamore** – scattered records in lowland woodlands

Buxaceae

Buxus sempervirens **Box** – scattered sightings enroute to La Guingueta d'Aneu (11); Santa Engrácia (14) & Thor (16) [Evergreen bush: opposite untoothed leaves; 3-horned fruit]

Rhamnaceae

Rhamnus cartharticus **Common Buckthorn** – woodlands (9)

Malvaceae

Malva neglecta **Dwarf Mallow** – meadows (9)

Malva sylvestris **Common Mallow** – scattered Val d'Eyne (10) & Collegats (14) [Familiar pink-purple biennial/perennial: roundish 3- 7 lobed/angled leaves]

Thymelaeaceae

Daphne cneorum **Garland-flower** - alpine turf (11 – 13) [Evergreen prostrate bush, spoon-shaped leaves, pink fragrant flowers, var. *pygmaea*]

Daphne mezereum **Mezereon** – Val d'Eyne path (10) [Deciduous bush: red short-stalked berries below]

Hypericaceae

Hypericum perforatum **Perforate St John's-wort** – meadows Vielha (13) & Santa Engrácia (14) [translucent dots in leaves]

Hypericum richeri ssp. *burseri* **Alpine St John's-wort** – Col de Perbes (15) [From *H. perforatum* by having petals evenly covered in black dots]

Violaceae

Viola arvensis **Field Pansy** – meadows & wasted areas (9 & 10) [Typical mainly white pansy, flowers 1-1.5cm across]

Viola biflora **Yellow Wood Violet** – often in large patches (10, 19 & 20)

Viola cornuta **Horned Pansy** – Ray found a fantastic display of this species at Vielha (13) [Lilac or violet pansy: flower 20-35mm, spur 10-15mm]

Viola riviniana **Common Dog Violet** – wooded areas

Viola tricolor ssp. *subalpina* **Heartsease** – scattered records across various habitats [Familiar bi- or tri-coloured pansy]

Cistaceae

Cistus laurifolius (a cistus) – common white cistus around Eyne (9 – 11)

Helianthemum apenninum **White Rockrose** – widespread [Low undershrub, opposite leaves woolly beneath and white flowers]

Helianthemum canum ssp. *piloselloides* **Hoary Rockrose** – Col de Perbes (15) & Ossoue Valley (19) [Like *H. apenninum* but yellow flowers 8-15mm, lower leaves 0 stipules]

Helianthemum nummularium ssp. *glabrum* **Common Rockrose** – scattered across the trip, yellow flowers, lovely bouquets in Ossoue Valley (19)

Helianthemum nummularium ssp. *pyrenaicum* (a rockrose) - pink flowers Col de Perbes (15) [Oblong

leaves white beneath with flowers 12-20mm]

Cucurbitaceae

Bryonia cretica **White Bryony** - scattered across the course of the trip [Climber with mottled maple-like leaves opposite tendrils and greenish- white flowers]

Onagraceae

Epilobium angustifolium **Rosebay Willowherb** – verges & margins [Familiar herb: all leaves alternate, spike of pink flowers slightly asymmetric 2-3cm]

Oenothera biennis **Common Evening-primrose** – roadsides [Typical evening primrose, large 4-petalled yellow flowers]

Punicaceae

Punica granatum **Pomegranate** - lower altitudes in Spain

Araliaceae

Hedera helix **Ivy** – regularly seen, with some fine examples of this species at Collegats (14) [Familiar evergreen climber with lobed leaves]

Apiaceae

Angelica sylvestris **Wild Angelica** – Tor (16); Reserve Neouvielle (17)

Anthriscus sylvestris **Cow Parsley** – common & widespread

Astrantia major **Great Masterwort** – Val d'Eyne (10) [Five-lobed leaves; dense pinkish umbels surrounded by long bracts]

Carum carvi **Caraway** – meadows

Caucalis platycarpos **Small Bur-parsley** – Santa Engrácia (14)

Chaerophyllum temulum **Rough Chervil** - common in France (9-10), also noted in Spain (13)

Conopodium majus **Pignut** – widespread in meadows [2-3 pinnate hairless tuberous perennial, leaflets linear and lower part of stem leafless; delicate white umbels]

Daucus carota **Wild Carrot** – Col de Perbes (15) [Familiar coarse herb, divided bracts, bur fruit]

Eryngium bourgatii **Pyrenean Eryngo**– Val d'Eyne area (9-10) [Green-blue spiny perennial, white stripe along middle of leaf, heads 15-25mm, bluish with 10-15 bracts]

Eryngium campestre **Field Eryngo** – in flower Santa Engrácia (14 & 15) [Greenish spiny perennial, heads 10-15mm (5-7 bracts), basal leaves 3-lobed]

Foeniculum vulgare **Fennel** – Santa Engrácia (14) [Feathery foliage, yellow umbels, aniseed aroma]

Heracleum sphondylium ssp. montanum **Hogweed** – common and widespread [Coarse bristly perennial, large dirty white umbels, outer petals longer, medium altitudes]

Heracleum sphondylium ssp. pyrenaicum – this species replaced montanum at high altitudes

Laserpitium latifolium **Broad-leaved Sermountain** – the large umbellifer at Tor (16)

Meum athamanticum **Baldmoney** – Aiguestortes (12); Bonaigua & Vielha (13) [Aromatic, white umbels, 3-4 capillary pinnate]

Molopospermum peloponnesiacum – this is an amazing umbellifer both in flower & seed which caused a bit of confusion with the green & white Val d'Eyne (10); Aiguestortes (12); Tor (16)

Pimpinella major **Greater Burnet-saxifrage** – meadows Andorra (11) [Tall 1-pinnate perennial (3-9 ovate segments), angled hollow stem; white umbels, bracts/bracteoles]

Sanicula europaea **Sanicle** – Rioumajou (18) [Palmate-lobed glossy leaves & dense sub-umbels]

Seseli libanotis **Moon Carrot** – Aiguestortes (12) [From *Daucus* by pure white umbels, bracts undivided; stock covered in fibres]

Pyrolaceae

Pyrola minor **Lesser Wintergreen** – Val d'Eyne (10) [Typical *Pyrola*: rosette of elliptical leaves; unranked raceme of white to pink globose 5-7mm flowers]

Pyrola rotundifolia **Round-leaved Wintergreen** – Val d'Eyne (10)

Ericaceae

Arctostaphylos uva-ursi **Bearberry** – higher altitudes at Aiguestortes (12) [Prostrate evergreen mat-forming shrub: untoothed leaves; red berries]

Calluna vulgaris **Ling** – boggy area along Eyne Road (10) & Aiguestortes (12) [Familiar heather, differing from an *Erica* by its overlapping scale-like leaves]

Erica tetralix **Cross-leaved Heath** – Vielha (13) [Grey undershrub, needle leaves in 4s, drooping bells]

Rhododendron ferrugineum **Alpenrose** – this colourful plant brightened up the green slopes on the first half of the tour (9 – 13) [Evergreen shrub to 1m, elliptic shiny leaves (rusty beneath); deep pink bell-like flowers to 15mm]

Vaccinium myrtillus **Bilberry** – Val d'Eyne (10) Port de la Bonaigua (13) & Tor (16) [Deciduous shrub, oval toothed leaves (mid-green); blue-black berries]

Primulaceae

Androsace carnea ssp. *Laggeri* **Pink Rock-jasmine** - high altitudes short turt (12, 13 19 & 20) [Low tufted perennial, dense rosettes of linear leaves; leafless stem with umbel of 2-8 pink flowers]

Androsace chamaejasme **Ciliate Rock-jasmine** – high altitudes around Gavarnie (19 – 20)

Lysimachia nemorum **Yellow Pimpernel** – Rioumajou (17) [Creeping perennial, opposite lanceolate leaves, saucer-like yellow flowers 6-8.5mm]

Primula elatior **Oxlip** – dead heads scattered across the meadows [Leaves abruptly narrowed to stalk, pale yellow flowers in 1-sided cluster]

Primula farinosa **Bird's-eye Primrose** – only found high up on Vielha day (13) [Leaves white-mealy beneath; lilac-pink umbel (8-16mm)]

Red Alpine Primrose – several plants found Reserve Neouvielle (17) & Gavarnie day (18) [As last but sticky hairy, not mealy; leaves toothed; 1-15 pink-purple flowers 2-3cm]

Primula integrifolia **Entire-leaved Primrose** – wet turf only recorded at Aiguestortes (12) [From *P. hirsuta* by untoothed leaves, 1-3 rosy flowers 15-25mm]

Primula veris **Cowslip** – Mary found some nice plants in flower otherwise they were mainly dead heads scattered across the trip [From Oxlip by fragrant deeper yellow flowers, subsp. *columnae* has leaves white beneath]

Soldanella alpina **Alpine Snowbell** – wow there were some splendid displays of this gorgeous plant (12 & 13) [All leaves basal, heart-shaped; flowers deeply-fringed, violet]

Vitaliana primuliflora subsp. *canescens* **Vitaliana** – rocky areas around Valcebollère (9 – 11) [Mat-forming or tufted, all leaves basal and linear; 12-18mm yellow flowers]

Plumbaginaceae

Armeria alliacea **Plantain Thrift** – on route to Spain (11)

Armeria maritima ssp. *alpina* **Mountain Thrift** – rocks and stony turf (9 & 16) [Typical thrift: hairless linear leaves. Head 18-30mm.]

Oleaceae

Fraxinus excelsior **Ash** - woods, widespread [Familiar tree with opposite pinnate leaves & black buds]

Fraxinus ornus **Manna Ash** – car park near the old village with the nice bridge (14 & 15)

Ligustrum vulgare **Privet** – Mediterranean days (14 & 15) [Familiar semi-evergreen shrub]

Olea europaea **Olive** – Mediterranean days (14 & 15) lower sites in Spain

Gentianaceae

Blackstonia perfoliata **Yellowwort** – Santa Engrácia (14)

Centaureum erythraea **Common Centaury** – Cirque Gavarnie (17)

Gentiana lutea **Greater Yellow Gentian** – mainly around the first part of the trip (9 – 13) [Tall perennial: oval, blue-green ribbed leaves; starry yellow flowers in whorls]

Gentiana acaulis **Trumpet Gentian** – high altitudes with much discussion over (9, 11- 13 & 19) [Low tufted perennial: grey-green elliptical leaves; blue stalked trumpet flowers 4-7cm (green spotted inside)]

Gentiana occidentalis **Pyrenean Trumpet Gentian** - This species led to much discussion on the slope of Bonaigua & eventually we decided it was *G. occidentalis* rather than *G. acaulis*, due to the 'pinched in waist' & lack of green spots (13) & Troumouse (20)

Gentiana alpina **Southern Gentian** - acid alpine turf, Andorra, Troumouse, and Col de Tentes [As last but round-oval leaves, flowers 4cm and hardly stalked]

Gentiana pyrenaica **Pyrenean Gentian** – Hugh found a fine specimen of this gentian in a boggy area near Eyne road (10); Col de Tentes (19)

Gentiana verna **Spring Gentian** – a wonderful display just before Andorra (11) [Bright blue, deeply 5-lobed flowers; bright green lanceolate leaves]

Gentiana brachyphylla **Short-leaved Gentian** – among the limestone pavement at Col de Tentes (19)

Gentiana pumila delphinensis (a short-leaved Gentian) – among the limestone pavement at Col de Tentes near *G. brachyphylla*, allowing comparison between the two (19)

Apocynaceae

Nerium oleander **Oleander** – around La Guingueta d'Aneu area

Asclepiadaceae

Vincetoxicum hirundinaria ssp. *intermedium* **Swallow-wort** – mainly in the latter part of the trip, Collegats (14) (15, 18 & 19) [Opposite heart-shaped leaves, latex, yellow flower clusters]

Vincetoxicum nigrum **Black Swallow-wort** – Tor (16) [differs from *V. hirundinaria* by black seeds]

Rubiaceae

Galium aparine **Cleavers** – woodland (9)

Galium odoratum **Sweet Woodruff** – Vielha woods (13) [Erect, whorls of 6-9 leaves, forming ruff round white flowers]

Galium verum **Lady's Bedstraw** – meadow Vielha (13) [Whorls of 8-12 dark green linear leaves, terminal yellow inflorescence]

Galium caespitosum **(a dwarf bedstraw)** – a lovely small clump of this endemic bedstraw at the view point Col de Tentes (19)

Galium pumilum **Slender Bedstraw** – Collegats roadside verge (14)

Cruciata laevipes **Crosswort** – meadows (9) [Leaves in whorls of 4, with yellow flowers at base & 2 bracts on peduncle]

Asperula aristata scabra **(a woodruff)** – woodland area near our lunch site (15)

Convolvulaceae

Cuscuta epithymum **Common Dodder** – rocky meadows (10, 15 – 17)

Cuscuta europaea **Greater Dodder** – meadows at Vielha (13) & Cami de l'aigua (15)

Calystegia sepium **Hedge Bindweed** – roadside on route to Toulouse (20) [Typical large white bindweed]

Convolvulus arvensis **Field Bindweed** – scattered [Familiar pink perennial; arrow-shaped leaves]

Boraginaceae

Alkanna lutea **Yellow Alkanet** – lunch stop at Santa Engrácia (14)

Buglossoides arvensis **Corn Gromwell** – lunch site (15)

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Cynoglossum officinale **Common Hound's-tongue** – scattered across the trip [Grey soft-hairy leaves, smells of mice; maroon flowers]

Echium angustifolia **Narrow-leaved Bugloss** – Tor (16)

Echium parviflorum **Small-flowered Bugloss** – Mediterranean days (14 & 15)

Echium vulgare **Viper's Bugloss** – widespread across the trip [Bristly bright blue biennial]

Myosotis alpestris **Alpine Forget-me-not** – high altitudes [Perennial blue forget-me-not, 9mm flowers]

Myosotis arvensis **Common Forget-me-not** – meadows (9 & 10) [Low 3mm blue-flowered biennial forget-me-not]

Pulmonaria angustifolia **Narrow-leaved Lungwort** – Val d'Eyne (10)

Pulmonaria montana **Mountain Lungwort** – high altitudes (9)

Lamiaceae

Ajuga pyramidalis **Pyramidal Bugle** – scattered records at higher altitudes (12, 13, 17 & 18) [Creeping perennial: dense spike of pale violet 1-lipped flowers]

Ajuga reptans **Bugle** – only recorded the French side (9 & 10)

Teucrium pyrenaicum **Pyrenean Germander** – Col de Perbes (13) & Ossoue (19) [Round-oval (not oblong) leaves; 1-lipped white flowers]

Teucrium montanum **Mountain Germander** – Mediterranean days (14 & 15)

Sideritis hirsuta (a germander) – recorded in the warmer climes Santa Engrácia (14) & Montañana (15) [Low scented perennial; yellow flowers 8-10mm, oblong leaves]

Phlomis herba-venti (a Jerusalem-sage) – along the road verges (15) [Evergreen linear-leaved white felted bush with red flowers]

Galeopsis ladanum **Large Pink Hemp-nettle** – this lovely species recorded along Tor road (16) & around Gavarnie (18)

Lamium album **White Dead-nettle** – scattered records across the trip

Lamium galeobdolon **Yellow Archangel** – Vielha (13)

Ballota nigra **Black Horehound** – road verges & waste areas (14) [Foetid; coarse-toothed leaves, small purple flowers. ssp. *foetida*]

Stachys olopecurus **Yellow Betony** – rocky & grassy mountain slopes Aiguestortes (12) & Tor (16)

Prunella grandiflora **Large Self-heal** – only recorded on the French side (9 – 10) [Typical scentless self-heal with deep violet flowers 25-30mm]

Prunella laciniata **Cut-leaved Self-heal** – scattered sightings across the trip (11, 14 & 15) [Typical self-heal with pinnately-lobed leaves and cream flowers]

Prunella vulgaris **Self Heal** – grasslands at Reserve Neouvielle (17)

Acinos alpinus **Alpine Calamint** – high meadows in France (9 – 11) [Decumbent perennial: 10-14mm violet flowers marked white.]

Origanum vulgare **Marjoram** – scattered records around lower altitudes [Aromatic widely branched herb: oval un-toothed leaves with purple bracts]

Thymus pulegioides **Large Wild-thyme** – locally numerous along road verges & rocky meadows [Typical low creeping aromatic thyme; flowers 6mm]

Thymus serpyllum **Wild Thyme** – widespread across rocky meadows [Similar to *T. pulegioides* but flowers 3-6mm]

Rosmarinus officinalis **Rosemary** – Collegats & Santa Engrácia area (14) [Familiar aromatic shrub; linear revolute leaves]

Lavandula angustifolia **Common Lavender** – Mediterranean days of the trip (14 & 15) [Typical aromatic narrow-leaved lavender]

Salvia officinalis **Wild Sage** – Mediterranean days of the trip (14 & 15)

Salvia pratensis **Meadow Clary** – meadows some nice specimens around Gavarnie [From *S. verbenaca* by

unlobed leaves and flowers 20-30mm]

Salvia sclarea **Clary** – Santa Engrácia area (14) [Differs from *S. pratensis* by big lilac/white bracts and lilac flowers]

Solanaceae

Solanum dulcamara **Bittersweet** – Aiguestortes (12) & Tor (16) [Scrambler, often lobed leaves, purple flowers, column of anthers]

Buddlejaceae

Buddleja davidii **Buddleia** – waste areas (16 & 17) [Familiar shrub: opposite lanceolate leaves, long lilac flower-panicles]

Scrophulariaceae

Verbascum pulverulentum **Hoary Mullein** – abundant along road verges [As *V. lychnitis* (woolly with yellow candelabra inflorescence) but flower-stalks 2-5mm]

Verbascum Thapsus **Aaron's Rod** – scattered records [Familiar woolly mullein with spike-like inflorescence, winged stem and yellow flowers]

Verbascum nigrum **Dark Mullein** – only recorded around Valcebollère (9 – 10)

Scrophularia nodosa **Common Figwort** – several specimens noted Vielha (13) & Santa Engrácia (14) [Typical brown figwort: 4-angled stem, 2-serrate, cordate hairless leaves]

Antirrhinum latifolium (a Snapdragon) – recorded in the first half of the trip [Yellow flowers]

Antirrhinum majus **Common Snapdragon** – scattered records around stone walls or urban areas [Typical pink snapdragon: flowers 33-45mm]

Antirrhinum molle **Soft Snapdragon** – Gaudi's Inspiration (14) & Tor (16) [Dwarf, shrubby, softly downy, with white flowers 25-35mm]

Chaenorhinum organifolium (a dwarf snapdragon) – lovely clumps on stony areas Ossoue day (19)

Linaria alpina **Alpine Toadflax** – high slopes at Aiguestortes (12) & (13) [Low glaucous toadflax, linear-oblong leaves and 13-22mm violet flowers, yellow palate, also pure blue form]

Linaria repens **Pale Toadflax** – along the road around Tor (16) [Erect greyish toadflax: lower leaves whorled, white or pale lilac flowers]

Linaria supina **Pyrenean Toadflax** – Andorra day (11) & Tor area (16) [Decumbent linear-leaved toadflax, yellow flowers with long spur]

Digitalis lutea **Small Yellow Foxglove** – a delightful plant seen on several occasions afternoon stop (11) & enroute & around Arreau area (16 & 17) [Nearly hairless yellow foxglove; dense spikes of pale tubular flowers]

Digitalis purpurea **Common Foxglove** – lovely stands at Vielha (13) [Familiar downy purple foxglove]

Erinus alpinus **Fairy Foxglove** – along river edges & damp areas Vielha (13), Rioumajou (18) & Ossoue (19) [Low perennial: leaves obovate and toothed, purple flowers (5 notched lobes)]

Veronica anagallis-aquatica **Blue Water Speedwell** – Neouvielle (17) [Fleshy, opposite long-lanceolate leaves (clasping); opposite stalked spikes of blue flowers]

Veronica austriaca **Large Speedwell** – only recorded on the first day (9) [Hairy, leaves ovate-oblong]

Veronica chamaedrys **Bird's-eye Speedwell** – travel day from France to Spain (11) [Like Large Speedwell, but smaller with lines of hairs on the stem]

Veronica nummularia **Pyrenean Speedwell** – Ossoue Valley (19)

Veronica ponae **Spiked Pyrenean Speedwell** – Reserve Neouvielle (17) [Like elegant Bird's-eye, but single loose terminal spike]

Veronica serpyllifolia subsp. *humifusa* **Thyme-leaved Speedwell** – moist alpine turf higher altitude days [creeps, rooting at nodes, often hairless & blue flowers]

Veronica serpyllifolia subsp. *serpyllifolia* **Thyme-leaved Speedwell** – grassland species [white flowers veined blue - grew where soil disturbed]

Melampyrum sylvaticum **Wood Cow-wheat** – wooded edges Eyne (10)

Melampyrum pratense **Common Cow-wheat** –only spotted in the afternoon walk (9) [Annual: leaves untoothed; 1-sided spike, tubular yellow flowers]

Bartsia alpina **Alpine Bartsia** – Richard spotted this species Vielha (13) [Opposite-leaved perennial: downy, dark-purple 2-lipped flowers (15-20mm)]

Pedicularis foliosa **Leafy Lousewort** - Vielha (13) & Tor (16) [Very hairy flower heads; Differs in having leaf-like bracts, 25mm yellow flowers with upper lip rounded]

Pedicularis mixta (a lousewort) – riverside stream near the vehicles Vielha (13) [Pink lousewort, flowers =18mm (crimson beak and calyx woolly)]

Pedicularis pyrenaica **Pyrenean Lousewort** – Andorra rock garden [Very like dull pinkish-purple *P. mixta*, but glabrous calyx]

Pedicularis verticillata **Whorled Lousewort** – around Eyne (9 & 10), above Tor near the marshy area with the Marsh Orchids (16) [From other pink louseworts by leaves in whorls of 3-4 and upper lip rounded (not beaked/toothed)]

Pedicularis sylvatica **Common Lousewort** – Vielha meadows (13)

Rhinanthus angustifolius **Greater Yellow Rattle** – large swards of this species across grassy meadows

Rhinanthus minor **Yellow Rattle** – widespread [Typical yellow rattle: yellow with violet tip, inflated fruit]

Rhinanthus glacialis (a Yellow Rattle) – this species mixed in the swards with *R. angustifolius* & *minor* [branched with narrow-leaves & red to black stems]

Globulariaceae

Globularia cordifolia **Matted Globularia** – Hugh found the only sighting of this species Port de la Bonaigua (13) [Mat-forming, creeping under-shrub, leaves basal, spatulate and notched; heads globular 1-2cm and lilac- or grey-blue]

Globularia nudicaulis **Leafless-stemmed Globularia** – high rocky areas Aiguestortes (12) & Gavarnie area (18 – 20) [Herb: leaves all basal, oblanceolate, blunt; blue heads 15-30mm]

Globularia repens **Creeping Globularia** – some nice examples on the Ossoue day (19) [From *G. cordifolia* by pointed leaves]

Gesneriaceae

Ramonda myconi **Ramonda** – what a fantastic display of this wonderful plant, and when the sun came down on the boulder, just amazing (18) [Flat rosettes of toothed oval corrugated leaves, rusty-hairy beneath; blue-violet 2-3cm 5-lobed flowers]

Orobanchaceae

Orobanche gracilis **Slender Broomrape** – some lovely spikes of this species around the meadows (9) & Ossouse Valley (19) [Yellow/red broomrape, flowers shining dark red inside and 15-25mm]

Orobanche caryophyllacea **Bedstraw Broomrape** – another lovely species around the meadows (9)

Orobanche hederæ **Ivy Broomrape** – a lovely specimen of this species parasitic on *Hedera helix* at Collegats (14)

Lentibulariaceae

Pinguicula grandiflora **Large-flowered Butterwort** – wet damp areas very common across the trip (12, 14, 17 & 18) [Rosette like (edges inrolled); stem with 2-lipped violet flowers 25-35mm (10-12mm spur)]

Pinguicula vulgaris **Common Butterwort** – only recorded on the first three days of the trip, boggy areas (10 & 11) [As *P. grandiflora* but flowers 15-22mm with 6-8mm spur]

Plantaginaceae

Plantago alpina **Alpine Plantain** – frequent at Aiguestortes (12)

Plantago lanceolata **Ribwort Plantain** – widespread [Familiar lanceolate plantain; anthers yellowish]

Plantago major **Rat's-tail Plantain** – scattered sightings across the trip [Cosmopolitan broad-leaved]

weed, long spikes]

Plantago maritima ssp. serpentina **Sea Plantain** – Fi found a fine specimen of this species (15)

Plantago media **Hoary Plantain** – widespread across meadows [Downy grey oval leaves; anthers lilac]

Plantago coronopus **Buck's-horn Plantain** – waste areas but only on one day around Val d'Eyne (10)

Caprifoliaceae

Lonicera periclymenum **Common Honeysuckle** – Mediterranean areas (14 & 15) [Familiar deciduous climber, leaves not fused in pairs]

Lonicera pyrenaica **Pyrenean Honeysuckle** – nice specimens of this endemic, Ossoue Valley (19) [Hairless bush, blue-green leaves quite leathery; pairs of regular white flowers and red berries]

Sambucus ebulus **Dwarf Elder** – frequent but all in leaf [Erect herb, opposite pinnate leaves; white flowers, purple anthers]

Sambucus nigra **Elder** – widespread across the trip [Familiar shrub; yellowish-white anthers and black fruit]

Valerianaceae

Centranthus ruber **Red Valerian** – scattered records in the first half of the trip in France along roadsides [Familiar garden plant, with undivided leaves (1-5cm wide) spurred red flowers]

Valeriana officinalis **Common Valerian** – scattered sightings around verges & meadows [Opposite pinnate leaves and dense heads of pale pink flowers.]

Valeriana pyrenaica **Pyrenean Valerian** – first half on the trip in France around damp meadows [From basal leaves oval not pinnated & heart-shaped]

Valeriana tripteris **Three-leaved Valerian** – rocky road cliff verges (10, 13 & 17) [Short valerian, basal leaves undivided; trefoil on stem]

Valerianella locusta **Common Corn Salad** – lunch site (15)

Dipsacaceae

Dipsacus fullonum **Common Teasel** – verges [Familiar tall biennial: spiny lilac heads and opposite leaves prickly on the lower midrib]

Knautia arvensis **Field Scabious** – meadows (9) [Typical scabious: 4-lobed flowers; upper leaves pinnate-lobed]

Knautia nevadensis (a wood scabious) – woodland edges across the trip

Scabiosa columbaria **Small Scabious** – frequent in meadows across the trip

Succisa pratensis **Devil's-bit Scabious** – meadows around Gavarnie (18)

Campanulaceae

Campanula glomerata **Clustered Bellflower** – meadows at Vielha (13) [Lance-leaved perennial with tight heads of violet bells, each 15-25mm]

Campanula hispanica ssp. catalanica **Spanish Bellflower** – Collegats (14) [Graceful perennial, lance-leaved (crowded below), blue bells 10-14mm in loose clusters]

Campanula persicifolia **Peach-leaved Bellflower** – meadows/scrub Andorra day (11) & some fine specimens at Col de Perbes (15) [As last but peach-like unstalked leaves; half-nodding flowers 3-4cm]

Campanula rotundifolia **Harebell** – Fi had this species around the village at Valcebollère

Campanula scheuchzeri (a bellflower) – around Ossoue Valley (18) [Like Harebell but all leaves linear-lanceolate at flowering; 1 or few blue bells]

Campanula speciosa **Pyrenean Bellflower** – roadside stop for some nice specimens (15) [Perennial with erect bells 28-32mm in pyramidal cluster; linear leaves]

Campanula trachelium **Nettle-leaved Bellflower** - woods & roadsides [Large bristly perennial with jagged heart-shaped leaves and 3-4cm violet bell flowers]

Jasione laevis (a sheep's-bit) – high altitudes car park near Andorra (11) [Like tiny blue scabious but all

flowers regular (also not curved in bud); leaves not wavy]

Jasione montana **Sheep's-bit** – Andorra & Aiguestortes (11 – 12) [Differs from *J. laevis* by wavy leaves; annual]

Phyteuma hemisphaericum **Globe-headed Rampion** – a lovely clump along the Ossoue Valley walk [Like scabious but regular flowers curved in bud; globular-headed and basal leaves with short or no stalk]

Phyteuma orbiculare **Round-headed Rampion** – meadows around Eyne (9 – 10) [Similar to *P. hemisphaericum* but basal leaves long-stalked]

Phyteuma pyrenaicum **Pyrenean Rampion** – Valcebollère (9) & Gavarnie area (18 – 19) [Very similar to *P. ovatum* but bluish flowers]

Phyteuma spicatum **Spiked Rampion** – only around Gavarnie (17 – 19) [Like *P. pyrenaicum*, but spikes whitish]

Asteraceae

Achillea millefolium **Yarrow** – scattered across the two weeks [Familiar, aromatic: 2-3 pinnate feathery leaves; white or pink heads 4-6mm in large flat-topped clusters]

Achillea odorata (a white yarrow) – mainly along roadsides (9-11)

Adenostyles alliariae **Adenostyles** – leaves Aiguestortes (12) [Big basal leaves (triangular/heart shaped); leafy stem bears dense clusters of red-purple rayless heads]

Antennaria dioica **Mountain Everlasting** – scattered clumps among the rocky turfs (11, 12 & 19) [Mat-forming, leaves spoon-shaped, white beneath and white or pink rayless heads on low stem]

Anthemis arvensis **Corn Chamomile** – fields on the French side (8-11)

Anthemis carpatica **Mountain Dog-Daisy** – Aiguestortes (12)

Arctium lappa **Greater Burdock** – Tor Valley (16) [Typical burdock: large cordate leaves; branched stems and bur heads]

Arnica montana **Mountain Arnica** – meadows in flower at Vielha tunnel (13) [Single 4.5-8cm yellow daisy-like heads; elliptical basal leaves and stem-leaves opposite and bract-like]

Artemisia vulgaris **Mugwort** – common along roadside [Familiar faintly scented perennial]

Artemisia absinthium **Wormwood** – Andorra day scattered records (11)

Aster alpinus **Alpine Aster** – stony turf and rocks, Col de Perbes (15); Reserve Neouvielle (17); beautiful display Ossoue Valley (19) [Low perennial: elliptical leaves, single daisy-like heads 35-45mm, with violet-blue rays]

Bellis perennis **Daisy** – Vielha tunnel (13)

Carduncellus monspeliensis (a dwarf thistle) – Montañana Road (15)

Carduus carlinifolius **Carline-leaved Thistle** – scattered records across the two trips [Heads 2-3cm, spines to 1cm; thick leaves]

Carduus carlinoides **Pyrenean Thistle** – common in the first half of the trip at high altitudes [White-downy *Carduus*: winged stems, very spiny; rose-red heads 18-25mm in tight clusters]

Carduus defloratus subsp. *argemone* (an alpine thistle) – Aiguestortes (12)

Carlina acanthifolia **Acanthus-leaved Carline Thistle** – this large stemless thistle at Elderflower site (8, 11 & 20)

Carlina acaulis **Stemless Carline Thistle** - old seed heads, Tor (16)

Carlina vulgaris **Carline Thistle** – 'X' marked the spot for the view of a lovely clump of this species at Aiguestortes old seed heads Perbes

Catananche caerulea **Cupidone** – this beautiful species found in the Mediterranean area (14 & 15) [Rather like graceful perennial blue cornflower; involucre bracts papery and silvery]

Carthamus lanatus (a yellow thistle) – in flower along the roadside on the Mediterranean days (14 & 15)

Centaurea calcitrapa **Red Star-thistle** – in leaf at the picnic site (14) [Softly-leafy below (pinnately cut) but purple knapweed heads with straw-coloured 10-18mm spines]

Centaurea cyanus **Cornflower** – arable fields (9 & 10)

Centaurea jacea **Brown Knapweed** – Santa Engrácia area (14)

Centaurea scabiosa **Greater Knapweed** – Ossoue Valley (19) [Perennial: leaves 1(-2) pinnatisect; big (± rayed) purple heads, black fringed involucre]

Centaurea nigra **Common Knapweed** – meadows (17 & 18)

Cicerbita alpina **Alpine Sow-thistle** – roadsides (16-18)

Cichorium intybus **Chicory** [Like branched *Cicerbita*, but bright blue 2-4cm heads] – roadsides on the Mediterranean days (14 & 15)

Cirsium arvense **Creeping Thistle** – scattered sightings across the trip [Familiar creeping *Cirsium* with lilac-purple heads and glossy crisped very prickly leaves]

Cirsium palustre **Marsh Thistle** – damp areas [Tall slender *Cirsium*, spiny leaves purple edged; winged stems; crowded narrow purple heads]

Cirsium vulgare **Spear Thistle** – scattered across both sides

Cirsium monspessulanum (a thistle) – Collegats (14)

Crepis albida **Pyrenean Hawk's-beard** – this lovely species recorded on the one day (9)

Crepis alprestis (a hawk's-beard) – frequent grasslad

Doronicum pardalianches **Leopard's Bane** - roadside edge Rioumajou (18)

Erigeron alpinus **Alpine Fleabane** – Reserve Neouvielle lake (12)

Eupatorium cannabinum **Hemp-agrimony** – leaves only around damp sites (17) [Tall perennial: opposite 3-5 lobed leaves, numerous small pinkish-purple heads in broad corymbs]

Helichrysum stoechas (an everlasting) – high altitudes Aiguestortes (12)

Hieracium pilosella **Mouse-ear Hawkweed** – scattered records (11 & 14)

Hieracium alpinum (a hawkweed) – only on the French side (9 & 10) [Very variable group of perennials: yellow dandelion-like heads, may be leafy or black hairy]

Homogyne alpina **Alpine Colt's-foot** – high altitudes (9, 12 & 13) [Short creeping perennial, shiny kidney-shaped leaves; single rayless purple heads 10-15mm]

Hypochoeris radicata **Cat's-ear** – scattered across meadows

Lactuca perennis **Blue Lettuce** – scattered records along roadsides [Like hairless pinnately-lobed *Cicerbita*, but achenes beaked]

Lactuca serriola **Prickly Lettuce** – along the streamside in the Car Park of Gir (14)

Lapsana communis **Nipplewort** – scattered records [branched with ovate leaves; many 15-20mm yellow dandelion-type heads but no pappus]

Leontodon pyrenaicum **Pyrenean Hawkbit** – scattered records in meadows at altitude

Leontodon montanus (a lemon hawkbit) – this lovely lemony hawkbit common across floristic meadows at altitude

Leucanthemum vulgare **Ox-eye Daisy** – dry grass, common and widespread [As Alpine Moon Daisy but leafier, upper stem leaves clasping stem; heads 25-50mm]

Leuzea conifera **Leuzea** – Santa Engrácia area (14 & 15) [Like low knapweed but involucre bracts papery forming shiny cone-like structure]

Matricaria discoidea **Pineapple Weed** – waste areas

Pallenis spinosa **Pallenis** – Santa Engrácia area (14)

Santolina chamaecyparissus rosmarinifolia (a lavender cotton) – common & widespread across the trip [green] [Aromatic whitish subshrub, linear remote-toothed green leaves, flowers yellow rayless buttons]

Scorzonera aristata (a viper's-grass) – Aiguestortes (12)

Scorzonera hirsuta (a viper's-grass) – scattered across both sides in meadows [Linear cobwebby leaves, pure yellow dandelion heads and densely hairy fruit]

Senecio adonidifolius (a ragwort) – roadside near the Marsh Orchid site (10)

Senecio jacobaea **Common Ragwort** – scattered records [Many yellow daisy-like heads and pinnate-lobed

leaves (segments oblong)]

Senecio sylvaticus **Wood Groundsel** – Pinewood area near the track (9)

Stachelina dubia **Stachelina** – lovely clumps Gaudi's Inspiration (14 & 15) [Subshrub: stem & narrow toothed leaves felted; narrow purple thistle-like heads]

Tanacetum vulgare **Tansy** - widespread in leaf

Taraxacum officinale s.l. **Dandelion** – scattered records [Typical dandelion: hollow stalk, milky sap]

Tragopogon crocifolius (a salsify) – Mediterranean area (14 & 15) [yellow centre to violet/red head]

Tragopogon dubius (a salsify) – Mediterranean area (14 – 16) [yellow head]

Tragopogon pratensis **Goat's-beard** – mainly recorded in the first part of the tour [Like a leek with yellow dandelion-like heads (ca 8 long bracts)]

Tussilago farfara **Colt's-foot** – scattered often with flower heads [large cordate leaves, cobwebby beneath]

MONOCOTYLEDONS

Liliaceae

Allium ampeloprasum **Wild Leek** – Mediterranean days, roadsides around Collegrats (14) & lunch spot (15) [Tall stout leek with dense terminal pink head; leaves 5-40mm wide, flat/V-shaped in section]

Anthericum liliago **St Bernard's Lily** – widespread & common across the trip at higher altitudes [Starry white flowers (loose raceme); basal leaves]

Asphodelus albus **Asphodel** – scattered sightings across the trip on both sides of the Pyrenees [Stout dense spike of white starry flowers; strap-leaves]

Brimeura amethystine **Pyrenean Hyacinth** – several sightings over the trip Vielha (13) & some nice examples along Ossoue Valley (19)

Dipcadi serotinum **Dipcadi** – this gorgeous plant was first found in the rocky areas at Col de Perbes (15) & Tor (16) [Resembles a bluebell but with 1-sided raceme of brownish flowers]

Erythronium dens-canis **Dog's-tooth Violet** – it was very exciting when Hugh found some fantastic examples at Port de la Bonaigua (13) [leaves elliptical and dark-mottled]

Gagea fistulosa (a yellow star-of-Bethlehem) – Richard found some spikes of this species at Aiguestortes (12)

Hyacinthoides hispanica **Spanish Bluebells** – Fiona found some in the Beech Wood at Vielha (13)

Lilium martagon **Martagon Lily** – numerous plants in bud along path as we walked up the valley Val d'Eyne (10) [Whorls of elliptical leaves; dark-spotted pinkish nodding Turk's-caps]

Lilium pyrenaicum **Pyrenean Lily** – a lovely flowering head at our lunch stop Val d'Eyne (10); as well as large clumps of flowering plants decorating the cliffs on our very first day (8) [Numerous alternate lanceolate leaves; yellow nodding Turk's-caps (brown-spotted)]

Paradisea liliastrum **St Bruno's Lily** – several lovely spikes amongst meadows of this lovely species on the French side (9 – 11) & at Vielha (13) [Loose 1-sided racemes of fragrant white 4-5cm trumpet-like flowers]

Polygonatum odoratum **Angular Solomon's-seal** – a lovely stand in the rocky meadow after the woodland (9) [As latter but scented flowers 1-2 on a stalk; angled stem]

Tofieldia calyculata **Tofield's Asphodel** – damp areas at Vielha (13) [From *Narthecium* by spike of 5-7mm yellowish-green flowers]

Veratrum album **White False Helleborine** – only recorded in leaf in the meadows (10 & 13) [Robust, hairy, leafy: pleated ovate leaves; branched spike of white & green flowers]

Agavaceae

Agave americana **Century Plant** – roadsides across both sides of the Pyrenees

Amaryllidaceae

Narcissus poeticus **Poet's Narcissus** – fantastic fields of this lovely species (9-11) [Short yellow corona, surrounded by long white segments - various forms seen]

Narcissus pseudonarcissus pallidiflorus – scattered groups in Andorra (11); some specimens in flower at Ossoue Valley (19)

Juncaceae

Luzula campestris **Field Wood-rush** – meadows (9 & 10)

Luzula nivea **Snowy Wood-rush** - Reserve Neouvielle (17) [From all other *Luzula* spp. by whitish clustered flowers]

Luzula nutans **Nodding Wood-rush** – seen at Aiguestortes (12)

Luzula sylvatica **Great Wood-rush** – Val d'Eyne (10)

Poaceae

Aegilops geniculata **Goat Grass** – Santa Engrácia (14)

Anthoxanthum odoratum **Sweet Vernal Grass** – widespread across meadows

Arrhenatherum elatius **False Oat-grass** – widespread around waste areas & field margins

Arundo donax **Giant Reed** – roadsides at lower altitudes, *Santa Engrácia* (14)

Avena fatua **Wild-oat** – arable field edges [Typical wild oat, spikelet 18-25mm, with long geniculate awn] (9)

Brachypodium sylvaticum **False Brome** – woodlands (10)

Briza media **Common Quaking-grass** – meadows [Hairless perennial: grey green; open panicle of round unawned spikelets]

Briza minor **Lesser Quaking Grass** – Col de Perbes (15)

Bromus sterilis **Barren Brome** – roadsides (9)

Cynosurus cristatus **Crested Dog's-tail** – meadows (9 – 14) [Perennial: dense 1-sided toothbrush-like spike; zigzag rhachis visible]

Cynosurus echinatus **Rough Dog's-tail** – Gavarnie day (18)

Dactylis glomerata ssp. *hispanica* **Cock's-foot** – meadows (9 – 10) [Branched 1-sided flower-head of oval spikelets, flat shoots]

Deschampsia cespitosa **Tufted Hair-grass** – meadows (9 – 10)

Deschampsia flexuosa **Wavy Hair-grass** - acid swards [Tufted perennial: leaves setaceous; branched panicle with wavy stalks] (10)

Holcus lanatus **Yorkshire Fog** – meadows

Lolium perenne **Rye Grass** – grazed areas

Lagurus ovatus **Hare's-tail Grass** – Santa Engrácia (14)

Stipa pennata **Feather-grass** – Mediterranean areas (14 & 15)

Cyperaceae

Trichophorum caespitosum **Deer Grass** – boggy patch near where Hugh found the Gentian (9)

Eriophorum angustifolium **Common Cotton-grass** – Eyne Road (10) [Creeping perennial: stained wine-red: 3-7 drooping spikelets becoming white-cottony in fruit]

Orchidaceae

Cephalanthera longifolia **Sword-leaved Helleborine** – a lovely specimen of this species was found along the road verge at Neouvielle (17). [Several lance-like leaves & 8-20 pure white egg-shaped flowers]

Cephalanthera rubra **Red Helleborine** – several fantastic spikes were found across the wood near our lunch site (15) [Identified from *C. rubra* by 3-10 pink-purple flowers] (15)

Coeloglossum viride **Frog Orchid** - numerous at Vielha tunnel (13); Tor (16) [Short; oblong blue-green leaves; spike of 5-15 yellow-green flowers, tinged red-brown]

Dactylorhiza majalis alpestris (a marsh orchid) – this was probably the most commonest of the Marsh orchids we found across the tour, around damp wet areas

Dactylorhiza elata (a marsh orchid) – an interesting debate among the group with this family, but several spikes of this species was found around Eyne Road mixed in *D. majalis alpestris* & Aiguestortes [As *D. alpestris* but 30-110cm tall; lance-leaved]

Dactylorhiza fuchsii **Common Spotted-orchid** – scattered records of this species across the course of the trip [From other spotted-orchids by clearly 3-lobed lip]

Dactylorhiza maculata **Heath Spotted-orchid** – meadows (9) & Vielha (13)

Dactylorhiza sambucina **Elder-flowered Orchid** – fantastic display of this common species in both colour morphs near Puymorens, scattered records across the rest of the trip. [Pale lemon yellow, or purple, spikes, leafy bracts & descending spur]

Epipactis helleborine **Broad-leaved Helleborine** – oak woodland near Santa Engrácia (14) & woodland near our lunch stop (15)

Epipactis tremolsii (a helleborine) – Santa Engrácia woodlands (14) [From *E. helleborine* by erect stiff leaves wrapped into a cone at this time (before flowering)]

Epipactis microphylla (a helleborine) – at least one spike of this species with the mixed *Epipactis* clump in the woodlands at Santa Engrácia (14)

Gymnadenia conopsea **Fragrant Orchid** – frequent across meadows [Similar to Pyramidal Orchid, but spikes cylindrical, fragrant]

Limodorum abortivum **Violet Limodore** – several spikes were found in the woodland near our lunch stop (15)

Listera ovata **Common Twayblade** – several spikes spotted of this species across the trip [Opposite pair of oval ribbed leaves; green flower spike, lip forked]

Neottia nidus-avis **Bird's-nest Orchid** – Fi found a lovely example under the Elder bush that we all had been walking past at Rioumajou (17)

Nigritella austriaca (a vanilla orchid) – scattered records across high altitudes (11) & particularly numerous at Vielha tunnel (13) [Short: dense rounded head of deep red-brown, vanilla-scented flowers (all perianth segments spreading) lip 7-10mm]

Ophrys insectifera **Fly Orchid** – several dead heads at Col de Perbes (15)

Orchis coriophora **Bug Orchid** – this unusual species was found in the meadows (9) [Unlike *Dactylorhiza*, *Orchis* spp. have membranous bracts. Bug Orchid is small: dense brownish red spike (foetid smell)]

Orchis ustulata **Burnt-tip Orchid** – frequent across open sites [Purple-brown helmet and white to pale pink manikin lip]

Platanthera chlorantha **Greater Butterfly Orchid** – widespread around the meadows in the second half of the trip [Very similar to *P. bifolia* but usually bigger, with anther-lobes diverging]

Pseudorchis albida **Small White Orchid** – unfortunately this species was only found in bud at Bonaigua & Vielha [Short - dense spike of 2-3mm greenish-white flowers]

Systematic List – Birds

The taxonomic nomenclature & systematic order follows both that of Collins: Bird Guide 2nd edition. During the two week period a total of 79 species was recorded. The numbers indicate the dates on which a species was seen.

Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>	from the motorway in France (20)
Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>	individuals around the streams at Tor (16)
White Stork	<i>Ciconia ciconia</i>	a pair in fields near Toulouse Airport (8)
Mute Swan	<i>Cygnus olor</i>	regularly in the first half of the trip (8 – 11)
Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	the only wildfowl recorded for the trip & only on one day at Tor (16)
Black Kite	<i>Milvus migrans</i>	around urban & agricultural areas
Red Kite	<i>Milvus milvus</i>	mainly around urban & freshly cut meadow fields
Lammergeier	<i>Gypaetus barbatus</i>	one bird circling with other vultures at Collegats (14); an individual soaring along the mountain ridge
Ossoue Valley (19)		
Egyptian Vulture	<i>Neophron percnopterus</i>	an individual flying among the Griffon Vultures & Lammergeier at Collegats (14)
Griffon Vulture	<i>Gyps fulvus</i>	frequently encountered around mountainous locations
Short-toed Eagle	<i>Circaetus gallicus</i>	a distant bird at Collegats (14); one hovering near the vehicle enroute to Montañana Road
Common Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>	common & widespread seen everyday
Booted Eagle	<i>Hieraetus pennatus</i>	interesting, we only saw this species twice & both times they were of the pale phase for this species (9 & 18)
Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter nisus</i>	an individual circling as we walked up Val d'Eye (10)
Golden Eagle	<i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>	an individual around Val d'Eye (10); an adult Troumouse (20)
Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	scattered encounters of this common bird
Red-legged Partridge	<i>Alectoris rufa</i>	only the once around Col de Perbes (15)
Quail	<i>Coturnix coturnix</i>	mainly heard, but Richard got a good view has it flew up in front of him (9) (10 & 19)
Woodpigeon	<i>Columba palumbus</i>	common & widespread seen everyday
Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>	common & widespread seen everyday
Turtle Dove	<i>Streptopelia turtur</i>	unfortunately this beautiful dove was only heard on the one day (15)
Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus canorus</i>	seen or heard most days
Scops Owl	<i>Otus scops</i>	only heard in the evening at La Guingueta d'Aneu
Common Swift	<i>Apus apus</i>	common & widespread seen everyday
Alpine Swift	<i>Apus melba</i>	Fi had several around Lourdes (20)
Kingfisher	<i>Alcedo atthis</i>	Fi spotted one flying down the stream at Tor (16)

Hoopoe	<i>Upupa epops</i>	four flew over the van (8); another individual over the first van Santa Engrácia (14)
Wryneck	<i>Jynx torquilla</i>	one heard calling from a willow shrub (9)
Great Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos major</i>	regularly seen or heard over the course of the trip
Woodlark	<i>Lullula arborea</i>	woodland areas (9 & 11)
Skylark	<i>Alauda arvensis</i>	frequent around agricultural areas
Crag Martin	<i>Ptyonoprogne rupestris</i>	common & widespread seen everyday
Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	common & widespread seen everyday
House Martin	<i>Delichon urbica</i>	common & widespread seen everyday
Water Pipit	<i>Anthus spinoletta</i>	frequently encountered at high altitudes
Grey Wagtail	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>	regularly encountered around streams
White Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba</i>	common & widespread seen everyday
Wren	<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>	scattered sightings across the two weeks
Dipper	<i>Cinclus cinclus</i>	latter part of the trip on the French side (16-18)
Dunnock	<i>Prunella modularis</i>	regularly encountered & widespread
Robin	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>	scattered recordings around woodland areas
Nightingale	<i>Luscinia megarhynchos</i>	only recorded at La Guingueta d'Aneu
Black Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus ochruros</i>	common & widespread seen everyday
Stonechat	<i>Saxicola torquata</i>	only recorded on two occasions (11 & 15)
Northern Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe oenanthe</i>	regularly encountered at higher altitudes
Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>	common seen everyday
Mistle Thrush	<i>Turdus viscivorus</i>	scattered records around woodland areas
Cetti's Warbler	<i>Cettia cetti</i>	heard the once around the lake at La Guingueta d'Aneu
Whitethroat	<i>Sylvia communis</i>	scattered sightings around shrubby areas (9, 10 & 15)
Blackcap	<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>	seen or heard nearly everyday
Chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>	frequently heard across the two weeks
Willow Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus trochilus</i>	this species was only heard (11 & 16)
Firecrest	<i>Regulus ignicapillus</i>	only heard around the pinewoods (9)
Crested Tit	<i>Parus cristatus</i>	only recorded the once (10)
Coal Tit	<i>Parus ater</i>	scattered across both sides (9, 10, 12 & 16)
Blue Tit	<i>Parus caeruleus</i>	occasionally (11, 12 & 16)
Great Tit	<i>Parus major</i>	common & widespread seen everyday
Golden Oriole	<i>Oriolus oriolus</i>	some lovely views of this colourful species around La Guingueta d'Aneu
Red-backed Shrike	<i>Lanius collurio</i>	Val d'Eyne (10); Santa Engrácia (14)
Jay	<i>Garrulus glandarius</i>	common & widespread seen everyday
Magpie	<i>Pica pica</i>	common & widespread seen everyday
Alpine Chough	<i>Pyrrhonorax graculus</i>	scattered sightings at high altitudes
Chough	<i>Pyrrhonorax pyrrhonorax</i>	scattered sightings at high altitudes

Carrion Crow	<i>Corvus corone</i>	scattered recordings of this species
Raven	<i>Corvus corax</i>	regularly encountered & widespread
Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	around urban areas
House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	common & widespread seen everyday
Chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>	common & widespread seen everyday
Serin	<i>Serinus serinus</i>	frequently encountered across the trip
Citril Finch	<i>Serinus citrinella</i>	recorded at altitude (11-13 & 18)
Greenfinch	<i>Carduelis chloris</i>	only seen the once, Tor (16)
Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>	frequently encountered across the two weeks
Linnet	<i>Carduelis cannabina</i>	scattered sightings around agricultural meadows
Crossbill	<i>Loxia curvirostra</i>	woodland habitats (9-10)
Bullfinch	<i>Pyrrhula pyrrhula</i>	a lovely male recorded (10)
Hawfinch	<i>Coccothraustes coccothraustes</i>	several singing from the pines (9)
Yellowhammer	<i>Emberiza citrinella</i>	occasionally at high altitude (9-10 & 17-18)
Cirl Bunting	<i>Emberiza cirlus</i>	recorded in the latter part of the trip (15 & 17)
Corn Bunting	<i>Miliaria calandra</i>	agricultural areas

Systematic List – Butterflies

The taxonomic nomenclature & systematic order follows both that of *Collins: Butterflies of Europe, Tolman & Lewington*. During the two week period a total of 65 species was recorded. The numbers indicate the dates on which a species was seen.

Papilionidae

Swallowtail	<i>Papilio machaon</i>	scattered records of individuals (14, 19 & 20)
Scarce Swallowtail	<i>Iphiclides podalirius</i>	seen the once, Tor (16)
Apollo	<i>Parnassius apollo</i>	encountered at the higher levels (8-9 & 17-18)
Clouded Apollo	<i>Parnassius mnemosyne</i>	another high altitude species (10, 17 & 18)

Pieridae

Large White	<i>Pieris brassicae</i>	common & widespread in all habitats
Black-veined White	<i>Aporia crataegi</i>	frequently recorded at the higher altitudes
Southern Small White	<i>Artogeia manni</i>	regularly recorded in most habitats across the trip
Mt Small White	<i>Artogeia ergane</i>	Ossoue Valley (19)
Orange-Tip	<i>Anthocharis cardamines</i> (8, 10, 11, 15-19)	regularly recorded around damp wooded habitats
Moroccan Orange-Tip	<i>Anthocharis belia</i>	this delightful species was occasionally seen across the trip, with excellent views of a pair feeding (8)
Clouded Yellow	<i>Colias crocea</i>	regularly recorded at high altitude levels
Brimstone	<i>Gonepteryx rhamni</i>	only the once (12)
Cleopatra	<i>Gonepteryx Cleopatra</i>	individual sightings mainly of males (14 & 19)
Wood White	<i>Leptidea sinapsis</i>	scattered sightings of this lovely species (9, 14, 16 & 19)

Lycaenidae

Ilex Hairstreak	<i>Satyrrium ilicis</i>	lunch spot Santa Engrácia (14)
False Ilex Hairstreak	<i>Satyrrium esculi</i>	lunch spot Santa Engrácia (14); Cami de l'aigua (15)
Blue-spot Hairstreak	<i>Satyrrium spini</i>	lunch spot Santa Engrácia (14)
Green Hairstreak	<i>Callophrys rubi</i>	the commonest hairstreak (13, 17-19)
Scarce Copper	<i>Lycaena virgaureae</i>	a lovely male recorded along Tor road (16)
Sooty Copper	<i>Lycaena tityrus</i>	Richard had a nice specimen of this species (19)
Purple-edged Copper	<i>Lycaena hippothoe</i>	meadows (19)
Long-tailed Blue	<i>Lampides boeticus</i>	one recorded around Santa Engrácia (14)
Short-tailed Blue	<i>Everes argiades</i>	Congost de Collegats (14)
Little Blue	<i>Cupido minimus</i>	small groups puddling in the latter part of the trip (17-19)
Silver-studded Blue	<i>Plebejus argus</i>	fairly common on sunny days (9, 14-17)
Brown Argus	<i>Aricia agestis</i>	scattered individuals (14 & 19)
Geranium Argus	<i>Eumedonia eumedon</i>	latter part of the trip
Mazarine Blue	<i>Cyaniris semiargus</i>	frequent across most habitats
Chapman's Blue	<i>Agrodiaetus thersites</i>	Richard recorded this species around Cirque Gavarnie (18)
Escher's Blue	<i>Agrodiaetus escheri</i>	only recorded on the French side the beginning of the trip (8 & 10)
Chalk-hill Blue	<i>Lysandra coridon</i>	only recorded on the French side the beginning of the trip (9)
Spanish Chalk-hill Blue	<i>Lysandra albicans</i>	Santa Engrácia area (14)
Adonis Blue	<i>Lysandra bellargus</i>	common & widespread
Common Blue	<i>Polyommatus icarus</i>	common & widespread

Nymphalidae

White Admiral	<i>Limenitis camilla</i>	a couple of individuals were basking in the afternoon sun at the lunch spot Cami de l'aigua (15)
Peacock	<i>Inachis io</i>	scattered sightings (11, 12 & 18)
Red Admiral	<i>Vanessa atalanta</i>	only recorded on the French side the beginning of the trip (9)
Painted Lady	<i>Cynthia cardui</i>	frequently recorded over the trip
Small Tortoiseshell	<i>Aglais urticae</i>	frequently recorded across a range of habitats
Silver-washed Fritillary	<i>Argynnis Pandora</i>	Richard recorded our only large Fritillary (14)
Queen of Spain Fritillary	<i>Issoria lathonia</i>	a couple of sightings of this species (9 & 16)
Lesser Marbled Fritillary	<i>Brenthis ino</i>	only recorded on the French side, Ossoue Valley (19)
Pearl-bordered Fritillary	<i>Clossiana euphrosyne</i>	La Guingueta d'Aneu (11)
Glanville Fritillary	<i>Melitaea cinxia</i>	occasionally in the first half of the trip (9, 10 & 12)
Knapweed Fritillary	<i>Melitaea phoebe</i>	scattered sightings (8, 9 & 19)
Spotted Fritillary	<i>Melitaea didyma</i>	an individual around Santa Engrácia (14)
False Heath Fritillary	<i>Melitaea diamine</i>	Ossoue Valley (19)
Provençal Fritillary	<i>Mellicta deione</i>	meadows (9 & 15)

Heath Fritillary	<i>Mellicta athalia</i>	meadows (15-17)
Meadow Fritillary	<i>Mellicta parthenoides</i>	only recorded on the French side (9-10)

Satyridae

Iberian Marbled White	<i>Melanargia lachesis</i>	a common species but recorded the one day (13)
Woodland/Rock Grayling	<i>Hipparchia sp.</i>	due to the difficult identification of these two close species & similar habitat they have been lumped (14)
de Prunner's Ringlet	<i>Erebia triaria</i>	only a couple of days on the French side (9 & 19)
Bright-eyed Ringlet	<i>Erebia oeme</i>	high altitudes (13 & 19)
Piedmont Ringlet	<i>Erebia oeme</i>	Richard recorded a nice specimen (19)
Meadow Brown	<i>Maniola jurtina</i>	a common species but recorded the one day (9)
Spanish Gatekeeper	<i>Pyronia bathseba</i>	Santa Engrácia area (14)
Small Heath	<i>Coenonympha pamphilus</i>	scattered across the two weeks (10, 11, 13 & 19)
Pearly Heath	<i>Coenonympha arcania</i>	floristic meadows at altitude (9 & 16)
Chestnut Heath	<i>Coenonympha glycerion</i>	Valcebollère (8)
Speckled Wood	<i>Pararge aegeria</i>	woodland edges (15 & 16)
Large Wall Brown	<i>Lasiommata maera</i>	Richard recorded several individuals (14 & 19)

Hesperiidae

Grizzled Skipper	<i>Pyrgus malvae</i>	frequent across the two weeks
Large Grizzled Skipper	<i>Pyrgus alveus</i>	lunch spot Santa Engrácia (14)
Obethur's Skipper	<i>Pyrgus armoricanus</i>	latter part of the trip
Safflower Skipper	<i>Pyrgus carthami</i>	Richard recorded this species (9, 11 & 15)
Carline Skipper	<i>Pyrgus carlinae</i>	only recorded on the French side the beginning of the trip (8-10)
Red-underwing Skipper	<i>Spialis Sertorius</i>	Cami de l'aigua (15)
Dingy Skipper	<i>Erynnis tages</i>	sunny spots at altitude (12 & 19)
Small Skipper	<i>Thymelicus sylvestris</i>	occasionally across the trip (10, 12 & 19-20)
Large Skipper	<i>Ochlodes venatus</i>	frequent across the two weeks

NB: there was a species of Heath we had problems of identification due to the individual looking like a Darwin's Heath, which do not occur within this area. Tristan Lafranchis was contacted for his thoughts, 'He too had seen exactly the same last year in the same part of the Pyrenees. He said that Spanish Heath (*Coenonympha iphioides*) is considered a sup species of the alpine occurring Chestnut Heath (*C. glycerion*), but that in the eastern Pyrenees you get many intermediates, which is what this butterfly was'. Thanks for sorting that out Richard.

Systematic List – Mammals

The numbers indicate the days on which a species was seen.

Roe Deer	<i>Capreolus capreolus</i>	Hugh recorded this species (9)
Red Squirrel	<i>Sciurus vulgaris</i>	Fi had excellent views of one sitting on a branch (10)
Wild Boar	<i>Sus scropha</i>	plenty of evidence of this shy animal, however a female with two striped piglets were spotted on the mountain slopes Aiguestortes (12)

Alpine Marmot	<i>Marmota marmota</i>	lots recorded around the slopes in the Gavarnie area
Izard	<i>Rupicapra pyrenaica</i>	Aiguestortes (12); Troumouse (20)

Systematic List – Other fauna

The numbers indicate the days on which a species was seen.

Reptiles & Amphibians

Common Midwife Toad	<i>Alytes obstetricans</i>	the low single moan of this species could be heard calling around the lake at La Guingueta d'Aneu
Common Frog	<i>Rana temporaria</i>	odd adults occasionally encountered (10)
Iberian Water Frog	<i>Rana perezi</i>	Good numbers at La Guingueta; several calling from the pond at Collegat (14) & Col de Perves (15)
Common Wall Lizard	<i>Podarcis muralis</i>	frequently encountered across the trip
Iberian Wall Lizard	<i>Podarcis hispanica</i>	Aiguestortes NP (12)

Odonata

Golden-ringed Dragonfly	<i>Cordulegaster boltonii</i>	a male was seen hawking along the path at Collegats (14)
Common Pincertail	<i>Onychogomphus uncatus</i>	an individual patrolling the road Santa Engrácia (14)
Broad-bodied Chaser	<i>Libellula depressa</i>	an individual around the pond at Collegat car park (14)
White-faced Darter	<i>Leucorrhinia dubia</i>	several individuals around the marshy area at Port de la Bonaigua (13)

Other invertebrates

Ascalaphida (Owlfly)	<i>Libelloides coccajus</i>	an altitude species (9 & 19)
Antlion	<i>Euroleon nostras</i>	several adults around Tor (16)
Chimney Sweep	<i>Odezia atrata</i>	occasionally in meadows at altitudes
Fiery Clearwing	<i>Bembecia chrysidiformis</i>	a lovely specimen of this species near the lake at La Guingueta d'Aneu
Humming-bee Hawk-moth	<i>Macroglossum stellatorum</i>	this lovely species was frequently encountered across the trip
Praying Mantis	<i>Empusa pennata</i>	this gorgeous species was spied while we were having lunch Santa Engrácia (14)
Shield Bug (red & black)	<i>Graphosoma semipunctatum</i> <i>Molopospermum peloponnesiacum</i>	several doing their business in life on

Pyrenees Systematic Lists June 8th – 21st 2015

Compiled by A. Borrows

Itinerary

Day 1	Monday 8 th June	London – Toulouse – Valcebollère
Day 2	Tuesday 9 th June	Ferges slopes – Pinewood walk (N116)
Day 3	Wednesday 10 th June	Val d’Eyne – Eyne Road – Mont Louis
Day 4	Thursday 11 th June	Valcebollère – La Guingueta d’Aneu via Andorra
Day 5	Friday 12 th June	Parque Nacional de Aiguestortes
Day 6	Saturday 13 rd June	Port de la Bonaigua – Vielha Tunnel
Day 7	Sunday 14 th June	Congost de Collegats – Santa Engrácia – Salas
Day 8	Monday 15 th June	Col de Perbes – Cami de l’aigua – Montañana Road
Day 9	Tuesday 16 th June	Tor Valley
Day 10	Wednesday 17 th June	La Guingueta d’Aneu – St Lary Soulen via Arreau – Reserve Neouvielle
Day 11	Thursday 18 th June	Rioumajou – Gedre via Col d’Aspin & Col du Tourmalet – Cirque Gavarnie
Day 12	Friday 19 nd June	Col de Tentes – Ossoue valley
Day 13	Saturday 20 th June	Cirque Troumouse – Toulouse
Day 14	Sunday 21 st June	Departure

Systematic List – Plants

The number indicates the date the species was seen.

FERNS & their Allies

Equisetaceae

- Equisetum palustre* **Marsh Horsetail** – scattered records around damp areas (13)
Equisetum sylvaticum **Wood Horsetail** – damp areas Rioumajou (18)
Equisetum telmateia **Giant Horsetail** – oak woodlands Santa Engrácia (14) [Robust whitish stems, regular whorls and sheaths with 20-30 teeth]

Ophioglossaceae

- Botrychium lunaria* **Moonwort** – large specimens of this interesting plant around Vielha (13) & Col de Perbes (15) [Forked frond: sterile 1-pinnate (moon-shaped segments and fertile like grapes)]
Botrychium matricariifolium **Branched Moonwort** – several large fantastic specimens of this unusual species Tor (16)
Ophioglossum azoricum **Adder’s-tongue Fern** – very small specimens found at Col de Perbes (15)

Cryptogrammaceae

Cryptogramma crispa **Parsley Fern** – scattered records at high altitudes around rocky screes [Low dimorphic 3-pinnate fern, resembling parsley]

Adiantaceae

Adiantum capillus-veneris **Maidenhair Fern** – on rocks near ‘Gaudi’s Inspiration’ (14)

Polypodiaceae

Polypodium vulgare **Common Polypody** – scattered around shaded areas [small-medium singly pinnate, outline lanceolate]

Hypolepidaceae

Pteridium aquilinum **Bracken** - widespread [Familiar tall branched fern]

Aspleniaceae

Asplenium adiantum-nigrum **Black Spleenwort** – Val d’Eyne (10); Vielha (13); Col de Perbes (15) [Small 2-3 pinnate leathery fern]

Asplenium ruta-muraria **Wall-rue** – Ossoue Valley (19) [Small dark green 2-pinnate tufted fern, diamond-shaped segments]

Asplenium trichomanes **Maidenhair Spleenwort** – rock crevices, Santa Engrácia (14); Col de Perbes (15) [Small 1-pinnate tufted fern, dark rhachis]

Ceterach officinarum **Rusty back Fern** - walls and rocks Gaudi’s Inspiration (14)

Woodsiaceae

Athyrium filix-femina **Lady Fern** – woods [Graceful, large 2-3 pinnate fern, sickle-shaped indusia]

Cystopteris fragilis **Brittle Bladder-fern** – stony crevices (10 & 13) [Delicate, 2-3 pinnate, tufted]

Gymnocarpium dryopteris **Oak Fern** – some lovely specimens of this delicate fern, Aiguestortes [Triangular 3-pinnate, creeping]

Dryopteridaceae

Dryopteris filix-mas **Male Fern** – Eyne Valley (10) & Col de Perbes (15) [Familiar large 2-pinnate fern, pinnule with acute teeth]

Dryopteris dilatata **Broad Buckler Fern** – scattered records

Dryopteris oreades **Mountain Male Fern** – Ossoue Valley (19)

Polystichum aculeatum **Hard Shield-fern** – Rioumajou (18) [Like Male Fern, but leathery, bristle-like teeth]

Polystichum lonchitis **Holly Fern** – Aiguestortes (12) [1-pinnate, leathery, pinnae with auricle at base]

CONIFERS

Pinaceae

Picea abies **Norway Spruce** – scattered across both sides [From last by leaves borne on persistent pegs]

Pinus nigra salzmannii **Austrian Pine** – widespread [Like Scots Pine, but needles 6-18cm & 1-2mm wide subsp.]

Pinus sylvestris **Scots Pine** – widespread & locally dominant [2 needle pine, leaves <7cm long, cones pendent. Mainly “var. *pyrenaica*”]

Larix decidua **Larch** – forest, locally dominant [deciduous conifer]

Cupressaceae

Cupressus sempervirens **Italian Cypress** – mainly planted around urban areas (14 & 15) [Conifer tree with tiny paired scale-like leaves - columnar form, var. *pyramidalis*]

Juniperus communis subsp. alpine **Dwarf Juniper** – prostrate Juniper in the higher altitudes (9 & 10) [Aromatic shrub, needle-leaves (whorls of 3), black berry-like cone]

DICOTYLEDONS

Salicaceae

Populus alba **White Poplar** – scattered

Populus nigra **Black Poplar** - scattered [Tall tree, fluttering leaves shaped like ace of spades]

Populus tremula **Aspen** – widespread [From last by rounded, sinuate-toothed leaves]

Salix aurita **Eared Willow** – water areas around La Guingueta d’Aneu

Salix caprea **Sallow** - scattered, e.g. Eyne [Big shrub, ovate leaves grey-hairy beneath]

Salix elaeagnos **Olive Willow** – riversides (12, 15 & 17) [Waterside shrub with narrow leaves, white-woolly beneath]

Salix pyrenaica **Pyrenean Willow** – Eyne valley (10), Aiguestortes (12) & Reserve Neouvielle (17)

Salix x sepulchralis **Weeping Willow** – urban areas [Large-tree, narrow yellowish leaves, pendant branches]

Juglandaceae

Juglans regia **Walnut** – scattered recordings mainly around urban areas [Tree with alternate pinnate leaves, 7-9 ovate leaflets - chambered pith]

Betulaceae

Alnus glutinosa **Common Alder** – mainly recorded by streams [Familiar tree with blunt roundish leaves and fruits like small cones]

Betula pendula **Silver Birch** – familiar tree frequent across the trip [Familiar slender tree with whitish bark and small heart-shaped leaves]

Corylaceae

Corylus avellana **Hazel** – woodland areas (9 & 10) [Familiar shrub with roundish leaves]

Fagaceae

Castanea sativa **Sweet Chestnut** - Val d’Eyne (10)

Fagus sylvatica **Beech** – the lovely woodland at Vielha (13) [Majestic forest tree: grey bark & oval leaves]

Quercus coccifera **Kermes Oak** – mainly around the sub-Mediterranean (14 & 15) [Shrub or tree with evergreen, holly-like leaves]

Quercus ilex **Holm Oak** – recorded across the trip [Evergreen tree with lanceolate leaves paler (downy) beneath]

Quercus petraea **Sessile Oak** – scattered across the trip mainly lower down (14)

Quercus pubescens **Downy Oak** – the commonest oak on the trip, widespread

Ulmaceae

Celtis australis **Nettle Tree** – Collegats & Santa Engràcia (14) [Deciduous tree, alternate leaves, 1-serrate, asymmetric base]

Ulmus minor **Small-leaved Elm** – Collegats (14) [Similar, but leaves doubly serrate, rounder; tree freely suckering]

Moraceae

Ficus carica **Fig** – common on the Mediterranean days (14 & 15) [Familiar tree with large palmately-lobed leaves and large dark fruit]

Urticaceae

Parietaria Judaica **Pellitory-of-the-wall** – Collegats

Urtica dioica **Stinging Nettle** - common everywhere [Familiar coarse stinging weed]

Loranthaceae

Viscum album **Mistletoe** – enroute to Spain (11)

Santalaceae

Thesium pyrenaicum subsp. *pyrenaicum* **Pyrenean Bastard Toadflax** – arable margins (2)

Polygonaceae

Polygonum alpinum **Alpine Knotgrass** – common in the first part of the tour

Polygonum bistorta **Bistort** – meadows in the first part of the tour (9 & 10) [Pink spikes, leaves lanceolate with winged stalk]

Polygonum viviparum **Alpine Bistort** – meadows (9) [White spikes, giving way below to reddish bulbils, linear-lanceolate leaves]

Reynoutria japonica **Japanese Knotweed** – mainly along roadsides

Rumex acetosa **Common Sorrel** – meadows Val d'Eyne (10) [Like a dock with arrow-shaped leaf, and no warts on fruit]

Rumex acetosella **Sheep's Sorrel** – Val d'Eyne (10) & Aiguestortes (12) [More slender, spreading leaf-lobes; ssp. *pyrenaicus*]

Rumex alpestris **Mountain Dock** – Aiguestortes (12)

Rumex crispus **Curled Dock** – meadows (9)

Rumex obtusifolius **Broad-leaved Dock** – meadows Val d'Eyne (10) & Aiguestortes (12) [Familiar coarse weed with broad leaves]

Chenopodiaceae

Chenopodium bonus-henricus **Good King Henry** – common in the latter part of the tour along waste ground (15, 17 – 19) [More spicate head leaves broad arrow-shaped]

Caryophyllaceae

Agrostemma githago **Corncockle** – fields (9 & 10)

Cerastium alpinum **Alpine Mouse-ear** – Aiguestortes (12)

Cerastium fontanum **Common Mouse-ear** – meadows (9)

Dianthus armeria **Deptford Pink** – meadows & roadside edges (9 & 10)

Dianthus carthusianorum **Carthusian Pink** – meadows across the first part of the trip [From last by deep pink clusters, not flat-topped]

Dianthus deltoids **Maiden Pink** – Meadows (9, 10 & 13)

- Dianthus monspessulanum* (**a fringed pink**) – Val d’Eyne (10)
- Dianthus pyrenaicus* **Pyrenean Pink** – Richard had this lovely species (13)
- Dianthus seguieri* **Seguier’s Pink** – meadows around the first half of the trip
- Lychnis alpina* **Alpine Catchfly** – only recorded the once Port de la Bonaigua (13) [Low, tufted perennial: compact head of dark pink flowers, deeply notched petals]
- Lychnis coronaria* **Rose Campion** – high altitudes Aiguestortes (12) [Like dark pink campion, but plant densely white hairy]
- Lychnis flos-cuculi* **Ragged Robin** – wet damp areas (9 & 10) [Familiar perennial with 4-lobed dark pink petals]
- Paronychia kapela* (**the paper plant**) – only recorded in the latter part of the trip (9 – 13) [Low mat-forming perennial with very prominent silvery stipules and sepals]
- Petrorhagia prolifera* **Proliferous Pink** – Richard recorded this species (11) with the rest of us finding it on the mediterranean days (14 & 15) [Slender annual pink, flower cluster with brown papery bracts]
- Saponaria ocymoides* **Rock Soapwort** – scattered around the first half of the trip (9, 11 & 12) [Low sprawling perennial, branched clusters of dark pink flowers 6-10mm, narrow oval leaves]
- Silene acaulis* **Moss Campion** – at Aiguestortes there was a beautiful clump for us to admire (12); while at Col de Tentes the clump was a lot smaller (19) [Moss-like cushions, linear leaves, pink flowers and very short stems [ssp.*bryoides*]]
- Silene alba* **White Campion** – French side of the trip (9 & 10)
- Silene dioica* **Red Campion** – recorded around Vielha (13) [Familiar large hairy red campion]
- Silene nutans* **Nottingham Catchfly** – scattered shade paths first part of the trip (10 & 13) [Sticky perennial, spatulate leaves, nodding white flowers, petals rolled back and capsule 8-12mm]
- Silene rupestris* **Rock Campion** – high altitudes Aiguestortes (12) [Low grey hairless perennial, clusters of 1cm white flowers]
- Silene vulgaris* **Bladder Campion** – woodland edges [Grey hairless perennial: white flowers, inflated calyces]
- Stellaria holostea* **Greater Stitchwort** – shade Val d’Eyne (10) & Aiguestortes (12) [Long narrow leaves & white flowers 15-30mm]
- Stellaria nemorum* **Wood Stitchwort** – Val d’Eyne (10)

Ranunculaceae

- Adonis vernalis* **Yellow Pheasant’s-eye** – only one single specimen just coming out in flower (10)
- Anemone narcissiflora* **Narcissus-flowered Anemone** – this attractive Ranunculus covered the slopes has we made our way into Andorra, with scattered records there after (11, 12 & 17)
- Caltha palustris* **Marsh-marigold** – wet sites across the trip [Heart-shaped leaves and head of beaked pods (follicles)]
- Delphinium montanum* **Mountain Larkspur** – unfortunately only recorded in leaf at Val d’Eyne (9 & 10)
- Helleborus foetidus* **Stinking Hellebore** – woodland shade (12 & 16) [Typical hellebore with digitate leaves (all on stem) and pale green flowers, edged purple]
- Helleborus viridis* ssp.*occidentalis* **Green Hellebore** – around Eyne valley (9 & 10) [Has basal leaves, pure green flowers]
- Isopyrum thalictroides* **Rue-leaved Isopyrum** – damp shady woodland areas, a fine specimen was found near our lunch spot, Val d’Eyne (10)
- Trollius europaeus* **Globe-flower** – only recorded in the latter part of the trip (9 – 11) [Like large palmate-leaved buttercup with almost spherical yellow flowers 3-5cm]
- Hepatica nobilis* **Hepatica** – what a treat when Ray found this species has it had white flowers rather than the usual blue. In fact all the plants we found had white flowers (9, 10, 12, 13, 15 & 17) [Basal leaves 3-lobed, purple beneath]
- Pulsatilla alpina* ssp. *alpina* **Alpine Pasque-flower** – mainly recorded at altitude (11 & 17)

Pulsatilla alpina ssp. *apiifolia* **Alpine Pasque-flower** – a common plant across the alpine turf (11 & 12)

Pulsatilla vernalis **Spring Pasque-flower** – only record in flower at Aiguestortes (12) [Stem-leaves unstalked, 1-pinnate, “petals” flushed pink]

Clematis vitalba **Traveller’s Joy** – only recorded around Santa Engrácia (14) [Similar but more robust and 1-pinnate]

Ranunculus aconitifolius **Aconite-leaved Buttercup** – a lovely clump around Vielha (13) [Leaves 5-7 lobed, leafy with numerous white flowers]

Ranunculus acris **Meadow Buttercup** – meadows [Familiar perennial, palmate leaves & yellow flowers]

Ranunculus amplexicaulis **Amplexicaule Buttercup** – slopes at Aiguestortes (12) [White-flowered; lanceolate leaves clasp stem]

Ranunculus bulbosus **Bulbous Buttercup** – meadows [Bulbous, reflexed sepals, 3-lobed leaves]

Ranunculus pyrenaicus **Pyrenean Buttercup** – this lovely white ranunculus decorated the alpine turf (11, 12, & 17 – 19) [White flowered; leaves blue-green, linear to lanceolate, not clasping stem]

Ranunculus repens **Creeping Buttercup** – meadows, roadsides [Familiar creeping herb, three distinct leaflets, sepals not reflexed]

Ranunculus montanus s.l. **Mountain Buttercup** – high altitudes (9 & 10)

Ranunculus gouanii **Gouan’s Buttercup** – high altitudes common in narcissus field (9); Aiguestortes (12)

Aquilegia vulgaris **Columbine** – common in the first half of the trip [Familiar blue-purple flower with hooked spurs, not sticky – staminodes blunt]

Thalictrum aquilegifolium **Great Meadow-rue** – only recorded in the meadow at Val d’Eyne (10) [2-3 pinnate, oval leaflets, branched flowerheads with prominent stamens]

Papaveraceae

Chelidonium majus **Greater Celandine** - Val d’Eyne (10) [Familiar plant: orange sap, yellow flower]

Meconopsis cambrica **Welsh Poppy** – Vielha amongst the rocks (13) [Perennial yellow poppy, yellow latex and ribbed ovoid-oblong pod]

Papaver argemone **Prickly Poppy** – road verge at our first stop (9)

Papaver dubium **Long-headed Poppy** – mixed among the poppy field (9) [Long-fruited poppy whose pods have no bristles]

Papaver rhoeas **Corn Poppy** – the dominate poppy that coloured the fields & roadside verges [Typical red poppy, often with black blotches, globular pods]

Fumariaceae

Sarcocapnos enneaphylla **Sarcocapnos** – Hugh found a lovely clump of this species at ‘Gaudi’s Inspiration’ (14) [2-3 divided leaves, white corydalis-type flowers, short spurs]

Brassicaceae

Arabis alpina **Alpine Rockcress** – around our lunch site Val d’Eyne (10)

Biscutella laevigata **(a buckler-mustard)** – verges (11 – 13)

Brassica repanda **Alpine Cabbage** – rocky ledges (9 – 12)

Capsella bursa-pastoris **Shepherd’s-purse** – common around waste areas [Familiar white cress with triangular fruit]

Cardamine raphanifolia **Radish-leaved Bittercress** – widespread by water Val d’Eyne (13), Aiguestortes (12) & Tor (16) [Reddish-violet perennial, pinnate (leaflets 3-11 and roundish) – narrow flattened pods]

Cochlearia pyrenaica **(a scurvy grass)** – altitude areas in Gavarnie (17 & 19)

Coincya monensis ssp. *recurvata* **Wallflower Cabbage** – this interesting species recorded at high altitudes Aiguestortes (12), Tor (16) & Ossoue Valley (19) [Like pinnate-lobed yellow hairy cabbage, long (3-9cm) beaked pods]

Hugueninia tanacetifolia subsp. *suffruticosa* **Tansy-leaved Rocket** – common in the first part of the tour

(9 – 12) [Like Hedge Mustard, but perennial with 2-pinnately cut leaves and pods not appressed]

Iberis spathulata **Spoon-leaved Candytuft** – flowering on the river gravel at Troumouse (20) [Flat-topped fruiting head, flowers white or purplish]

Lunaria rediviva **Perennial Honesty** – large clumps of this white stock around the road verges (9 – 16)

Pritzelago alpina **Chamois Cress** – high altitudes Aiguestortes (12) & Cirque Gavarnie (18)

Sisymbrium austriacum **Austrian Mustard** – common [yellow cress, differing from *S. officinale* by pods more spreading, & slightly twisted]

Sisymbrium officinale **Hedge Mustard** – roadsides enroute to Spain (11) [Erect yellow cress, pinnately-lobed leaves, pods appressed to stem]

Resedaceae

Reseda glauca **Pyrenean Mignonette** – scattered around Gavarnie area (18 – 20) [Typical mignonette but with whitish flowers and linear leaves]

Reseda lutea **Wild Mignonette** - dry grassy & rocky verges, scattered records (9, 10 & 14) [Differs in pinnatifid leaves and pale yellow flowers]

Sesamoides clusii **Sesamoides** - turf & rocks, a nice clump was found along the path at Aiguestortes (12) [Like tiny tufted mignonette, but arching linear leaved, dwarf perennial]

Crassulaceae

Sedum acre **Wallpepper** - dry stony site Aiguestortes (12) & Col de Perbes (15) [Typical yellow thick-leaved perennial stonecrop, peppery taste]

Sedum album **White Stonecrop** – Congost de Collegats (14) [Typical white perennial stonecrop, alternate glabrous leaves]

Sedum alpestre **(a stonecrop)** – there was many debates of this species (12) [small fleshy yellow red tinted stonecrop]

Sedum anglicum **English Stonecrop** – road side verges (9)

Sedum dasyphyllum **Thick-leaved Stonecrop** - acid rocks in the first part of the trip (9 – 11) [From *S. album* by opposite ovoid leaves]

Sedum sediforme **(a stonecrop)** – warmer climes (14) [More robust, pale yellowish flowers and oblong flat-topped leaves]

Sempervivum arachnoideum ssp. *tomentosum* **Cobweb Houseleek** – woodland walk area (9) & Tor (16) [Like *S. tectorum* but red-pink & dense cover of cobweb hairs]

Sempervivum m. montanum **Mountain Houseleek** – acid rocks Eyne (9), Col de Perbes (15) & Tor (16) [From last by wine-red flowers and short hairs]

Sempervivum tectorum **Common Houseleek** – Aiguestortes (12) & Tor (16) [Familiar succulent hairless rosettes of overlapping acute leaves; branched head of pinkish flowers]

Saxifragaceae

Saxifraga aizoides **Yellow Mountain Saxifrage** – recorded around Gavarnie (17,19 & 20) [Yellow saxifrage, (petals often red-dotted) fleshy oblong leaves]

Saxifraga aquatica **Water Saxifrage** – Aiguestortes (12) & Tor (16) [Stout, erect leafy saxifrage, leaves 3-lobed and shiny; flowers white and 15-20mm]

Saxifraga clusii **French Saxifrage** – Tor around damp acid rock (16) [Hairy, oval leaves (10-20 toothed) in rosette, 3 long & 2 short white petals]

Saxifraga cotyledon **Pyramidal Saxifrage** – Reserve Neouvielle (17)

Saxifraga exarata ssp. *moschata* **White Musky Saxifrage** – Aiguestortes (12) & Gavarnie (18) [Hairy cushion saxifrage, 3-5 lobed leaves (not grooved), white oblong petals.]

Saxifraga granulata **Meadow Saxifrage** – the commonest saxifrage found among the grassland areas [Kidney-shaped toothed leaves, bulbils at base and white flowers]

Saxifraga longifolia **Pyrenean Saxifrage** – this endemic species is a bit of a spectacular mind –blower, we had some fantastic spikes in the Ossoue Valley (14, 15 & 19) [From next by single big rosette, linear

strap-like leaves and large white “fox-brush spire” inflorescence]

Saxifraga paniculata **Paniculate Saxifrage** – This was the species with encrusted leaves common across the trip Aiguestortes (12), Tor (16) & Gavarnie (18 & 19) [Lime encrusted rosettes, many white flowers, erect]

Saxifraga stellaris **Starry Saxifrage** - damp rocks Aiguestortes (12) [Like *S. clusii* but leaves 6-10 toothed, petals usually equal]

Saxifraga umbrosa **Wood Saxifrage** – Rioumajou (17) & Gavarnie (18)

Hydrangeaceae

Philadelphus coronaries **Mock Orange** – urban areas across the trip [naturalised popular sweetly scented white-flowered garden shrub]

Grossulariaceae

Ribes petraeum **Rock Redcurrant** – Aiguestortes (12) [Typical currant, racemes horizontal or drooping]

Platanaceae

Platanus x hispanica **London Plane** - planted on roadsides [Tree with alternate palmate leaves, scaling bark]

Rosaceae

Agrimonia eupatoria **Agrimony** – Col de Perbes (15) [Long spike of yellow flowers, bur fruit, leaves pinnate with alternating large and small leaflets]

Alchemilla alpina **Alpine Lady’s-mantle** – shade area on rocks Val d’Eyne walk (10) [Lvs 5-7 lobed, toothed at apex, green above, silvery-hairy beneath]

Alchemilla vulgaris s.l. **Common Lady’s-mantle** – only true ID of this hard family Val d’Eyne (10) [As *A. fallax* but spreading hairs on stems and on underside of leaves]

Aruncus dioicus **Goat’s-beard Spiraea** – roadsides around the French side in the first half of the trip [Tall herb with 2-pinnate leaves, pyramidal head of white spikes]

Cotoneaster integerrimus **Wild Cotoneaster** – Collegats (14)

Crataegus monogyna **Hawthorn** – widespread

Filipendula ulmaria **Meadowsweet** – meadows (9) [Tall herb with =5 pairs of large elm-like leaflets alternating with tiny leaflets; many creamy fragrant flowers]

Fragaria vesca **Wild Strawberry** – woodlands (15) & around Tor (16) [Familiar wild strawberry – short flower-stalks]

Geum montanum **Alpine Avens** – Richard noted this plant (18) [Like *G. urbanum*, but flowers 25-40mm and fruit with many unhooked styles]

Geum rivale **Water Avens** – damp wet areas (9 & 16) [From other avens by its nodding cream or pale pink flowers]

Geum pyrenaicum **Pyrenean Avens** – Tor valley (16)

Geum urbanum **Herb Bennet** – Tor (16) & Ossoue Valley (19) [Yellow flower <15mm, pinnate (big terminal leaflet), fruit barbed style]

Potentilla alchimilloides **Alchemilla-leaved Cinquefoil** – a lovely specimen of this plant on the walk along the Ossoue Valley (19) [Leaves like those of *Alchemilla basaltica*, but only toothed at tip; white flowers ca 2cm]

Potentilla erecta **Tormentil** – Santa Engrácia (14) & Tor (16) [Ascending herb with yellow 4-petalled flowers]

Potentilla reptans **Creeping Cinquefoil** – Santa Engrácia (14) & Tor (16) [Familiar prostrate herb, solitary yellow flowers]

Potentilla rupestris **Rock Cinquefoil** – rocks Ossoue Valley (19) [Pinnate leaves, white flowers]

Potentilla pyrenaica **Pyrenean Cinquefoil** – Neouvielle (17) & road along Ossoue Valley (19)

Prunus avium **Gean** – Tor (16) & Reserve Neouvielle (17) [Tall wild cherry tree, white flowers in sessile umbels]

Prunus spinosa **Blackthorn** – probably widespread but only noticed (9)

Rosa canina s.l. **Dog Rose** – only noted in the first half of the trip, but probably widespread [Deciduous briar with hooked prickles, some sepals divided]

Rosa glauca **Blue-leaved Rose** – Raylene pointed out this stunning flurry of colour (18) [From *R. canina* by blue-green or purplish leaves, sepals not cut or lobed]

Rosa pimpinellifolia **Burnet Rose** – Eyne area (9 – 11)

Rubus fruticosus s.l. **Bramble** – ubiquitous across various habitats [Variable but typical bramble]

Sanguisorba minor ssp. *muricata* **Salad Burnet** – widespread on base-rich grassland [Familiar herb, pinnate cucumber-tasting leaves and round greenish heads]

Sanguisorba officinalis **Great Burnet** – meadows around Eyne (9 – 11) [From *S. minor* by oblong dull crimson heads]

Sorbus aria **Whitebeam** – Aiguestortes (12) [Tree with obovate leaves, white beneath]

Sorbus aucuparia **Rowan** – widespread across the trip [Familiar pinnate-leaved small tree]

Fabaceae

Anthyllis montana **Mountain Kidney-vetch** – Ossoue Valley (19) [red/purple heads, uninflated calyx]

Anthyllis vulneraria ssp. *vulnerarioides* **Kidney Vetch** – Eyne area (9 – 10) & Ossoue Valley (19) [yellow flowers with red tips, calyx 7-9mm]

Anthyllis vulneraria ssp. *pyrenaica* **Kidney Vetch** = *alpestris* – higher altitudes Andorra (11), Tor (16) & Ossoue (19) [Typical kidney vetch with calyx inflated when flowering, pink flowers]

Argyrobolium zanonii **Argyrobolium** – Mediterranean days (14 & 15) [Low sub-shrub, silver hairy, heads of 1-3 yellow flowers]

Astragalus alpinus **Alpine Milkvetch** – common around meadows (9 & 10)

Astragalus glycyphyllos **Wild Liquorice** – woodland site near lunch (15) [Procumbent herb with pinnate leaves and heads of creamy flowers]

Chamaespartium sagittale **Winged Greenweed** – French side around Eyne [Leafless winged stems, heads of yellow flowers]

Colutea arborescens **Bladder Senna** – around meadows (9 & 15) [Pinnate yellow spineless bush, heads of 3-8 and inflated pod]

Coronilla emerus **Scorpion Senna** – only found at lower altitudes on our Mediterranean days

Coronilla valentina subsp. *glauca* (a scorpion-vetch) – recorded on the more Mediterranean days (13 – 15)

Coronilla vaginalis (a scorpion-vetch) – higher altitudes common around the French side (10 & 11); common around the path edges above Tor (16)

Coronilla varia **Crown Vetch** – scattered sightings (11 & 15)

Cytisus purgans **Pyrenean Broom** – abundant across the slopes on the French side (9 – 11) [Very similar to *C. scoparius*, spineless shrub, but <1m, standard 10-12 not 16-18mm]

Dorycnium pentaphyllum (a dorycnium) – lower altitudes in Spain (15)

Echinopartum horridum **Echinopartum** – abundant at Col de Perbes (15) [Like dwarf gorse, opposite branches and trefoil leaves, oblong leaflets]

Genista hispanica **Spanish Gorse** – first part of the trip [Similar to a dwarf gorse]

Genista tinctoria **Dyer's Greenweed** – meadows at Val d'Eyne (10) [Resembles dwarf broom, simple leaves]

Lathyrus latifolius **Broad-leaved Everlasting-pea** – Santa Engrácia (14) [Large clambering, 1 pair of leaflets, tendrils, broad winged stem and 2-3cm pink flowers]

Lathyrus niger **Black Pea** – Gavarnie area (19 & 20) [deep red single pea]

Lathyrus ochraceus **Yellow Pea** – Ossoue Valley (19)

Lathyrus pratensis **Meadow Pea** – damp grasslands [Familiar yellow vetch with tendrils and only one pair of leaflets]

Lotus alpinus **Alpine Bird's-foot Trefoil** – high alpine turf [Similar to *L. corniculatus*, but heads of 1-3

flowers and leaflets 2-6mm]

Lotus corniculatus **Common Bird's-foot trefoil** – widespread in meadows [Familiar herb: 5 “leaflets” (each 5-15mm) & heads of 3-6 yellow flowers]

Medicago lupulina **Black Medick** – roadsides on the first day (9) [Familiar medick with black fruit & many flowered heads]

Medicago s. sativa **Lucerne** – common across the trip [Purple-headed, fruit spineless and curved]

Melilotus alba **White Melilot** – lower altitudes (14 & 15) [Typical tall melilot – white-flowered]

Melilotus officinalis **Common Melilot** – lower altitudes (14 & 15) [Typical tall melilot differing from *M. alba* by yellow flowers each 4-7mm]

Onobrychis viciifolia **Common Sainfoin** – fields & road verges (9 – 11)

Onobrychis saxatilis **Rock Sainfoin** – lower altitudes (14 & 15)

Ononis cristata **Mt. Cenis Restharrow** – meadows at Col de Perbes (15)

Ononis n. natrix **Large Yellow Restharrow** – roadsides along to Vielha (13) & a lovely bunch at the lunch site (15) [From *O. aragonensis* by petals reddish-veined; sticky hairy]

Ononis repens **Common Rest-harrow** – lower altitudes (14 & 15)

Psoralea bituminosa **Pitch Trefoil** – sub-Mediterranean habitat (14 & 15) [Dull green trefoil, smelling of bitumen & violet-blue heads]

Robinia pseudacacia **False Acacia** – scattered records in France (9 – 11) [Spiny tree with pinnate leaves, pendent white racemes]

Spartium junceum **Spanish Broom** – lower altitudes (14 & 15) [Bush: rush-like branches; large yellow flowers]

Tetragonolobus maritimus **Dragon's-teeth** – meadows at Col de Perbes (15) [Hairy trefoil herb, pale yellow flowers, big winged pods]

Trifolium alpinum **Alpine Clover** – higher altitudes (9 – 13) [A typical clover: linear lanceolate leaflets, heads of 3-12 flowers, each 18-25mm]

Trifolium badium **Brown Clover** – only recorded at Col de Perbes (15) [Resembles next i.e. large golden yellow trefoil, but turns chestnut]

Trifolium campestre **Hop Trefoil** – common meadow plant [Annual yellow trefoil, heads of 20-30 flowers]

Trifolium hybridum **Alsike clover** – roadside before the woods (9) [cross between *T. pratense* & *T. repens*]

Trifolium medium **Zigzag Clover** – meadows around Eyne (10 – 11)

Trifolium montanum **Mountain Clover** – widespread in meadows [Erect white/sulphur perennial with lanceolate leaflets; individual flowers 7-9mm]

Trifolium pratense **Red Clover** – mainly recorded in the first part of the trip, meadows (9 – 11) [Erect red clover, usually with pale crescents on leaflets]

Trifolium repens **White Clover** – widespread [Familiar: white, creeping (rooting at nodes), papery fruit]

Trifolium thalii **Thal's Clover** – rocky areas higher altitudes

Trifolium tomentosum **Woolly Clover** – Santa Engrácia (14) [cotton-ball like heads]

Vicia cracca **Tufted Vetch** – meadows widespread [Familiar purple vetch, silvery leaves]

Vicia pyrenaica **Pyrenean Vetch** – Val d'Eyne (10) [3-6 pairs of roundish leaflets and solitary bright violet flowers 16-25mm]

Vicia sativa **Common Vetch** - scattered [Familiar pink leafy vetch; 1-2 flowers together]

Oxalidaceae

Oxalis acetosella **Wood Sorrel** – Val d'Eyne woodland (10) [Trefoil leaves (acid-tasting), nodding white 5-petalled flowers]

Geraniaceae

Geranium cinereum **Ashy Crane's-bill** – some lovely displays around Col de Tentés (19) & Troumouse (20) [low growing, leaves deeply divided & grey-green; flowers dark eye with veins]

Geranium molle **Dove's-foot Crane's-bill** - noted in France (9) [From *G. dissectum* by its wedge-lobed leaves, more purplish- pink flowers (7-15mm)]

Geranium phaeum **Dusky Crane's-bill** – woodland edge at Rioumajou (18) [Perennial: pairs of blackish-purple to brownish-purple flowers, each 15-20mm]

Geranium robertianum **Herb Robert** – woodland area near lunch spot (15) [Aromatic, fern-like leaves, un-notched pink petals, orange pollen]

Geranium sanguineum **Bloody Crane's-bill** – woodland edges Val d'Eyne (10) [Cut leaves, 3-4cm crimson flowers]

Geranium pratense **Meadow Crane's-bill** – meadows Eyne (10) [Perennial with well-cut leaves and bright violet-blue 25-30mm flowers]

Geranium sylvaticum **Wood Crane's-bill** – woodland edges & opens (9) & Aiguestortes (12) [Shade/meadows: from *G. pratense* by its red-purple flowers 12-25mm]

Linaceae

Linum catharticum **Fairy Flax** – meadow area Vielha (13) [Tiny opposite-leaved white flax, typical round capsule]

Linum narbonense **Beautiful Flax** – meadows around Eyne & Vielha (10, 11 & 13) [Tall blue flax 5-6cm flowers]

Linum pubescens **Hairy Pink Flax** – Mediterranean area (15)

Linum suffruticosum ssp. salsoloides **Pyrenean Flax** – lower altitudes in Spain (14 & 15) [Sprawling perennial, linear leaves, 2-3cm white flowers]

Euphorbiaceae

Euphorbia characias **Large Mediterranean Spurge** – only on Santa Engrácia day (14) [Like Wood Spurge but more robust and with hairy capsule]

Euphorbia cyparissias **Cypress Spurge** – widespread [Patch forming perennial with linear leaves & yellowish bracts]

Euphorbia helioscopia **Sun Spurge** – Santa Engrácia (13) [Familiar weedy spurge, toothed leaves]

Euphorbia hyberna **Irish Spurge** – Reserve Neouvielle [Perennial, leaves hairy beneath, fruit warty, ray-leaves not joined]

Euphorbia serrata (a spurge) – roadside edges Santa Engrácia (14) & Tor (16)

Simaroubaceae

Ailanthus altissima **Tree of Heaven** – Mediterranean areas (14 & 15) [Suckering tree, alternate pinnate leaves (teeth have gland beneath)]

Polygalaceae

Polygala alpina **Alpine Milkwort** – Cirque Troumouse (20)

Polygala comosa **Tufted Milkwort** – scattered records (9, 10 & 13) [Leaves more even, and flowers lilac-pink 4-6mm long]

Polygala rupestris **Rock Milkwort** – Ossoue Valley (19) & Troumouse (20)

Polygala vulgaris **Common Milkwort** – scattered across the first half of the trip (9 & 10)

Hippocastanaceae

Aesculus hippocastanum **Horse Chestnut** – around Val d' Eyne (10) [Popular 'conker' tree with large compound palmate leaves]

Anacardiaceae

Cotinus coggygria **Smoke Tree** – the delicate Smokey tree along auto-route to Toulouse [Shrub with ovate untoothed leaves, feathery fruit-stalks]

Pistacia lentiscus **Mastic Tree** – Collegrats [Evergreen shrub: pinnate leaves normally have no terminal

leaflet]

Aceraceae

Acer campestre **Field Maple** – frequent across both sides [Maple with blunt lobed leaves (latex in stalk), and erect flower-head]

Acer monspessulanum **Montpelier Maple** – Santa Engrácia (14); Cami de l'aigua (15) [From other *Acer* by 3-lobed leaves, leathery, lobes untoothed]

Acer platanoides **Norway Maple** [Resembles sycamore, leaves 5-7 lobed and long-pointed lobes]

Acer pseudoplatanus **Sycamore** – scattered records in lowland woodlands

Buxaceae

Buxus sempervirens **Box** – scattered sightings enroute to La Guingueta d'Aneu (11); Santa Engrácia (14) & Thor (16) [Evergreen bush: opposite untoothed leaves; 3-horned fruit]

Rhamnaceae

Rhamnus cartharticus **Common Buckthorn** – woodlands (9)

Malvaceae

Malva neglecta **Dwarf Mallow** – meadows (9)

Malva sylvestris **Common Mallow** – scattered Val d'Eyne (10) & Collegats (14) [Familiar pink-purple biennial/perennial: roundish 3- 7 lobed/angled leaves]

Thymelaeaceae

Daphne cneorum **Garland-flower** - alpine turf (11 – 13) [Evergreen prostrate bush, spoon-shaped leaves, pink fragrant flowers, var. *pygmaea*]

Daphne mezereum **Mezereon** – Val d'Eyne path (10) [Deciduous bush: red short-stalked berries below]

Hypericaceae

Hypericum perforatum **Perforate St John's-wort** – meadows Vielha (13) & Santa Engrácia (14) [translucent dots in leaves]

Hypericum richeri ssp. *burseri* **Alpine St John's-wort** – Col de Perbes (15) [From *H. perforatum* by having petals evenly covered in black dots]

Violaceae

Viola arvensis **Field Pansy** – meadows & wasted areas (9 & 10) [Typical mainly white pansy, flowers 1-1.5cm across]

Viola biflora **Yellow Wood Violet** – often in large patches (10, 19 & 20)

Viola cornuta **Horned Pansy** – Ray found a fantastic display of this species at Vielha (13) [Lilac or violet pansy: flower 20-35mm, spur 10-15mm]

Viola riviniana **Common Dog Violet** – wooded areas

Viola tricolor ssp. *subalpine* **Heartsease** – scattered records across various habitats [Familiar bi- or tri-coloured pansy]

Cistaceae

Cistus laurifolius (a cistus) – common white cistus around Eyne (9 – 11)

Helianthemum apenninum **White Rockrose** – widespread [Low undershrub, opposite leaves woolly beneath and white flowers]

Helianthemum canum ssp. *piloselloides* **Hoary Rockrose** – Col de Perbes (15) & Ossoue Valley (19) [Like *H. apenninum* but yellow flowers 8-15mm, lower leaves 0 stipules]

Helianthemum nummularium ssp. *glabrum* **Common Rockrose** – scattered across the trip, yellow flowers, lovely bouquets in Ossoue Valley (19)

Helianthemum nummularium ssp. *pyrenaicum* (a rockrose) - pink flowers Col de Perbes (15) [Oblong

leaves white beneath with flowers 12-20mm]

Cucurbitaceae

Bryonia cretica **White Bryony** - scattered across the course of the trip [Climber with mottled maple-like leaves opposite tendrils and greenish- white flowers]

Onagraceae

Epilobium angustifolium **Rosebay Willowherb** – verges & margins [Familiar herb: all leaves alternate, spike of pink flowers slightly asymmetric 2-3cm]

Oenothera biennis **Common Evening-primrose** – roadsides [Typical evening primrose, large 4-petalled yellow flowers]

Punicaceae

Punica granatum **Pomegranate** - lower altitudes in Spain

Araliaceae

Hedera helix **Ivy** – regularly seen, with some fine examples of this species at Collegats (14) [Familiar evergreen climber with lobed leaves]

Apiaceae

Angelica sylvestris **Wild Angelica** – Tor (16); Reserve Neouvielle (17)

Anthriscus sylvestris **Cow Parsley** – common & widespread

Astrantia major **Great Masterwort** – Val d'Eyne (10) [Five-lobed leaves; dense pinkish umbels surrounded by long bracts]

Carum carvi **Caraway** – meadows

Caucalis platycarpos **Small Bur-parsley** – Santa Engrácia (14)

Chaerophyllum temulum **Rough Chervil** - common in France (9-10), also noted in Spain (13)

Conopodium majus **Pignut** – widespread in meadows [2-3 pinnate hairless tuberous perennial, leaflets linear and lower part of stem leafless; delicate white umbels]

Daucus carota **Wild Carrot** – Col de Perbes (15) [Familiar coarse herb, divided bracts, bur fruit]

Eryngium bourgatii **Pyrenean Eryngo**– Val d'Eyne area (9-10) [Green-blue spiny perennial, white stripe along middle of leaf, heads 15-25mm, bluish with 10-15 bracts]

Eryngium campestre **Field Eryngo** – in flower Santa Engrácia (14 & 15) [Greenish spiny perennial, heads 10-15mm (5-7 bracts), basal leaves 3-lobed]

Foeniculum vulgare **Fennel** – Santa Engrácia (14) [Feathery foliage, yellow umbels, aniseed aroma]

Heracleum sphondylium ssp. montanum **Hogweed** – common and widespread [Coarse bristly perennial, large dirty white umbels, outer petals longer, medium altitudes]

Heracleum sphondylium ssp. pyrenaicum – this species replaced montanum at high altitudes

Laserpitium latifolium **Broad-leaved Sermountain** – the large umbellifer at Tor (16)

Meum athamanticum **Baldmoney** – Aiguestortes (12); Bonaigua & Vielha (13) [Aromatic, white umbels, 3-4 capillary pinnate]

Molopospermum peloponnesiacum – this is an amazing umbellifer both in flower & seed which caused a bit of confusion with the green & white Val d'Eyne (10); Aiguestortes (12); Tor (16)

Pimpinella major **Greater Burnet-saxifrage** – meadows Andorra (11) [Tall 1-pinnate perennial (3-9 ovate segments), angled hollow stem; white umbels, bracts/bracteoles]

Sanicula europaea **Sanicle** – Rioumajou (18) [Palmate-lobed glossy leaves & dense sub-umbels]

Seseli libanotis **Moon Carrot** – Aiguestortes (12) [From *Daucus* by pure white umbels, bracts undivided; stock covered in fibres]

Pyrolaceae

Pyrola minor **Lesser Wintergreen** – Val d'Eyne (10) [Typical *Pyrola*: rosette of elliptical leaves; unranked raceme of white to pink globose 5-7mm flowers]

Pyrola rotundifolia **Round-leaved Wintergreen** – Val d'Eyne (10)

Ericaceae

Arctostaphylos uva-ursi **Bearberry** – higher altitudes at Aiguestortes (12) [Prostrate evergreen mat-forming shrub: untoothed leaves; red berries]

Calluna vulgaris **Ling** – boggy area along Eyne Road (10) & Aiguestortes (12) [Familiar heather, differing from an *Erica* by its overlapping scale-like leaves]

Erica tetralix **Cross-leaved Heath** – Vielha (13) [Grey undershrub, needle leaves in 4s, drooping bells]

Rhododendron ferrugineum **Alpenrose** – this colourful plant brightened up the green slopes on the first half of the tour (9 – 13) [Evergreen shrub to 1m, elliptic shiny leaves (rusty beneath); deep pink bell-like flowers to 15mm]

Vaccinium myrtillus **Bilberry** – Val d'Eyne (10) Port de la Bonaigua (13) & Tor (16) [Deciduous shrub, oval toothed leaves (mid-green); blue-black berries]

Primulaceae

Androsace carnea ssp. *Laggeri* **Pink Rock-jasmine** - high altitudes short turt (12, 13 19 & 20) [Low tufted perennial, dense rosettes of linear leaves; leafless stem with umbel of 2-8 pink flowers]

Androsace chamaejasme **Ciliate Rock-jasmine** – high altitudes around Gavarnie (19 – 20)

Lysimachia nemorum **Yellow Pimpernel** – Rioumajou (17) [Creeping perennial, opposite lanceolate leaves, saucer-like yellow flowers 6-8.5mm]

Primula elatior **Oxlip** – dead heads scattered across the meadows [Leaves abruptly narrowed to stalk, pale yellow flowers in 1-sided cluster]

Primula farinosa **Bird's-eye Primrose** – only found high up on Vielha day (13) [Leaves white-mealy beneath; lilac-pink umbel (8-16mm)]

Red Alpine Primrose – several plants found Reserve Neouvielle (17) & Gavarnie day (18) [As last but sticky hairy, not mealy; leaves toothed; 1-15 pink-purple flowers 2-3cm]

Primula integrifolia **Entire-leaved Primrose** – wet turf only recorded at Aiguestortes (12) [From *P. hirsuta* by untoothed leaves, 1-3 rosy flowers 15-25mm]

Primula veris **Cowslip** – Mary found some nice plants in flower otherwise they were mainly dead heads scattered across the trip [From Oxlip by fragrant deeper yellow flowers, subsp. *columnae* has leaves white beneath]

Soldanella alpina **Alpine Snowbell** – wow there were some splendid displays of this gorgeous plant (12 & 13) [All leaves basal, heart-shaped; flowers deeply-fringed, violet]

Vitaliana primuliflora subsp. *canescens* **Vitaliana** – rocky areas around Valcebollère (9 – 11) [Mat-forming or tufted, all leaves basal and linear; 12-18mm yellow flowers]

Plumbaginaceae

Armeria alliacea **Plantain Thrift** – on route to Spain (11)

Armeria maritima ssp. *alpina* **Mountain Thrift** – rocks and stony turf (9 & 16) [Typical thrift: hairless linear leaves. Head 18-30mm.]

Oleaceae

Fraxinus excelsior **Ash** - woods, widespread [Familiar tree with opposite pinnate leaves & black buds]

Fraxinus ornus **Manna Ash** – car park near the old village with the nice bridge (14 & 15)

Ligustrum vulgare **Privet** – Mediterranean days (14 & 15) [Familiar semi-evergreen shrub]

Olea europaea **Olive** – Mediterranean days (14 & 15) lower sites in Spain

Gentianaceae

Blackstonia perfoliata **Yellowwort** – Santa Engrácia (14)

Centaureum erythraea **Common Centaury** – Cirque Gavarnie (17)

Gentiana lutea **Greater Yellow Gentian** – mainly around the first part of the trip (9 – 13) [Tall perennial: oval, blue-green ribbed leaves; starry yellow flowers in whorls]

Gentiana acaulis **Trumpet Gentian** – high altitudes with much discussion over (9, 11- 13 & 19) [Low tufted perennial: grey-green elliptical leaves; blue stalked trumpet flowers 4-7cm (green spotted inside)]

Gentiana occidentalis **Pyrenean Trumpet Gentian** - This species led to much discussion on the slope of Bonaigua & eventually we decided it was *G. occidentalis* rather than *G. acaulis*, due to the 'pinched in waist' & lack of green spots (13) & Troumouse (20)

Gentiana alpina **Southern Gentian** - acid alpine turf, Andorra, Troumouse, and Col de Tentes [As last but round-oval leaves, flowers 4cm and hardly stalked]

Gentiana pyrenaica **Pyrenean Gentian** – Hugh found a fine specimen of this gentian in a boggy area near Eyne road (10); Col de Tentes (19)

Gentiana verna **Spring Gentian** – a wonderful display just before Andorra (11) [Bright blue, deeply 5-lobed flowers; bright green lanceolate leaves]

Gentiana brachyphylla **Short-leaved Gentian** – among the limestone pavement at Col de Tentes (19)

Gentiana pumila delphinensis (a short-leaved Gentian) – among the limestone pavement at Col de Tentes near *G. brachyphylla*, allowing comparison between the two (19)

Apocynaceae

Nerium oleander **Oleander** – around La Guingueta d'Aneu area

Asclepiadaceae

Vincetoxicum hirundinaria ssp. *intermedium* **Swallow-wort** – mainly in the latter part of the trip, Collegats (14) (15, 18 & 19) [Opposite heart-shaped leaves, latex, yellow flower clusters]

Vincetoxicum nigrum **Black Swallow-wort** – Tor (16) [differs from *V. hirundinaria* by black seeds]

Rubiaceae

Galium aparine **Cleavers** – woodland (9)

Galium odoratum **Sweet Woodruff** – Vielha woods (13) [Erect, whorls of 6-9 leaves, forming ruff round white flowers]

Galium verum **Lady's Bedstraw** – meadow Vielha (13) [Whorls of 8-12 dark green linear leaves, terminal yellow inflorescence]

Galium caespitosum **(a dwarf bedstraw)** – a lovely small clump of this endemic bedstraw at the view point Col de Tentes (19)

Galium pumilum **Slender Bedstraw** – Collegats roadside verge (14)

Cruciata laevipes **Crosswort** – meadows (9) [Leaves in whorls of 4, with yellow flowers at base & 2 bracts on peduncle]

Asperula aristata scabra **(a woodruff)** – woodland area near our lunch site (15)

Convolvulaceae

Cuscuta epithymum **Common Dodder** – rocky meadows (10, 15 – 17)

Cuscuta europaea **Greater Dodder** – meadows at Vielha (13) & Cami de l'aigua (15)

Calystegia sepium **Hedge Bindweed** – roadside on route to Toulouse (20) [Typical large white bindweed]

Convolvulus arvensis **Field Bindweed** – scattered [Familiar pink perennial; arrow-shaped leaves]

Boraginaceae

Alkanna lutea **Yellow Alkanet** – lunch stop at Santa Engrácia (14)

Buglossoides arvensis **Corn Gromwell** – lunch site (15)

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Cynoglossum officinale **Common Hound's-tongue** – scattered across the trip [Grey soft-hairy leaves, smells of mice; maroon flowers]

Echium angustifolia **Narrow-leaved Bugloss** – Tor (16)

Echium parviflorum **Small-flowered Bugloss** – Mediterranean days (14 & 15)

Echium vulgare **Viper's Bugloss** – widespread across the trip [Bristly bright blue biennial]

Myosotis alpestris **Alpine Forget-me-not** – high altitudes [Perennial blue forget-me-not, 9mm flowers]

Myosotis arvensis **Common Forget-me-not** – meadows (9 & 10) [Low 3mm blue-flowered biennial forget-me-not]

Pulmonaria angustifolia **Narrow-leaved Lungwort** – Val d'Eyne (10)

Pulmonaria montana **Mountain Lungwort** – high altitudes (9)

Lamiaceae

Ajuga pyramidalis **Pyramidal Bugle** – scattered records at higher altitudes (12, 13, 17 & 18) [Creeping perennial: dense spike of pale violet 1-lipped flowers]

Ajuga reptans **Bugle** – only recorded the French side (9 & 10)

Teucrium pyrenaicum **Pyrenean Germander** – Col de Perbes (13) & Ossoue (19) [Round-oval (not oblong) leaves; 1-lipped white flowers]

Teucrium montanum **Mountain Germander** – Mediterranean days (14 & 15)

Sideritis hirsuta (a germander) – recorded in the warmer climes Santa Engrácia (14) & Montañana (15) [Low scented perennial; yellow flowers 8-10mm, oblong leaves]

Phlomis herba-venti (a Jerusalem-sage) – along the road verges (15) [Evergreen linear-leaved white felted bush with red flowers]

Galeopsis ladanum **Large Pink Hemp-nettle** – this lovely species recorded along Tor road (16) & around Gavarnie (18)

Lamium album **White Dead-nettle** – scattered records across the trip

Lamium galeobdolon **Yellow Archangel** – Vielha (13)

Ballota nigra **Black Horehound** – road verges & waste areas (14) [Foetid; coarse-toothed leaves, small purple flowers. ssp. *foetida*]

Stachys olopecurus **Yellow Betony** – rocky & grassy mountain slopes Aiguestortes (12) & Tor (16)

Prunella grandiflora **Large Self-heal** – only recorded on the French side (9 – 10) [Typical scentless self-heal with deep violet flowers 25-30mm]

Prunella laciniata **Cut-leaved Self-heal** – scattered sightings across the trip (11, 14 & 15) [Typical self-heal with pinnately-lobed leaves and cream flowers]

Prunella vulgaris **Self Heal** – grasslands at Reserve Neouvielle (17)

Acinos alpinus **Alpine Calamint** – high meadows in France (9 – 11) [Decumbent perennial: 10-14mm violet flowers marked white.]

Origanum vulgare **Marjoram** – scattered records around lower altitudes [Aromatic widely branched herb: oval un-toothed leaves with purple bracts]

Thymus pulegioides **Large Wild-thyme** – locally numerous along road verges & rocky meadows [Typical low creeping aromatic thyme; flowers 6mm]

Thymus serpyllum **Wild Thyme** – widespread across rocky meadows [Similar to *T. pulegioides* but flowers 3-6mm]

Rosmarinus officinalis **Rosemary** – Collegats & Santa Engrácia area (14) [Familiar aromatic shrub; linear revolute leaves]

Lavandula angustifolia **Common Lavender** – Mediterranean days of the trip (14 & 15) [Typical aromatic narrow-leaved lavender]

Salvia officinalis **Wild Sage** – Mediterranean days of the trip (14 & 15)

Salvia pratensis **Meadow Clary** – meadows some nice specimens around Gavarnie [From *S. verbenaca* by

unlobed leaves and flowers 20-30mm]

Salvia sclarea **Clary** – Santa Engrácia area (14) [Differs from *S. pratensis* by big lilac/white bracts and lilac flowers]

Solanaceae

Solanum dulcamara **Bittersweet** – Aiguestortes (12) & Tor (16) [Scrambler, often lobed leaves, purple flowers, column of anthers]

Buddlejaceae

Buddleja davidii **Buddleia** – waste areas (16 & 17) [Familiar shrub: opposite lanceolate leaves, long lilac flower-panicles]

Scrophulariaceae

Verbascum pulverulentum **Hoary Mullein** – abundant along road verges [As *V. lychnitis* (woolly with yellow candelabra inflorescence) but flower-stalks 2-5mm]

Verbascum Thapsus **Aaron's Rod** – scattered records [Familiar woolly mullein with spike-like inflorescence, winged stem and yellow flowers]

Verbascum nigrum **Dark Mullein** – only recorded around Valcebollère (9 – 10)

Scrophularia nodosa **Common Figwort** – several specimens noted Vielha (13) & Santa Engrácia (14) [Typical brown figwort: 4-angled stem, 2-serrate, cordate hairless leaves]

Antirrhinum latifolium (a Snapdragon) – recorded in the first half of the trip [Yellow flowers]

Antirrhinum majus **Common Snapdragon** – scattered records around stone walls or urban areas [Typical pink snapdragon: flowers 33-45mm]

Antirrhinum molle **Soft Snapdragon** – Gaudi's Inspiration (14) & Tor (16) [Dwarf, shrubby, softly downy, with white flowers 25-35mm]

Chaenorhinum organifolium (a dwarf snapdragon) – lovely clumps on stony areas Ossoue day (19)

Linaria alpina **Alpine Toadflax** – high slopes at Aiguestortes (12) & (13) [Low glaucous toadflax, linear-oblong leaves and 13-22mm violet flowers, yellow palate, also pure blue form]

Linaria repens **Pale Toadflax** – along the road around Tor (16) [Erect greyish toadflax: lower leaves whorled, white or pale lilac flowers]

Linaria supina **Pyrenean Toadflax** – Andorra day (11) & Tor area (16) [Decumbent linear-leaved toadflax, yellow flowers with long spur]

Digitalis lutea **Small Yellow Foxglove** – a delightful plant seen on several occasions afternoon stop (11) & enroute & around Arreau area (16 & 17) [Nearly hairless yellow foxglove; dense spikes of pale tubular flowers]

Digitalis purpurea **Common Foxglove** – lovely stands at Vielha (13) [Familiar downy purple foxglove]

Erinus alpinus **Fairy Foxglove** – along river edges & damp areas Vielha (13), Rioumajou (18) & Ossoue (19) [Low perennial: leaves obovate and toothed, purple flowers (5 notched lobes)]

Veronica anagallis-aquatica **Blue Water Speedwell** – Neouvielle (17) [Fleshy, opposite long-lanceolate leaves (clasping); opposite stalked spikes of blue flowers]

Veronica austriaca **Large Speedwell** – only recorded on the first day (9) [Hairy, leaves ovate-oblong]

Veronica chamaedrys **Bird's-eye Speedwell** – travel day from France to Spain (11) [Like Large Speedwell, but smaller with lines of hairs on the stem]

Veronica nummularia **Pyrenean Speedwell** – Ossoue Valley (19)

Veronica ponae **Spiked Pyrenean Speedwell** – Reserve Neouvielle (17) [Like elegant Bird's-eye, but single loose terminal spike]

Veronica serpyllifolia subsp. *humifusa* **Thyme-leaved Speedwell** – moist alpine turf higher altitude days [creeps, rooting at nodes, often hairless & blue flowers]

Veronica serpyllifolia subsp. *serpyllifolia* **Thyme-leaved Speedwell** – grassland species [white flowers veined blue - grew where soil disturbed]

Melampyrum sylvaticum **Wood Cow-wheat** – wooded edges Eyne (10)

Melampyrum pratense **Common Cow-wheat** –only spotted in the afternoon walk (9) [Annual: leaves untoothed; 1-sided spike, tubular yellow flowers]

Bartsia alpina **Alpine Bartsia** – Richard spotted this species Vielha (13) [Opposite-leaved perennial: downy, dark-purple 2-lipped flowers (15-20mm)]

Pedicularis foliosa **Leafy Lousewort** - Vielha (13) & Tor (16) [Very hairy flower heads; Differs in having leaf-like bracts, 25mm yellow flowers with upper lip rounded]

Pedicularis mixta (a lousewort) – riverside stream near the vehicles Vielha (13) [Pink lousewort, flowers =18mm (crimson beak and calyx woolly)]

Pedicularis pyrenaica **Pyrenean Lousewort** – Andorra rock garden [Very like dull pinkish-purple *P. mixta*, but glabrous calyx]

Pedicularis verticillata **Whorled Lousewort** – around Eyne (9 & 10), above Tor near the marshy area with the Marsh Orchids (16) [From other pink louseworts by leaves in whorls of 3-4 and upper lip rounded (not beaked/toothed)]

Pedicularis sylvatica **Common Lousewort** – Vielha meadows (13)

Rhinanthus angustifolius **Greater Yellow Rattle** – large swards of this species across grassy meadows

Rhinanthus minor **Yellow Rattle** – widespread [Typical yellow rattle: yellow with violet tip, inflated fruit]

Rhinanthus glacialis (a Yellow Rattle) – this species mixed in the swards with *R. angustifolius* & *minor* [branched with narrow-leaves & red to black stems]

Globulariaceae

Globularia cordifolia **Matted Globularia** – Hugh found the only sighting of this species Port de la Bonaigua (13) [Mat-forming, creeping under-shrub, leaves basal, spatulate and notched; heads globular 1-2cm and lilac- or grey-blue]

Globularia nudicaulis **Leafless-stemmed Globularia** – high rocky areas Aiguestortes (12) & Gavarnie area (18 – 20) [Herb: leaves all basal, oblanceolate, blunt; blue heads 15-30mm]

Globularia repens **Creeping Globularia** – some nice examples on the Ossoue day (19) [From *G. cordifolia* by pointed leaves]

Gesneriaceae

Ramonda myconi **Ramonda** – what a fantastic display of this wonderful plant, and when the sun came down on the boulder, just amazing (18) [Flat rosettes of toothed oval corrugated leaves, rusty-hairy beneath; blue-violet 2-3cm 5-lobed flowers]

Orobanchaceae

Orobanche gracilis **Slender Broomrape** – some lovely spikes of this species around the meadows (9) & Ossouse Valley (19) [Yellow/red broomrape, flowers shining dark red inside and 15-25mm]

Orobanche caryophyllacea **Bedstraw Broomrape** – another lovely species around the meadows (9)

Orobanche hederæ **Ivy Broomrape** – a lovely specimen of this species parasitic on *Hedera helix* at Collegats (14)

Lentibulariaceae

Pinguicula grandiflora **Large-flowered Butterwort** – wet damp areas very common across the trip (12, 14, 17 & 18) [Rosette like (edges inrolled); stem with 2-lipped violet flowers 25-35mm (10-12mm spur)]

Pinguicula vulgaris **Common Butterwort** – only recorded on the first three days of the trip, boggy areas (10 & 11) [As *P. grandiflora* but flowers 15-22mm with 6-8mm spur]

Plantaginaceae

Plantago alpina **Alpine Plantain** – frequent at Aiguestortes (12)

Plantago lanceolata **Ribwort Plantain** – widespread [Familiar lanceolate plantain; anthers yellowish]

Plantago major **Rat's-tail Plantain** – scattered sightings across the trip [Cosmopolitan broad-leaved]

weed, long spikes]

Plantago maritima ssp. serpentina **Sea Plantain** – Fi found a fine specimen of this species (15)

Plantago media **Hoary Plantain** – widespread across meadows [Downy grey oval leaves; anthers lilac]

Plantago coronopus **Buck's-horn Plantain** – waste areas but only on one day around Val d'Eyne (10)

Caprifoliaceae

Lonicera periclymenum **Common Honeysuckle** – Mediterranean areas (14 & 15) [Familiar deciduous climber, leaves not fused in pairs]

Lonicera pyrenaica **Pyrenean Honeysuckle** – nice specimens of this endemic, Ossoue Valley (19) [Hairless bush, blue-green leaves quite leathery; pairs of regular white flowers and red berries]

Sambucus ebulus **Dwarf Elder** – frequent but all in leaf [Erect herb, opposite pinnate leaves; white flowers, purple anthers]

Sambucus nigra **Elder** – widespread across the trip [Familiar shrub; yellowish-white anthers and black fruit]

Valerianaceae

Centranthus ruber **Red Valerian** – scattered records in the first half of the trip in France along roadsides [Familiar garden plant, with undivided leaves (1-5cm wide) spurred red flowers]

Valeriana officinalis **Common Valerian** – scattered sightings around verges & meadows [Opposite pinnate leaves and dense heads of pale pink flowers.]

Valeriana pyrenaica **Pyrenean Valerian** – first half on the trip in France around damp meadows [From basal leaves oval not pinnated & heart-shaped]

Valeriana tripteris **Three-leaved Valerian** – rocky road cliff verges (10, 13 & 17) [Short valerian, basal leaves undivided; trefoil on stem]

Valerianella locusta **Common Corn Salad** – lunch site (15)

Dipsacaceae

Dipsacus fullonum **Common Teasel** – verges [Familiar tall biennial: spiny lilac heads and opposite leaves prickly on the lower midrib]

Knautia arvensis **Field Scabious** – meadows (9) [Typical scabious: 4-lobed flowers; upper leaves pinnate-lobed]

Knautia nevadensis (a wood scabious) – woodland edges across the trip

Scabiosa columbaria **Small Scabious** – frequent in meadows across the trip

Succisa pratensis **Devil's-bit Scabious** – meadows around Gavarnie (18)

Campanulaceae

Campanula glomerata **Clustered Bellflower** – meadows at Vielha (13) [Lance-leaved perennial with tight heads of violet bells, each 15-25mm]

Campanula hispanica ssp. catalanica **Spanish Bellflower** – Collegats (14) [Graceful perennial, lance-leaved (crowded below), blue bells 10-14mm in loose clusters]

Campanula persicifolia **Peach-leaved Bellflower** – meadows/scrub Andorra day (11) & some fine specimens at Col de Perbes (15) [As last but peach-like unstalked leaves; half-nodding flowers 3-4cm]

Campanula rotundifolia **Harebell** – Fi had this species around the village at Valcebollère

Campanula scheuchzeri (a bellflower) – around Ossoue Valley (18) [Like Harebell but all leaves linear-lanceolate at flowering; 1 or few blue bells]

Campanula speciosa **Pyrenean Bellflower** – roadside stop for some nice specimens (15) [Perennial with erect bells 28-32mm in pyramidal cluster; linear leaves]

Campanula trachelium **Nettle-leaved Bellflower** - woods & roadsides [Large bristly perennial with jagged heart-shaped leaves and 3-4cm violet bell flowers]

Jasione laevis (a sheep's-bit) – high altitudes car park near Andorra (11) [Like tiny blue scabious but all

flowers regular (also not curved in bud); leaves not wavy]

Jasione montana **Sheep's-bit** – Andorra & Aiguestortes (11 – 12) [Differs from *J. laevis* by wavy leaves; annual]

Phyteuma hemisphaericum **Globe-headed Rampion** – a lovely clump along the Ossoue Valley walk [Like scabious but regular flowers curved in bud; globular-headed and basal leaves with short or no stalk]

Phyteuma orbiculare **Round-headed Rampion** – meadows around Eyne (9 – 10) [Similar to *P. hemisphaericum* but basal leaves long-stalked]

Phyteuma pyrenaicum **Pyrenean Rampion** – Valcebollère (9) & Gavarnie area (18 – 19) [Very similar to *P. ovatum* but bluish flowers]

Phyteuma spicatum **Spiked Rampion** – only around Gavarnie (17 – 19) [Like *P. pyrenaicum*, but spikes whitish]

Asteraceae

Achillea millefolium **Yarrow** – scattered across the two weeks [Familiar, aromatic: 2-3 pinnate feathery leaves; white or pink heads 4-6mm in large flat-topped clusters]

Achillea odorata (a white yarrow) – mainly along roadsides (9-11)

Adenostyles alliariae **Adenostyles** – leaves Aiguestortes (12) [Big basal leaves (triangular/heart shaped); leafy stem bears dense clusters of red-purple rayless heads]

Antennaria dioica **Mountain Everlasting** – scattered clumps among the rocky turfs (11, 12 & 19) [Mat-forming, leaves spoon-shaped, white beneath and white or pink rayless heads on low stem]

Anthemis arvensis **Corn Chamomile** – fields on the French side (8-11)

Anthemis carpatica **Mountain Dog-Daisy** – Aiguestortes (12)

Arctium lappa **Greater Burdock** – Tor Valley (16) [Typical burdock: large cordate leaves; branched stems and bur heads]

Arnica montana **Mountain Arnica** – meadows in flower at Vielha tunnel (13) [Single 4.5-8cm yellow daisy-like heads; elliptical basal leaves and stem-leaves opposite and bract-like]

Artemisia vulgaris **Mugwort** – common along roadside [Familiar faintly scented perennial]

Artemisia absinthium **Wormwood** – Andorra day scattered records (11)

Aster alpinus **Alpine Aster** – stony turf and rocks, Col de Perbes (15); Reserve Neouvielle (17); beautiful display Ossoue Valley (19) [Low perennial: elliptical leaves, single daisy-like heads 35-45mm, with violet-blue rays]

Bellis perennis **Daisy** – Vielha tunnel (13)

Carduncellus monspeliensis (a dwarf thistle) – Montañana Road (15)

Carduus carlinifolius **Carline-leaved Thistle** – scattered records across the two trips [Heads 2-3cm, spines to 1cm; thick leaves]

Carduus carlinoides **Pyrenean Thistle** – common in the first half of the trip at high altitudes [White-downy *Carduus*: winged stems, very spiny; rose-red heads 18-25mm in tight clusters]

Carduus defloratus subsp. *argemone* (an alpine thistle) – Aiguestortes (12)

Carlina acanthifolia **Acanthus-leaved Carline Thistle** – this large stemless thistle at Elderflower site (8, 11 & 20)

Carlina acaulis **Stemless Carline Thistle** - old seed heads, Tor (16)

Carlina vulgaris **Carline Thistle** – 'X' marked the spot for the view of a lovely clump of this species at Aiguestortes old seed heads Perbes

Catananche caerulea **Cupidone** – this beautiful species found in the Mediterranean area (14 & 15) [Rather like graceful perennial blue cornflower; involucre bracts papery and silvery]

Carthamus lanatus (a yellow thistle) – in flower along the roadside on the Mediterranean days (14 & 15)

Centaurea calcitrapa **Red Star-thistle** – in leaf at the picnic site (14) [Softly-leafy below (pinnately cut) but purple knapweed heads with straw-coloured 10-18mm spines]

Centaurea cyanus **Cornflower** – arable fields (9 & 10)

Centaurea jacea **Brown Knapweed** – Santa Engrácia area (14)

Centaurea scabiosa **Greater Knapweed** – Ossoue Valley (19) [Perennial: leaves 1(-2) pinnatisect; big (± rayed) purple heads, black fringed involucre]

Centaurea nigra **Common Knapweed** – meadows (17 & 18)

Cicerbita alpina **Alpine Sow-thistle** – roadsides (16-18)

Cichorium intybus **Chicory** [Like branched *Cicerbita*, but bright blue 2-4cm heads] – roadsides on the Mediterranean days (14 & 15)

Cirsium arvense **Creeping Thistle** – scattered sightings across the trip [Familiar creeping *Cirsium* with lilac-purple heads and glossy crisped very prickly leaves]

Cirsium palustre **Marsh Thistle** – damp areas [Tall slender *Cirsium*, spiny leaves purple edged; winged stems; crowded narrow purple heads]

Cirsium vulgare **Spear Thistle** – scattered across both sides

Cirsium monspessulanum (a thistle) – Collegats (14)

Crepis albida **Pyrenean Hawk's-beard** – this lovely species recorded on the one day (9)

Crepis alprestis (a hawk's-beard) – frequent grasslad

Doronicum pardalianches **Leopard's Bane** - roadside edge Rioumajou (18)

Erigeron alpinus **Alpine Fleabane** – Reserve Neouvielle lake (12)

Eupatorium cannabinum **Hemp-agrimony** – leaves only around damp sites (17) [Tall perennial: opposite 3-5 lobed leaves, numerous small pinkish-purple heads in broad corymbs]

Helichrysum stoechas (an everlasting) – high altitudes Aiguestortes (12)

Hieracium pilosella **Mouse-ear Hawkweed** – scattered records (11 & 14)

Hieracium alpinum (a hawkweed) – only on the French side (9 & 10) [Very variable group of perennials: yellow dandelion-like heads, may be leafy or black hairy]

Homogyne alpina **Alpine Colt's-foot** – high altitudes (9, 12 & 13) [Short creeping perennial, shiny kidney-shaped leaves; single rayless purple heads 10-15mm]

Hypochoeris radicata **Cat's-ear** – scattered across meadows

Lactuca perennis **Blue Lettuce** – scattered records along roadsides [Like hairless pinnately-lobed *Cicerbita*, but achenes beaked]

Lactuca serriola **Prickly Lettuce** – along the streamside in the Car Park of Gir (14)

Lapsana communis **Nipplewort** – scattered records [branched with ovate leaves; many 15-20mm yellow dandelion-type heads but no pappus]

Leontodon pyrenaicum **Pyrenean Hawkbit** – scattered records in meadows at altitude

Leontodon montanus (a lemon hawkbit) – this lovely lemony hawkbit common across floristic meadows at altitude

Leucanthemum vulgare **Ox-eye Daisy** – dry grass, common and widespread [As Alpine Moon Daisy but leafier, upper stem leaves clasping stem; heads 25-50mm]

Leuzea conifera **Leuzea** – Santa Engrácia area (14 & 15) [Like low knapweed but involucre bracts papery forming shiny cone-like structure]

Matricaria discoidea **Pineapple Weed** – waste areas

Pallenis spinosa **Pallenis** – Santa Engrácia area (14)

Santolina chamaecyparissus rosmarinifolia (a lavender cotton) – common & widespread across the trip [green] [Aromatic whitish subshrub, linear remote-toothed green leaves, flowers yellow rayless buttons]

Scorzonera aristata (a viper's-grass) – Aiguestortes (12)

Scorzonera hirsuta (a viper's-grass) – scattered across both sides in meadows [Linear cobwebby leaves, pure yellow dandelion heads and densely hairy fruit]

Senecio adonidifolius (a ragwort) – roadside near the Marsh Orchid site (10)

Senecio jacobaea **Common Ragwort** – scattered records [Many yellow daisy-like heads and pinnate-lobed

leaves [segments oblong]]

Senecio sylvaticus **Wood Groundsel** – Pinewood area near the track (9)

Stachelina dubia **Stachelina** – lovely clumps Gaudi's Inspiration (14 & 15) [Subshrub: stem & narrow toothed leaves felted; narrow purple thistle-like heads]

Tanacetum vulgare **Tansy** - widespread in leaf

Taraxacum officinale s.l. **Dandelion** – scattered records [Typical dandelion: hollow stalk, milky sap]

Tragopogon crocifolius (a salsify) – Mediterranean area (14 & 15) [yellow centre to violet/red head]

Tragopogon dubius (a salsify) – Mediterranean area (14 – 16) [yellow head]

Tragopogon pratensis **Goat's-beard** – mainly recorded in the first part of the tour [Like a leek with yellow dandelion-like heads (ca 8 long bracts)]

Tussilago farfara **Colt's-foot** – scattered often with flower heads [large cordate leaves, cobwebby beneath]

MONOCOTYLEDONS

Liliaceae

Allium ampeloprasum **Wild Leek** – Mediterranean days, roadsides around Collegrats (14) & lunch spot (15) [Tall stout leek with dense terminal pink head; leaves 5-40mm wide, flat/V-shaped in section]

Anthericum liliago **St Bernard's Lily** – widespread & common across the trip at higher altitudes [Starry white flowers (loose raceme); basal leaves]

Asphodelus albus **Asphodel** – scattered sightings across the trip on both sides of the Pyrenees [Stout dense spike of white starry flowers; strap-leaves]

Brimeura amethystine **Pyrenean Hyacinth** – several sightings over the trip Vielha (13) & some nice examples along Ossoue Valley (19)

Dipcadi serotinum **Dipcadi** – this gorgeous plant was first found in the rocky areas at Col de Perbes (15) & Tor (16) [Resembles a bluebell but with 1-sided raceme of brownish flowers]

Erythronium dens-canis **Dog's-tooth Violet** – it was very exciting when Hugh found some fantastic examples at Port de la Bonaigua (13) [leaves elliptical and dark-mottled]

Gagea fistulosa (a yellow star-of-Bethlehem) – Richard found some spikes of this species at Aiguestortes (12)

Hyacinthoides hispanica **Spanish Bluebells** – Fiona found some in the Beech Wood at Vielha (13)

Lilium martagon **Martagon Lily** – numerous plants in bud along path as we walked up the valley Val d'Eyne (10) [Whorls of elliptical leaves; dark-spotted pinkish nodding Turk's-caps]

Lilium pyrenaicum **Pyrenean Lily** – a lovely flowering head at our lunch stop Val d'Eyne (10); as well as large clumps of flowering plants decorating the cliffs on our very first day (8) [Numerous alternate lanceolate leaves; yellow nodding Turk's-caps (brown-spotted)]

Paradisea liliastrum **St Bruno's Lily** – several lovely spikes amongst meadows of this lovely species on the French side (9 – 11) & at Vielha (13) [Loose 1-sided racemes of fragrant white 4-5cm trumpet-like flowers]

Polygonatum odoratum **Angular Solomon's-seal** – a lovely stand in the rocky meadow after the woodland (9) [As latter but scented flowers 1-2 on a stalk; angled stem]

Tofieldia calyculata **Tofield's Asphodel** – damp areas at Vielha (13) [From *Narthecium* by spike of 5-7mm yellowish-green flowers]

Veratrum album **White False Helleborine** – only recorded in leaf in the meadows (10 & 13) [Robust, hairy, leafy: pleated ovate leaves; branched spike of white & green flowers]

Agavaceae

Agave americana **Century Plant** – roadsides across both sides of the Pyrenees

Amaryllidaceae

Narcissus poeticus **Poet's Narcissus** – fantastic fields of this lovely species (9-11) [Short yellow corona, surrounded by long white segments - various forms seen]

Narcissus pseudonarcissus pallidiflorus – scattered groups in Andorra (11); some specimens in flower at Ossoue Valley (19)

Juncaceae

Luzula campestris **Field Wood-rush** – meadows (9 & 10)

Luzula nivea **Snowy Wood-rush** - Reserve Neouvielle (17) [From all other *Luzula* spp. by whitish clustered flowers]

Luzula nutans **Nodding Wood-rush** – seen at Aiguestortes (12)

Luzula sylvatica **Great Wood-rush** – Val d'Eyne (10)

Poaceae

Aegilops geniculata **Goat Grass** – Santa Engrácia (14)

Anthoxanthum odoratum **Sweet Vernal Grass** – widespread across meadows

Arrhenatherum elatius **False Oat-grass** – widespread around waste areas & field margins

Arundo donax **Giant Reed** – roadsides at lower altitudes, *Santa Engrácia* (14)

Avena fatua **Wild-oat** – arable field edges [Typical wild oat, spikelet 18-25mm, with long geniculate awn] (9)

Brachypodium sylvaticum **False Brome** – woodlands (10)

Briza media **Common Quaking-grass** – meadows [Hairless perennial: grey green; open panicle of round unawned spikelets]

Briza minor **Lesser Quaking Grass** – Col de Perbes (15)

Bromus sterilis **Barren Brome** – roadsides (9)

Cynosurus cristatus **Crested Dog's-tail** – meadows (9 – 14) [Perennial: dense 1-sided toothbrush-like spike; zigzag rhachis visible]

Cynosurus echinatus **Rough Dog's-tail** – Gavarnie day (18)

Dactylis glomerata ssp. *hispanica* **Cock's-foot** – meadows (9 – 10) [Branched 1-sided flower-head of oval spikelets, flat shoots]

Deschampsia cespitosa **Tufted Hair-grass** – meadows (9 – 10)

Deschampsia flexuosa **Wavy Hair-grass** - acid swards [Tufted perennial: leaves setaceous; branched panicle with wavy stalks] (10)

Holcus lanatus **Yorkshire Fog** – meadows

Lolium perenne **Rye Grass** – grazed areas

Lagurus ovatus **Hare's-tail Grass** – Santa Engrácia (14)

Stipa pennata **Feather-grass** – Mediterranean areas (14 & 15)

Cyperaceae

Trichophorum caespitosum **Deer Grass** – boggy patch near where Hugh found the Gentian (9)

Eriophorum angustifolium **Common Cotton-grass** – Eyne Road (10) [Creeping perennial: stained wine-red: 3-7 drooping spikelets becoming white-cottony in fruit]

Orchidaceae

Cephalanthera longifolia **Sword-leaved Helleborine** – a lovely specimen of this species was found along the road verge at Neouvielle (17). [Several lance-like leaves & 8-20 pure white egg-shaped flowers]

Cephalanthera rubra **Red Helleborine** – several fantastic spikes were found across the wood near our lunch site (15) [Identified from *C. rubra* by 3-10 pink-purple flowers] (15)

Coeloglossum viride **Frog Orchid** - numerous at Vielha tunnel (13); Tor (16) [Short; oblong blue-green leaves; spike of 5-15 yellow-green flowers, tinged red-brown]

Dactylorhiza majalis alpestris (a marsh orchid) – this was probably the most commonest of the Marsh orchids we found across the tour, around damp wet areas

Dactylorhiza elata (a marsh orchid) – an interesting debate among the group with this family, but several spikes of this species was found around Eyne Road mixed in *D. majalis alpestris* & Aiguestortes [As *D. alpestris* but 30-110cm tall; lance-leaved]

Dactylorhiza fuchsii **Common Spotted-orchid** – scattered records of this species across the course of the trip [From other spotted-orchids by clearly 3-lobed lip]

Dactylorhiza maculata **Heath Spotted-orchid** – meadows (9) & Vielha (13)

Dactylorhiza sambucina **Elder-flowered Orchid** – fantastic display of this common species in both colour morphs near Puymorens, scattered records across the rest of the trip. [Pale lemon yellow, or purple, spikes, leafy bracts & descending spur]

Epipactis helleborine **Broad-leaved Helleborine** – oak woodland near Santa Engrácia (14) & woodland near our lunch stop (15)

Epipactis tremolsii (a helleborine) – Santa Engrácia woodlands (14) [From *E. helleborine* by erect stiff leaves wrapped into a cone at this time (before flowering)]

Epipactis microphylla (a helleborine) – at least one spike of this species with the mixed *Epipactis* clump in the woodlands at Santa Engrácia (14)

Gymnadenia conopsea **Fragrant Orchid** – frequent across meadows [Similar to Pyramidal Orchid, but spikes cylindrical, fragrant]

Limodorum abortivum **Violet Limodore** – several spikes were found in the woodland near our lunch stop (15)

Listera ovata **Common Twayblade** – several spikes spotted of this species across the trip [Opposite pair of oval ribbed leaves; green flower spike, lip forked]

Neottia nidus-avis **Bird's-nest Orchid** – Fi found a lovely example under the Elder bush that we all had been walking past at Rioumajou (17)

Nigritella austriaca (a vanilla orchid) – scattered records across high altitudes (11) & particularly numerous at Vielha tunnel (13) [Short: dense rounded head of deep red-brown, vanilla-scented flowers (all perianth segments spreading) lip 7-10mm]

Ophrys insectifera **Fly Orchid** – several dead heads at Col de Perbes (15)

Orchis coriophora **Bug Orchid** – this unusual species was found in the meadows (9) [Unlike *Dactylorhiza*, *Orchis* spp. have membranous bracts. Bug Orchid is small: dense brownish red spike (foetid smell)]

Orchis ustulata **Burnt-tip Orchid** – frequent across open sites [Purple-brown helmet and white to pale pink manikin lip]

Platanthera chlorantha **Greater Butterfly Orchid** – widespread around the meadows in the second half of the trip [Very similar to *P. bifolia* but usually bigger, with anther-lobes diverging]

Pseudorchis albida **Small White Orchid** – unfortunately this species was only found in bud at Bonaigua & Vielha [Short - dense spike of 2-3mm greenish-white flowers]

Systematic List – Birds

The taxonomic nomenclature & systematic order follows both that of Collins: Bird Guide 2nd edition. During the two week period a total of 79 species was recorded. The numbers indicate the dates on which a species was seen.

Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>	from the motorway in France (20)
Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>	individuals around the streams at Tor (16)
White Stork	<i>Ciconia ciconia</i>	a pair in fields near Toulouse Airport (8)
Mute Swan	<i>Cygnus olor</i>	regularly in the first half of the trip (8 – 11)
Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	the only wildfowl recorded for the trip & only on one day at Tor (16)
Black Kite	<i>Milvus migrans</i>	around urban & agricultural areas
Red Kite	<i>Milvus milvus</i>	mainly around urban & freshly cut meadow fields
Lammergeier	<i>Gypaetus barbatus</i>	one bird circling with other vultures at Collegats (14); an individual soaring along the mountain ridge
Ossoue Valley (19)		
Egyptian Vulture	<i>Neophron percnopterus</i>	an individual flying among the Griffon Vultures & Lammergeier at Collegats (14)
Griffon Vulture	<i>Gyps fulvus</i>	frequently encountered around mountainous locations
Short-toed Eagle	<i>Circaetus gallicus</i>	a distant bird at Collegats (14); one hovering near the vehicle enroute to Montañana Road
Common Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>	common & widespread seen everyday
Booted Eagle	<i>Hieraaetus pennatus</i>	interesting, we only saw this species twice & both times they were of the pale phase for this species (9 & 18)
Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter nisus</i>	an individual circling as we walked up Val d'Eye (10)
Golden Eagle	<i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>	an individual around Val d'Eye (10); an adult Troumouse (20)
Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	scattered encounters of this common bird
Red-legged Partridge	<i>Alectoris rufa</i>	only the once around Col de Perbes (15)
Quail	<i>Coturnix coturnix</i>	mainly heard, but Richard got a good view has it flew up in front of him (9) (10 & 19)
Woodpigeon	<i>Columba palumbus</i>	common & widespread seen everyday
Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>	common & widespread seen everyday
Turtle Dove	<i>Streptopelia turtur</i>	unfortunately this beautiful dove was only heard on the one day (15)
Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus canorus</i>	seen or heard most days
Scops Owl	<i>Otus scops</i>	only heard in the evening at La Guingueta d'Aneu
Common Swift	<i>Apus apus</i>	common & widespread seen everyday
Alpine Swift	<i>Apus melba</i>	Fi had several around Lourdes (20)
Kingfisher	<i>Alcedo atthis</i>	Fi spotted one flying down the stream at Tor (16)

Hoopoe	<i>Upupa epops</i>	four flew over the van (8); another individual over the first van Santa Engrácia (14)
Wryneck	<i>Jynx torquilla</i>	one heard calling from a willow shrub (9)
Great Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos major</i>	regularly seen or heard over the course of the trip
Woodlark	<i>Lullula arborea</i>	woodland areas (9 & 11)
Skylark	<i>Alauda arvensis</i>	frequent around agricultural areas
Crag Martin	<i>Ptyonoprogne rupestris</i>	common & widespread seen everyday
Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	common & widespread seen everyday
House Martin	<i>Delichon urbica</i>	common & widespread seen everyday
Water Pipit	<i>Anthus spinoletta</i>	frequently encountered at high altitudes
Grey Wagtail	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>	regularly encountered around streams
White Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba</i>	common & widespread seen everyday
Wren	<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>	scattered sightings across the two weeks
Dipper	<i>Cinclus cinclus</i>	latter part of the trip on the French side (16-18)
Dunnock	<i>Prunella modularis</i>	regularly encountered & widespread
Robin	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>	scattered recordings around woodland areas
Nightingale	<i>Luscinia megarhynchos</i>	only recorded at La Guingueta d'Aneu
Black Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus ochruros</i>	common & widespread seen everyday
Stonechat	<i>Saxicola torquata</i>	only recorded on two occasions (11 & 15)
Northern Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe oenanthe</i>	regularly encountered at higher altitudes
Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>	common seen everyday
Mistle Thrush	<i>Turdus viscivorus</i>	scattered records around woodland areas
Cetti's Warbler	<i>Cettia cetti</i>	heard the once around the lake at La Guingueta d'Aneu
Whitethroat	<i>Sylvia communis</i>	scattered sightings around shrubby areas (9, 10 & 15)
Blackcap	<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>	seen or heard nearly everyday
Chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>	frequently heard across the two weeks
Willow Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus trochilus</i>	this species was only heard (11 & 16)
Firecrest	<i>Regulus ignicapillus</i>	only heard around the pinewoods (9)
Crested Tit	<i>Parus cristatus</i>	only recorded the once (10)
Coal Tit	<i>Parus ater</i>	scattered across both sides (9, 10, 12 & 16)
Blue Tit	<i>Parus caeruleus</i>	occasionally (11, 12 & 16)
Great Tit	<i>Parus major</i>	common & widespread seen everyday
Golden Oriole	<i>Oriolus oriolus</i>	some lovely views of this colourful species around La Guingueta d'Aneu
Red-backed Shrike	<i>Lanius collurio</i>	Val d'Eyne (10); Santa Engrácia (14)
Jay	<i>Garrulus glandarius</i>	common & widespread seen everyday
Magpie	<i>Pica pica</i>	common & widespread seen everyday
Alpine Chough	<i>Pyrrhocorax graculus</i>	scattered sightings at high altitudes
Chough	<i>Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax</i>	scattered sightings at high altitudes

Carrion Crow	<i>Corvus corone</i>	scattered recordings of this species
Raven	<i>Corvus corax</i>	regularly encountered & widespread
Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	around urban areas
House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	common & widespread seen everyday
Chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>	common & widespread seen everyday
Serín	<i>Serinus serinus</i>	frequently encountered across the trip
Citril Finch	<i>Serinus citrinella</i>	recorded at altitude (11-13 & 18)
Greenfinch	<i>Carduelis chloris</i>	only seen the once, Tor (16)
Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>	frequently encountered across the two weeks
Linnet	<i>Carduelis cannabina</i>	scattered sightings around agricultural meadows
Crossbill	<i>Loxia curvirostra</i>	woodland habitats (9-10)
Bullfinch	<i>Pyrrhula pyrrhula</i>	a lovely male recorded (10)
Hawfinch	<i>Coccothraustes coccothraustes</i>	several singing from the pines (9)
Yellowhammer	<i>Emberiza citrinella</i>	occasionally at high altitude (9-10 & 17-18)
Cirl Bunting	<i>Emberiza cirlus</i>	recorded in the latter part of the trip (15 & 17)
Corn Bunting	<i>Miliaria calandra</i>	agricultural areas

Systematic List – Butterflies

The taxonomic nomenclature & systematic order follows both that of *Collins: Butterflies of Europe, Tolman & Lewington*. During the two week period a total of 65 species was recorded. The numbers indicate the dates on which a species was seen.

Papilionidae

Swallowtail	<i>Papilio machaon</i>	scattered records of individuals (14, 19 & 20)
Scarce Swallowtail	<i>Iphiclides podalirius</i>	seen the once, Tor (16)
Apollo	<i>Parnassius apollo</i>	encountered at the higher levels (8-9 & 17-18)
Clouded Apollo	<i>Parnassius mnemosyne</i>	another high altitude species (10, 17 & 18)

Pieridae

Large White	<i>Pieris brassicae</i>	common & widespread in all habitats
Black-veined White	<i>Aporia crataegi</i>	frequently recorded at the higher altitudes
Southern Small White	<i>Artogeia manni</i>	regularly recorded in most habitats across the trip
Mt Small White	<i>Artogeia ergane</i>	Ossoue Valley (19)
Orange-Tip	<i>Anthocharis cardamines</i> (8, 10, 11, 15-19)	regularly recorded around damp wooded habitats
Moroccan Orange-Tip	<i>Anthocharis belia</i>	this delightful species was occasionally seen across the trip, with excellent views of a pair feeding (8)
Clouded Yellow	<i>Colias crocea</i>	regularly recorded at high altitude levels
Brimstone	<i>Gonepteryx rhamni</i>	only the once (12)
Cleopatra	<i>Gonepteryx Cleopatra</i>	individual sightings mainly of males (14 & 19)
Wood White	<i>Leptidea sinapsis</i>	scattered sightings of this lovely species (9, 14, 16 & 19)

Lycaenidae

Ilex Hairstreak	<i>Satyrium ilicis</i>	lunch spot Santa Engrácia (14)
False Ilex Hairstreak	<i>Satyrium esculi</i>	lunch spot Santa Engrácia (14); Cami de l'aigua (15)
Blue-spot Hairstreak	<i>Satyrium spini</i>	lunch spot Santa Engrácia (14)
Green Hairstreak	<i>Callophrys rubi</i>	the commonest hairstreak (13, 17-19)
Scarce Copper	<i>Lycaena virgaureae</i>	a lovely male recorded along Tor road (16)
Sooty Copper	<i>Lycaena tityrus</i>	Richard had a nice specimen of this species (19)
Purple-edged Copper	<i>Lycaena hippothoe</i>	meadows (19)
Long-tailed Blue	<i>Lampides boeticus</i>	one recorded around Santa Engrácia (14)
Short-tailed Blue	<i>Everes argiades</i>	Congost de Collegats (14)
Little Blue	<i>Cupido minimus</i>	small groups puddling in the latter part of the trip (17-19)
Silver-studded Blue	<i>Plebejus argus</i>	fairly common on sunny days (9, 14-17)
Brown Argus	<i>Aricia agestis</i>	scattered individuals (14 & 19)
Geranium Argus	<i>Eumedonia eumedon</i>	latter part of the trip
Mazarine Blue	<i>Cyaniris semiargus</i>	frequent across most habitats
Chapman's Blue	<i>Agrodiaetus thersites</i>	Richard recorded this species around Cirque Gavarnie (18)
Escher's Blue	<i>Agrodiaetus escheri</i>	only recorded on the French side the beginning of the trip (8 & 10)
Chalk-hill Blue	<i>Lysandra coridon</i>	only recorded on the French side the beginning of the trip (9)
Spanish Chalk-hill Blue	<i>Lysandra albicans</i>	Santa Engrácia area (14)
Adonis Blue	<i>Lysandra bellargus</i>	common & widespread
Common Blue	<i>Polyommatus icarus</i>	common & widespread

Nymphalidae

White Admiral	<i>Limenitis camilla</i>	a couple of individuals were basking in the afternoon sun at the lunch spot Cami de l'aigua (15)
Peacock	<i>Inachis io</i>	scattered sightings (11, 12 & 18)
Red Admiral	<i>Vanessa atalanta</i>	only recorded on the French side the beginning of the trip (9)
Painted Lady	<i>Cynthia cardui</i>	frequently recorded over the trip
Small Tortoiseshell	<i>Aglais urticae</i>	frequently recorded across a range of habitats
Silver-washed Fritillary	<i>Argynnis Pandora</i>	Richard recorded our only large Fritillary (14)
Queen of Spain Fritillary	<i>Issoria lathonia</i>	a couple of sightings of this species (9 & 16)
Lesser Marbled Fritillary	<i>Brenthis ino</i>	only recorded on the French side, Ossoue Valley (19)
Pearl-bordered Fritillary	<i>Clossiana euphrosyne</i>	La Guingueta d'Aneu (11)
Glanville Fritillary	<i>Melitaea cinxia</i>	occasionally in the first half of the trip (9, 10 & 12)
Knapweed Fritillary	<i>Melitaea phoebe</i>	scattered sightings (8, 9 & 19)
Spotted Fritillary	<i>Melitaea didyma</i>	an individual around Santa Engrácia (14)
False Heath Fritillary	<i>Melitaea diamine</i>	Ossoue Valley (19)
Provençal Fritillary	<i>Mellicta deione</i>	meadows (9 & 15)

Heath Fritillary	<i>Mellicta athalia</i>	meadows (15-17)
Meadow Fritillary	<i>Mellicta parthenoides</i>	only recorded on the French side (9-10)

Satyridae

Iberian Marbled White	<i>Melanargia lachesis</i>	a common species but recorded the one day (13)
Woodland/Rock Grayling	<i>Hipparchia sp.</i>	due to the difficult identification of these two close species & similar habitat they have been lumped (14)
de Prunner's Ringlet	<i>Erebia triaria</i>	only a couple of days on the French side (9 & 19)
Bright-eyed Ringlet	<i>Erebia oeme</i>	high altitudes (13 & 19)
Piedmont Ringlet	<i>Erebia oeme</i>	Richard recorded a nice specimen (19)
Meadow Brown	<i>Maniola jurtina</i>	a common species but recorded the one day (9)
Spanish Gatekeeper	<i>Pyronia bathseba</i>	Santa Engrácia area (14)
Small Heath	<i>Coenonympha pamphilus</i>	scattered across the two weeks (10, 11, 13 & 19)
Pearly Heath	<i>Coenonympha arcania</i>	floristic meadows at altitude (9 & 16)
Chestnut Heath	<i>Coenonympha glycerion</i>	Valcebollère (8)
Speckled Wood	<i>Pararge aegeria</i>	woodland edges (15 & 16)
Large Wall Brown	<i>Lasiommata maera</i>	Richard recorded several individuals (14 & 19)

Hesperiidae

Grizzled Skipper	<i>Pyrgus malvae</i>	frequent across the two weeks
Large Grizzled Skipper	<i>Pyrgus alveus</i>	lunch spot Santa Engrácia (14)
Obethur's Skipper	<i>Pyrgus armoricanus</i>	latter part of the trip
Safflower Skipper	<i>Pyrgus carthami</i>	Richard recorded this species (9, 11 & 15)
Carline Skipper	<i>Pyrgus carlinae</i>	only recorded on the French side the beginning of the trip (8-10)
Red-underwing Skipper	<i>Spialis Sertorius</i>	Cami de l'aigua (15)
Dingy Skipper	<i>Erynnis tages</i>	sunny spots at altitude (12 & 19)
Small Skipper	<i>Thymelicus sylvestris</i>	occasionally across the trip (10, 12 & 19-20)
Large Skipper	<i>Ochlodes venatus</i>	frequent across the two weeks

NB: there was a species of Heath we had problems of identification due to the individual looking like a Darwin's Heath, which do not occur within this area. Tristan Lafranchis was contacted for his thoughts, 'He too had seen exactly the same last year in the same part of the Pyrenees. He said that Spanish Heath (*Coenonympha iphioides*) is considered a sup species of the alpine occurring Chestnut Heath (*C. glycerion*), but that in the eastern Pyrenees you get many intermediates, which is what this butterfly was'. Thanks for sorting that out Richard.

Systematic List – Mammals

The numbers indicate the days on which a species was seen.

Roe Deer	<i>Capreolus capreolus</i>	Hugh recorded this species (9)
Red Squirrel	<i>Sciurus vulgaris</i>	Fi had excellent views of one sitting on a branch (10)
Wild Boar	<i>Sus scropha</i>	plenty of evidence of this shy animal, however a female with two striped piglets were spotted on the mountain slopes Aiguestortes (12)

Alpine Marmot	<i>Marmota marmota</i>	lots recorded around the slopes in the Gavarnie area
Izard	<i>Rupicapra pyrenaica</i>	Aiguestortes (12); Troumouse (20)

Systematic List – Other fauna

The numbers indicate the days on which a species was seen.

Reptiles & Amphibians

Common Midwife Toad	<i>Alytes obstetricans</i>	the low single moan of this species could be heard calling around the lake at La Guingueta d’Aneu
Common Frog	<i>Rana temporaria</i>	odd adults occasionally encountered (10)
Iberian Water Frog	<i>Rana perezi</i>	Good numbers at La Guingueta; several calling from the pond at Collegat (14) & Col de Perves (15)
Common Wall Lizard	<i>Podarcis muralis</i>	frequently encountered across the trip
Iberian Wall Lizard	<i>Podarcis hispanica</i>	Aiguestortes NP (12)

Odonata

Golden-ringed Dragonfly	<i>Cordulegaster boltonii</i>	a male was seen hawking along the path at Collegats (14)
Common Pincertail	<i>Onychogomphus uncatus</i>	an individual patrolling the road Santa Engrácia (14)
Broad-bodied Chaser	<i>Libellula depressa</i>	an individual around the pond at Collegat car park (14)
White-faced Darter	<i>Leucorrhinia dubia</i>	several individuals around the marshy area at Port de la Bonaigua (13)

Other invertebrates

Ascalaphida (Owlfly)	<i>Libelloides coccajus</i>	an altitude species (9 & 19)
Antlion	<i>Euroleon nostras</i>	several adults around Tor (16)
Chimney Sweep	<i>Odezia atrata</i>	occasionally in meadows at altitudes
Fiery Clearwing	<i>Bembecia chrysidiformis</i>	a lovely specimen of this species near the lake at La Guingueta d’Aneu
Humming-bee Hawk-moth	<i>Macroglossum stellatorum</i>	this lovely species was frequently encountered across the trip
Praying Mantis	<i>Empusa pennata</i>	this gorgeous species was spied while we were having lunch Santa Engrácia (14)
Shield Bug (red & black)	<i>Graphosoma semipunctatum</i>	several doing their business in life on <i>Molopospermum peloponnesiacum</i>