

# ***POLAND in Spring*** ***8<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> May 2010***



*Red-breasted Flycatcher, Bialowieza Palace Park*

*all photos: Keith Grant*

**Leaders / Guides:**

Keith Grant (*Travelling Naturalist*)  
Csaba Lendvai (*EcoTours, Hungary*)

**Group Members:**

Arthur & Jean Atkins  
Ray Bryant  
Mick & Amanda Kusmidrowicz  
John & Linda Sharp

**Driver:**

Zoltan

**Local Guides:**

Arek (Pygmy Owl & Strict Reserve)  
Mateusz (Great Snipe lek)  
Andrzej (Red Marsh)

**Daily Diary:**

**Saturday 8th May**

**Arrival, travel to Bialowieza**

**Warm but humid, some cloud cover clearing at dusk**

We all met up at Heathrow for our morning flight to Warsaw where Csaba was awaiting our arrival and we were soon on our way to Bialowieza. We stopped at a very nice roadside hotel near Wyszaków for a coffee break and to stretch our legs. The patio overlooked the garden and on to some nearby woods where a Buzzard circled overhead and both Yellowhammer and Jays were noted. In fact the Jays seemed to be coming and going regularly at the rear of the hotel and a closer investigation found their nest on the top of a wood store and containing small chicks. Our first White Stork flew over and as we travelled further east, stork nests became ever more numerous. A couple of Common Cranes were spotted in a roadside field. We arrived at Białowieża just before 8pm in time to settle in and gather again for dinner and to talk through the week's itinerary.

**Sunday 9th May**

**Siemianówka Reservoir, Bialowieza Forest**

**Sunny, becoming overcast**

The insomniacs amongst us gathered outside at 7am for our first exploratory walk across the pond and into the park. A Serin was singing from the top of a TV aerial and the trees at the park entrance contained Tree Sparrows, Common Redstart, Icterine Warbler and a Middle Spotted Woodpecker which flew in for a brief moment. Two Great Reed Warblers were singing from the narrow belt of reeds fringing the lake and as we entered the park itself, Hawfinch, Pied Flycatcher and a stunning Red-breasted Flycatcher were found. We had to walk smartly back for breakfast, after which we headed off in the vehicle for the Siemianówka Reservoir. The view across the shallow reservoir from the bund was really impressive with all three species of "marsh terns" present. Small numbers of Gadwall flew around and we saw Great White Egrets in the distance. A Bittern was booming and by scanning around we found Lesser Spotted Eagle sitting on the roof of a hay shelter, a rather distant Honey-buzzard circling the far forest and a Hobby hawking newly emerged dragonflies quite close by. A rather tatty Camberwell Beauty butterfly was trying to gain some warmth from the weak sunshine and everyone was very interested in the freshly emerged Map butterflies. A number of Whinchats were in the rank grass below the bund and a Penduline Tit appeared briefly. We returned to the vehicle for coffee and biscuits just as a party of ca.20 Whiskered Terns flew over and the Honey-buzzard reappeared with a Montagu's Harrier circling with it in the same thermal. A flock of Crossbill then flew over us and we decided to return to the forest for lunch. We drove to a small clearing where a short walk brought us to a shallow valley in the forest where beavers had dammed the river and flooded the whole area. The

resulting dead trees created an exceptional feeding area for woodpeckers and many Starlings and a couple of Collared Flycatchers were making use of the various holes. Whilst we ate our sandwiches, we also found a Pied Flycatcher and then a Black Woodpecker appeared from a nest hole. We eventually managed to get views of both the female looking out from its nest and the male nearby. A White-backed Woodpecker then flew over but didn't stop, but a Middle Spotted Woodpecker landed nearby and promptly disappeared into its nest hole. We walked along a slight ridge which enabled us to come right alongside one of the dams and have close views of the lodge. A rather soft but drawn-out drumming kept us guessing for a long time. It turned out to be Lesser Spotted Woodpecker which again took some very careful watching to get good views through the telescopes. Back in the vehicle, we stopped where the road crossed another area of flooded forest. Here we heard Green and Great Spotted Woodpecker but saw neither. Our final stop was again on the roadside near the nest hole of a Grey-headed Woodpecker which also failed to show itself. We headed back to the hotel for 5pm, gathering again at 6pm for checklist and dinner, after which we picked up Arek, our local guide, and headed into the forest in search of Pygmy Owl. Several Woodcocks were roding overhead and numerous Cuckoos were calling. Eventually a Pygmy Owl appeared and allowed telescope views right at last light.



*Camberwell Beauty*



*Map butterfly*



*beaver handiwork*



*Collared Flycatcher*



*Entrance to the Strict Reserve*



*Palace Park lake*

**Monday 10th May**

**Bialowieza Palace Park & Strict Reserve, Great Snipe lek**

**Light shower at dawn, gradually clearing throughout the day**

Several of us went for a pre-breakfast stroll around the lake, noting the pair of White Storks on their impressive nest on the chimney stack of the old buildings. Wryneck and Icterine Warbler were both seen but neither stayed visible for more than a brief moment. On the way back across the lake, we had excellent views of two Hawfinches feeding on the road in front of us and Serin and Spotted Flycatcher were both seen in the roadside gardens. After breakfast, we were driven the short distance to the far side of the Palace Park where we met up with Arek again as we walked across the open pasture. Whinchats and Tree Pipits were singing from the encroaching young trees and we also saw Honey-buzzard and a more distant male Marsh Harrier circling over the forest. We entered the Strict Reserve to the ringing yaffling of Green Woodpecker and Arek imparted a vast knowledge of how the fauna and flora of the forest interacted and the historical effects of human activity. Birds here included stunning views of

Treecreepers, Collared Flycatchers, Hawfinch and both Middle Spotted and White-backed Woodpeckers. The White-back was down on the ground picking through some fallen wood but the Middle-Spots in particular were attending small young in a nest hole so gave excellent opportunities to view them through the telescopes. As we headed back, we saw Red Deer along one of the trails and it was rather sobering to view the graves and commemorative plaque from World War Two. We returned to the vehicle for lunch and coffee, after which we strolled across the Palace Park and took the opportunity to buy maps and postcards from the shop and look around the museum before returning to the hotel. The Palace Park afforded excellent views of Nuthatch and Wood Warblers and a Golden Oriole flew across the open meadow. We managed an hour or two at leisure until we gathered again at 4.30 for checklist and an early dinner prior to heading off with Mateusz in search of Great Snipe to the north-west of the forest. We walked out on to the bog, which was much wetter this year than last, and very quickly heard the reeling song of Grasshopper Warblers and were seemingly surrounded by Corncrakes. Great White Egrets and White Storks flew off from the far side of the bog and both Common Snipe and Black-tailed Godwits were displaying. Several Roe Deer appeared and as the sun set we started to hear the bill-clapping display of Great Snipe. Careful searching along the slight ridge in front of us eventually revealed several Great Snipe as they performed their strange jumping displays, particularly showing off the extensive white in the tails. One particular Roe Deer seemed very interested as the displays intensified as the light failed. We eventually walked back to the vehicle at last light and headed for 'home'.



*Thrush Nightingale*



*Common Rosefinch*



*Red-backed Shrike*



*White-backed Woodpecker*

**Tuesday 11th May**

**Bialowieza Forest**

**Rain up till late morning, sunshine & showers thereafter**

Our pre-breakfast walk took us down to the bridge where the lake emptied into the river. A Wryneck showed well, calling continuously from the top of a dead tree and a Thrush Nightingale showed well along the muddy track. A Common Rosefinch then started to sing from the wooded island and careful searching through the telescopes revealed a nice view before it moved into a neighbouring tree and was lost to sight. The ubiquitous Icterine Warblers were also singing but proved quite elusive for some of us. As we walked around the lake shore itself, a second Thrush Nightingale was watched singing vigorously from a small tree. Whilst walking back over the causeway, a second Rosefinch was heard and this bird gave us stunning views through the scopes as it perched up right at the top of the small trees on the other island.

After breakfast, we loaded up and headed into the forest. Our morning location involved an excellent walk along the old narrow gauge railway track towards the Narew River. Several River Warblers were singing and we managed nice if brief views of one through the telescopes. A couple of Red-backed Shrikes showed well, then a Barred Warbler started to sing and with Icterine Warblers, Grey-headed Woodpecker and Golden Oriole in view, we didn't know where to look next – until someone called "Bison!" Three of these majestic creatures slowly ambled into view as they grazed a distant meadow alongside the river. We tried to entice a nearby Corncrake into more open ground but he was having none of it, so we started to return along the old railway track. A brief stop confirmed a White-backed Woodpecker nest with one of the adults seen delivering food into the hole.

*European Bison**Red Deer*

We returned to the bus for lunch, after which we walked a short distance along the track in the opposite direction. A Crested Tit low down in conifers at the edge of the forest allowed some excellent views and a little further on, a singing Wood Warbler similarly allowed excellent eye-level views as it displayed around the boundaries of its territory. Goldcrests were singing higher up in the spruce trees but could not be seen. We returned to the bus and drove back towards the main road. A further brief stop for coffee provided us with Coal Tits and a little further on we explored an area of old mature pines and spruces. Here many trees were dead or dying and many had been stripped of their bark by woodpeckers. We were hoping for Three-toed Woodpecker here but failed on this occasion. Our two final stops were on the other side of the town, firstly a brief stop over the river where we could hear yet another singing River Warbler and saw an excellent Hawfinch, and secondly at the sports field of the School of Forestry where a Green Woodpecker showed nicely and where a light shower of rain encouraged us back to the bus.

### Wednesday 12th May

### Travel to Goni\_dz

#### Mainly sunny, cloud building & turning to rain just before dusk

We had an early breakfast this morning to avoid a large party of children who were also staying at the pension. After breakfast, we loaded up and headed back into the forest to check again for Three-toed Woodpecker. We walked a little further along the track than yesterday and were rewarded with fine views of a female Three-toed. Collared Flycatcher, Tree Pipit and Goldcrests were also noted. We then headed off, our next stop being at the old fish ponds near Bia\_ystok. We walked along the embankment between the various ponds where a large breeding colony of Black-headed Gulls was in full swing, and Tufted Duck, Great Crested Grebes and various Coot were seen. A Red-necked Grebe showed well and looked very fine indeed and we found another sitting tight on a nest at the reed edge. At the far large lake, a few more Tufted Ducks were present together with a lone male Goldeneye. The 'blooping' calls of Fire-bellied Toads had accompanied us since leaving the bus and we at last saw one in clear water. A couple of Penduline Tit nests were seen hanging from the branch ends of a distant willow, one of them being worked on by a male bird. With the stiff breeze blowing across the lake, various offers of sea-sickness pills were made for any tit family in the nest!

Retracing our steps, we had good views of a pair of Marsh Harriers over the back of one of the lakes and we then had lunch back at the vehicle overlooking the first pool. We again drove on, stopping next near Czechowizna where a lake attracts large numbers of White-tailed Eagles. This year, we saw at least six, with excellent views of birds flying and perched. There were several sightings of Marsh Harriers quartering the fields, often being seen off by the breeding Lapwing. Then a male Montagu's Harrier flew across but was quickly lost to view in the dead ground at the far side of the fields. We drove on, reaching our hotel around mid-afternoon where we had time to settle in and gather at the bar (though not necessarily in that order) for checklist and an early dinner. Those enjoying a beer outside in the sunshine noted another male Montagu's Harrier over the hotel and there were many White-winged Terns down on the river. Common Rosefinch was heard singing from the trees behind the hotel but we couldn't locate it. After dinner, we drove to the D\_uga Luka boardwalk. Fortunately the rain which had

swept in during our journey quickly subsided as we walked out along the boardwalk and we had an excellent 20 minutes or so watching several Aquatic Warblers singing at the tops of the reeds. One male in particular was quite close and with Snipe performing their drumming display flights overhead and Common Cranes calling as they flew past to roost out on the marsh, it turned out a memorable evening.



*Fire-bellied Toad*



*Black-headed Gull colony*



*Red-necked Grebe*



*"Wasn't this deep last week!"*



*White-winged Black Tern*



*Citrine Wagtail*



*White-spotted Bluethroat*

**Thursday 13th May**

**Middle Basin**

**Variable, with thunder clouds building after midday**

Before breakfast, we managed to walk as far as the bottom of the garden overlooking the river! Golden Oriole and Thrush Nightingale were singing vigorously but remained invisible. However, Sedge and Savi's Warblers did not, both species showing well in the telescopes, albeit at some distance. One or two Garganey flew past and landed in amongst the emergent vegetation, and we also noted Marsh Harriers and a couple of Roe Deer grazing the edge of the far woodland. After breakfast, we drove to the Tsar's fortifications, built by Tsar Alexander as a strategic stronghold to guard one of the few east-west crossings of the Biebrza Marshes. The '2<sup>nd</sup> Fort' boardwalk here provided brief views of three different Bluethroats, rather closer views of Savi's Warblers and a couple of pairs of Greylag Geese, Garganey and Gadwall. We were also impressed with the beaver work along the boardwalk, some planks having to be replaced and some well worn paths crossing under the boards. We returned past Goni\_dz and explored the Middle Basin of the National Park, stopping at a river bridge initially for coffee. Here, White-tailed Eagle, two Lesser Spotted Eagles, many Blue-headed Wagtails, a pair of Rosefinches and a brief Golden Oriole were noted. After lunch, we found a beaver dam and lodge out in the marshes, despite having very few trees around, though the water had risen so much that the dam was hardly visible. Here two Red-backed Shrike and superb Blue-headed Wagtails and Whinchats were seen. We then continued across the marsh but were halted by floods across the track. This meant wellies on and walking carefully through ankle deep water to a bridge over the river where Csaba had found Citrine Wagtails the week previously. Unfortunately, the high water levels had meant this particular pair had moved on. Apart from the pair of White Wagtails nesting under the bridge, and many Blue-headed Wagtails on territory, we also noted Curlew and Black-tailed Godwits. Many White-winged Black Terns continually flew overhead and these parties contained just a few Black

Terns. We then had to reverse the bus back to a turning area and returned to the hotel in good time for checklist and dinner.

### Friday 14th May

### Southern Basin

#### Mainly sunny, light breeze

After a slightly earlier breakfast than normal, we crossed the Biebrza River and headed south down the western shore of the Southern Basin of the National Park. We stopped first at the edge of the marsh, then walked out along the track. Apart from the White-winged Black Terns, we found a few Ruff and a nice male Bluethroat popped up and surveyed us from the edge of a nearby bush. Then a little further on, a stunning male Citrine Wagtail flew over us and landed out on the marsh, followed by several sightings of Great Snipe as they flew short distances between feeding. Whether this turns out to be a new lekking area remains to be seen. We then drove on but was halted again by water flowing across the track. With Csaba checking water depths ahead of us, we did manage to reach the tower hide overlooking the river itself at the end of the track. There must have been thousands of White-winged Black Terns on the wing here and feeding down amongst the flooded vegetation. The true number was revealed to us when a Peregrine flew over. Several more Ruffs were seen, together with Black-tailed Godwits, Garganey, one or two Wood Sandpipers and a single male Common Teal. A Black Stork flew over at great height and gradually descended to disappear behind some trees.



*White-tailed Eagle &  
Whiskered Tern in foreground*



*White Wagtail*



*Blue-headed Wagtail*



*Corncrake*

After coffee, we retraced our route and headed for another viewpoint, this time overlooking the main river itself. Here again there were many hundreds of White-winged Terns, plus a good number of Whiskered Terns and a few Common Terns. One Little Tern appeared right in front of us whilst we were having lunch. Five Little Gulls were counted amongst the many Black-headed Gulls, and a rather splendid adult White-tailed Eagle. This took off and its completely white tail gleamed as it circled to gain height. The local Hooded Crows escorted it off the premises. We then drove on to another viewpoint, this time on a hillside overlooking the confluence of the Biebrza and Narew Rivers. At least a hundred Cormorants were loafing on a muddy island and we noted Wigeon and Shoveler. A Hobby flew across, catching insects as it went. With one or two further stops, we were heading back and our final view of the river revealed a small group of Elk where the woods met the reedbeds and marsh – impressive creatures indeed. On the way back along the road, we stopped after a brief downpour had ceased to search for Ortolan Bunting, to no avail, but skeins of Common Cranes flew past us totalling at least 100 birds.

### Saturday 15th May

### Red Marsh

#### Overcast, cold breeze

We walked along the lane in front of the hotel before breakfast. There was an absolute cacophony of singing birds which included Willow Warbler, Chiffchaff, Icterine Warbler, Thrush Nightingale, Common Rosefinch, Chaffinch, Serin, Goldfinch, Greenfinch, Golden Oriole, River & Savi's Warblers. The Icterine Warbler showed briefly, as did a female Golden Oriole carrying strands of grass presumably for nest building. A Hawfinch flew over and landed in an Ash tree still in bud, showing briefly before flying on. After breakfast, we headed north, stopping briefly at Dre\_stwo Lake where we

were immediately surrounded by mosquitoes. Scanning the water, we quickly found many Great Crested Grebes, a lone Goldeneye and two winter-plumaged Red-throated Divers. A short walk back through the pines turned up Siskins but not a lot else (apart from mosquitoes!). We then drove on towards Grz\_dy, stopping for coffee at a bridge over the River Jegrznia. Here, Blue-headed Wagtails abounded, a Corncrake was calling from very close by and a female Goosander was seen loafing on a muddy island in the lake. A Goshawk flew past at one point, then a Hoopoe went past. The Corncrake suddenly walked out from deep cover and showed extremely well under a small patch of bushes. However, half the group were watching a male Bluethroat in the reeds on the other side of the river but everyone did manage to catch amazing views of the Corncrake before it got fed up with us. A Barred Warbler then appeared in the bushes and small trees above the Corncrake so the telescopes turned upwards to view this only slightly barred individual.

At the entrance to the Red Marsh forest reserve, we had lunch, watching a male Golden Oriole in the tree tops and a Cuckoo moving from tree to tree. We met up with Andrzej and one of his colleagues who walked by followed by a three-day old foal of the Polish native breed of horse. This orphan was being hand-reared and had already become imprinted on its human foster parent. We then drove and walked out to a fascinating area of ancient sand dunes, stopping briefly at the rehabilitation enclosures where the imprinted Wild Boar came up immediately in the hope of a piece of apple. The two Elk in the next enclosure kept themselves hidden back in the trees. Though the butterflies were absent due to the weather, there were nice areas covered with Lily-of-the-Valley and Solomon's Seal and a small patch of Pasque Flowers now going over. From the viewing platform and tower hide, we noted at least eight Elk grazing out on the marsh and several small flocks of Common Cranes flew over. One Snipe in particular was perched on a nearby dead tree and looked somewhat incongruous. Great Grey Shrike was also found perched up at the top of a second dead tree. During the one brief sunny spell, a very dark plumaged Buzzard circled up and around, but this was the only raptor after lunch. We returned, stopping briefly at a beaver lodge and then the semi-natural bee colony in a pine tree after which we headed home in good time for checklist and the BBQ round an open log fire completed an excellent week's birding.

**Sunday 16th May**  
**Overcast**

**Departure**

We were packed and ready to go immediately following a 7am breakfast. We made good time and again stopped for coffee near Wyszaków. With light traffic as we approached Warsaw, we arrived at the airport in good time for our sandwiches and to check in for our flight home.



*part of a small group of Elk*

**Species Lists:**

The various species lists below use the following references:

**Birds:** We use the worldwide English names and systematic order as recommended by the I.O.C., and published in *Birds of the World – Recommended English Names* (Gill, F. & Wright, M., 2006.).

Also: *Collins Bird Guide* (Svensson, L., Grant, P.J., Mullaney, K. & Zetterström, D., 1999).

**Mammals:** We use the suggested worldwide English names and systematic order as found in *Mammals of the World, A Checklist* (Duff, A. & Lawson, A., 2004).

Also: *Collins Field Guide: Mammals of Britain & Europe* (Macdonald, D. & Barrett, P., 1993).

**Amphibians and Reptiles:** *Collins Field Guide: Reptiles & Amphibians of Britain & Europe [second edition]* (Arnold, E.N. & Oviden, D.W., 2002)

**Butterflies:** *Butterflies of Europe, New Field Guide & Key* (Lafranchis, T., 2004)

**Dragonflies:** *Field Guide to the Dragonflies of Britain & Europe* (Dijkstra, K-D.B., 2006)

**Flowers:** *The Wild Flowers of Britain & Northern Europe* (Fitter, R., Fitter, A. & Blamey, M., 4<sup>th</sup> edn., 1985)

Alternate names are separated by ‘/’ and optional names are enclosed by ‘[.]’.

**BIRDS - AVES****GROUSE, PHEASANTS & allies - Phasianidae**

**Grey Partridge** *Perdix perdix* : noted Biebrza Marshes on 13th.

**Common Pheasant** *Phasianus colchicus* : a male noted en route from Warsaw on 8th.

**GEESE, SWANS & DUCKS - Anatidae**

**Greylag Goose** *Anser anser* : noted on 4 days with several Siemianowka Reservoir on 9th, ca.20 Czechowizna Lake on 12th, and Biebrza Marshes on 13th & 14th.

**Mute Swan** *Cygnus olor* : noted on 6 days, en route from Warsaw on 8th, 1 Siemianowka Reservoir on 9th, 2 Czechowizna Lake on 12th, Biebrza Marshes / Red Marsh on 13th - 15th.

**Whooper Swan** *Cygnus cygnus* : 1 Czechowizna Lake on 12th is our only record.

**Gadwall** *Anas strepera* : noted on 3 days with ca.8 Siemianowka Reservoir on 9th, several Biebrza Marshes 13th & 14th.

**Eurasian Wigeon** *Anas penelope* : noted on 2 days with a pair Biebrza Marshes on 13th, several Biebrza Marshes on 14th.

**Mallard** *Anas platyrhynchos* : noted each day.

**Northern Shoveler** *Anas clypeata* : noted on 2 days with 8 at GSLeK on 10th, Biebrza Marshes on 14th.

**Garganey** *Anas querquedula* : noted on 2 days Biebrza Marshes on 13th & 14th.

**Eurasian Teal** *Anas crecca* : a male Biebrza Marshes on 14th is our only record.

**Common Pochard** *Aythya ferina* : noted on 2 days with Biebrza Marshes on 14th, 5 Drenstwo Lake on 15th.

**Tufted Duck** *Aythya fuligula* : noted on 2 days with ca.30 Czechowizna Lake & Bialystok Fish Ponds on 12th, 2 Drenstwo Lake on 15th.

**Common Goldeneye** *Bucephala clangula* : noted on 2 days, a male Bialystok Fish Ponds on 12th, 1 Drenstwo Lake on 15th.

**Goosander** *Mergus merganser* : a female Jegrznia River on 15th is our only record.

**DIVERS - Gaviidae**

**Red-throated Diver/Loon** *Gavia stellata* : 2 Drenstwo Lake on 15th is our only record.

### GREBES - Podicipedidae

**Red-necked Grebe** *Podiceps grisegena* : 5 noted at Bialystok Fish Ponds on 12th.

**Great Crested Grebe** *Podiceps cristatus* : noted on 4 days with 1 Siemianowka Reservoir on 9th, 2 Bialystok Fish Ponds on 12th, Biebrza Marshes on 14th, ca.25 Drenstwo Lake on 15th.

### STORKS - Ciconiidae

**Black Stork** *Ciconia nigra* : at least 3 noted Biebrza Marshes on 14th.

**White Stork** *Ciconia ciconia* : noted each day with many nests occupied.

### HERONS & BITTERNs - Ardeidae

**Eurasian/Great Bittern** *Botaurus stellaris* : heard booming but unfortunately not seen on 4 days, Siemianowka Reservoir on 9th, Bialystok Fish Ponds on 12th, Biebrza Marshes on 13th & 14th.

**Grey Heron** *Ardea cinerea* : noted on 5 days with 3 Siemianowka Reservoir on 9th, several Biebrza Marshes / Red Marsh on 12th - 15th.

**Great [White] Egret** *Ardea alba* : noted on 4 days with 5 Siemianowka Reservoir on 9th, at least 9 GSlek on 10th, several Biebrza Marshes on 13th & 14th.

### CORMORANTS - Phalacrocoracidae

**Great Cormorant** *Phalacrocorax carbo* : noted on 3 days with 2 Siemianowka Reservoir on 9th, ca.100 Biebrza Marshes on 14th, 2 Drenstwo Lake on 15th.

### FALCONS & allies - Falconidae

**Common/Eurasian Kestrel** *Falco tinnunculus* : noted on 3 days, en route from Warsaw on 8th, 1 Bialystok Fish Ponds on 12th, en route back to Warsaw on 16th.

**Eurasian Hobby** *Falco subbuteo* : noted on 2 days with 1 Siemianowka Reservoir on 9th, 1 Biebrza Marshes on 14th.

**Peregrine Falcon** *Falco peregrinus* : 1 noted Biebrza Marshes on 14th, putting up thousands of White-winged Terns.

### HAWKS, EAGLES & allies - Accipitridae

**European Honey-buzzard** *Pernis apivorus* : single birds noted on 2 days at Siemianowka Reservoir on 9th, Bialowieza Strict Reserve on 10th.

**White-tailed Eagle** *Haliaeetus albicilla* : noted on 3 days with ca.6 Czechowizna Lake on 12th, 1 Biebrza Marshes on 13th, several Biebrza Marshes on 14th.

**[Western] Marsh Harrier** *Circus aeruginosus* : noted most days.

**Montagu's Harrier** *Circus pygargus* : noted on 5 days with 1 Siemianowka Reservoir on 9th, a male Czechowizna Lake & a male Biebrza Marshes on 12th, a male Biebrza Marshes on 13th, a female Biebrza Marshes on 14th, a male Red Marsh on 15th.

**Eurasian Sparrowhawk** *Accipiter nisus* : 1 Biebrza Marshes on 13th is our only record.

**Northern Goshawk** *Accipiter gentilis* : 1 over the Jegrznia River on 15th is our only record.

**Common Buzzard** *Buteo buteo* : noted most days.

**Lesser Spotted Eagle** *Aquila pomarina* : noted on 5 days with single birds at Siemianowka Reservoir on 9th, Bialowieza area 9th - 11th, 1 Biebrza Marshes on 12th, 2 Biebrza Marshes on 13th.

### RAILS, CRAKES & COOTS - Rallidae

**Corn Crane** *Crex crex* : heard on 4 days, near Bialowieza Strict Reserve on 10th, Bialowieza area on 11th, Biebrza Marshes on 14th, and 1 seen exceptionally well near the Jegrznia River bridge on 15th.

**Spotted Crane** *Porzana porzana* : heard GSlek on 10th is our only record.

**Common Moorhen** *Gallinula chloropus* : 1 Biebrza Marshes on 14th is our only record.

**Eurasian/Common Coot** *Fulica atra* : noted on 3 days with several Siemianowka Reservoir on 9th, Bialystok & Czechowizna on 12th, Biebrza Marshes on 14th.

### CRANES - Gruidae

**Common Crane** *Grus grus* : noted on 5 days with 2 in roadside field en route to Bialowieza on 8th, then each day at Biebrza Marshes with ca.10 on 12th, ca.12 on 13th, ca.100 on 14th, ca.8 on 15th.

### PLOVERS & LAPWINGS - Charadriidae

**Northern Lapwing** *Vanellus vanellus* : noted most days.

**SANDPIPERS, SNIPES & allies - Scolopacidae**

- Eurasian Woodcock** *Scolopax rusticola* : noted on 2 days with several Bialowieza on 9th, 1 GSlek on 10th.
- Great Snipe** *Gallinago media* : noted on 2 days with ca.5 lekking on 10th, at least 2 Biebrza Marshes on 14th.
- Common Snipe** *Gallinago gallinago* : noted on 6 days with several at GSlek on 10th, then each day at Biebrza Marshes.
- Black-tailed Godwit** *Limosa limosa* : noted on 4 days, 'yodelling' at GSlek on 10th, then most days Biebrza Marshes.
- Eurasian Curlew** *Numenius arquata* : noted on 2 days, 12th & 13th.
- Common Redshank** *Tringa totanus* : noted on 4 days, at Siemianowka Reservoir on 9th, then Biebrza Marshes 13th - 15th.
- Green Sandpiper** *Tringa ochropus* : 1 over Jegrznia River bridge on 15th is our only record.
- Wood Sandpiper** *Tringa glareola* : noted on 2 days with only ones & twos Biebrza Marshes on 13th & 14th.
- Common Sandpiper** *Actitis hypoleucos* : noted on 2 days with 1 Bialowieza Palace Park on 11th, 1 Biebrza Marshes 14th.
- Ruff** *Philomachus pugnax* : noted on 2 days with 4 Siemianowka Reservoir on 9th, small numbers Biebrza Marshes 14th.

**GULLS, TERNS & SKIMMERS - Laridae**

- Common/Mew Gull** *Larus canus* : 1 Drenstwo Lake on 15th is our only record.
- Caspian Gull** *Larus cachinnans* : 1 Biebrza Marshes on 13th is our only record.
- Black-headed Gull** *Larus ridibundus* : noted most days including the large breeding colony Bialystok Fish Ponds on 12th.
- Little Gull** *Larus minutus* : 5 Biebrza Marshes on 14th is our only record.
- Common Tern** *Sterna hirundo* : noted on 3 days with at least 4 Siemianowka Reservoir on 9th, 1 Bialystok Fish Ponds on 12th, several Biebrza Marshes on 14th.
- Little Tern** *Sternula albifrons* : 1 Biebrza Marshes on 14th is our only record.
- Whiskered Tern** *Chlidonias hybrida* : noted on 2 days with at least 20 Siemianowka Reservoir on 9th, several Biebrza Marshes on 14th.
- White-winged [Black] Tern** *Chlidonias leucopterus* : noted on 6 days with at least 10 Siemianowka Reservoir on 9th, ca.30 flew over the GSlek on 10th, several flew over Bialystok Fish Ponds on 12th, & very numerous each day at Biebrza Marshes, probably totalling several thousand birds.
- Black Tern** *Chlidonias niger* : noted on 4 days with at least 6 Siemianowka Reservoir on 9th, 2 Bialystok Fish Ponds on 12th, several Biebrza Marshes on 13th, several Biebrza Marshes on 14th.

**PIGEONS & DOVES - Columbidae**

- Rock Dove / Feral Pigeon** *Columba livia* : noted most days.
- Stock Dove** *Columba oenas* : noted on 2 days with 1 seen Bialowieza on 11th, another heard Bialowieza on 12th.
- [Common] Wood Pigeon** *Columba palumbus* : noted each day.
- Eurasian Collared Dove** *Streptopelia decaocto* : noted most days in towns and villages.

**CUCKOOS - Cuculidae**

- Common Cuckoo** *Cuculus canorus* : noted most days, usually heard, occasionally seen.

**OWLS - Strigidae**

- Eurasian Pygmy Owl** *Glaucidium passerinum* : 1 at last light Bialowieza on 9th is our only record.

**SWIFTS - Apodidae**

- Common Swift** *Apus apus* : noted most days.

**HOOPES - Upupidae**

- Eurasian Hoopoe** *Upupa epops* : noted on 4 days with single birds en route from Warsaw (lo) on 8th, Biebrza Marshes 13th - 14th, Jegrznia River on 15th.

**WOODPECKERS - Picidae**

- Eurasian Wryneck** *Jynx torquilla* : noted on 3 days with 2 Bialowieza Palace Park on 10th, nice views Bialowieza on 11th, heard Red Marsh on 15th.
- Lesser Spotted Woodpecker** *Dendrocopos minor* : 2 Bialowieza on 9th is our only record.

**Middle Spotted Woodpecker** *Dendrocopos medius* : noted in Bialowieza area on 3 days, 9th – 11th, & including a pair at nesthole Bialowieza Strict Reserve on 10th.

**White-backed Woodpecker** *Dendrocopos leucotos* : noted on 3 days with 1 briefly Bialowieza on 9th, 1 feeding on ground Bialowieza Strict Reserve on 10th, 1 at nesthole Bialowieza on 11th.

**Great Spotted Woodpecker** *Dendrocopos major* : noted on 4 days with heard Bialowieza area on 9th - 11th, 1 Bialowieza Palace Park on 12th.

**Eurasian Three-toed Woodpecker** *Picoides tridactylus* : a female in Bialowieza area on 12th is our only record.

**Black Woodpecker** *Dryocopus martius* : noted on 3 days with a pair Bialowieza on 9th, heard Bialowieza Strict Reserve on 10th, 1 over road en route to Warsaw (lo) on 16th.

**[European] Green Woodpecker** *Picus viridis* : noted on 3 days with heard Bialowieza area on 9th, heard Strict Reserve on 10th, 1 seen well at the Forestry School sports field on 11th.

**Grey-headed Woodpecker** *Picus canus* : 1 Bialowieza area on 11th is our only record.

#### SHRIKES - Laniidae

**Red-backed Shrike** *Lanius collurio* : noted on 6 days with a pair Bialowieza on 9th, 2 Bialowieza on 11th, a male Czechowizna Lake on 12th, several Biebrza Marshes on 13th & 14th, 3 Red Marsh on 15th.

**Great Grey Shrike** *Lanius excubitor* : 1 Red Marsh on 15th is our only record.

#### OLD WORLD ORIOLES - Oriolidae

**[Eurasian] Golden Oriole** *Oriolus oriolus* : noted most days, usually heard though sometimes seen briefly.

#### CROWS, JAYS & MAGPIES - Corvidae

**Eurasian Jay** *Garrulus glandarius* : noted each day at Bialowieza and en route to /from Warsaw.

**Eurasian Magpie** *Pica pica* : noted most days.

**Western Jackdaw** *Coloeus monedula* : noted most days.

**Rook** *Corvus frugilegus* : noted on 5 days in major towns and en route to/from Warsaw.

**Hooded Crow** *Corvus cornix* : noted on 5 days at Biebrza Marshes and en route to/from Warsaw.

**Northern/Common Raven** *Corvus corax* : noted most days.

#### TITS & CHICKADEES - Paridae

**Marsh Tit** *Poecile palustris* : noted on 4 days, en route from Warsaw on 8th, several Bialowieza on 9th & 11th, 1 Biebrza Marshes on 14th.

**Coal Tit** *Periparus ater* : noted on 2 days in Bialowieza area on 11th, Drenstwo Lake on 15th.

**[European] Crested Tit** *Lophophanes cristatus* : nice views of one in Bialowieza area on 11th is our only record.

**Great Tit** *Parus major* : noted most days.

**Blue Tit** *Cyanistes caeruleus* : noted most days.

#### PENDULINE TITS - Remizidae

**Eurasian Penduline Tit** *Remiz pendulinus* : noted on 3 days with 1 briefly Siemianowka Reservoir on 9th, an adult attending a very wind-blown nest at Bialystok Fish Ponds on 12th, heard Biebrza Marshes on 13th.

#### SWALLOWS & MARTINS - Hirundinidae

**Sand Martin / Bank Swallow** *Riparia riparia* : noted on 3 days with 4 Bialystok Fish Ponds on 12th, 1 Biebrza Marshes on 13th, at least 50 Biebrza Marshes plus others Drenstwo Lake on 15th.

**Barn Swallow** *Hirundo rustica* : noted each day.

**[Common] House Martin** *Delichon urbicum* : noted each day.

#### BUSHTITS, LONG-TAILED TITS - Aegithalidae

**Long-tailed Tit** *Aegithalos caudatus* : noted on 3 days with several Bialowieza Strict Reserve on 10th, several Bialowieza area on 11th, heard Biebrza Marshes on 13th.

#### LARKS - Alaudidae

**Eurasian/Common Skylark** *Alauda arvensis* : noted on 5 days with 1 en route to Bialowieza on 8th, several Czechowizna Lake on 12th, Biebrza Marshes on 13th - 15th.

**OLD WORLD WARBLERS - Sylviidae**

**Common Grasshopper Warbler** *Locustella naevia* : noted on 4 days with several heard singing at the GSlek on 10th, heard reeling Biebrza Marshes on 12th, 14th, & 15th.

**River Warbler** *Locustella fluviatilis* : noted on 3 days with several seen & heard Bialowieza area on 11th, heard Biebrza Marshes on 13th & 15th.

**Savi's Warbler** *Locustella luscinioides* : noted on 3 days Biebrza Marshes 13th - 15th.

**Great Reed Warbler** *Acrocephalus arundinaceus* : noted most days.

**Aquatic Warbler** *Acrocephalus paludicola* : several on territory at the Długa Luka boardwalk, Biebrza Marshes, on 12th.

**Sedge Warbler** *Acrocephalus schoenobaenus* : noted on 6 days with singing birds Siemianowka Reservoir on 9th, 1 Bialowieza Palace Park on 10th, then noted regularly Biebrza Marshes on 12th - 15th.

**[Eurasian] Reed Warbler** *Acrocephalus scirpaceus* : noted on 2 days with heard Białystok Fish Ponds on 12th, heard Red Marsh on 15th.

**Icterine Warbler** *Hippolais icterina* : noted most days.

**Willow Warbler** *Phylloscopus trochilus* : noted on 6 days, with singing birds en route from Warsaw on 8th, Siemianowka Reservoir on 9th, Czechowizna Lake on 12th, Biebrza Marshes on 13th - 15th.

**Common Chiffchaff** *Phylloscopus collybita* : singing birds noted most days.

**Wood Warbler** *Phylloscopus sibilatrix* : noted on 6 days with several nice views and others heard singing Bialowieza area on 9th - 12th, Biebrza Marshes area on 13th & 15th.

**Blackcap** *Sylvia atricapilla* : singing birds noted on most days.

**Garden Warbler** *Sylvia borin* : noted only on 2 days with 1 seen Bialowieza Palace Park on 11th, Red Marsh on 15th.

**Barred Warbler** *Sylvia nisoria* : noted on 2 days with a singing male Bialowieza area on 11th, 1 seen well near Jędrzonia River bridge on 15th.

**Lesser Whitethroat** *Sylvia curruca* : noted on 3 days with several Biebrza Marshes on 13th - 15th.

**Common Whitethroat** *Sylvia communis* : noted on 5 days with several singing Siemianowka Reservoir on 9th, a male in hotel garden on 12th, Biebrza Marshes on 13th - 15th.

**CRESTS & KINGLETS - Regulidae**

**Goldcrest** *Regulus regulus* : heard, though remarkably difficult to actually see, on 2 days in Bialowieza area 11th & 12th.

**WRENS - Troglodytidae**

**[Winter] Wren** *Troglodytes troglodytes* : noted on 3 days in Bialowieza area, 9th - 11th.

**NUTHATCHES & WALLCREEPER - Sittidae**

**Eurasian Nuthatch** *Sitta europaea* : noted on 2 days, at Bialowieza Strict Reserve & Bialowieza Palace Park on 10th, heard Drenstwo Lake on 15th.

**TREECREEPERS - Certhiidae**

**Eurasian Treecreeper** *Certhia familiaris* : noted on 2 days in Bialowieza area on 9th, Bialowieza Strict Reserve on 10th.

**STARLINGS - Sturnidae**

**Common/European Starling** *Sturnus vulgaris* : noted each day.

**THRUSHES - Turdidae**

**Common Blackbird** *Turdus merula* : noted most days.

**Fieldfare** *Turdus pilaris* : noted each day with many breeding birds and newly fledged young.

**Song Thrush** *Turdus philomelos* : noted most days.

**Mistle Thrush** *Turdus viscivorus* : noted on 2 days in Bialowieza area on 9th, Bialowieza Palace Park on 10th.

**OLD WORLD CHATS & FLYCATCHERS - Muscicapidae**

**European Robin** *Erithacus rubecula* : noted on 4 days in Bialowieza area on 9th - 11th, heard Red Marsh on 15th.

**Bluethroat** *Luscinia svecica* : noted on 3 days with several nice though often brief views Biebrza Marshes on 13th & 14th, nice views of male Jędrzonia River bridge on 15th.

**Thrush Nightingale** *Luscinia luscinia* : noted most days, often heard singing though several excellent views.

**Black Redstart** *Phoenicurus ochruros* : noted on 6 days, usually around the hotels.

**Common Redstart** *Phoenicurus phoenicurus* : noted on 4 days in Bialowieza area on 9th - 11th, a male Bialystok Fish Ponds on 12th.

**Whinchat** *Saxicola rubetra* : noted on 5 days with several Siemianowka Reservoir on 9th, several in the meadows Bialowieza Strict Reserve on 10th, several Biebrza Marshes on 13th - 14th, Jegrznia River bridge & Red Marsh on 15th.

**Spotted Flycatcher** *Muscicapa striata* : noted most days.

**[European] Pied Flycatcher** *Ficedula hypoleuca* : noted on 3 days in Bialowieza area on 9th - 11th.

**Collared Flycatcher** *Ficedula albicollis* : noted on 4 days in Bialowieza area, 9th - 12th.

**Red-breasted Flycatcher** *Ficedula parva* : noted on 2 days, with an excellent singing male Bialowieza Palace Park on 9th, heard singing Bialowieza Strict Reserve & Bialowieza Palace Park on 10th.

#### OLD WORLD SPARROWS & allies - Passeridae

**House Sparrow** *Passer domesticus* : noted most days.

**Eurasian Tree Sparrow** *Passer montanus* : noted most days.

#### WAGTAILS & PIPITS - Motacillidae

**Yellow Wagtail** *Motacilla flava* : birds of the nominate race, the **Blue-headed Wagtail**, noted on 5 days with several at Czechowizna Lake on 12th, then many Biebrza Marshes 13th - 16th.

**Citrine Wagtail** *Motacilla citreola* : an unexpected but superb male, Biebrza Marshes on 14th is our only record.

**White Wagtail** *Motacilla alba* : noted each day.

**Meadow Pipit** *Anthus pratensis* : noted on 3 days in Biebrza Marshes / Red Marsh area on 12th, 14th, & 15th.

**Tree Pipit** *Anthus trivialis* : noted on 4 days with several in the meadows Bialowieza Strict Reserve on 10th, heard Bialowieza area on 11th & 12th, Red Marsh on 15th.

#### FINCHES & allies - Fringillidae

**Common Chaffinch** *Fringilla coelebs* : noted each day.

**European Serin** *Serinus serinus* : noted most days.

**European Greenfinch** *Carduelis chloris* : noted each day.

**Eurasian Siskin** *Carduelis spinus* : noted on 2 days with several Bialowieza area on 11th, Red Marsh on 15th.

**European Goldfinch** *Carduelis carduelis* : noted most days.

**Common Linnet** *Carduelis cannabina* : noted most days.

**Common Rosefinch** *Carpodacus erythrinus* : noted on 5 days with 2 singing males Bialowieza Palace Park on 11th, a singing male then at Biebrza Marshes on 12th, a pair Biebrza Marshes on 13th, heard singing Biebrza Marshes / Red Marsh on 14th & 15th.

**Common/Red Crossbill** *Loxia curvirostra* : a flock of 17 flew over Siemianowka Reservoir on 9th.

**Hawfinch** *Coccothraustes coccothraustes* : noted on 6 days with 2 en route to Bialowieza (lo) on 8th, Bialowieza Palace Park on 9th, several nice views Bialowieza Strict Reserve & Bialowieza Palace Park on 10th, several nice views Bialowieza on 11th, 1 Biebrza Marshes on 13th, seen briefly Biebrza Marshes on 15th.

#### BUNTINGS, NEW WORLD SPARROWS & allies - Emberizidae

**Yellowhammer** *Emberiza citrinella* : noted each day.

**Common Reed Bunting** *Emberiza schoeniclus* : noted on 6 days at Siemianowka Reservoir on 9th, Bialystok Fish Ponds, Czechowizna Lake & Biebrza Marshes on 12th, and Biebrza Marshes / Red Marsh on 13th - 16th.

**MAMMALS - MAMMALIA**

**PIKAS, RABBITS & HARES - Order: LAGOMORPHA**

**Brown/European Hare** *Lepus europaeus* : noted on 2 days with 1 at GSLeK on 10th, 2 en route Biebrza Marshes on 13th.

**RODENTS - Order: RODENTIA**

**Eurasian Red Squirrel** *Sciurus vulgaris* : 1 en route Bialowieza area on 11th is our only record.

**Eurasian Beaver** *Castor fiber* : noted on 3 days with lodges, dams and damage noted Bialowieza area on 9th, dams & damage also Biebrza Marshes on 13th, lodge at Red Marsh on 15th.

**Bank Vole** *Clethrionomys glareolus* : many in the Bialowieza Strict Reserve on 10th.

**CARNIVORES - Order: CARNIVORA**

**Red Fox** *Vulpes vulpes* : 1 seen at GSLeK on 10th, dropping noted Red Marsh on 15th.

**Grey Wolf** *Canis lupus* : droppings noted Red Marsh on 15th.

**Beech Marten** *Martes foina* : 1 dead on road on 8th is our only record.

**HEDGEHOGS, MOLES & allies - Order: ERINACEOMORPHA**

**Eastern Hedgehog** *Erinaceus concolor* : noted on 2 days with 1 in Bialowieza area on 11th, dead on road on 15th.

**European Mole** *Talpa europaea* : mole hills noted on 3 days, at GSLeK on 10th, Biebrza Marshes on 13th & 15th.

**EVEN-TOED UNGULATES - Order: ARTIODACTYLA**

**Eurasian Wild Boar** *Sus scrofa* : "ploughing" noted on 3 days, at GSLeK on 10th, Bialowieza 11th, Biebrza Marshes 13th.

**Red Deer** *Cervus elaphus* : noted on 2 days with 1 in Bialowieza Strict Reserve on 10th, another Bialowieza area on 11th.

**[Western] Roe Deer** *Capreolus capreolus* : noted on 5 days, en route from Warsaw on 8th, at least 4 at GSLeK on 10th, several Biebrza Marshes / Red Marsh on 13th - 15th.

**Elk / Moose** *Alces alces* : noted on 3 days with 1 Biebrza Marshes on 12th, at least 6 Biebrza Marshes on 14th, at least 8 Red Marsh on 15th.

**European Bison** *Bison bonasus* : 3 Bialowieza on 11th is our only record.

**REPTILES - REPTILIA**

**Sand Lizard** *Lacerta agilis* : 1 Bialowieza area on 11th is our only record.

**Viviparous/Common Lizard** *Lacerta vivipara* : noted on 2 days with 1 Siemianowka Reservoir on 9th, & along the boardwalk on 13th.

**Slow-worm** *Anguis fragilis* : 2 Bialowieza area on 11th is our only record.

**Grass Snake** *Natrix natrix* : noted on 2 days with 1 Bialowieza area on 9th, 1 Biebrza Marshes on 14th.

**AMPHIBIANS - AMPHIBIA**

**Fire-bellied Toad** *Bombina bombina* : noted on 3 days at Bialystok Fish Ponds on 12th, heard Biebrza Marshes 13th & 14th.

**Common Toad** *Bufo bufo* : noted on 2 days, en route from Warsaw on 8th, and Bialowieza area on 10th.

**Common/European Tree Frog** *Hyla arborea* : many heard most evenings during our stay at Bialowieza.

**Common Frog** *Rana temporaria* : 1 Bialowieza Strict Reserve on 10th.

**Moor Frog** *Rana arvalis* : 2 GSLeK on 10th.

**Marsh Frog** *Rana ridibunda* : noted on 5 days, at Siemianowka Reservoir & Bialowieza area on 9th, Bialystok Fish Ponds on 12th, Biebrza Marshes on 13th - 15th.

**BUTTERFLIES - LEPIDOPTERA**

**WHITES, YELLOWS & SULPHURS - Pieridae**

**Large White** *Pieris brassicae* : noted on 3 days.

**Small White** *Pieris rapae* : noted most days.

**Green-veined White** *Pieris napi* : noted most days.

**Orange-tip** *Anthocharis cardamines* : noted on 5 days.

**Brimstone** *Gonepteryx rhamni* : noted most days.

**METALMARKS, HAIRSTREAKS, COPPERS & BLUES - Lycaenidae**

**Holly Blue** *Celastrina argiolus* : noted along the boardwalk on 13th.

**BRUSH-FOOTED BUTTERFLIES - Nymphalidae**

**(Purple) Emperors - subf: Apaturinae**

**Lesser Purple Emperor** *Apatura ilia* : noted in Bialowieza area on 11th is our only record.

**Vanessids & smaller Fritillaries - subf: Nymphalinae**

**Camberwell Beauty / Mourning Cloak** *Nymphalis antiopa* : noted on 2 days with 1 Siemianowka Reservoir on 9th, Bialowieza area on 11th.

**Small Tortoiseshell** *Aglais urticae* : Bialowieza area on 11th is our only record.

**Peacock** *Inachis io* : noted most days.

**Comma** *Polygonia c-album* : Bialowieza area on 11th is our only record.

**Map butterfly** *Araschnia levana* : noted on 5 days with several Siemianowka Reservoir on 9th, Bialowieza area on 10th - 12th, Biebrza Marshes on 13th.

**Browns, Ringlets & Satyrs - subf: Satyrinae**

**Speckled Wood** *Pararge aegeria* : noted on 5 days, en route from Warsaw on 8th, Bialowieza area on 10th - 12th, Biebrza Marshes on 13th.

**Wall Brown** *Lasiommata megera* : Biebrza Marshes on 13th is our only record.

**Small Heath** *Coenonympha pamphilus* : Bialowieza area on 10th is our only record.

**DAMSELFLIES & DRAGONFLIES - ODONATA**

**DEMOISELLES - Calopterygidae**

**Banded Demoiselle** : Biebrza Marshes on 14th.

**CHASERS, SKIMMERS & DARTERS - Libellulidae**

**Four-spotted Chaser** *Libellula quadrimaculata* : Bialystok Fish Ponds on 12th.

**OTHER TAXA**

**Freshwater Leech** : many on flooded track, Biebrza Marshes on 13th.

*And finally .....*

*We must thank Csaba for his expertise and for keeping things running to schedule, and particularly Zoli for his excellent driving and always being there with a helping hand when needed and of course the tea, coffee & munchies! Thanks also to Arek, Mateusz & Andrzej for their enthusiasm and knowledge.*

*Well done to all of you who made this trip the success it was, and I hope to see you all on another trip, sometime in the not-too-distant future.*

*Keith Grant, May 2010*