

August 2007

Weather Wisdom

St Bartholomew's day August 24th

'All the tears that St Swithin can cry
St Bartholomew's mantle will wipe dry.'

Weather

I'm glad to say there was an improvement in the weather this month. There was no repeat of the widespread downpours that characterised June and July and on the whole it was a quiet month.

Sunshine was plentiful during the first 12 days and again during the last week but there was some wet and gloomy weather in the middle of the month.

We are very glad to see the sunshine. Better late than never!

Nature Report

Rather quiet on the wild life front.

There are plenty of butterflies and bees about.

Our baby hare is still in the garden and has grown considerably.

A Barn Owl was spotted in Lower Street.

A Kingfisher was seen at The Ley's garden pond.

Swallows and House Martins are still flying about

A Green Woodpecker spotted in the garden at Marlin, Pye Court.

September 2007

Weather

The quiet dry weather of late August continued for the first three weeks of September, although the end of the month brought some rain and wind.

A tornado was reported at Nuneaton.

At last we have had a taste of summer, albeit an Indian one.

Nature Report

The gardens are looking good, plenty of butterflies and bees.

A Green Woodpecker has been seen again at Pye Court

Buzzards are flying over Willoughby. Reports from

Grandborough indicate that they are breeding there.

Although not Willoughby nature news, Bob O'Donnell reported seeing a Hoopoe at Milton Keynes.

Colonies of Damselflies found at Wolfhampcote (Common Blue, Large Red, Blue Tail, Banded etc)

A hedgehog has been seen in the garden at 14 Main Street. A welcome visitor.

The nights are beginning to draw in now. There must be plenty of food in the hedgerows for the birds, as we do not have many visitors to our birdfeeders yet.

October 2007

It was a very quiet October weather wise with high pressure dominant for much of the month. However there were brief spells of unsettled weather bringing some heavy rain.

The countryside is looking magnificent and the autumn leaves are stunning. Unfortunately we put the clocks back at the end of the month and British Summer Time ends. This doesn't seem quite right, as the gardens are still full of summer flowers.

Nature sightings

A Sparrow Hawk seen bathing in a garden pond in Main Street.

A Jay was spotted in Woolscott Road.

Fieldfares in a garden in Main Street



November 2007

November has been a pleasant month with temperatures a little above average and rainfall below average.

The autumn colours are magnificent especially against a backdrop of a blue sky.

On the 18th November autumn snow arrived in Willoughby overnight but turned to rain the next day.

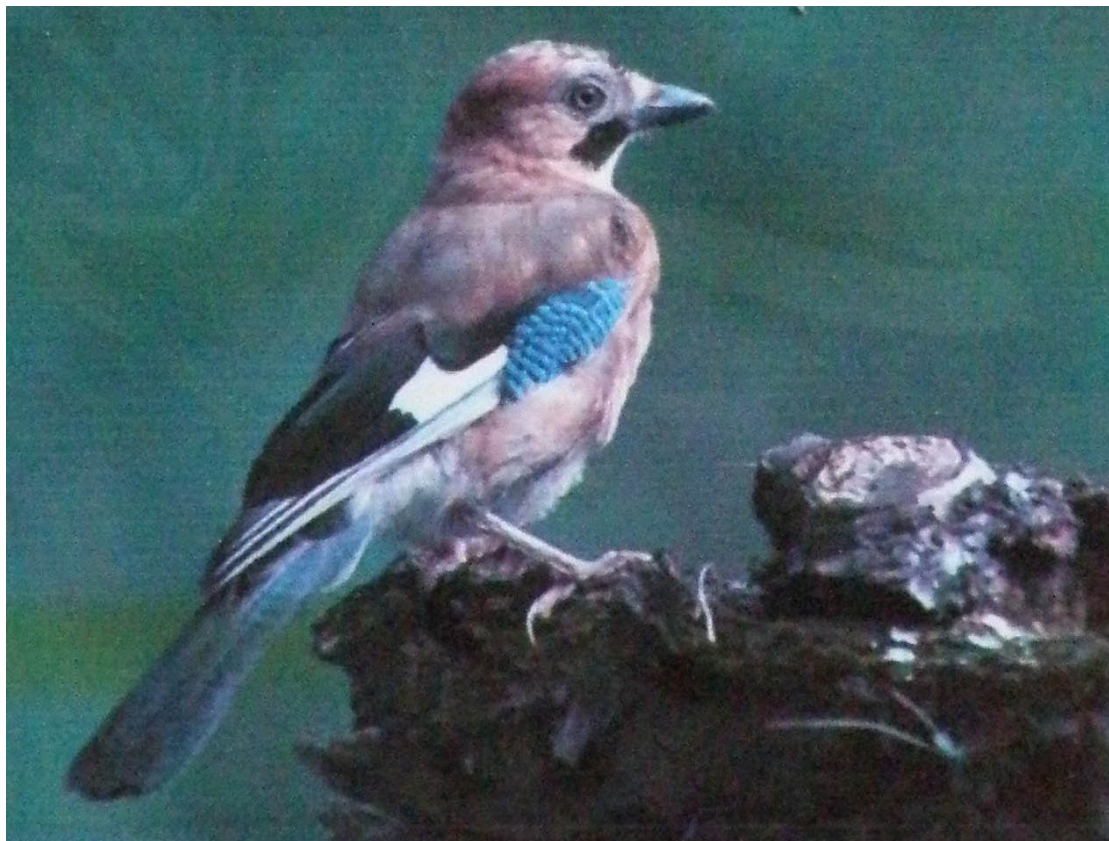
Nature Sitings

Two Jays observed in Lynn an Bob Busby's garden at Pye Court.

Barn Owl again seen in Willoughby

Lesser spotted Woodpecker on bird feeder.

Green Woodpecker spotted on the lawn at The Leys, Woolscott Road.



The Jay

An attractive and colourful bird easily identified by the flash of brilliant blue on its wing. Pale pink light brown upper body and tail

December 2007

December began mild, frost free and windy, but from the 11th turned cold with night frosts and remaining dry.

The weather was mild over the Christmas period and presented no problems for travellers.

Temperatures were fairly normal and the end of 2007 was not particularly wintry.

Nature notes

Long tailed tits have arrived eating peanuts from feeders. Such attractive little birds. They are a pleasure to watch. Pheasants in the fields look wonderful in their winter plumage.

Daffodils are flowering in my garden. Spring is getting earlier each year.

