

Supporting migratory bird conservation by Ann Scott

Title Imagine the New Forest and a leafy walk in part of that forest on a warm day. Suddenly a Wood Warbler starts rolling out that intriguing song which sounds like a coin spinning and running down. You seek for and find a small brown bird with a beautiful yellow neck and breast whilst white tummy gleams in the sunlight. Sheer pleasure! For three of us it was not imagination but fact, and we found not one bird but three in close proximity. I was delighted, especially so, as it has been a number of years since I have heard them in the UK. It was Sunday 23rd May, the day after a sun filled event raised £388 for the Bob Scott Memorial Quiz & Appeal. My husband Bob was the former Head of Reserves at RSPB, and he sadly passed away last year. To celebrate Bob's life and his love of Africa, I have been working with friends and ex colleagues to devise a natural history quiz which aims to raise £25,000 towards BirdLife's conservation work for trans-Saharan migrants. The event on the 22nd was a Bring & Buy Sale held in the beautiful garden of Mike and Liz Read. During that day wonderful friends and fantastic weather were enhanced by Barn Swallows and Common Swifts which foraged overhead. We were even graced at the end of the afternoon by a Eurasian Hobby. These birds all reminded us of why we were there ? to raise funds for their conservation. If, like us, you enjoy such birds - and others like the Common Nightingale, Common Cuckoo and Spotted Flycatcher - please support the Bob Scott Memorial Appeal or enter the Quiz. The minimum donation entry is £5 and the closing entry date is 30th September 2010. Some fabulous prizes have been generously donated by BirdGuides, Sunbird Tours, Swarovski Optics and Simon King which will go to the four top correct winning entries. To enter the Quiz, please click here: <http://www.justgiving.com/Bob-Scott-Appeal> To find out more about the Appeal, please click here: <http://www.birdguides.com/bobscott/> Thank you so much for your support. I know it would mean a lot to Bob. Ann Scott Image: Wood Warbler by Rainbirder / Flickr