

Nightjar Walk for Friends of the Forest, 17-06-08

12 Friends met at Long car park for a nightjar walk. Bird Group members who came were Shaun Taylor, Alan Caulkett, Glyn (and Rosemary) Evans, Roy Harman and Al Nottage.

Having been advised that only distant birds had been singing the previous evening, it was decided that we should head for the Ridge Road area. Setting out, full of enthusiasm, it soon became apparent that there was very little about. Only robins and blackbirds were heard singing, and a lone willow warbler. Despite our best efforts, we couldn't seem to conjure up anything avian, though a bat appeared.

Fortunately, a woodcock was seen rhoding, subsequently having a bit of a territorial dispute with another one.

Crossing the road into Broadstone, we finally did manage to hear a couple of nightjars singing. And thanks to the gallant efforts of Shaun and Alan, most of the Friends did see at least two of the target birds. They were all very pleased by this – and very appreciative. So the walk turned out to be a success despite our initial anxiety. A big thank you, again, to everyone who came.