



Another hot day and the meadow has sprung up with Ox-Eye Daisies, bright red poppies and yellow Corn Marigold. It will change by next week.

In the brick wall, on the right, as you enter the garden from the shop, there are pieces of bamboo. You can watch the Solitary Bees who use them to store a grub and save food. The bamboo is then sealed leaving the grub to grow and exit when ready.

And speaking of things leaving when ready, we were lucky enough to spot this amazing dragonfly exuvia on a plant stem just above the pond's surface. Dragonflies spend three or four years in the pond as nymphs – when they are finally ready, the nymph climbs up the stem of a plant. Then, the back splits open and the dragonfly emerges. When ready, the beautiful insect flies away, leaving its cold skin behind. Exuviae (the plural) is Latin and means “things stripped from a body”

Some of our time today was spend chatting to visitors, which are always enjoy. As so many wildlife flowers appear we try to have them. Motherwort, a member of the Dead nettle family, is new to us. It self-seeded and seems to move around the garden.

We have seen Green Hairstreak, Grasshoppers, Shield Bugs and numerous bees today. Over and around the pond are Damselflies and an enormous Dragonfly flew by earlier.



One on the joys of gardening here is the diversity of wild flowers, the joy of learning about them and the wild life that turns up.

PS: See an article about us in the June's edition of Country Gardener, Dorset. It's a free magazine.