

## RSPB Coombes Valley & Rudyard Lake, 22nd May 2018

We were lucky to have a beautiful sunny and warm day for the 8 members who visited RSPB Coombes Valley for our last midweek walk of the season. The meadows and woods were at their best and we very much enjoyed our visit. At this time of year the birds are hard to spot in the foliage, but we were delighted to have close views of a male Pied Flycatcher (bird of the day) singing his heart off at the top of a tree near the bridge. We followed the Valley Woodland trail through delightful swathes of bluebell back to the Information centre for a picnic lunch in the sunshine. Next, we drove to the dam at Rudyard Lake for a well-deserved ice cream and were amazed to spot a grey wagtail in the trees. Unusual as we had only previously seen grey wagtail by water. 22 species.

Stephen Williams