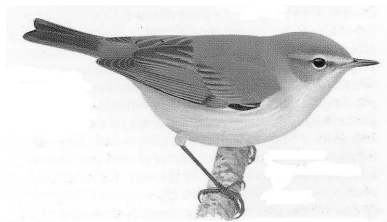


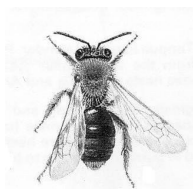
Spring

Suddenly it's Spring! We often seem to have a period of beautiful weather in mid March, which is when I am writing this, and the indicators of Spring are all about us.

On Sunday I was walking at Fortune's Frolic in Haverfordwest – the sun was almost hot, the gorse was in full flower filling the air with the scent of coconut toffee, and there were insects buzzing around the blooms. Surely, I thought, this would be a perfect place for a Chiffchaff, just arrived from the Mediterranean, to rest and feed. No sooner than I



had the thought than there it was, just over my head - "Chink Chonk, Chink Chonk". I was filled with elation – the fact that this small bundle of feathers had successfully made the long journey back to us bang on schedule makes me feel somehow that all is still right with the world.



Another Spring indicator is the gathering of Early Mining Bees hovering over the bank by our back door, and making their burrows in the gaps between the paving slabs. They are also very regular – exactly the same date in the last two years – and they are very smart. Shiny black with ginger jerseys and in two sizes - the female is bigger and more brightly coloured.

And lastly – a short distance migrant from Neyland has arrived on the shore at Dale. I refer of course to the pontoon – rather bare at present but shortly to be decorated with a frill of boats and a dressing of juvenile crab fishers!

Rosemary Royle