

An attentiveness (listening) walk taken on the 50th anniversary of the publication of Silent Spring

Walk 27 September 2012. Script 16 October 2018.

Clare Bryden

It is 2.35pm – I leave the house, with my notebook in my hand, and turn right along Grecian Way

Cars

Wind in the trees

Carpentry

Wind pressure on my ear-drums

Chirping

One crow on a roof-crest and one caw

My boots on the pavement

The zip tag on my hoodie

The distant mew of a gull

School sports

2.39pm – I turn left into Quarry Lane

Chirping

Leaf blown along the pavement

Peeping

Traffic (omnipresent)

Churr/caw

2.42pm – I turn left into Quarry Park Road

Chitter chirrup

Chirp

Dogs barking

Lawn mower

Peep

Beep-beep

2.47pm – I turn right into Woodwater Lane

D and H buses

Peep

Peep-peep-peep

Churr/caw

Primary school playground

Three-wheeler buggy

Moped nipping past

2.52pm – I turn right into Heath Road

Water feature

Chirping

Building

Humming from a telecoms box by the pavement

2.56pm – I turn left into Rifford Road

Digger

Cars, vans, buses, traffic, traffic

Bicycle's tyres

Light aircraft

Northbrook
Loud humming from another telecoms box
Squeal of brakes
Acceleration
Go slow strip
Baby chuntering and two women talking
Music leaking from earphones
Prolonged chirping
Gull mewing

3.05pm – I turn left into Ludwell Lane

Buzz of insect
Reeds in the wind
Water feature
Mewing
Car door and a couple laughing

3.06pm – I turn right into Wonford Playing Fields

Cheeping
Prolonged mewing
Car fob
Trees in wind
Some crunching of leaves
Churr/caw
Light aircraft
Buzzard's keen
Glissandeek
Chip chip

Dogs barking
Horns
Herring gulls on the field, mewing in full view
Boots on the grass
Jogger's tread
Commercial aircraft
Dog
Wings clapping as doves start up from bushes
Insect chirping
Baby laugh turning to cry
Scolding mother
Building work
Churr/caw
Chirp
Northbrook
Boots on gravel
Weir
Falling acorn
Twittering
Shouting children
Insects
Water over ford
High caw
Squeaky gate
Muddy steps

It is now 3.15pm – I am in Ludwell Valley Park, and I put my notebook away