

Supporting:  
The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds  
The Botanical Society of Britain & Ireland The British Trust for Ornithology  
The Yorkshire Naturalists' Union The Yorkshire Wildlife Trust  
Butterfly Conservation The British Dragonfly Society

Registered Charity No. 503860

## AUTUMN NEWSLETTER 2019



*Booking form for Field Trip to Hartlepool  
Subscription renewal form  
in centrefold*



## FROM THE PRESIDENT

We might not have seen much good weather this summer gone but it was certainly outstanding in the variety of field meetings so ably arranged by June Atkinson, Muff Upsall and Kerry Morrison.

For birders there were visits to Gouthwaite and Fairburn Ings, the latter with glimpses of Bittern and Cetti's Warbler amongst the 76 species seen. I was disappointed to miss the trip to Spurn Point this autumn but it was, I gather, successful once again.

Botanical trips have gone from strength to strength with visits to some fascinating local sites this summer. Kevin Walker led us into a small private Site of Special Scientific Interest with basic flushes and wet woodland at Cow Myers in May. In June we were fortunate to have Professor Alastair Fitter guide us around Askham Bog, which is home to the oldest plant in Yorkshire - a magnificent Royal Fern. Richard Campbell once again took us into Upper Teesdale where there were abundant flowers in the meadows and upland slopes. Dave Barlow gave up a day in July to show us the many delights of South Gare, an industrial site on the coast now being reclaimed by nature. Our own Farnham Gravel Pit was the focus for two consecutive Saturdays in July: a successful Meadows Day followed the next week by a search for botanical specialties, both led by Kevin Walker. The last trip of this summer was to the Yorkshire Wildlife Trust reserve at Brockadale, a delightful area of meadows and woodland on magnesian limestone where flowers and butterflies abound.

You can of course read more about all of these field meetings on the Society's website (under News | Trip Reports). Although all these trips were well attended there is always room for more members so please do come and join our field meetings in the year to come.

June Atkinson and her team of volunteer members continue to ably manage our reserve at Farnham Gravel Pit. Sadly, this summer saw the hide vandalised and items stolen, which has necessitated replacement of the hide lock and repair of damage. Keys for the new hide lock can be obtained from June at FGP or at the Society's evening meetings this winter.

I look forward to seeing you at the evening meetings for what promises to be an interesting and varied programme of talks.

**Nick Gaunt**

## **SPECIAL GUEST LECTURE: THE WONDER OF BIRDS' EGGS**

**Thursday 3 October** Hampsthwaite Memorial Hall 7.30pm

**Speaker:** renowned ornithologist **PROFESSOR TIM BIRKHEAD FRS**

*Please note: this lecture will predate the beginning of our Winter Season of lectures at the St Roberts Centre, Harrogate.*

Tickets: £5, including free refreshments and parking

If you are interested in attending, to buy a ticket please contact:

[nharcourtbrown@gmail.com](mailto:nharcourtbrown@gmail.com)

or [mjupsall@btinternet.com](mailto:mjupsall@btinternet.com)

Alternatively tickets are available from the Hampsthwaite Village Store and will be also be sold at the door.

Further details are on our website,

<http://www.hdns.org.uk/news/hdns-guest-lecture-3rd-october-2019/>.



## **HONORARY TREASURER**

Valerie Holmes has served the Society thoroughly and well for seven years as treasurer, but has now indicated that she would like to stand down from the position. Would you be able to step forward and fill this post? It involves controlling and recording the income and expenditure of the Society, and the preparation of the Annual Accounts. Valerie will be happy to discuss what is involved.

## **INDOOR MEETINGS PROGRAMME 2019-20**

Regular meetings take place in the St. Robert's Centre, Robert Street, Harrogate (opposite Waitrose). Start at 7.30pm. Parking is either on the adjacent streets or in the Waitrose car park. (Beware 2 hour time limit!) Visitors welcome, fee £3.

### **2019**

9 October

#### **From Yorkshire to Wales and Beyond**

Paul's move to Wales, and his travels to Finland, Spain and Bulgaria.

**Paul Irving**

23 October

#### **The "In at the Start" Project**

This prize-winning project at High Batts focuses on species recording and habitat development on a new quarry extraction site.

**Colin Slator & Alwin Knowles**

6 November

#### **Hope for Hen Harriers?**

The RSPB's work to protect birds of prey in the British uplands, and the battles that our birds of prey are facing there.

**James Bray, RSPB Bowland project officer**

20 November

#### **Paris to Harrogate: Local Action on Climate Change**

The risks to the natural world if we fail to curb global warming. Our response, from planting trees to stopping fracking.

**Simon Bowens, Friends of the Earth Yorkshire campaigner**

4 December

#### **Members' Evening**

An informal evening: five members show a selection of their own photographs on a variety of subjects of their choosing.

### **2020**

8 January 2020

#### **Alkborough Flats**

Since 2006, Graham has monitored wildlife here: a detailed insight into the changes on the site and the way birds have adapted.

**Graham Catley, Ornithological consultant & professional photographer**

22 January

**The Birds and Culture of Bhutan**

From high pass to valley bottom, from east to west and back again seeing all the riches of this marvellous country **Sheila Nash, HDNS**

5 February

**Invasive Non-Native Species**

Invasive non-native species are the second largest threat to global biodiversity. Why are they so successful? What is being done in Yorkshire to win the fight against Invasive species. **John Cave, YWT**

19 February

**From the Notebook – a Photographic Journey**

Harrogate to Hungary, Filey to Fuerteventura: travels of a European birdwatcher. **Malcolm Jones, HDNS**

4 March

**Farming & Wildlife**

Wildlife conservation on farms, mainly in Yorkshire: both in the uplands and in the arable east. **Chris Tomson, RSPB**

18 March

**1280 and Counting – Flora of HDNS Area**

The history of plant recording in our area; a tour by habitat/species (not all of them); what makes our area special from a botanical perspective; rounded off with a quiz. **Kevin Walker, HDNS & BSBI Head of Science**

22 April

**Annual General Meeting**



**HIGH BATTS NATURE RESERVE**

**Annual Open Day Sunday 27 October 10am until 3pm**

– an earlier closing time than usual owing to the clocks altering the previous evening.

Entry is free to all as usual. Free light refreshments will be available.

There will be guided walks around the reserve at 10.30am and again at 1pm, and displays by several natural history groups including information on bats and hedgehogs. There will also be activity sheets for children and an opportunity for them to have a photograph taken on one of Hanson Heidelberg's huge diggers. Also Grovers of Northallerton will be on hand with expertise and sales of optical equipment.

## FIELD TRIPS 2019

**Friday 6 December**      **ALLERTON PARK WASTE RECOVERY PLANT**  
**2.00pm**                      **KNARESBOROUGH HG5 0SD**

It is essential to book in for this trip as numbers must be not less than 8 nor more than 15; please contact Muff **by November 22nd.**:

mjupsall@btinternet.com

The visit takes about 2 hours, both inside and outside the plant; there are quite detailed instructions about safety, what to wear, etc, which will be sent out to participants when numbers are confirmed.

**Tuesday 10 December**      **HDNS WINTER WALK**  
Leader: **Colin Slator**    Meet in Ripon at the Quarry Moor car park at 9am.  
*Full details to be announced later.*

## EVENTS 2020

**BSBI New Year Plant Hunt**      **4 January**      **STAVELEY NR**

Since 2012 the Botanical Society of Britain and Ireland (BSBI) has been running an annual 'New Year Plant Hunt' where members of the public record plants in flower during a 3 hour walk. The main aim is to provide a fun activity for botanists to do over the festive break but the data is also being used to see how our changing climate is affecting our wild flora. This year's 'hunt' will take place between Wed 1st to Sat 4th of January and if you'd like to take part then please visit the BSBI website for further information - <https://bsbi.org/new-year-plant-hunt>. A small group of HDNS recorders are planning a hunt at Staveley YWT Nature Reserve on the afternoon of Saturday 4th January. If you would like to join us then please get in touch ([kevin.walker@bsbi.org](mailto:kevin.walker@bsbi.org)).

**Tuesday 14 January 2020**      **BRYOPHYTE WORKSHOP**  
**10:00 - 16:00**                      **Leader: Nick Gaunt**

### **An introduction to identification of bryophytes**

Venue: Staveley

For members wanting to learn a little more about the dark art of identifying mosses and liverworts - a field and table-top workshop on how to identify them using keys, hand lens, dissecting and compound microscope. Bring packed lunch and your own microscope(s) if you have them.

Booking with Muff Upsall is essential:

mjupsall@btinternet.com

## FIELD TRIPS 2020

**Leader: June E Atkinson** (unless otherwise stated).

Please note the following precautions: stout footwear and suitable outdoor clothing should always be worn. Bring plenty of food and drink, with sun blocker and insect repellent when relevant. Members take part entirely at their own risk and are responsible for their personal safety and the security of their personal belongings. Of course the weather can never be guaranteed, so some events may have to be altered slightly to work around any inclement precipitations! Also note that return times are approximate only.

**Tuesday 7 January**                      **NOSTERFIELD LNR am,  
NICHOLSON'S LAGOONS and YWT RIPON WETLANDS pm.**

Meet at Nosterfield car park at 10 am (in cars). Lunch at Lingham. After lunch, a visit to Nicholson's Lagoons and the new Ripon Wetlands area.

**Tuesday 11 February**                      **HARTLEPOOL, TEESMOUTH  
and RSPB SALTHOLME (am & pm)**

Minibus trip. Booking required, see Booking Form. Meet at York Place car park, Knaresborough at 8.30 am. Parking fee £1.60 all day.

**Tuesday 28 April**                      **GOUTHWAITE RESERVOIR,  
SCAR HOUSE and ANGRAM (am & pm)**

Meet at Gouthwaite main car park at 9.30am, in cars. Looking for waterfowl and spring migrants. Stopping en route for Dipper, Pied Flycatcher and raptors. Scar House for lunch; looking for Ring Ouzel, Wheatear etc. A walk to Angram for those who so wish.

**Tuesday 12 May**                      **RSPB FAIRBURN INGS (am & pm)**

Meet in Reserve car park at 10am, in cars. Looking for passage migrants, waders, warblers, egrets and Spoonbills; 75 species were seen on the last two trips. RSPB members should have their cards with them.

**Thursday 9 June**

**EVENING NIGHTJAR WALK  
STAINBURN FOREST**

Leader: **Mike Smithson**. Meet at Stainburn Forest car park, Little Almscliffe at 9pm, in cars. Looking for Nightjars, roding Woodcock, Tree Pipits. The walk is approximately 1 mile each way on a good forest track. Please bring torch for return walk. Midge repellent essential.

A **September** mini bus trip is proposed for a visit to **YWT North Cave Wetlands Reserve**. Details and booking form will be in the Spring Newsletter.



**FIELD MEETING REPORTS**

**List of recent field meetings Spring and Summer 2019**

The full reports, including photos, are available on the website.

- 10 April, Eavestone Lake. Spring wildlife, plants including Bryophytes.  
Leader Nick Gaunt
- 30 April, Gouthwaite Reservoir, Scar House and Angram. Ornithology.  
Leader June Atkinson
- 7 May, RSPB Fairburn Ings. Ornithology. Leader June Atkinson
- 23 May, Cow Myers. Spring flowers. Globeflower, orchids, Butterwort.  
Herb Paris. Leader Dr Kevin Walker
- 13 June, Evening Nightjar Walk, Stainburn Forest. Leader Mike Smithson
- 18 June, YWT Askham Bog. Royal Fern, marsh orchids, Bog Myrtle,  
Great Fen Sedge, butterflies. Leader Prof. Alastair Fitter FRS
- 25 June, Teesdale. Botany. Leader Richard Campbell
- 1 July, South Gare. Botany. Leader David Barlow
- 6 July, Farnham Gravel Pit, Meadows Day. Leader Sonia Starbuck
- 13 July, Farnham Gravel Pit. Botany Leader Dr Kevin Walker
- 1 August, YWT Brockadale. Botany and butterflies. Group-led



## MOTHS

After an inauspicious start, it has proved to be an incredible year, with so many highlights, it is difficult to know where to begin! An early spring, followed by a warm summer resulted in moth traps bulging at the seams, with some exciting records, including at least 12 new for the Society's area. A quite amazing total, with four months remaining and many more records still to be submitted. All will be detailed in full in the 2019 Annual Report.

New species so far included nine new micros: *Nematopogon magna* was identified in retrospect from specimens taken near Azerley and from Bellflask on 29th May 2018. Apart from one near Doncaster in 1904, these are the only records away from Scotland. Leaf mines at Fountains Abbey on 25th October 2018 were suggestive of *Phyllonorycter emberizaepenella*, confirmed when the adult moths emerged on 17th March. *Bohemannia quadrimaculella* was trapped at Ellington Banks on 22nd July, the seventh county record of this tiny alder-feeding moth. *Epinotia signatana* was first found in Yorkshire in 2014 and has spread to our area, with one trapped at High Batts NR on 12th July. *Nemapogon koenigi* (formerly *N. wolffiella* in most books) is a very rare moth in the county - one was trapped at Hutton Conyers on 4th July. *Scoparia ancipitella* came to light at Guisecliffe on 19th July and the alder-feeding *Stathmopoda pedella* is a small but very distinctive moth, one being trapped at Ellington Banks on 22nd July. *Pyrausta despicata* is usually found in chalky or limestone areas - one was trapped at Hutton Conyers on 29th June. Lastly, *Eana penziana* is an upland species, with all previous county records in the western Dales - one was trapped at Duck Street Quarry in July.

Three new macro species were Bilberry Pug at Guisecliffe on 19th July, Thyme Pug at Duck Street Quarry in July, whilst a small influx of Marbled Clover into the county in late summer brought one to Ripon, where it was seen and photographed in a garden on 2nd August (fourth county record).

The summer also proved productive for migrant species with two Bedstraw Hawk-moths caught at Hutton Conyers in July, another large influx of Willow Ermine and a good year for sightings of Humming-bird Hawk-moth.

With the final year of the Wild Watch Project in the Nidderdale AONB, two further public moth trapping events were organised, the first being held on a clear, cold night at Brimham Rocks on 21st June, whilst a warm, damp night at Guisecliffe on 19th July resulted in two new species for the Society (see above). For the Yorkshire Naturalists' Union VC64 field meeting at

High Batts NR, over a dozen moth traps were deployed on 12th July, resulting in 238 species being caught. This is by far the largest number of species ever recorded on one night in the county, eclipsing the previous highest total of 223 at Nosterfield on 18th July 2018!

Follow us on Twitter: *@JillWarwick* and *@DoubleKidney*

### **Jill Warwick & Charlie Fletcher**



### **WILDLIFE ON THE FARM**

Once again no Swallows nested in the farm buildings. That is two years in a row. There was certainly more seen than last year but only a shadow of former times. A neighbouring farm which usually has up to ten pairs had only one this year. The only pairs of Curlew which we have had for the last few years didn't appear, so that's maybe another one we've lost. On the other hand Buzzards, Red Kites, Shellduck, Oyster Catcher(4 pairs), all new species, did well. At long last I found a Greater Spotted Woodpecker nest on the farm. I'm certain they've nested before but I've never found them. Another new species was Mandarin Duck, nesting in a hollow Ash tree. This brings the farm total to 64 species in my lifetime. The House Sparrows have returned after being absent last year with a flock of 20 plus at the moment. Fourteen pairs of Lapwing were the most we've had for a few years, with at least eight nests being successful.

A first on the Mammal front was the sight of fifteen Red Deer grazing in a field of wheat this spring. Most were hinds with about four of last years prickets with them. A few days later they'd moved back to the Brimham Rocks area. A fallow buck and a doe at the other end of the farm and the ever present Roe Deer made up the trio for the first time ever: from the large to the smallest. Two sightings of Pygmy Shrew in the garden were the first for quite a while. A few Hares are still on the farm with several leverets seen, although about four of these have been found dead (haemorrhagic or pneumonia). The first certainly thinned out the Rabbit population last year. Two mink trapped on the stream were a first (both were male). At last two sightings of Weasel this summer, the first for three years. Other people are reporting seeing them so the population must be rising again from whatever it was that almost killed them off.

No need to mention Painted Lady butterflies this year, this was one of their years. The interesting thing was that it took about five weeks from the first invasion to the next generation hatching out, and then slightly less for the next. A good hatch for Peacock, Red Admiral, Tortoiseshell and Comma (a new species with us). The Wall Brown colony of the farm keeps going with about six seen, they've been there ever since I can remember.

**Tony Stobbs**

## FARNHAM NEWS

Continuing from last month, the weather in **March** remained mild, with a temperature of 12°C on 1<sup>st</sup> when the female Scaup was still present. Oystercatchers were on the move with 13 flying in and Long-tailed Tits were busy nest building on 13<sup>th</sup>. Cormorants of the continental race *sinensis* were recorded as usual at this time of the year and a good count was made of 31 Common Snipe feeding on the islands. The first Chiffchaffs were singing, with two on 18<sup>th</sup> and six two days later. Six Sand Martins flew in on 22<sup>nd</sup> and, two days later, two Avocets dropped in to feed. On the last day of the month, the female Scaup was still present, also three Little Ringed Plovers, one of which had a red colour ring. Maximum wildfowl counts for the month were: Canada Goose – 49, Greylag Goose – 55, Mute Swan – 16, Shelduck – 1, Gadwall – 13, Wigeon – 30, Mallard – 7, Teal – 11, Common Pochard – 5, Tufted Duck – 93, Scaup – 1, Goldeneye – 43, Little Grebe – 4, Great Crested Grebe – 7, Moorhen – 14, Coot – 61.

On 1<sup>st</sup> **April**, a Swallow was seen followed, a few days later, by a Willow Warbler and a Blackcap. A Black-tailed Godwit was present for most of the day on 9<sup>th</sup> and the long-staying Scaup was last seen on 10<sup>th</sup>. A male Yellow Wagtail made a brief appearance on 13<sup>th</sup>. New arrivals on 17<sup>th</sup> were a female Common Scoter, a Ringed Plover, a Common Sandpiper and two Common Terns, while a Greenshank was present a few days later. A Bar-tailed Godwit, an unusual visitor to Farnham, was busy feeding all afternoon on 24<sup>th</sup>; two Arctic Terns dropped in to feed two days later. At the end of the month, Garden Warbler and Common Whitethroat were recorded. Maximum wildfowl counts were: Canada Goose – 40, Greylag Goose – 58, Mute Swan – 10, Gadwall – 4, Mallard – 17, Teal – 2, Tufted Duck – 37, Scaup – 1, Great Crested Grebe – 5, Moorhen – 14, Coot – 27.

Making a good start to the month of **May** was a drake Mandarin Duck on 1<sup>st</sup>, which stayed for three days on the North Lake. Our Bird Census day on 5<sup>th</sup> was rather overcast with a temperature of 11 °C at 5.30 a.m. A large number of Sand Martins was seen flying very high, a count of approximately 400 was exceptional. A survey, taken during the day of the birds in the area around both lakes, resulted in a count of seven species of warbler being present: the highest count was of 18 Chiffchaffs, followed by 17 Blackcaps and eight Garden Warblers. Chiffchaffs are now outnumbering Willow Warblers due to the maturing of the trees, with only five being counted; Lesser and Common Whitethroats were both in single figures. Sixteen Blackbirds and 20 Robins were counted, but only six Chaffinches. The status of most species seems to be on a par with previous years. A surprising find on 11<sup>th</sup> was a Willow Tit singing behind the pond – a rarity at Farnham. An Avocet dropped in briefly the next day. A Bean Goose, of the race *taiga*, was in the company of a Pink-footed Goose on 13<sup>th</sup>, no doubt having lost its way on its northward migration in spring; it stayed for seven days. A Cuckoo was heard by two anglers on the morning of 19<sup>th</sup>. An Osprey caused chaos as it flew south over the lake on 20<sup>th</sup>. A pair of Mute Swans bred on the North Lake, having seven cygnets. A Nuthatch was feeding young at the North Lakeside, where there was also a Lesser Whitethroat family party. Two Avocets were present on the South Lake on 25<sup>th</sup>. Reed Buntings were feeding young and a Black-tailed Godwit was present on 31<sup>st</sup>. On 3<sup>rd</sup> May, butterflies seen were single specimens of Green-veined White, Orange Tip and Small Copper with three Common Blue, while Brimstone was present later in the month; Four-spotted Chaser dragonfly was recorded, also Azure, Blue-tailed and Large Red Damselflies.

A heavy shower on 1<sup>st</sup> **June** brought down two Sanderlings, one of which was in breeding plumage, and they spent all afternoon busily feeding on one of the islands. Breeding was underway on the site, three pairs of Great Crested Grebes having a total of five young on the North Lake. Counting Sand Martins at the holes in the wall to verify breeding occupancy was tiring but rewarding, with confirmation that all 79 holes were occupied. An Osprey flew over the lake on 10<sup>th</sup>, much to the annoyance of the Oystercatchers and gulls. By 18<sup>th</sup>, two pairs of Reed Warblers were present, with young from one pair seen on 22<sup>nd</sup>, when family parties of Blackcap and Bullfinch were also seen. On 26<sup>th</sup>, a female Tufted Duck appeared with seven ducklings. Common Terns were having a hard time, as their breeding platform was taken over yet again by Black-headed Gulls and a Canada Goose. In mid-June, the following butterflies were recorded: Painted Lady, Red Admiral, Small Skipper, Meadow Brown, up to 16 Ringlets, Brimstone, Common Blue and Speckled Wood; also Emperor Dragonfly, Broad-bodied and Four-spotted Chasers, Black-tailed

Skimmer, Banded Demoiselle, Common Blue, Blue-tailed, Azure and Large Red Damselflies. Mammals seen were Roe Deer, a Fox around the hide and a Stoat on a Rabbit.

A Little Egret was present on 3<sup>rd</sup> **July** and Common Sandpipers were being seen by the end of the week, as were Reed Warblers with fledged young, Lapwing numbers were increasing on the islands with 220 counted. A Great Crested Grebe had six young on the North Lake. Recently fledged Garden Warblers were in the willows below the hide, a second pair of Reed Warblers was feeding young at the nest, while the first pair was feeding three fledged young. A Little Egret was seen on 22<sup>nd</sup>, followed by two on 26<sup>th</sup>, one of which was colour-ringed as a nestling at Walthamstow Wetlands, Greater London on 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2018 – left leg orange ring, black 2, right leg black ring, white H; having flown 287km from the ringing site. It was still present at the end of the month. Maximum wildfowl counts for the month were: Canada Goose – 107, Greylag Goose – 145, Mute Swan – 8, Mallard – 47, Tufted Duck – 5, Little Grebe – 2, Great Crested Grebe – 8, Moorhen – 10, Coot – 28. Butterflies present on 1<sup>st</sup> July were: Red Admiral, Painted Lady, Small Tortoiseshell, Speckled Wood, Meadow Brown, all in small numbers, and 20 Ringlets. On 24<sup>th</sup>, there was a report of damage by vandals to the hide and outbuildings; it consisted of broken windows and substantial damage to the doors and all locks. I am very grateful to Richard Stobbs who stepped in to help with repairing the damage over three days; it was particularly exhausting for both of us having to work on the hottest days of the year!

On 1<sup>st</sup> **August**, four Spotted Flycatchers were seen, a Hobby flew over in the evening and a Little Egret was still present, with three the next day; an Arctic Tern was seen on 3<sup>rd</sup>. The Sand Martin wall was occupied with 23 pairs having second broods. A worrying aspect was that of a Grey Heron standing in front of the wall on several occasions waiting for young birds to appear and also preventing adults entering the holes to feed their young. A juvenile Ruff was on the islands on 10<sup>th</sup>. Little Egrets were still present; an Egyptian Goose was recorded on 17<sup>th</sup>; a Spotted Flycatcher was seen on 21<sup>st</sup> with three the following day. A Hobby was seen on 23<sup>rd</sup>, when three Spotted Flycatchers were present, as were Little Egrets. One hundred Starlings were feeding on the berries of an elder bush on the main island; a Common Sandpiper was recorded on two days. Common Snipe, which winter here in reasonable numbers, were being seen by the end of the month, and a flock of Starlings numbered 300. A female Mandarin Duck was present on 28<sup>th</sup> and stayed for two days. On the last day of the month, a Spotted Flycatcher was seen and a Little Egret flew in; Little Egrets were seen on 18 days in the month, with three on 3<sup>rd</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>.

During August the following butterflies were recorded; Brown Argus, Common Blue, Red Admiral, Small Copper, Painted Lady and Peacock, with 45 Painted Ladies and 73 Peacocks counted on 21<sup>st</sup>. Odonata species recorded were; Migrant Hawker, Common Hawker, Brown Hawker, Emperor, Common Darter, Black-tailed Skimmer, Emerald Damselfly, Common Blue Damselfly, Blue-tailed Damselfly, Banded Demoiselle and Small Red-eyed Damselfly, a species new for the site. It has also been recorded at two other nearby locations this year, which could be the result of a gradual movement northwards because of climate change (they are common in Norfolk) or they are spreading more locally.

**June E. Atkinson** Chair, Management Committee and Honorary Warden

## **FARNHAM MANAGEMENT DAYS**

**2019 – 2020**

### 2019

SEPTEMBER	15 <sup>th</sup>
OCTOBER	13 <sup>th</sup>
NOVEMBER	17 <sup>th</sup>
DECEMBER	15 <sup>th</sup>

### 2020

JANUARY	19 <sup>th</sup>
FEBRUARY	16 <sup>th</sup>
MARCH	15 <sup>th</sup>

All are on SUNDAYS

Please meet at the hide at 10 a.m.

## **KEYS TO THE FARNHAM HIDE**

Following the vandalism earlier in the summer, the hide lock had to be replaced. June has a supply of replacement keys, and they will also be available at winter evening meetings.



HARROGATE NATURALISTS' FORUM

Get the very latest wildlife news from our area, recent sightings, reminders of HDNS meetings, members' photos (and even sound files!), advice, explanation, good natured discussion and humour. The more members who join the Forum the more useful it becomes as a means of communication within our Society. So, if you have use of a computer you really must visit [http://tech.groups.yahoo.com/group/Harrogate\\_Naturalists/](http://tech.groups.yahoo.com/group/Harrogate_Naturalists/) and sign up.

Contact **Robert Marshall** for more information:  
email: [hdns.wildwatch@btinternet.com](mailto:hdns.wildwatch@btinternet.com)

## DISCOUNTS

**Cotswold & Leeds North Face Store** 15% discount (excluding sale goods, gift vouchers, carriage) in store, online or mail order. Quote the affiliation/promotional code AF-HDNS-W3.

**Bass & Bligh** Flexible discount, including photo printing and services.

**Blacks of Harrogate:** 10% discount: present HDNS, RSPB or NT card.

**Valerie Holmes, Hon. Treasurer**

## MISCELLANY

### CALL FOR RECORDS

All members – please send your observations and records for 2019 to the appropriate Recorder (see membership card for details). Unusual sightings, unusual habitats, early or late sightings, interesting observations – include time and place, and make sure that what you see becomes part of our cumulative records of the local wildlife.

### NEWSLETTER BY EMAIL

If you would be happy to receive the newsletter by email (saving the Society at least a pound a time, and Nature a small tree) please contact Richard Bion at [richard.bion@talktalk.net](mailto:richard.bion@talktalk.net)

## TEA AND BISCUITS

Thank you to Cynthia and Robert Chandler and all the volunteers who have kindly made the tea and coffee at our meetings over the winter months. It's very pleasant having a chat over a cuppa and a biscuit after the lectures. If you would like to help out please ring Cynthia on 867104.

## FROM THE EDITORS

All telephone numbers are Harrogate, code 01423, unless otherwise stated. Thanks to Brian Darbyshire for line illustrations.

## CONTACT DETAILS

**General Secretary: Mrs Sue Coldwell**

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**Membership Secretary: Ms Val Smith**

email: memsec.hdns1@talktalk.net

**Website:**        [www.hdns.org.uk](http://www.hdns.org.uk)



Material for the **Autumn newsletter** should be sent to Valerie Holmes by **14 March 2020**

email: [valerieholmes@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:valerieholmes@hotmail.co.uk)