



Newsletter No.52 July 2015

Hampshire & Isle of Wight
Wildlife Trust
Protecting wildlife. Inspiring people.



Welcome to our summer newsletter. Included are details of local events including nature walks and autumn talks followed by Nature Notes and details of the Bioblitz at Dell Piece West in June.

Meetings and Events in the South Down Group area from July to December 2015

Saturday 1st August "The Catherington Nature Trail" 10am - 1pm

A circular walk to see the natural and historic features of Catherington Down and Lith including the chalk downland flowers and some panoramic views across the Solent. Meet at Catherington car park, opposite the school along Catherington Lane - PO8 0TD (Map Ref. SU 695 144)

Thursday 10th to Saturday 12th September National "MOTH NIGHT" 9.30 pm on >>

This is an annual celebration of moths and moth recording. We aim to record autumn moths at night (www.mothnight.info). Locally we are planning to set up moth traps on one public access site on the top meadow at **Catherington Lith**. Timing will depend on the weather forecast but Friday evening will be best and on the other evenings the traps will be set up in local gardens. A note will be sent to members by E-mail and those who would like to join will need to contact John Vigay. If garden sites light up on Saturday night, it would be possible to run the trap all night and then check the trap(s) in the morning.



The following two Wednesday meetings are at St. Wilfrid's Hall (PO8 8DZ) 7.30 to 9.30pm.
Admission £3.00 to pay for the hall etc Refreshments are included

Wednesday 21st October "The Amazing World of Spiders" 7.30 - 9.30pm



Simon Moore, a member of the British Arachnological Society will give an illustrated talk on spiders and their place in the natural world. *Please do not be put off by this subject* - you are sure to be in for a really interesting evening on a subject that we've not attempted before!

Wednesday 18th November "The Work of the Trust's Marine Conservation Team" 7.30pm

Mud, Maps and MCZs - An update on the work of the Trust's Marine Team.
Local - We would like to mention that National Marine Week is from 25 July to 9 August and that a marine event - Emsworth Marine Discovery Day is being held on Monday 3rd August at Emsworth Methodist Church (PO10 7AQ) 10am to 3pm and includes Family boat trips in Chichester harbour. Booking Essential Contact Polly.Whyte@hiwwt.org.uk or phone 01489774426.
Earlier Southdown Grp. Newsletters can be downloaded from www.wildlife.vigay.com.
The Horndean Trees website has pages on local Hedgerows, verges and the HR survey
On Horndean Parish Council web you will find Countryside Team News plus important news for volunteers with some details about Tree and hedgerow planting and conservation events.

For more information about South Down Group Activities contact :

Peter Leversha on 023 92592711 or E < p.leversha@btinternet.com > or

John Vigay on 023 92592647 or E < wildlife@vigay.com > or see on www.wildlife.vigay.com

Horndean Biodiversity Group contact E-mail < horndeanbiodiversitygroup@gmail.com >



News and Nature Notes

Summer 2015

Report on the "Bioblitz" at DPW

Local HBG members, experts and volunteers braved the element on the 12th and 13th July to record as many species of plants and animals as possible over 24 hours. Nearly 500 species were 'ticked' on the list, 70% being plants. A good number of beetles, flies and moths were recorded that are new to the list. Had the moth traps run all night and not been drowned out then no doubt there would have been many more. Many of the insects were photographed by Stuart Ball and John Vigay during the event, a small selection is shown here. A full list will be posted on the websites and in Nature Notes.



Fleabane Tortoise Beetle
Cassida murraea



Rhopalid Bug
Coryzus hyoscyami



Peppered Moth
Biston betularia



Common Swift Moth
Korscheltellus lupulina



Marsh Snipefly
Rhagio tringarius



larva of Vapourer Moth
Orgyia antiqua

Wild Flowers - Ups and Downs

This year there has been a magnificent display of **Cowslips** at Catherington Down. Photo 30.4.15. Another point in favour of introducing the Duke of Burgundy Fritillary. Seed has been collected again this year (available from JV). A little white flower seen on the Down on the lower terrace is **Fairy Flax**. Two plants that have not done so well are **Heath Speedwell**, almost absent from DPW (very good for day flying moths and bees) and there seems to be less Bird's-foot Trefoil



that may account for the scarcity of Common blue butterflies this year. These two mating blues were seen on Windmill Hill on 7th June.

Moth Night 2015 is on 10-12 September this year. We are proposing to set up moth traps on Catherington Lith on the first night and in a local garden on the second night where traps can be left on all night. Depends on weather, all those interested contact JV for full info. nearer the time. Might be a good occasion for bat detecting.

Catherington Beech Tree for the chop Sadly JV has just been advised that the landmark beech outside Catherington Infant School (opp. car park) is to be felled during the summer holidays due to decay from Ganoderma fungi. A replacement is being considered for next winter planting if a suitable site is found. More info from JV.



The Tree Bumble Bee *Bombus hypnorum*

This Bumble bee was newly found in the southeast in 2000 and is rapidly spreading across the UK. It has been spotted at several sites in Horndean and to my surprise a swarm has taken over a blue tit nest box placed on an apple tree in our back garden. The nest has also been noticed by a woodpecker, the blue tits found an alternative box!



Hoverflies in your Garden Slow progress is being made, the larger and more spectacular species doing the best. This month there have been many reports of large numbers of smaller hoverfly with orange and black stripes. This is the UKs commonest hoverfly the Marmalade Fly, *Episyrphus balteatus*



Volucella inflata 20/5/15

Above: *Eristalis* sp 18/7/15

Living Record Records for Hoverflies, Bees, Wasps and Moths will be sent in to HBic via Living Record.net. As a start JV is entering Moths and Hoverflies at two localities, his garden including the wild garden extension and Dell Piece West. Summary lists will be made for the year. Many thanks to Roger Marriott and Adrian Bicker for their help and time given to set up the complex map locations. Roger has recently produced details of the numbers of butterflies recorded 27th May to 21st July 2015 by volunteers at the six Horndean butterfly Transect areas as well as dates on which each species was first recorded this year. Lists are available to members on request by E-mail.

This newsletter and the Nature Notes will be posted on the websites.

The next Newsletter and Nature Notes will appear in early January 2016 and will as usual have details of meetings ahead. There are no meetings in December. The first meeting in 2016 will be on the third Wednesday in January. Please let Deryn know if you change your E-mail address or do not wish to remain on the mail list to horndeanbiodiversitygroup@gmail.com

More information on wildlife & events in Southeast Hampshire are on the following websites

Hampshire and IW Wildlife Trust	-	WWW.hwt.org.uk
John Goodspeed	-	WWW.havantnature.net
Ralph Hollins	-	WWW.homepage.ntlworld.com/ralph.hollins/
Horndean Parish Council	-	WWW.horndeanpc-hants.gov.uk /countryside.
Rotherlands Cons. Group. Petersfield	-	WWW.Rotherlands.co.uk
Bluebell Woods, Clanfield	-	WWW.bluebellwood.wesnetservices.co.uk
Horndean Tree Register	-	WWW.HorndeanTrees.co.uk
Yoells Copse, Lovedean	-	WWW.yoellscopse.co.uk
South Downs National Park	-	WWW.southdowns.gov.uk
The Sustainability Centre	-	WWW.sustainability-centre.org
HWT- South Down Group	-	via WWW.wildlife.vigay.com
Horndean Biodiversity Group	-	WWW.horndeanbiodiversitygroup.co.uk