

CONTENTS

Noticeboard	1	Moth notes	9
RNHS events	3	Orthoptera report	10
Weather summary	4	Plant galls report	13
Amphibian and reptile report	5	Insects and others	13
Bird report	5	Glow-worm notes	13
Botany notes	8	Mammal report	14
Butterfly notes	8	Bat report	14

NOTICEBOARD

It's our fiftieth anniversary next year, and we are looking to relaunch the Society - a first step is to consider our NAME. Some people argue that newcomers may be put off by 'Rutland Natural History Society', perhaps not even knowing what 'Natural History' is, in the year 2015. Other people may relish the connection with people like us in the past, amateurs who have observed and recorded over the years, linking back to Charles Darwin and his 'thinking walk'. So here are your Committee's suggestions:

- * Rutland Nature
- * Rutland Wildlife Society
- * Rutland Natural History Society

An Extraordinary General Meeting will be held on November 4 (just before our usual meeting) so that we can take a vote. If you feel very strongly about it but can't make the meeting, please contact me on my email at abiddle21@talktalk.net.

So, when we have decided on a name we will develop a new website, which will enable everyone to keep in touch more easily - just wait and see! (But do send in suggestions for things you would like to see on it.) Don't worry - we will still be producing *Fieldfare* on paper so that you can have a copy lying around to find out what is on, and what has been happening ... and to browse.

But we are also interested to know how many people would be happy to receive their copies of *Fieldfare*, and the *Annual Report*, electronically, and thus reduce their paper load and our distribution costs. There will be a box to tick on your next subscription form.

Linda Biddle
Chairman

Photographs please

For the new website we will need lots of new photographs, of anything you think relevant to the Society - birds, insects, mammals, field meetings, landscape, weather. Please can you send **up to five** of your best photographs (remember you may need to reduce the file size before sending) to me, Roy Edwards (RNHS Secretary) at royvedwards@gmail.com

Roy Edwards

Fieldfare

Chairman *Mrs L Biddle*
21 Waverley Gardens, Stamford
PE9 1BH: 01780 762108
abiddle21@talktalk.net

Secretary *Mr R Edwards*
4 Windsor Drive, Oakham,
LE15 6SN: 01572 757205
royvedwards@gmail.com

Membership Secretary
Ms M Conner, 24 Burrough Rd,
Somerby, Melton Mowbray
LE14 2PP: 01664 454 532
mjconner100@gmail.com

Programme Secretary
Mrs D Whitefield, Dairy Cottage,
33 Somerby Rd, Knossington
LE15 8LY: 01664 454578
dawn@whitefield34.plus.com

Fieldfare Editor *Mrs H Ellis*
Old Hunt's Maltings, Water St,
Stamford PE9 2NJ: 01780 482048
hendrina@efgh.demon.co.uk

Lonsdale Printing
01933 228855

Threat to Fineshade Wood: update

The Forest Holidays proposal for 70 cabins within Fineshade Wood was withdrawn, but quickly re-submitted with a slight change. (See July *Fieldfare* page 1.) The 200 or so objections submitted to the previous plan will not be considered by the council unless they are re-submitted! It now has new number,

14/01704/FUL

It can be found online at

<http://paweb.srv.east-northamptonshire.gov.uk/online-applications/>

where you can repeat your old objection or add a new one — let's go for it!

Linda Biddle

EYEBROOK RESERVOIR

Eyebrook Reservoir held its latest open day at the end of August and along with colleagues promoting LROS and the Eyebrook Wildlife Group I attended on behalf of RNHS to raise the profile of the Society to a different audience. Having made a late decision to attend I had not been allocated a space as such and had not taken any form of shelter. Conditions were awful, however I was able to negotiate some space in the tent alongside the falconry birds and had some close encounters with Merlin, Barn Owl, Harris Hawk and Eagle Owl!

I also managed a bit of bird watching with Hobby, Red Kite, Buzzard, Osprey, Kestrel, Grey and Pied Wagtail all making an appearance.

It is worth reminding members that we are very welcome to visit the reservoir and walk around the perimeter track and in particular to use the car park at the Fishing Lodge which is accessible from the Caldecott to Great Easton road. Here you will find, assuming it is normal opening hours, relatively secure parking, toilets and facilities to obtain a drink of tea or coffee plus if the tackle shop is open, Stuart will be pleased to sell you the odd bar of chocolate.

You will note from the programme we are to hold a joint meeting with the Eyebrook Wildlife Group in January 2015, meeting initially at the Stoke Dry car park.

Peter Scott

Website and Publicity

Latest issue of the *Leicestershire and Rutland Recorder* available now!

The *Leicestershire and Rutland Recorder* is a journal edited by well-known local naturalist and Wildlife Trust member Steve Woodward. Issue 10 of the journal has just been published by the Trust. It contains 52 pages with many colour photographs and 36 articles on local subjects such as Earth-star fungi, bats and technology, Rutland's breeding birds, harvestmen, lichens, checklists of amphibians, reptiles and fish, slugs and snails, plant records, and book reviews.

Copies of Issue 10 of the journal can be obtained from the main office of the Trust at The Old Mill, 9 Soar Lane, Leicester LE3 5DE, cost £5 (plus £1 post and packaging if ordering by post). The journal can also be bought at the Anglian Water Birdwatching Centre, Rutland Water Nature Reserve (Eggleton).

Michael Jeeves

mjeeves@lrwt.org.uk

RNHS members — please check the back pages! Gift Aid Update needed

All is explained on the back pages of this *Fieldfare*. Margaret and Martin apologise for the inconvenience, but they need you to fill out the form even though you did it before. Or maybe your conditions have changed. Please see pages 15 and 16, which can be detached and sent to Margaret (her address is on page 1) or handed to her at the next meeting.

Margaret Conner

Membership Secretary



RUTLAND NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY EVENTS

Full details of all these events can be found on our website at www.rnhs.org.uk. If the weather is bad, please contact the 'Queries' phone number to check what is happening.

OUTDOOR EVENTS

Saturday 27 September **FUNGUS FORAY, MORKERY WOOD** **2.00 pm**

Dr Vin Fleming will be leading us on a Fungus Foray. He is a professional mycologist and Chairman and Wildlife Records Officer of the Bourne Group of the Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust.

Directions: Going north on the A1, turn right towards Castle Bytham, the wood is on the righthand side. Turn right into the entrance to the wood and meet at the car park. (Grid ref: SK 952 192)

Queries: please call Vin Fleming on 01778 570329.

Sunday October 12 **KING'S DYKE NATURE RESERVE** **10.30 am**

To be led by Phil Parker who spoke to the Society a few years ago and who looks after the reserve on behalf of Hanson. There is ample parking by the Hanson Offices on the A605 Whittlesey Road out of Peterborough. The reserve and the car park are sign posted, but not that clearly, on the left hand side of the road just after the railway line. OS Landranger 142, Grid Ref TL 250973. The reserve has a couple of hides but there are some steep paths including the first few hundred yards down to the reserve proper.

Queries: please call Peter Scott on 07535 508932.

Sunday November 30 **WAKERLEY WOOD** **10.30 am**

Meet in the main car park. OS Landranger 141, Grid Ref SP 961987.

Queries: please call Linda Biddle on 01780 762108.

INDOOR EVENTS

The venue for RNHS indoor events is Voluntary Action Rutland (VAR), Lands End Way, Oakham LE15 6RB. There is no charge for tea/coffee.

Tuesday 7 October **A FASCINATION OF BIRDSONG** **7.30 pm**

With his own recordings and photographs, Terry Barnett explains his fascination with birdsong.

Tuesday November 4 **WILDLIFE IN AUSTRALIA** **7.30 pm**

Henry Stanier, RNHS member and leader of overseas wildlife holidays, amongst other things, talks about his travels from Kakadu to Kings Park in the northern territory and western Australia.

Tuesday 2 December **ROBINS IN YOUR GARDEN** **7.30 pm**

A talk by David Tideswell, described by Bill Oddie on Springwatch as 'the robin man'.

LEICESTER AND RUTLAND WILDLIFE TRUST RUTLAND GROUP

Rutland Group indoor events are held at the Anglian Water Birdwatching Centre, Eggleton; admission £1 includes tea/coffee/biscuits. For event details, and other activities in Leicestershire and Rutland, including guided walks, see www.lrwf.org.uk, or phone 0116 272 0444 in office hours.

LINCOLNSHIRE WILDLIFE TRUST BOURNE GROUP

Bourne Group indoor meetings are held in the Methodist Church Hall, Bourne, and start at 7.30 pm. Refreshments are available at all indoor meetings. A donation of £1.50 as an admission fee is requested, children free. For details of the LWT Bourne Group's events, see www.freewebs.com/bournetrust/programme.htm. For other LWT Lincstrust events, see www.lincstrust.org.uk, or phone 01507 526 677 in office hours.

WEATHER SUMMARY Roy Lemmon

87 Empingham Road, Stamford PE9 2SU. Telephone: 01780 762051

July 2014

Atmospheric pressure and wind A very steady month in the pressure department, the lowest I recorded was 1000 mb on the 5th; and the highest, 1025 mb, occurred on the 22nd. The wind was, as is often the case, more difficult to summarize; in the first half of the month winds were broadly S-W, and in the second half they were predominantly NW-E; but throughout the month they were mostly of low velocity.

Temperature Another warm month, overall second only in the decade to 2006 and just ahead of last year, 2013. The mean minimum this year was 13.31 °C (2006 was 14.06 °C) and the mean maximum was 25.55 °C, actually third best in the last decade behind 2006 and 2013. As stated above, this comes out as second overall. The lowest night minimum was 7.0 °C on the 1st to 2nd and the highest daytime maximum I recorded was 30.8 °C on the 18th with the 26th close behind with 30.3 °C. The Central England Temperature (CET) for July was 17.8 °C, just 1.1 °C above the LTM. Nationally in the past 100 years 9 Julys were warmer, one was the same and the rest cooler.

Rain Another dry month with a total here of 25.3 mm (0.99 inches), which comes out as 45% of my LTM of 24 years. In the second half of the month rainfall has been a matter of where the showers, often torrential, have fallen. As one point I saw a report which said that RAF Wittering had had just over twice as much as I had recorded here at that time and this can only mean that they had had one or more of these phenomenally heavy showers. Averaged nationally, rainfall was 2.12 inches, which is 94% of LTM, and on the rainiest day, the 20th, 2.98 inches fell in Canvey Island, Essex, and 1.91 inches at Norwich Airport, which both gave rise to brief but serious flooding.

Sunshine Averaged nationally, the total was 258 hours or 128% of LTM; last July was marginally sunnier and warmer.

August 2014

Atmospheric pressure and wind Generally a low pressure month, the lowest was 999 mb on the 10th and the highest 1019 mb on the 24th, and this gave an unsettled month which was both cool and wet.

Winds were generally light apart from the 10th to 13th inclusive; this was due to the tail end of Hurricane Bertha; and then the last three days of the month were also windy. The first six days saw winds S-SW and the rest of the month they were generally W-NW.

Temperature After June and July this was a cool month, from my records the coolest in the last decade. The mean minimum was 10.65 °C, the lowest in the decade, well below 2011 at 11.2 °C. Similarly the mean maximum, 21.48 °C, was also the lowest, but only just below 2010 which was 21.49 °C.

Nationally the overall mean was between 0.6 °C and 1.7 °C below the 1981-2010 average, and the CET was 15.1 °C or 1.4 °C below the average. In the past 100 years 19 Augusts were cooler, two had the same mean and 79 were warmer.

Rain A wet month, the total recorded here was 112.2 mm (4.42 inches) or 173% of my LTM. Of this, 77.5 mm, or 69% of the month's total, fell between the 8th and 11th, a present from Bertha. It is interesting that the lowest monthly total was 1.62 inches recorded at Holbeach, not a million miles away!

Sunshine The averaged total for England and Wales was 193 hours, just 100% of the LTM.

The national figures are from Philip Eden's Weatherwatch column in the Sunday Telegraph.

AMPHIBIAN & REPTILE REPORT compiled by Dr C. H. Gallimore

The Stone House, Reeves Lane, Wing LE15 8SD. Telephone: 01572 737343. Email: chasgall@hotmail.com

July/August 2014

As is fairly normal for this period amphibian records are thin on the ground, apart from the toad road casualties (pun not originally intended). Three of the four reptiles were recorded and it is always good to hear that the Clipsham Slow Worms are thriving. An almost new site for lizards is also good although not so good that the site is to be developed.

There has been a handful of records of Common Frog, interestingly none from gardens. They have been seen in woods, by fishponds and by roads in Leighfield, Exton, Empingham and Wing, including one road casualty. Common Toads were recorded throughout both months, mostly from Wing with a number of garden and road observations, sadly all but two of the latter being road casualties. A single toadlet was seen at Leighfield.

The only newt record was of numerous efts in a pond at Greetham Golf Course.

Viviparous Lizards were recorded in Ketton Quarry on two occasions in August. In July one was seen basking on mown grass on a field margin at Pickworth Great Wood, which is the first record from Pickworth for 27 years. A reptile survey in connection with a planning application in Manton revealed a small population of at least 3 adults and 6 young lizards. Lizards were recorded nearby 20 years ago and slightly further afield in 2009. No less than two adult and two young Slow Worms were seen at Clipsham Quarry in early July.

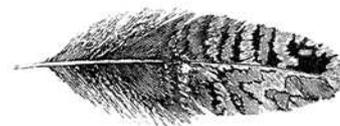
Grass Snakes were recorded at Leighfield on two occasions in July – on the second occasion there were two together. One was seen in a garden pond in Uppingham at the end of July. There were two records from Rutland Water in August, one in Lagoon 4 and the other at Normanton, which is the first record of this species from Normanton and indeed only the second record of any amphibian or reptile from that parish (frog spawn being found there in 1974).

My thanks to the following who sent records: T P Appleton, A Biddle, R C Brown, T Caldicott, K Gamble, M Griffin, M Grimes, P Langston, R Lemmon, D & B Parker and C Tring.

BIRD REPORT compiled by T. Mitcham

30 Sutherland Way, Stamford PE9 2TB. Telephone: 01780 751268.

Email: joterpat@btinternet.com



July/August 2014

These months provided a wide variety of interest for birdwatchers. There was a good passage of waders at both reservoirs as water levels fell, a good range of wildfowl and several scarce birds. An early passage of Redstarts was noted – how sad that they no longer breed with us – and Wheatears and Whinchats were also reported. Red Kites and Ravens continue to thrive and several Marsh Harriers were seen on their migration.

My thanks to the following for their records: P Bennett, A Biddle, R C Brown, T Caldicott, D Cole, M Collins, C Debney, Dr C H Gallimore, M & G Griffin, B Jest, Dr C Jones, A Lamb, T Land, P Langston, LROS, T Mitcham, G Morley, P Rudkin, L Worrall.

Egyptian Goose. Four were at LFP 20-27.08.

Mandarin Duck. A female flew over the R.Gwash near Wg on 28.07.

Pintail. A female was at FHP on 13 and 26.07.

Garganey. Noted at RWEg from 03.07 to the end of Aug, with four on 30.08. At EBR present from 02 to 29.08 with five on the latter date.

Red-crested Pochard. A male was at RWEg on 10.07, with two birds there on 03.08.

Tufted Duck. A good breeding season with single broods at FHP (three), Ext Park lake (six) and EBR (six). At RWEg five broods were noted in late July.

Scaup. At RW(Dam) a male was present on 01 and 04.07, and a female at Eg on 01.08 and Man Bay on 11 and 19.08.

Common Scoter. Three were at RWNA on 27.07.

- Grey Partridge.** One or two were at GHW on 01.07, Pilt on 03.07-22.08 and LFP on 20.08. Wide grass margins seem to have benefited this species in Ext Park, where two pairs were seen on 13.07, a pair on 27.07, plus three more adults and another pair with c.12 young. None were released birds.
- Pheasant.** A female and four downy chicks crossed the road near Burl on 23.07.
- Bittern.** One was seen irregularly at RWEg between 10.07 and 31.08, mainly on Lagoon 3.
- Little Egret.** Three were at EBR on 07.07. 65 were counted at RW in mid-July.
- Spoonbill.** Two adults and two juvs were at RWEg on 08.07.
- Red-necked Grebe.** An adult in breeding plumage, a local rarity these days, was at RW(Dam) from 26.08 to 31.08.
- Black-necked Grebe.** One was in RWNA from 18.08 to the end of the month.
- Red Kite.** Two young fledged from a nest in central Rutland. Peak counts were ten over a newly cut hayfield near Lydd Crossing on 06.07 and five near Ryhall on 01.08.
- Marsh Harrier.** A good passage began with a moulting female at FHP on 19.07. A juv / female was seen regularly at RWEg from 06.08 to 17.08 and on 28.08, a juv / female was at Martinthorpe on 08.08, and a juv and male were at FHP on 26.08.
- Sparrowhawk.** Two were near QF on 03.08 and a male was watched catching a small passerine at FHP on 31.08.
- Buzzard.** Seven over Wg on 30.08 was the max count.
- Kestrel.** Reports came from RWEg and Lynd, EBR, FHP, Martinthorpe (six on 28.07), Ext Park and near Tin Lodge Cottages.
- Hobby.** Singles were noted at seven sites with pairs at two possible nesting sites. Regular at RWEg, especially in Aug when Sand Martins would provide food for unfledged young.
- Peregrine.** One flew over LFP on 05.08.
- Spotted Crake.** Following one at EBR last year, it was good to see another on the wader scrape at RWLynd between 23-29.08.
- Moorhen.** An adult with nine chicks was on a pond at DP on 16.07. 53 were counted at FHP on 18.08.
- Little Ringed Plover.** Up to five were at EBR between 07 and 13.07, with one on 18.07 and one or two between 19-23.07. At RW noted between 13.07 and 12.08, with 12 on the latter date.
- Ringed Plover.** Present at RWEg throughout both months with 14 on 12.08.
- Lapwing.** At EBR there were 470 on 07.07 and 342 on 19.07. On the first date a bird with 'café au lait' wings, back and crown and a fawn-coloured neck was seen – it was also present here last autumn.
- Whimbrel.** One flew south over RWEg on 18.07, with two the next day. One was on Lagoon 1 there on 10.08.
- Curlew.** Passage birds were five over Martinthorpe on 14.07, four there on 17.07 and two over LFP on 20.07. Two were at RWEg on 19.07.
- Black-tailed Godwit.** Seen regularly at RWEg from 13.07 to 19.08, mostly single figure counts but 35 on 27.07. One was at EBR on 29.08.
- Turnstone.** One was at RWEg on 17.07, three flew over on 12.08, and one was at EBR on 22.08.
- Knot.** Singles were at RWEg on 24-25.07 and 08-10.08.
- Ruff.** Noted regularly at RWEg and Lynd with the first on 18.07 and six on 30.08. Up to five were at EBR between 27-30.08.
- Curlew Sandpiper.** One was at RWEg on 28.08, with two the next day.
- Dunlin.** Low nos were recorded at both reservoirs with birds noted from 11.07 to the end of Aug. There were six at RWEg on 18.07, and eight at EBR on 22.08.
- Little Stint.** One was at RWEg between 25-27.08.
- Common Sandpiper.** One was at LFP on 01.07, with birds at both reservoirs from 04.07 (RW). Max counts were three at EBR on 01/02.08 and 11 at RW on 12.08.
- Green Sandpiper.** Very well reported from both reservoirs with birds continually present throughout both months – max counts were 12 at RW on 18.07, and four at EBR on 06 and 09.08. At LFP one was seen on five dates between 24.07 and 20.08. Singles flew over Martinthorpe on 09 and 28.08, and one was by Ext Park lake on 18.08.
- Spotted Redshank.** Singles were at EBR on 16.07 and 29.08.
- Greenshank.** Up to three were at EBR between 08.07 and 27.08. At RW up to four were noted between 13.07 and 12.08.
- Wood Sandpiper.** Two were at EBR on 12/13.07. Four were reported on the RWEg Wet Meadow on 15.07, with two there on 19.07. A long-staying bird frequented Lynd and Eg reserves from 07.08 to the end of Aug.
- Redshank.** A juv was at RWLynd on 25.08.

- Snipe.** There were four at EBR on 20.07 and nine at RWEg on 30.08.
- Little Tern.** One was at EBR on 10.07.
- Black Tern.** One was at RWEg on 18/19.07; and between 28/31.08 up to nine were in South Arm/Man Bay, with the peak on the first date.
- Sandwich Tern.** Two were at RW(Dam) on 26.08.
- Little Gull.** Juvs were at EBR on 19.08 and RW on 25/26.08.
- Mediterranean Gull.** Adults were at RW on 05.07 and 23.08, and a first winter at EBR on 02.08.
- Barn Owl.** Three young were ringed in two nest boxes in July and a third pair had a clutch of nine eggs in another nest box. Two young were in a building at Stoke Dry and hunting birds were seen at Leighfield in July and near Pilt in Aug.
- Little Owl.** An adult and a juv were in the usual oak near EBR on 07.07. One was at Wg Burrows on 20.07, two were at Upp on 27.07 and one called from Eg Meadows on 08.08.
- Tawny Owl.** One was dead by the A606 near Shacklewell Cottages on 31.08.
- Swift.** A screaming party of c.18 was at Bden on 12.07. There were late Aug records of two over Tin Meadows on 21 and three over Man on 29.
- Kingfisher.** Singles were at RW Lynd on 25.08 and FHP on 26.08.
- Great Spotted Woodpecker.** Regular at FHP/Ext Park in both months. One in Turnpole Wood on 26.07.
- Magpie.** Well established in many suburban garden – two juvs were at Bden on 17.07 and up to four were regular in a Stam garden throughout Aug.
- Jay.** Five were at DP on 16.07 and three at FHP on 30.08.
- Raven.** Reports came from six sites with pairs and larger nos now frequent. 14 flying north-east near Leigh on 27.08 is the largest flock we have recorded so far. Six or seven were regular at Martinsthorpe in Aug and four were at FHP on 31.08.
- Willow Tit.** Singles were near Pilt and Wg on 27.07, with one near Pilt on 02.08, and three near Crown Well Bridge, Wg, on 06.08.
- Marsh Tit.** There were eight in BW on 06.07 and 15 there on 24.08. One or two were at LFP, a Man garden (taking sunflower hearts), PC and Martinsthorpe Fox Covert.
- Swallow.** It seems to have been a good breeding season with c.40 at Teigh in late July and c.20 young in Barrowden on 12.07. 100 were near Pilt on 08.07 and 200 were at LFP on 23.07, with 170 there on 07.08.
- House Martin.** c.250 were at RW Lynd on 25.08.
- Chiffchaff.** 34 were noted in BW on 03.08 with 48 there on 24.08. Two sang in a spinney near Rid on 16.07.
- Willow Warbler.** 31 were in the Leigh/Bushy Wood area on 29.07 – evidence of early passage.
- Grasshopper Warbler.** One or two remained in song in the Bushy Wood area at Leigh to 05.08.
- Sedge Warbler.** Three were at LFP on 07.08, with one or two on 21.08.
- Reed Warbler.** One sang at LFP throughout both months.
- Nuthatch.** BW counts were 18 on 06.07, 21 on 03.08 and 17 on 24.08. Also noted at FHP, TunnW, LyndW and PC.
- Mistle Thrush.** Flocks exceeding 20 were noted at Wg and Pilt from 18.07 to 11.08 with 30 at Martinsthorpe on 21.07.
- Spotted Flycatcher.** Records came from 12 sites with breeding confirmed in gardens at Cott, Norm and Upp, and two juvs at Wg Burrows on 20.07. Nine at LFP on 31.07 and 05.08 was the peak count.
- Black Redstart.** A passage bird was seen at Martinsthorpe on 30.07.
- Redstart.** A male at Martinsthorpe on 02.07 was the first of an excellent passage there and at Leigh and Martinsthorpe, resulting in five birds in July and eight different birds being seen in Aug, with five seen on 23.08. Last date was 30.08.
- Whinchat.** Two were at EBR on 18.08, one at LFP on 20.08, one or two at RW Lynd between 23-27.08. and one at RWEg on 30.08.
- Wheatear.** Singles were at RWNA on 30.07, Leigh on 14.08, Pilt on 17.08, near EBR on 18.08 and Martinsthorpe on 23.08.
- Dunnock.** Five juvs were noted in a Bden garden on 11.07.
- Yellow Wagtail.** A family party was near EBR on 11.07, and there were regular reports from the RW Dam and Norm. Passage noted with ten near Man on 25.08 and 28 over Martinsthorpe on 28th, with 25 there on 30.08.
- Grey Wagtail.** One was over Pilt on 03.07 and up to three were at LFP between 03 and 31.07. Two were at RW(Heron Bay) on 07.08 and one was at FHP on 18.08.
- Tree Pipit.** Singles flew over LFP on 13.08 and Martinsthorpe on 23 and 31.08.
- Meadow Pipit.** Four singing males were at GHW on 01.07.
- Chaffinch.** c.180 flew east, in small groups, at LFP on 21.08.

Goldfinch. c.55 were near FHP on 18.08, with 80 at GHW on 22.08.

Bullfinch. Two were on Pick Drift on 26.07, c.20 were around Wg on 02.08, and 25 at Leigh on 05.08.

Yellowhammer. Seven singing males were around Park Farm, Rid, on 16.07, and 12 at QF on 18.07.

BOTANY NOTES compiled by John Rodgers

8 Summerfield, Oakham LE15 6PZ. Telephone 01572 757274. Email: rnhsbotanyrecord@gmail.com

There are no Botany notes this issue; please continue sending in your records.

BUTTERFLY NOTES compiled by Alistair Lawrence

11 Edmonton Way, Oakham, Rutland LE15 6JE. Telephone: 01572 770492



July/August 2014

The warm sunny weather which continued right into July saw large numbers of many butterflies on the wing, and also the first-time appearance in Rutland of some scarcer species including a Yellow-legged Tortoiseshell in a Belmesthorpe garden. August turned cooler and damper and consequently fewer species have been reported.

Small Skippers have been recorded at a variety of locations with 12 being counted in mid-July along a bridle track near Great Casterton. There have been five reports received for **Essex Skipper** during July from GGreat Casterton, Tixover, Pickworth and Ridlington.

Large Skippers have been seen at all the reserves, quarries and various sites in eastern Rutland during July and early August. 11 were observed at Clipsham Park Wood on 2 July and the last record received came from Stamford Quarry on 2 August. A very late and faded **Dingy Skipper** was seen at Ketton Quarry on 15 July.

Brimstones have been seen widely across Rutland during this period, reflecting the second brood being on the wing, and mostly in single figures.

The **Large White** has been well recorded in many locations with the highest count being 8 near Pickworth. Similarly the **Small White** has been seen and reported frequently with the highest count being 5 at RWLyndon on 7 July.

Green Veined Whites have been recorded in a number of members' gardens, as well as in the countryside and reserves, with sightings mainly of single specimens.

Single sightings of **Clouded Yellows** come from Bloody Oaks Quarry and Stocken during July and at George Henry Wood on 6 August.

A single **White Letter Hairstreak** was clearly seen flying and then landing on a track close to the North Bank at Clipsham Quarry on 20 July. It is believed to be a first record for this species at this site.

A single **Small Copper** was seen at Martinthorpe on 20 July, at Banthorpe Gravel Pit on 26 July and at Bloody Oaks Quarry on 7 August.

Brown Argus were observed at Ketton Quarry on 22 July and in August they were seen at Bloody Oaks Quarry, Quarry Farm, and Clipsham Park Wood. Reports of **Common Blue** came mostly from the quarries and open woodland rides during this period, with 11 being counted at Clipsham Quarry in early July and 9 at Clipsham Park Wood on 17 August.

There have been single sightings of **Holly Blue** in Oakham and Stocken. For the second year running, Chalkhill Blues have been observed at Bloody Oaks Quarry with 4 males and 1 female recorded on 7 August.

Purple Emperor made its debut in Rutland this year, when a male specimen was seen and photographed in the car park at RW Egleton on 3 July. It is the first record for the species in Rutland for over a century!

Red Admirals were seen more frequently during late July and August, mostly as singletons and from a wide range of locations, including Burley on the Hill, Stocken, Oakham and Ridlington as well as the reserves and quarries. The highest single count was 4 at Clipsham Quarry on 31 August.

Two records have been received for a **Painted Lady** – one in an Oakham garden on 31 July and a sighting at Bloody Oaks Quarry on 8 August.

This has been an excellent summer for the **Small Tortoiseshell** with this butterfly observed widely throughout Rutland with some very high counts. In excess of 60 were seen at Martinsthorpe on two occasions, 21 at Clipsham Quarry and 10 at Lyndon Reserve all during early July.

Peacock: with the arrival of the second brood this butterfly has been recorded in many locations and in good numbers, with the highest count being 17 at Ketton Quarry on 22 July. 8 Peacocks were found hibernating in Swan Hide at RW Lyndon on 31 August.

Comma: although not seen as widely as some species, reports come from a variety of habitats, including Fort Henry, Dawn's Paddock, Pickworth and Stocken. 4 were counted at Lyndon reserve and 5 at Clipsham Quarry during July.

The **Dark Green Fritillary** continues to flourish at Clipsham Quarry with the numbers peaking at 49 on 2 July. This species was also seen at Ketton Quarry during the summer, and a single specimen was also observed at Bloody Oaks Quarry on 22 July.

Silver-washed Fritillary continues to maintain a presence at Ketton Quarry with singleton sightings on 15 July and 12 August.

Speckled Wood: reports for this species during the period come mainly from the wood, reserves and quarries, and are in single figures. Highest counts were 9 at RW Egleton on 11 August and 6 at Clipsham Park Wood on 17 August.

Marbled White: in excess of 100 were counted at Ketton Quarry on 2 July and 28 at Clipsham Quarry on 20 July. Thereafter this butterfly was recorded, in single figures mostly, at all the quarries.

Gatekeeper: this is another butterfly which has performed very well this year, with records coming from a diverse range of sites (reserves, quarries, fields and woodland margins as well as gardens). Highest counts were 60 along a track at Martinsthorpe, 23 at Clipsham Park Wood, and 15 both at George Henry Wood and the Seek.

Meadow brown: this species has been seen in some gardens but most reports come from the quarries and reserves as well as the open countryside. In excess of 50 were recorded near Great Casterton in mid July and 20+ at RW Lyndon on 7 July. Most other sightings were in single figures and continued into early August.

Small Heath was reported at Ketton Quarry during July and August. It was also seen at Great Casterton, Bloody Oaks Quarry and George Henry Wood during August with 5 recorded at the latter site.

Ringlet: during July this species could be described as 'abundant' in many places, with over 100 reported at Ketton Quarry at the beginning of the month.

My thanks to the following for their contributions: P Bennett, A & L Biddle, C Butterfield, T Caldicott, A & J Comber, J Crosby, N Gordon, M Grimes, O Grice-Jackson, J & R Harvey, C Jones, A Lawrence, R Lemmon, E & P Mann, T Mitcham, J Myers, D Needham, B & D Parker, D Perril, S Proud, P Rudkin, L Worrall

MOTH NOTES compiled by Jean Harvey

4 Clarksdale, Great Easton, Market Harborough LE16 8SP. Telephone: 01536 770259



July/August 2014

Having had some excellent records during June, July continued to be another good month. For example, on July 14th at Luffenham Heath Golf Course 1297 moths of 157 species were recorded and on July 23rd 1329 moths of 141 species were identified at Rutland Water. Sadly during August the weather changed and much cooler nights were experienced together with some strong winds and rain at times. This resulted in fewer moths being on the wing.

Species worthy of a special mention have been Dark Spinach seen at Rutland Water and

Eyebrook Reservoir during July, and Webb's Wainscot seen at Rutland Water in August. The Dark Spinach is no longer common in this area and these two records are the only ones for Rutland in recent years. I am informed that the last one recorded was around 30 years ago from the Rothampstead trap at Empingham. Let us hope that this is the start of a recovery. The Webb's Wainscot is a Nationally Scarce B moth and has only been recorded at Rutland Water four times in the last few years. Is this now a possible resident or a 'wanderer' from the east of England?

Eyebrook Reservoir was visited as usual twice in July but only once in August as our second proposed trapping was postponed until early September owing to the poor weather conditions at the time. On July 15th 85 species were recorded, on July 31st the total was 74 species but by August 13th there were only 39 species.

A tripod light and three box traps were operated on the evening of July 25th at Prior's Coppice. A good selection of moths was recorded consisting of 28 micro- and 61 macro-species.

During May and June I received a large number of records from members, in contrast with only a few for this report. Humming Bird Hawk moths were in an Uppingham garden in early July. An

Orange Swift was seen in Oakham in mid-August and Mother of Pearls were noted at Eggleton. Cinnabar caterpillars were reported from Bloody Oaks Quarry and also Lyndon in July, and a Vapourer caterpillar was observed at Barrowden on August 10th.

It is not my usual habit to report sightings from our own garden as it is just outside the Rutland border although still in VC55, but the following is an exception. Twice in late July I had a Small Ranunculus in my garden trap, this is a species not seen in Rutland. The County recorder (Adrian Russell) informs me that it is quite regular in gardens in and around Leicester and seems to be expanding its range so perhaps next year ...?

My thanks to: R Follows, M Grimes, J Harris, C R Jones, R Lemmon and L Worrall.

ORTHOPTERA REPORT compiled by Phil Rudkin

10 Brooke Avenue, Stamford PE9 2RU. Telephone: 01780 762998.
Email: phil.rudkin@talktalk.net



July/August 2014

In the last Fieldfare (July), I was particularly pleased to report new Rutland sites for Speckled and Roesel's Bush Crickets. And I mentioned that we have some new habitats to explore in the next few months. This is because the National Orthoptera Atlas will go to press in 2015, and our society will have very good coverage in Rutland. Therefore, I am delighted to say that in the period under review, our team have ventured into new territory, which resulted in more excellent coverage for our orthoptera species. Firstly, Clive Jones has negotiated access to important private farmland, and with the kind permission of Mr. Trevor Hawkins, two surveys have been carried out in two different areas of Park Farm, Ridlington.

I visited a new environment, 'The Drift', at the eastern edge of Pickworth. It is a long linear lane/track, which eventually comes out the other end, at Ryhall Heath Farm, leading on to the B1176. The track has fields both sides, a mixture of pasture and cereals, with a few grass margins, and some very important rough herbage corners in gateways. A small wood is in the field south of the track — Turnpole Wood. It is negotiable by car, but I would not advise it after about a mile from the Pickworth end, unless of course, you are in a 4x4. However, the results were rewarding.

For this period, the welcome heat-wave has been a benefit to Rutland's grasshopper and cricket communities. Stunning numbers have built up, and noticeably, for the two coneheads.

I have received on line records from one member and the rest have been on record cards as normal. I would like to stress that I am happy to receive either, no problem!

The following report will, as usual, list the map references for new sites only, not for the regular areas.

Bush Crickets

Oak Bush Cricket *Meconema thalassinum*

Only one report for this period! One male, observed on leaves of hibiscus bush, 21 July, in the garden of Gower Lodge, Uppingham, by Clive Jones. SP864996.

Dark Bush Cricket *Pholidoptera griseoptera*

First sighting: Four stridulating males in rough hedgerow vegetation, edge of Ryhall village on

the Belmesthorpe Road, at 3.45 pm, 23 July. New site: TF041105. Later, at 4.0 pm, 14 stridulating males, in rank vegetation, Belmesthorpe Bridge. New site: TF036100.

Four stridulating males in rough ditch vegetation at The Drift, Pickworth, 1.50 pm, 26 July. New Site: SK995136. Later, at 2.35pm, half a mile further up 'The Drift', 6 males heard in rough vegetation at a field corner. New Site: TF002134. Finally, during August, Ketton village was well covered by our former Chair, Ann Tomlison, who found

this species in her garden, at 11 Aldgate. Large colonies situated all along the Barrowden Road, for approx. half a mile (on both sides), including Verge 10. New site: SK979033. Another colony located along the Barrowden Road, by the small signal box, SK984041.

Roesel's Bush Cricket *Metrioptera roeselii*

The first survey at Park Farm, Ridlington (south-west of the farm), by kind permission of Trevor Hawkins, took place on a hot, dry day (26 °C in the shade), 16 July. The conservation grasslands and margins were full of thriving colonies of this species. Massive colonies of stridulating males in conservation grassland. New site: SK829018. More large numbers located in rough ditch vegetation at the lower end of the farm. New site: SK825016.

There was a good run of new sites on 23 July, starting with The Viking Way, Thistleton Lane, Greetham: five stridulating males, in a small patch of rough grasses, 11.15 pm, SK928154. At 3.20 pm, large colony found in grass verge, on the B1176 (Careby to Ryhall Road): TF030132.

Approx. 50 yards further, 20 males heard in the verges. Next, at 3.30 pm, four males stridulating in verge on Tally Ho hill, TF031116. Finally, at 4.0 pm, six males located in verge at Belmesthorpe Bridge, TF036100. Regular haunts were visited in July, with huge numbers found in Quarry Farm, Stamford, and George Henry Woods, Stretton. On 20 July, the first Rutland Water Survey at Egleton reserve (north of the Centre), confirmed high numbers maintained.

Yet more new sites: on 26 July, Phil Rudkin visited 'The Drift', Pickworth, on a hot day, 29 °C, starting at 1.40 pm. 10 stridulating males in rough field gateway, and 16 heard in field margins, SK995136. 46 stridulating males, in rough corner of cereal fields, TF002134. Over half a mile further along 'The Drift' track, massive population located in conservation field margins, TF014130.

The second survey at Park Farm, Ridlington (north-east of the farm) was on 29 July, 11.30am. Again there were huge numbers found in 6 metre field margins, followed at 12.45 pm by more large numbers in hedgerow grasses, with females being observed, new sites: SK837022

Richard Brown heard one stridulating male in field edge, on August 4, along the southern edge of Exton village. New site: SK929113. Large numbers confirmed at the regular habitat, in Wing Burrows.

The second survey at Rutland Water Egleton reserve, on August 24, from the Centre up to

Lax Hill, confirmed large numbers in healthy populations. During the July / August period, Ann Tomlinson confirmed small colonies along Verge 10, and next to the small barn, Barrowden Road, Ketton. New site: SK979033.

Long-winged Conehead *Conocephalus discolor*

First stridulating heard from four males at 5.0 pm, 18 July, in the wildflower meadow at Quarry Farm, Stamford. Twelve stridulating males in grass rides at George Henry Woods, Stretton, 23 July. Large numbers heard in regular habitat in Wing Burrows, 11 August.

The second Orthoptera survey at Rutland Water, Egleton reserve, (south of the Bird Watching Centre), on 24 August, revealed amazing numbers in all the regular strongholds, right up to Lax Hill, such as the vegetation around Wigeon Hide, Pintail Hide and Tern Hide, and the grassland below the west of Lax Hill. The summer heat-wave was having a tremendous effect on high populations.

Short-winged Conehead *Conocephalus dorsalis*

What a success story, following the very low colonies found in 2012 (two sites), and in 2013 (one site only). On the second survey at Rutland Water, Egleton reserve, on 24 August, a grand total of eight different locations were logged. It is worth noting the sites (most formerly occupied). Starting at the Egleton reserve car park, the field between the car park and the Bird Watching Centre: six males heard. On the rough bank, adjoining the disabled car park, large colony of stridulating males. Past Mallard Hide, and around the bend to a small rough habitat, with a pond and bank vegetation, very large colony found. A walk of approx. 235 yards along the path, revealed four separate large colonies. Finally, at 2.0 pm, in the rich verges on the corner next to the 360 Hide, four stridulating males.

Speckled Bush Cricket *Leptophyes punctatissima*

Following the outstanding success of populations in new sites in 2013, it is pleasing to report on two further new areas for this season of 2014: 1.40 pm, 29 °C, hot, dry, 26 July, six stridulating males were located with the bat-detector, in Hawthorn hedgerow, at 'The Drift', Pickworth. New site: SK995136.

During the second survey at Park Farm, Ridlington, on 29 July, at 11.50 am, four stridulating males were located in Sycamore tree. New site: SK838022. These new sites are very welcome!

The second Rutland Water Egleton reserve survey, on 24 August, and the hedgerows around the Bird Watching Centre were full of these crickets.

Grasshoppers

Common Green Grasshopper *Omocestus viridulus*

The first Park Farm, Ridlington, survey (south-west of the farm), took place on 16 July, with one stridulating male heard in the conservation grassland. New site, SK829018: Further down the hill, one stridulating male, in field margin. New site: SK831019. In the lower area, one caught and identified in fine grasses. New site: SK825016. One caught and identified by Richard Brown, in field edge on Exton Lane, 4 August. New site: SK904104.

Field Grasshopper *Chorthippus brunneus*

One found on a bamboo cane in a pot of sweet peas, on the garden patio, 14 July, at 11 Aldgate, Ketton. Photograph sent via e-mail. New site: SK984045.

Meadow Grasshopper *Chorthippus parallelus*

One female, late instar nymph, observed in grasses, in 'The Dell', Ketton Quarries, on 15 July. Photograph sent via e-mail by David Perril. New sites at the first Park Farm, Ridlington, survey (south-west of the farm), 16 July, 11.30 am, 26 °C. Large colonies in linear, rough grass margins. Massive numbers, stridulating in ditch vegetation. Large numbers in conservation grassland, SK825018. Large colony, in wildflower meadow, Quarry Farm, 18 July. Massive numbers observed and heard, in grassland between the trees, at George Henry Woods, Stretton, on 23 July. At 3.20 pm, large numbers in grass verges, on the B1176. New site: TF031129.

The first Rutland Water Egleton reserve survey (north of the centre), took place on 20 July. All regular habitats fully occupied, from the Bird Watching Centre, up to Sandpiper Hide, with large numbers heard, and nymphs observed.

The following are new sites for this species. On 26 July, 'The Drift' Pickworth held a large colony of stridulating males in grass verges, SK995136. Sixteen stridulating males, in verges along the track, TF002134. Ten stridulating males (many observed), in verges along the track, TF014130.

More new sites. The second Park Farm, Ridlington survey (north-east of the farm) took place on 29 July, with one female, caught and

identified, in edge of field margin. Further along the farm track, two stridulating males in grass verges, SK837022.

The second Rutland Water Egleton Reserve survey, 24 August, from the Bird Watching Centre up to Lax Hill, confirmed large numbers, near Mallard Hide, Snipe Hide, Kingfisher Hide, and below Lax Hill.

Lesser Marsh Grasshopper *Chorthippus albomarginatus*

The first survey at Park Farm, Ridlington, took place on 16 July (south-west of the farm), where large numbers of stridulating males were noted in the conservation grassland. 50 yards further, massive numbers located in rough vegetation. Lower down the slope, in rough ditch herbage, again, huge population found. All the above are new sites: SK825018.

Four stridulating males found in long grasses along the track in the first field, Quarry Farm, Stamford. In the second field (wildflower meadow), 10 males heard, 18 July.

The first Rutland Water Egleton reserve survey (north of the Bird Watching Centre), 20 July, 11.0 am: massive numbers of stridulating males in pasture field near the Badger Watching Hide, adults and nymphs observed. 12.20 pm, 10 stridulating males, in rough corner of track, next to the Summer Trail. 12.40 pm, huge population, located in rough grasses near Sandpiper Hide, Lagoon 4.

Regular habitat at Quarry Farm (both fields), 5.0 pm and 5.30 pm, low numbers noted, 18 July.

Midday, 27 °C, good numbers of stridulating males in the rough grasses between the trees, George Henry Woods, Stretton, 23 July. Four, stridulating males, in grass verge, Ryhall village, 3.30 pm, 23 July. New site: TF040108.

On 31 July, Richard Brown found one in field edge near Thistleton. New site: SK907179.

Travelling around the north of Rutland on 4 August, Richard observed one, in field edge, east of Exton village (regular site). And, to the west of Greetham village, one stridulating male, in rough grasses, new site: SK930144.

Finally, on 24 August, during the second survey at Rutland Water Egleton reserve (south of the Bird Watching Centre), four courtship pairs were observed in grasses, near Snipe Hide, and six courtship pairs in grasses at top of the track, below the west of Lax Hill.

Many thanks for reports received from: R Brown (on line), C Jones, D Needham, D Perril, P Rudkin, A Tomlinson.

PLANT GALLS REPORT compiled by Roy Lemmon

87 Empingham Road, Stamford PE9 2SU. Telephone: 01780 762051

E-mail: jill.lemmon@talktalk.net



July 2014

A good number of reports this month including two which came as photographs by e-mail. This is an excellent way to report as I can then identify or confirm the identity of the gall and on receiving the appropriate details I can generate a card. This works well for larger galls but smaller ones would require a very good close up photograph.

Reports were received from Bloody Oaks Quarry on the 10th, Bloody Oaks Verge on the 14th, Lyndon on the 17th, Tesco car park Oakham and Ketton on the 23rd, Egleton on the 24th and Burley fishponds on the 31st. Amongst these was a mite gall on Crack Willow, new to the area, and the appearance for the first time this year of the large stem gall on Creeping Thistle caused by a fly. This occurs widely in the County but is not all that common and of course varies from year to year. The woodland area of Burley Fishponds produced a good quantity of galls caused by gall wasps, almost due entirely to the presence of Oak trees, always good for boosting numbers.

August 2014

Another report by e-mail, this one of the fly gall on Creeping Thistle from the Seek on the 3rd. The same gall, along with six others, was reported from Verge 5 on the 5th, and Ketton Quarry on the 9th produced another 7 records. Verge 6 on the 12th had a Robin's Pincushion gall, again by e-mail. KQ was again visited on the 14th with a total of 16 galls including the one on Creeping Thistle and a new one to the area, a mite gall on Black Medick.

The Barnsdale Woods were visited on the 21st and a bumper bundle of 29 records resulted including an interesting gall on Alder, in which the female cone is infected by a fungus and sprouts red tongue-like projections. Also here there was a mite gall on Elm; where the tree persists so do the galls! This season it has been noticeable that the Knopper gall on acorns has been generally in short supply but this is not the case in Wing where large numbers of the gall were reported on a 14-year-old oak tree on the 25th.

The final report for the month was from Prior's Coppice on the 28th with a total of 23 galls. Amongst these there was an aphid gall on the leaves of Wych Elm, a midge gall on Hazel in which the next year's catkins are distorted, and also the now inevitable gall on Creeping Thistle.

Thanks to C & R Edwards, Dr C H Gallimore, M Grimes and R Lemmon for their reports.

INSECTS AND OTHERS compiled by Gill Chiverton

20 Victoria Road, Stamford PE9 1HB. Telephone: 01780 753820

Please keep sending in your records. A full report will appear in November Fieldfare.



GLOW-WORM NOTES compiled by Linda Worrall

6 Redland Close, Barrowden LE15 8ES. Telephone: 01572 747302

Look forward to a report next issue! The deadline was too tight this time.

MAMMAL REPORT compiled by Linda Biddle

21 Waverley Gardens, Stamford PE9 1BH. Telephone: 01780 762108.

Email: rnhs mammals@talktalk.net



July/August 2014

Otter prints were found on the mink raft at Heron bay RWNr in July and August, but no other reports of otters were received. A **Weasel** ran across the road just off the A6003 near Oakham at the end of July and a **Stoat** was seen running across the track at Fort Henry between the two lakes, at the end of August. At Martinsthorpe Tim Caldicott has been keeping observation on stoats, 6 seen together playing on the 2nd, and on subsequent occasions two, one and one; at Leighfield Fishponds a stoat was seen on 24th July and 2 on 29th; and finally two ran across the road at Pilton. A **Fox** was seen at Martinsthorpe on 28th July, and 2 together on 30th. At Leighfield Fishponds at the end of the month a fox was seen chasing a small hare, which managed to escape. A dead fox was reported from South Luffenham, and unusually this was the only report this month. **Badgers** were active at Pickworth, and at Walk Farm, setts showing fresh diggings, and many tracks. **Hares** were reported from around Pickworth Wood, and 54 were recorded in the Wing area on July 18th. **Rabbits** were seen at RWNr and Walk Farm track.

The headless remains of a **Brown rat** were found on the edge of an arable field at Lincolnshire Gate at the end of July. **Short-tailed Field Voles** were found under reptile shelters on a limestone bank at Exton Park, three under one shelter on 13th July, an adult and 5 young on July 26th and two under separate shelters on 28th August. Four dead **Common shrews** were reported, from Pickworth, the track to Tixover church, near Lyndon village, and at RWNr Egleton. Tim Caldicott records seeing a **Pygmy Shrew** in Fox Covert at Martinsthorpe, 'running up to a small hole in a tree trunk – amazingly small!'

Water Voles appear to have done very well this summer, both at RWNr and at Oakham Canal. As well as signs on rafts at almost every site at RWNr, and the occasional plop and sight, they have been regularly reported again from Waderscrape Hide by Osprey watchers. On the main track from the centre past Badger Hide a water vole was seen in the ditch to the right of the little bridge in late July.

The **Hedgehogs** of Barrowden have been busy as usual, visiting Linda Worrall to sample the delights of her garden and gourmet snacks! From early July when one was disturbed as it slept in sunshine on top of campion stalks in the garden, until the 13th, at least one was seen every night, some quite large. None appeared on the 13th, 14th and 15th, but then two returned at normal time on the 16th, and the regular pattern of visits resumed, at least two every night. On August 2nd two were seen coupling, and were oblivious to the observer on the patio! Hedgehogs were seen every night throughout August, even when the weather was cold and wet, up to 3 at one time.

No **Roe Deer** have been reported this summer. **Fallow** have been seen at Pickworth Wood, Burley Bushes, and Fort Henry. Two fawns crossed the road at 9.30 pm at Burley Bushes in July. At Pickworth a doe stood and watched us from a safe distance in the central ride of the wood before taking to the undergrowth, in mid-July, and at the end of the month two were browsing peacefully along a ride and 8 were seen running through the wood. At Fort Henry two were seen standing in a wheat field.

Muntjac have been seen in woodland at Langham, on two occasions at RWNr between Grebe and Redshank hide, and from Fort Henry ponds.

Thank you to all who sent in records. Please keep sending them in to Recorders – by any means!

Records received this month from: P Bennett, A Biddle, R Burdett, T Caldicott, A Lawrence, T Mitcham

BAT REPORT compiled by Jenny Harris

41 Woodland View, Oakham, LE15 6EJ. Telephone: 01572 755274. Email: jharris@lrwt.org.uk

No time for a report this month, please continue sending in your records. Full report next time!



RUTLAND NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Registered Charity No 514693

Gift Aid Update

Dear Member,

In the last few years tax regulations have become more stringent and we have also had changes in Society officers so our Gift Aid paperwork needs urgently updating.

We would be very grateful if all members who have in the past agreed to pay subscriptions through Gift Aid would complete a new form and let us have it back as soon as possible. If you no longer pay tax so your Gift Aid declaration is invalid, please let one of us know. If you have not Gift Aided in the past, please do so if you can.

The form overleaf can be handed in at the next indoor meeting in October or posted to Margaret Conner at 24 Burrough Road, Somerby, Melton Mowbray, LE14 2PP. Extra forms will be available at meetings, or downloadable from the website (http://www.rnhs.org.uk/our_activities)

We are sorry for the inconvenience and please contact us if there are any problems.

Many thanks,

Martin Grimes, Treasurer - martindgrimes@yahoo.com

Margaret Conner, Membership Secretary – mjconner100@gmail.com



RUTLAND NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY
Registered Charity No 514693

GIFT AID DECLARATION

Please treat all gifts of money that I have made to Rutland Natural History Society (Regd. Charity No. 514693) in the past six years and all future gifts of money that I make from the date of this declaration as Gift Aid donations.

I confirm I have paid or will pay an amount of Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax for each tax year (6 April to 5 April) that is at least equal to the amount of tax that all the charities or Community Amateur Sports Clubs (CASCs) that I donate to will reclaim on my gifts for that tax year. I understand that other taxes such as VAT and Council Tax do not qualify. I understand the charity will reclaim 25p of tax on every £1 that I give on or after 6 April 2008.

Donor's details

Title.....

First names.....

Surname.....

Home address.....

.....

Postcode.....

Date.....

Signature.....

Please notify the Treasurer or Membership Secretary at RNHS if you wish to cancel this declaration, change your address or no longer pay sufficient tax.

Please send to: Margaret Conner, Membership Secretary, 24 Burrough Road, Somerby, Melton Mowbray, Leics, LE14 2PP