



Common toad beside Stoke woods. Photo C. Baxter

**Annual
Programme
inside this
issue!**

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WELCOME

Surely for anyone interested in nature, this is the most wonderful time of the year! It's still chilly, and some of the migrants are not yet here, nor insects buzzing, but along with the insistent song of the chiff chaff, and the delicate song of the dunno, there is the promise of such wonders to come. Before long we shall see leaves uncurling their vibrant fresh green and more flowers bursting into bloom, visited by an amazing variety of insect species. If we are lucky, it will be accompanied by the song of the whitethroat, and our evenings enriched by the music of the nightingale. This season has that hopefulness we all need, to reassure us in a world where life seems to have changed beyond recognition from the one we inhabited only two years ago. It makes the task of trying to protect our fragile natural world from the mistakes of mankind even more important.

Many of you will already know the great news that after the AGM we have a new president. Our own Phil Rudkin was unanimously elected to the position much to his surprise and even though he is not a land- owner! (His comment – not ours!) Your committee felt that it was a fitting honour to show our appreciation for all the energy and enthusiasm that he has given to our society over the last 57 years. We also have an additional vice president- Dr Tim Mackrill, (who many of you will know from his work on the Osprey reintroduction project), who has agreed to take on the role. We look forward to working with them, and our newly re-elected committee, who work so hard on your behalf.

Unfortunately, we still do not have any one of our 200 membership who is willing to take on the position of Treasurer. For the present and reluctantly, your secretary Linda Clark and Vice chair Peter Scott are filling the void, but we really need someone to step forward AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. A Society can not run effectively without a treasurer and Margaret (our former treasurer) is willing to help anyone get started.

We have reports from many of our recorders in this month's edition of fieldfare. We look forward to receiving many more of your observations during this



Our new president and our chairman at the 2022 AGM

summer. While our recorders are of course important in recording our wildlife, it is you the members, who can inform us of what is out and about, so please do drop an email whenever you see an interesting animal, bird, plant, or insect.

There are lots of things happening this summer! We're holding a stall in Oakham market on 28th May, together with RCC to explain the importance of conserving our roadside verges. If you're around, come along and see us! Apart from our usual programme, accompanying this edition of Fieldfare, we are holding a Bioblitz at Oakham canal on Saturday 23rd July. There will be things happening throughout the day, so again do come along and join the activities – maybe bring your grandchildren too!

Let's all get out and about as much as we can and enjoy the wildlife this summer!

Linda Biddle, RNHS Chair

DIARY DATES



RNHS Indoor Evening meetings.

Indoor meetings are now finished until October. Please note, Meetings will no longer be held at VAR, and we will be looking throughout the summer months for a suitable location for the start of the Autumn season of talks.

RNHS Outdoor meetings

All the following events are correct at time of publication but may still be changed at short notice, so it is important to book your place with Jeff Wilcox-Smith. Details: Mob: 07946733931 or wilcoxsmith@btinternet.com. Make sure you are wearing appropriate clothing for the weather and if the weather is bad on the day, give Jeff a ring beforehand in case it needs to be cancelled.

Saturday 7th May. 4.00am - 8.00am.

Dawn chorus with Linda and Anthony Biddle.

Join us for an atmospheric early morning in the woods. Contact Linda Biddle (details back cover contacts) to find out where the concert will be held this year. Guaranteed to wake you up!

The following event has been previously advertised on the website and in Fieldfare as being 28th May so please note the change of date.

Saturday 7th May. Nightingale walk. 9.00am.

Pickworth wood.

Led by Linda and Anthony Biddle. Meet at entrance to track by Quarry farm cottages on RHS from Clipsham to Holywell. Map ref: SK986 156. It is a 300yd uphill slope to the woods and then it is flat walking into the wood. Track is good but can become muddy in wet weather.

Saturday June 11th 10.00am – 12.00 mid-day.

Visit to Bedford Purlieus National Nature Reserve, PE8 6NN.

Led by Peter Scott. This hidden gem covers 520 acres of ancient woodland so there is plenty to see and explore. Wear appropriate footwear as can be muddy if wet. Map ref: TF039 006. Meet in the car park off the A47. From the Duddington island (A43), take the A47 for approx.3 miles towards the A1. There is a sign on the left indicating FARM ACCESS on the right of the road. Car park is about 100yds along this track on the left.

Thursday 7th July. 5pm – 7pm.

Naturescape Wildflower farm.

Led by Jenny Harris. An afternoon/evening walk at Naturescape Wildflower farm, Langer, Vale of Belvoir. NG13 9HP. Map ref: SK731 342.

Other society meetings

LRWT Events. You need to book your place for these events. Go to the events page of the LRWT website.

Saturday 23rd April 7.00am – 10.30am.

Bird ringing at Lyndon visitor centre.

Adults 7.00am – 9.00am. Children 9.00am – 10.30am. Join the resident bird ringers for an exciting adult and family bird ringing morning. You will need to pay.

Sunday 1st May. 5.00am – 9.00am.

International Dawn chorus day.

Meet at VTC for a walk around Rutland Water followed by breakfast. Payment needed to include breakfast.

Sunday 3rd July. 2.00pm – 4.00pm.

Walk at Bloody Oaks Quarry Nature reserve.

Booking essential as spaces limited. Join the Rutland local group for a guided nature walk to spot interesting butterflies and wildflowers. £2.00 per person, cash on the day.

WEATHER

RECORDER Roy Lemmon

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January 2022

Atmospheric pressure and wind. For the first nine days pressures were low and accordingly, most of the rainfall occurred at this time and winds were often gusty. Pressures then rose and stayed elevated to the end of the month. Winds were SWN for the whole of the month and the highest pressure I recorded was 1040 mb on both the 12th and 13th. There were named storms at the end of the month, Storm Malik, named by the Danish Meteorological Institute on the 29th; followed by our Met. Office Storm Corrie on the 30th and 31st. Both mainly affected Scotland and the north of England and we were spared their worst.

Temperature. The overall mean here was 4.46 °C, placing this January 5th in the decade 2013–2022. There were 10 air frosts, the lowest –3.2 °C on the 4th and 5th, and the highest daytime maximum was 14.2 °C on the first. Nationally this was the warmest New Year's Day ever recorded as it was for this station, although my records only go back to 1994. The second warmest here was 01.01.2015 at 13.4 °C.

Precipitation. A dry January with a total of 13.9 mm (0.55 inches) recorded here, equating to 28% of my long-term mean of 32 years. 94% of this fell in the low-pressure period referred to above, and there were 20 days on which no precipitation was recorded, including 3 days with only 'a trace', i.e. not measurable. This is the second driest January I have recorded, that of 2000 had a total of 9.4 mm.

February 2022

Atmospheric pressure and wind. Pressures were generally high from the 1st to the 12th followed by a period of low pressures and strong gusty winds up to the 21st. This latter period included three named Storms - Dudley, Eunice and Franklin during the 15th to the 21st; the most severe being Eunice on the 18th-19th which included the highest wind speed ever recorded in England at 122 mph on the Needles, I.O.W. All these storms came in from a

roughly westerly direction and had lost their main impetus when they reached us, but I did record a gust of 124 mph at 9.00 pm on the 21st (Storm Franklin). The lowest pressure of the month recorded here was 994 mb on the 16th, Storm Dudley, and the highest was 1030.5 mb on the 26th and during the three penultimate days of the month pressures were high, hence calm conditions but some cold nights.

Temperature. A warm month with an overall mean of 6.77 °C placing it second in the decade 2013–2022 after February 2019 at 6.92 °C. There were three air frosts, the lowest was –1.3 °C on the 24th/25th, and the highest daytime maximum was 15.3 °C on the 16th.

Precipitation. The total here was 62.8 mm (2.47 inches) which is 161% of my long-term mean of 32 years. Most of this fell as rain, occasionally torrential, but on the afternoon of the 24th there were brief showers of sleet followed by hail.

March 2022

Atmospheric pressure and wind. Essentially a month of high pressures apart from the 11th to 13th and the last two days of the month. The highest, 1042 mb, occurred on the 18th and the lowest was 1005 mb on the 13th. This period saw gusty winds from the south. The last 3 days of the month saw low pressures with winds N-E and low temperatures.

Temperature. The mean for the month, 7.72 °C, places it fifth in the decade 2013–2022, while the mean maximum, 12.88 °C, put it in third place in the same period. There were many days of clear skies which were responsible for this, and temperatures were high for this reason.

Precipitation. A total of 36.5 mm (1.44 inches) equates to 94.5% of long-term mean. This fell as rain, sleet, hail, and snow especially at the end of the month, and there was a light snowfall on the 31st. This barely covered the ground and soon melted. The wettest day was the 15th/16th when 21.1 mm of rain fell, which is 58% of the month's total.

AMPHIBIANS & REPTILES

RECORDER Dr C H Gallimore

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January, February, March 2022

Although there have been no reptile records in this quarter, amphibians have been moderately widely reported.

The first Common Frogs of the year were noted in a Wing garden pond on 30 March. Frog activity was also reported from ponds in Oakham and Ridlington on 22 February.

Although spawn was also noted on this date in Stamford, the first Rutland spawn was observed in Oakham on 8 March and also on the following five days from another Oakham pond, Burley Wood, Quarry Farm and Wing. Further spawn was seen in Essendine, Exton and Ridlington during March. A considerable number of dead eviscerated frogs were seen at a pond in Exton although whether the culprit was mammalian or

avian is unclear. It is reminiscent of a similar slaughter of toads at Tinwell in 1986.

There was an early Common Toad record in Wing on 14 January when one became stuck in a drain. Another was disturbed in a Ridlington garden on 14 February, although it managed to burrow into turf by a wall for sanctuary. Two toads were subsequently seen in the garden pond on 23 March. Also on 23 March one was seen in Stoke Dry Wood, an area from

which there have not been any records for fifty years. Two road casualties were seen near Wing on 12 March.

Smooth Newts were seen in the same Ridlington pond from 7 March. A Great Crested Newt was a road casualty in Wing on 3 March.

My thanks to R Anderson, C Baxter, L Biddle, T Caldicott, L Clark, A Hill, A Johnson, A Lawrence, D Masters, T Mitcham and J & J Morrell, who provided these records.

BATS

RECORDER Jenny Harris

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January to March inclusive

No records have been received for bats in flight during the period January to March inclusive, although the 'grounded' bats described below must have been out and about to be found where they were.

The first records of the year were from the hibernation site in east Rutland. Surveys in the old tunnel had been put on hold in 2021, since there is a reasonable concern that the close examination required to identify hibernating bats could put

them at risk of catching Covid-19 from humans. However, guidance from the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) provided a risk assessment which stipulated the wearing of gloves and face masks, preferably a distance of 2m from bats, and that one, or at most two people only should get close to the bats for identification. This we adhered to. Surveys of the old tunnel took place on 23 January and 20 February 2022 with five surveyors. The temperatures shown below were taken in the coolest part of the tunnel; humidity was 80% (23.1) and 90% (20.2).

Species	23 January	Temp °C	20 February	Temp °C
Daubenton's bat	7	5.0	5	8.0
Natterer's bat	3		9	
Common Pipistrelle	-		2	
Soprano Pipistrelle	-		1	
Pipistrelle sp.	2		-	
Brown Long-eared bat	-		2	
Barbastelle	1		-	
Total bats	13		19	

The bats were in brick crevices or behind calcium deposits on the walls. A single Barbastelle was, as always, a rare bonus. It took a while to identify it as only a small part of its face was visible from behind its rather high chosen niche. A count of 19 bats is a good result from this site.

Two bats were found inside buildings at the end of a spell of warm, sunny days. They were brought into care as both were underweight.

Date	Species/weight	Location	Sex/age	Cause/outcome
25.3	Common Pipistrelle, 4.1g	Dry cleaning shop, Market St. Oakham SK860087	Male/adult	Inside building. Underweight, to be released in next mild spell.
29.3	Common Pipistrelle, 4.1g	Rutland Council of-fices, Oakham SK863086	Male/adult	Inside building. Underweight, to be released in next mild spell.

Both bats were thin for the time of year, and possibly dehydrated. However, as they are both uninjured, they will be released as soon as a mild evening coincides with a weight of around 5.5g, to see them through any cold nights ahead. They are eating well.

BIRDS

Recorder Terry Mitcham

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January 2022

Highlights. Five Pink-footed Geese commuted between Rutland Water and Exton Park between 19th–31st January. A Garganey was seen at Fort Henry Ponds on (3rd) and a Bittern was at Rutland Water (28th–29th). A Caspian Gull was seen from (18th) and a Merlin was at Luffenham Airfield on (5th).

Rutland Water. The count taken on 23rd produced 19 Shelduck, 3197 Wigeon, 1469 Teal, 120 Pintail, 153 Shoveler, 795 Tufted Ducks, four Scaup, 322 Goldeneye and six Smew. There were also eight Little Egrets, six Great White Egrets and 2607 Coot. Two Whooper Swans were seen (14th) and a Mandarin Duck (29th) with two (26th). Three Great Northern Divers were present all month and the Slavonian Grebe was present all month. 41 Water Rails were located on (14th). Waders on (23rd) were two Oystercatchers, 531 Golden Plover, 2897 Lapwings, 20 Dunlin, a Black-tailed Godwit, nine Curlew, two Green Sandpipers (and on 29th) and a Turnstone (also 29th). Four Ravens were at Sykes Lane (24th). A Stonechat was at Manton Bay (21st–22nd) and six at Egleton (26th). 12 Siskins were at Egleton (22nd).

Eyebrook Reservoir. Four Bewick's Swans were seen (5th) with two Whooper Swans (2nd–8th) and three Red-crested Pochards (1st). The Ring-necked Duck was seen intermittently all month. The count on (23rd) produced 870 Wigeon, 13 Pintail, 260 Teal, 580 Tufted Ducks, two Scaup, 82 Goldeneye and 15 Smew. Three Avocets remained all month with 188 Lapwings and 20 Dunlin (c.50 on 11th). A Stonechat (2nd) and a Tree Sparrow (7th) were also noted.

Other Sites. Two Mandarin Ducks were near Wing (1st). The Fort Henry/Exton count on (25th) had 269 Greylag Geese, 68 Gadwall, 122 Wigeon, a Pintail, 67 Teal and 65 Tufted Ducks. A Great White Egret was at Banthorpe Gravel Pit (20th). Woodcock were at eight sites with ten at Westland Wood (18th) and c.15 at Stoke Wood (29th). A Green Sandpiper was at Fort Henry (3rd). Barn Owls were at six sites with two near Lyndon (26th) and Little Owls at Edith Weston, Manton and Martinthorpe. A Peregrine was at Martinthorpe (12th, 18th). Willow Tits were at Leighfield (9th, 23rd) and Manton Junction (24th). Blackcaps were in two Oakham gardens. Three Stonechats were in Exton Park (9th). c.100 Chaffinches were at Lyndon (27th) with 120 Linnets (27th, 30th). 300 Linnets were at Great Casterton all month.

February 2022

Highlights. At Rutland Water the two White-fronted and five Pink-footed Geese remained all month, as did the three Great Northern Divers. The Slavonian Grebe was seen to (22nd). There was a Bittern (17th) and a Rock Pipit (22nd). The Garganey was seen again at Fort Henry Ponds (6th, 12th) and a Merlin was at Quarry Farm (17th).

Rutland Water. A low count (22nd) produced 22 Shelduck, 1312 Wigeon, 255 Gadwall, 636 Teal, 29 Pintail, 134 Shoveler, 55 Pochard, 809 Tufted Ducks, two Scaup, 223 Goldeneye and ten Smew. Six Great White Egrets were



Wigeon. Photo P. Scott.

present with just one Little Egret. A Marsh Harrier was seen (8th). Waders included 30 Oystercatchers, 609 Lapwings, 170 Golden Plover, ten Curlew, two Turnstones, 23 Dunlin, a Green Sandpiper (5th, 13th, 17th) and 13 Redshanks. A Kittiwake was at the dam, (20th) and the Caspian Gull was seen intermittently all month. Barn Owls were seen at Egleton and Lyndon. A Peregrine was seen (28th) and Cetti's Warblers sang at Egleton and Lyndon. 130 Siskins were at Lyndon (13th) and there were three Lesser Redpolls at Egleton (22nd).

Eyebrook Reservoir. The Ring-necked Duck was seen intermittently all month. Up to six Scaup (10th) were regular and Smew were present all month with 11 on (3rd). Three Avocets remained to (5th).

Other Sites. There were 125 Wigeon at Cottesmore (20th) and 40 Teal at Leighfield Fishponds (3rd). On (22nd) Fort Henry had 137 Wigeon, 41 Gadwall and 61 Tufted Ducks. There were 244 Greylag Geese and 43 Teal at Banthorpe GP (16th). There were Great White Egrets at Banthorpe (16th), Leighfield Fishponds (3rd) and Fort Henry (5th, 6th, 12th). Seven Woodcock were in Tunneley Wood (5th) and one at Manton (19th). Barn Owls were at four sites with Little Owls at Edith Weston, Manton Junction and Normanton. Blackcaps were in three Oakham gardens and one at Ridlington. A Willow Tit was at Manton Junction (27th) and there were three Stonechats in Exton Park (26th). Near Quarry Farm there were 16 Bramblings (16th) and 200 Linnets all month. 250 Linnets were near Lyndon (12th) with 100 Chaffinches and ten Bramblings.

March 2022

Highlights. Rutland Water had five Pink-footed Geese to (14th), two White-fronted Geese to (8th), a Slavonian Grebe (3rd), three Black-necked Grebes (20th–21st), two Great Northern Divers all month and a Mediterranean Gull from (24th). The female Garganey was at Fort Henry Ponds (27th). At Eyebrook Reservoir the Ring-necked Duck was seen to at least (15th).

Rutland Water. The count (20th) produced 21 Shelduck, 699 Wigeon, 125 Gadwall, 236 Teal, 12 Pintail, 53 Shoveler, 1151 Tufted Ducks, 208 Goldeneye and a Goosander. There were five Mandarin Ducks (8th), three Scaup (5th) and six Smew (6th-8th) and one to (31st). The first Osprey returned (12th) and there were two Marsh Harriers (24th) with one (30th). Wader counts included 27 Oystercatchers (20th), nine Avocets (18th), a Ringed Plover (21st), two Little Ringed Plovers (24th-25th), single Bar-tailed Godwit (5th) and Knot (11th), a Turnstone all month and five Curlews (24th). There was a Woodcock (11th), four Snipe (25th), a Green Sandpiper (22nd), 18 Redshank and a Spotted Redshank was reported (14th). A Barn Owl was seen near Gibbet Gorse (8th-11th) and a Peregrine took a Coot (2nd). Migrant arrival dates were Sand Martin (10th), House Martin (25th), singing Chiffchaff (8th), Willow Warbler reported (19th), Sedge Warbler (29th) and White Wagtail (26th) at the dam. A Stonechat was seen (14th).

Eyebrook Reservoir. Up to seven Scaup (5th-6th) were present with one to (26th). Up to four Smew were seen to (4th). A Slavonian Grebe was present all month with a Great

White Egret (26th). There were three Oystercatchers (20th) with 14 Dunlin (5th) and a Little Gull (28th). A Swallow was seen (26th) and a Wheatear (17th) and two Stonechats (4th).

Other Sites. Fort Henry Ponds had eight Shoveler (12th), 91 Wigeon (12th), 36 Gadwall and 57 Tufted Ducks (5th) and a Shelduck (27th). A Great White Egret was at Banthorpe Gravel Pit (17th). 25 Golden Plover flew over Glebe Farm (1st) and a Woodcock was in Priors Coppice (17th). A Peregrine was at Fort Henry (12th). Five Ravens flew over Manton (20th) with three active nests reported. A Wheatear was at Luffenham Airfield (12th) and a Stonechat was in Exton Park (4th). 20 Bramblings were ringed at Luffenham Airfield (15th) one or two Siskins frequented an Oakham garden (1st-18th) and 150 Linnets remained near Quarry Farm (13th).

My thanks to the following for their records:- *T.Appleton, A.&L.Biddle, T.Caldicott, T.Collins, A.Comber, I.&C.Day, Dr C. Gallimore, M.&G.Griffin, P.Langston, A.Lawrence, LROS, M.Markham, D.Masters, K.Mather, T.Mitcham, I.Misselbrook, B.Moore, J.Morrell, J.W.&M.Nourish, C.I.Park, J.&J.Rodgers, RWNr, P.Scott, T.Sexton, G.Williams*

January, February & March 2022 Wildfowl Counts

	Banthorpe GP 20.01	Banthorpe GP 16.02	Banthorpe GP 17.03	Holywell Lake 23.01	Holywell Lake 17.02	Holywell Lake 17.03
Canada Goose			2	41	39	16
Greylag Goose	52	244	52	7	25	13
Mute Swan	3	3	3	2	2	2
Mandarin Duck						
Shoveler				1	2	1
Gadwall				18	28	24
Wigeon				82	66	14
Mallard	80	48	18	116	42	22
Teal	36	43	7	2	8	
Tufted Duck	2			26	24	22
Little Grebe				16	10	11
Grey Heron	2		1	2	1	
Great White Egret	1	1	1			
Little Egret				1	3	
Moorhen	1	2	1	25	25	19
Coot			1		1	4
Kingfisher			1	1		
TOTAL	177	342	87	344	281	148

	RW 23.01	RW 22.02	RW 20.03	EBR 23.01	EBR 20.03	FHP and Exton Park	FHP and Exton Park 23.02	FHP and Exton Park 18.03
Canada Goose	490	215	122	4	7	1		
Greylag Goose	245	427	219	31	16	269	1	1
Pink-footed Goose		5				5		
White-fronted Goose		2						
Mute Swan	300	212	146	108	44	5	7	7
Egyptian Goose	25	8	23				1	
Shelduck	19	22	21				1	
Mandarin Duck		2	2					
Shoveler	153	134	53		2	2		8
Gadwall	419	255	125	25	22	68	41	32
Wigeon	3197	1312	699	870	191	122	137	131
Mallard	551	330	252	158	47	150	111	64
Pintail	120	29	12	13		1		
Teal	1469	636	236	260	Present	67	11	9
Pochard	66	55	30	11				
Tufted Duck	795	809	1151	589	21	65	61	36
Scaup	4	2		2	1			
Goldeneye	322	223	208	82	11			
Smew	6	10	2	15				
Goosander	8	5	1					
Great Northern Diver	2	3	2					
Little Grebe	104	44	4	2		4	3	3
Great Crested Grebe	214	83	136	63	49			
Slavonian Grebe		1						
Black-necked Grebe			3					
Grey Heron	13	5	11	5	1	2		1
Great White Egret	6	6	1	1				
Little Egret	8	1	1	1	2			
Cormorant	251	150	206	39	26	3	1	1
Water Rail	4	1	18					
Moorhen	119	33	22	3		20	14	6
Coot	2607	671	261			9	31	26
Kingfisher		2						
TOTAL	11517	5692	5165	2282	440	793	420	325

BOTANY

RECORDER John Rodgers

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I'm writing this on a day when my car is covered with an inch of snow, whilst a week ago I was in the garden eating lunch. Strange times! As yet, there haven't been many records after the flurry from the New Year Plant Hunt. The national information for that event have now been published. 1895 people took part and submitted 20,600 records of 669 plant species. It wasn't surprising that the commonest species were Daisy, Dandelion, Groundsel and Annual Meadow Grass, White Dead-nettle and Shepherd's-purse - exactly as last year. We recorded all those amongst our 30 species. The authors of the BSBI report suggest that the majority of these plants were late flowerers rather than early birds. I suppose one needs to look at the same piece of ground very regularly to be definite about this. Some of the less common for the beginning of January, were Primrose at Wing and in Uppingham, Snowdrop also in Wing, Sweet Violet in Market Overton and Winter Heliotrope in Market Overton and by the Oakham Canal. Field Madder was in flower in Uppingham.

There's quite a lot of blossom in the hedgerows at the moment. Most of it is either Cherry Plum or Blackthorn. Cherry Plum is usually the first to appear, as Graham Worrall used to remind everybody. One way to tell the difference is that the sepals of the Cherry Plum flower are reflexed, they bend backwards rather than hug the petals. Other flowers recorded include Winter Aconite at Ketton Quarry in late February and Wood Anemone in Stretton Woods on the 23rd

March. Common Stork's-bill was at Ryhall Heath by the end of March. We don't seem to get many records for this little plant; it is obviously easily overlooked.

Look out for Bluebells soon!



Drone fly on snowdrops at Bisbrooke

BUTTERFLIES

RECORDER Martin Quinlan

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October, November, December 2021.

Six species were recorded in the final quarter of 2021.

BRIMSTONE was seen twice. The final records of the year were at Oakham Arboretum (OA) on 1st and 6th October. The final records of LARGE WHITE were also at OA on 3rd October with 2 there on 6th October.

RED ADMIRAL was seen in each month with singles at Barrow (25th) and OA (30th) in October. November 1st saw singles at Wing, OA and Manton (M). There were 2 in M on 9th November with singles in an Oakham garden on 10th and in M on 15th. The final record of the year was on 23rd December with 2 in an Exton (Ex) garden.

Alistair Lawrence found an exceptionally late PAINTED LADY at Egleton Reserve, Rutland Water on 8th November. This individual was photographed by Chris Butterfield.

SMALL TORTOISESHELL was seen in each month with records of singles as follows:- OA on 6th October, Barrow 2nd November, Bloody Oaks (BOQ) 19th November, Manton 1st December, Exton 23rd December and the last at Manton on 30th December.

The only COMMA was at Barrow on 8th November.

I would like to thank the following for sending in their records:-
*Robin Ingall, Diana Masters, Alistair Lawrence,
Tim Caldicott, Nigel Messenger, Duncan and Jane Ball,
Jayne Walker*



Painted lady seen November 2021. Photo Chris Butterfield

January, February, March 2022.

There were no reports of any butterflies for January and only one for February.

A spell of mild weather began on 9th March and it was warm and sunny on 10th March which brought out many Brimstones, Peacocks, Small Tortoiseshells and a few Commas.

A second mild and sunny spell began on 23rd March and brought out the first Orange-tips and early records of Small White and Speckled Wood. In total seven species were seen in the quarter.

The first ORANGE-TIP was reported from Ketton Quarry (KQ) on 24th March with others in Uppingham (Upp) and Oakham (Oak) on 25th March.

BRIMSTONE was first seen in Langham (L) and Wing (W) on 9th March. Singles were seen in Upp and L on 10th, in L on 18th and 19th, in Oak on 12th, 23rd, 24th and 25th, L on 22nd and 23rd, Oakham Canal on 22nd and Upp on 23rd and 24th March.

Maximum counts were 3 in L on 14th March, 2 in Oak on the same day, 4 at Stretton Wood (SW) on 22nd and 8 at KQ on 23rd March.

Many - and probably all - were patrolling males after waking from hibernation.

An early SMALL WHITE was seen at Oakham Arboretum (OA) on 23rd March with another early record of SPECKLED WOOD at KQ, also on the 23rd.

PEACOCK appeared from the 10th March and was seen at many locations throughout the month. The maximum counts were 4 at KQ on 14th, 3 at L on 19th and 2 at KQ on 26th March.



Peacock butterfly. Photo Stephen Smalley

The first SMALL TORTOISESHELL was a hibernating individual which awoke and flew off on 27th February in Manton (M). On 10th March there were a few records including 6 in Upp and singles in Wing (W), Pickworth Drift (PD), Oak and L.

Further records were widespread with sightings from Ridlington, Rutland Water (RW), Ketton, KQ, L and Eyebrook Reservoir.

Finally COMMA was first seen on 14th March at KQ, L and at RW.

Further sightings were at Ketton, L, Oak, Barnsdale Gardens (BG), W, SW and Upp.

The maximum were 2 at KQ on 14th, 3 at RW on 22nd and 3 at SW on 23rd March.

I would like to thank the following for sending in their records: *Tim Caldicott, Linda Clark, Peter Scott, Stephen Smalley, John Rodgers, Marian Makham, Roy Lemmon, Alistair Lawrence, David Needham, Diana Masters and Jacky Morrell.*

FUNGI

RECORDER Linda Clark

14 Top Street, Wing LE15 8SE

January February March 2022.

Having just written the Annual Report for Fungi, I'm very aware of the number of recordings and of the number of the common fungi species that have been sent in. With apologies to Roy Lemmon and micro fungi, except for Tarspot, I'll concentrate on the Macro fungi species.

In these 3 months a total of 42 species have been recorded, with several unknowns which haven't been counted.

There were seven records of Yellow Brain Tremella mesenterica. Velvet Shank Flammulina velutipes, was also recorded. It is an attractive fungus that appears to prefer cold frosty weather and is stunning in appearance. Elder Whitewash Hypodontia sambuci and Scarlet Elfcap Sarcoscypha austriaca, had 3 records each.

I find all fungi interesting, but Scarlet Elfcap, as the name suggests, really catches the eye. Appearing in early winter to early Spring, they can be found in leaf litter on dead wood

and are often on mossy logs, either as a solitary specimen or in small groups. They are members of the family of Cup fungi called Ascomycetes where spores are produced in club shaped structures called asci and when mature, the spores are shot out of the end of these structures.



Scarlet elfcup at Lyndon Nature reserve. Photo L. Biddle

A magnificent showing of Smoky Bracket *Bjerkandera adusta* was found on dead standing wood in the vicinity of the Anglian Birdwatching Centre at Rutland Water NR. Smoky Bracket is listed in the Collins Guide as one of the 100 most frequently seen on forays but was the first recorded for our Society since we restarted mycological records in 2019. This fungus is a “shape shifter” and can be found not only as a bracket but also as a resupinate, horizontally as a rosette and even in cap form (Pat O'Reilly)



Smoky bracket. Photo Tim Sexton

perseverance paid off and he found numerous examples of Beechmast Candlesnuff. These are also listed in Collins as one of the top 100 fungi most likely to be encountered. However, one does have to know where to find them! Would you be able to spot these on a walk? I certainly haven't, but now I know where to find them, I will get down on my hands and knees and hopefully find a little piece of magic. Found in all habitats and in all conditions, Fungi are not only fascinating but play a vital role in life on this planet.



Beechmast candlesnuff. Photo Tim Sexton

Tim Sexton, (Survey and Monitoring Officer at Rutland Water) hunted around Lax Hill for a little fungus that he knew must be present growing on a substrate of old Beechmast. His

My thanks to everyone who sent in records this time. Keep those records coming in - everything is important.

MAMMALS

RECORDER Linda Biddle

21 Waverley Gardens, Stamford PE9 1BH.
Tel: 01780 762108 Email: ajbiddle21@talktalk.net

Otters have been at the beginning of mammal notes for several years now. This arose because not many years ago after a long period when none were seen at all, it was very exciting to have a record of an Otter. We now have more otter reports than badger, fox, weasel, or stoat. There have been 5 otter sightings since January, one on Jan 8th swimming in Lagoon 1, seen from Harrier hide, another at Leighfield fishponds on 2nd February, two observations at Tufted Duck hide on 20th and 22nd February, and on the 22nd an otter was videoed swimming in Top Lake at Fort Henry. In addition, otter spraint and footprints are very regularly found in several areas at RWNr. At the end of March many dead frogs were found at the pond near Tunnely wood Exton, with droppings containing frog remains, sadly those of the guilty party - possibly an otter, but also maybe a mink.

In contrast there have been no stoat reports this season – normally we have at least one record of stoat in ermine or at least partial ermine during the winter. There were only two reports of weasels, one of which ran across the road between Empingham and Exton in early January, and another which has made its home immediately under the window of the visitor centre at Lyndon, periodically popping out to look

for prey at the bird feeders. A badger was observed on the roadside verge on the outskirts of Ridlington by a member returning home from the LRWT local group AGM, a badger appeared on 4 occasions on Marian Markham's trail camera at Langham, and there were plenty of signs of badger activity



Wood mouse. Photo Tim Caldecott

around setts in Rutland. In early January a fox was seen near the railway embankment at Manton Junction, and later in the month three on Manton pastures. In early January a fox wandered along the banks of lagoon 1 at RWNr, and briefly curled up for a snooze. Throughout January and February almost nightly, one or two healthy male foxes appeared on the trailcam at Langham. In March a fox was seen at Lyndon NR and on another occasion, one was chased speedily across in front of the visitor centre by a flapping Canada goose!

Since January there have been only two reports of hedgehogs, both from Wing, and sadly one of those was a road casualty. The other was a regular visitor to the garden of Linda Clark, seen most nights in March. Though this season is not the peak of hedgehog activity it is very unusual for there to be so few hedgehog reports. We normally receive notes on first emergence from boxes in Oakham gardens. If anyone has any reports which you have not sent, please do let me have them. Conversely, although we have only had two reports of molehills, from Langham and Wing, the population of moles locally is thriving, as it is difficult to think of a place where there are no molehills to be seen! They are evident at Egleton, Exton, Pickworth and most pasture around Rutland.

Brown Hares have been seen near Pickworth, Wing, Greetham, Fort Henry, between Manton and Preston, and near Exton where a total of 20 were seen below the limestone bank. Rabbits were reported at Ridlington, Little Casterton, Wing, Exton and Egleton. Grey squirrels are still numerous, reported from Pickworth, EBWC, Harrier Hide, Wing and Langham, where one or two appeared regularly on the trailcamera. Brown rats are also regular performers on the camera at Langham and are often seen under the bird feeders at RWNr both at Egleton, and Lyndon. The winter is when

woodmice (otherwise known as field mice) enter our houses and greenhouses and can sometimes cause problems to our property. One was caught in a live trap in the garage of Marian Markham's home in Langham, another seen in St Marys Road Manton, and one near birdfeeders on the Wing allotments. On an allotment on the banks of the Gwash where it forms the county boundary near Stamford, a camera was left out for a few days during March, and badgers, an adult and a young fox, rabbits, and woodmice were seen. A bank vole was caught in a live trap at Langham, a short-tailed vole seen when tree planting between Preston and Manton, and another vole was seen in a Wing garden. Water Voles are active at several sites around Rutland Water, droppings and footprints seen at Manton Bay, Badger Hide, Snipe hide, Fishponds otter bridge, and at the south end of Oakham canal.

In January three Roe Deer were seen near the river Chater in the Lyndon area. In early March three were seen SW of Wing village, and other observers saw three in a similar location three days later. Muntjac are commonly seen, recorded almost nightly on the trailcam at Langham, RWNr at many locations, Wing, Pickworth, and at Eyebrook reservoir. There were ten records of fallow deer, seen in groups of up to 15, mostly in the Pickworth area. It may be of interest to some of you that on a recent walk just over the border into Lincolnshire we were lucky enough to see a herd of 20 red deer lying in a field, which ignored us for some time before taking off across the open countryside.

Many thanks for all your interesting reports.

A Biddle, Tim Caldecott, Linda & David Clark, Ian & Colleen Day, Dr. C Gallimore, Marian Markham, Terry Mitcham, Jacky Morell and Peter Scott

MOTHS

RECORDER Paul Bennett

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With the first attempt of the year producing a zero return at Bloody Oaks, it was as much in hope as expectation that a trap was left out overnight at Lyndon Nature reserve on 27th March, but 58 moths of 9 species represented a very reasonable count for early spring. Unsurprisingly Hebrew Character, Clouded Drab and the spring Quaker species, especially Common Quaker, comprised the vast majority of the total but Red Chestnut and Pale Pinion were both first site records with the latter of particular interest as a species with a rapid expansion in both numbers and range in recent years from south-west England into this region and areas much further north. This moth would in all probability have just emerged from its hibernation as would the also recorded Herald which can overwinter in garden sheds and various outbuildings.

Other records received were of a Scarlet Tiger caterpillar seen in a garden in Manton on 19th March and an unusual sighting of a cocoon of a Lime Hawk-moth sitting snugly in an owl box that was brought in to the Volunteer Training Centre workshop at Rutland Water. Although its favoured pupation site as with many moths is just below ground it is apparently

not unusual for this species to use either nestboxes or forks in tree branches that are well above ground.

Thank you to the following for their records: - P Bennett, T Caldicott, T Sexton.



Scarlet Tiger caterpillar. Photo Tim Caldecott

ORTHOPTERA

RECORDER Phil Rudkin

10 Brooke Avenue, Stamford, PE9 2RU. Telephone: 01780 762998

E-mail: phil.rudkin@talktalk.net

As expected, no Reports of any sightings for this period!

INSECTS & INVERTEBRATES

RECORDER Jayne Walker

11 Vicars Close, off Empingham Road, Exton LE15 8 AW.

Telephone 01572 868624. E-mail Jayne8586@hotmail.com

Looking back to this time last year we were still in lockdown, so it's good to write this report knowing that we are able once again to get out and about and enjoy the countryside around us.

Records have been limited to a few species so far with most records coming from bees and wasps. Below is a summary of the records received so far.

There has been one record for **Hemiptera** during March, the common Green Shieldbug, *Palomena prasine* which was recorded at an allotment in Wing.

The earliest **Coleoptera** record submitted was of 22-spot Ladybird *Psyllobora 22-punctata*, which was recorded in Manton on the 7th February. Other records for this month from the same area include Harlequin Ladybird *Harmonia axyridis* and 7-Spot Ladybird *Coccinella 7-punctata*. Records for the latter two species have also been received in March from Oakham and Manton.

A Rove Beetle, *Tachyporus hypnorum*, was recorded in Exton and a Pine Ladybird *Exochomus 4-pustulatus*, was seen on some patio doors in Manton.

areas visiting early flowering plants. Numerous Dark-Edged Bee Flies have also been recorded at Ketton Quarry towards the end of this month. Several *Eristalis tenax* were recorded in February in a garden in Exton.



Eristalis tenax. Photo Jayne Walker



7-Spot Ladybird *Coccinella 7-punctata*. Photo Diana Masters

Records of **Diptera** have been limited mainly to Dark-Edged Bee Fly, *Bombylus major*, with the earliest sighting in a garden in Exton. During the very successful RHNS visit to Lyndon Nature Reserve on the 26th March, many were seen in grassy

The recent warm weather resulted in a flurry of **Hymenoptera** sightings, although the earliest record was on the 1st January of a Honey Bee, *Apis mellifera*, which was recorded at Leighfield Fishpond when the temperatures were still low. A common Wasp *Vespula vulgaris* was recorded in February, with further species of bee seen during February and March including Buff-tailed Bumblebee, *Bombus terrestris*, Early Bumblebee, *Bombus pratorum*, Garden Bumblebee, *Bombus hortorum*, Hairy-footed Flower Bee *Anthophora plumipes*, Common Carder Bee *Bombus pascuorum* and Large Red-Tailed Bumblebee *Bombus lapidarius* to name a few.

A single species of an Ichneumon wasp, *Ichneumon stramentor* was recorded in Exton in March, which was seen on a flowerpot.

There has been a total of 34 records received for January to March and I would like to thank the following members who have submitted records since the start of the year: Tim Caldicott, Dave Needham, John and Jackie Morrel and Diana Masters.

PLANT GALLS

RECORDER Roy Lemmon

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Telephone 01780 762051 E-mail: roy.lemmon@yahoo.co.uk

January 2022

There were no reports this month.

February 2022

Reports from two sites provided a total of 6 galls this month. Exton Park on the 8th had the rust gall on Groundsel, a psyllid gall on Red Valerian and a rather old Robin's Pincushion on Dog rose. Barnsdale Wood on the 13th had 3 galls on fallen Oak leaves, this site was not surveyed in 2021 so the records are especially welcome. The galls were the marble gall, cherry gall and common spangle gall. A good early start to the season.

Thanks to Martin Grimes, Roy Lemmon and Jane Ostler for their records.

March 2022

There were reports from 4 sites this month, although gall numbers per site were low, varying between 1 and 4 per site. The great majority of the galls were left over from last season and became more apparent because many plants currently lack leaves.

Bloody Oaks Quarry on the 8th had one of the first galls on Bramble, and Pickworth Drift west, on the 10th had a wasp gall on the stems of Bramble in which it overwinters before emerging in the coming months. Barrowden Road Ketton on the 14th gave 3 galls, all rusts, and Stretton Wood on the 23rd had 4 galls which included the aforementioned wasp gall on Bramble stems and an Aphid gall on Spruce, the only site in the County that we know of.

Thanks to M Grimes and R Lemmon for their reports.

RNHS NEWS

Tree planting at Joe Nourish's farm

On Saturday 5th February, a group of 14 RNHS members met at Joe Nourish's farm to plant trees in two fields in an area bordering the Chater river. The weather was kind and a total of 320 mixed deciduous trees were successfully planted. A few Scots pine were included in the mix.

Thanks to Joe Nourish.



RNHS members tree planting for Joe. Photos L. Biddle



FIELD TRIPS

Eyebrook Reservoir 13 February 2022

It was fantastic to meet up with another 18 members of the Society for a walk along the road from Stoke Dry car park to the feeding station at the bridge at Eyebrook Reservoir. The weather forecast had been a little downbeat all week but when we arrived at 10.00 it was fine if cool and windy. The feeders in the car park, as usual were being visited by Blue Tit, Great Tit and Coal Tit who then retreated back into the Plantation which of course is now out of bounds.

Immediately off the car park we could see Wigeon, Tufted Duck, Gadwall, Goldeneye, Cormorant (many of which were in their breeding plumage, with the white patches showing quite obviously), Mute Swan and Teal. Our walk towards the inflow where the Eye Brook itself enters the reservoir, revealed Canada and Greylag Geese along with a Great White Egret and a Little Egret. There were large numbers of gulls out on the mud, most of which were Black headed Gulls or Common Gulls. Members of the group were also able to get some excellent views of Pintail and Shelduck and a distant view of a Pied Wagtail. There was a distinct lack of winter thrushes with only a solitary Fieldfare being seen. A Song Thrush was also spotted searching along the road verge.

Arriving at the feeding station by the bridge, we added among others, Long tailed Tit, Chaffinch, Dunnock, Robin, Great Spotted Woodpecker, Jay and Blackbird to our list.

After taking the time to see if anything else would turn up it was decided to return to the cars and allow individuals to do a bit more birdwatching from their cars as the rain had started and it seemed foolish to risk getting soaked.

On the way back to the cars a Kestrel was hung in the wind at no more than head height giving excellent views of its hunting technique.

All in all, a good morning with my list standing at just over 40 species for a couple of hours.

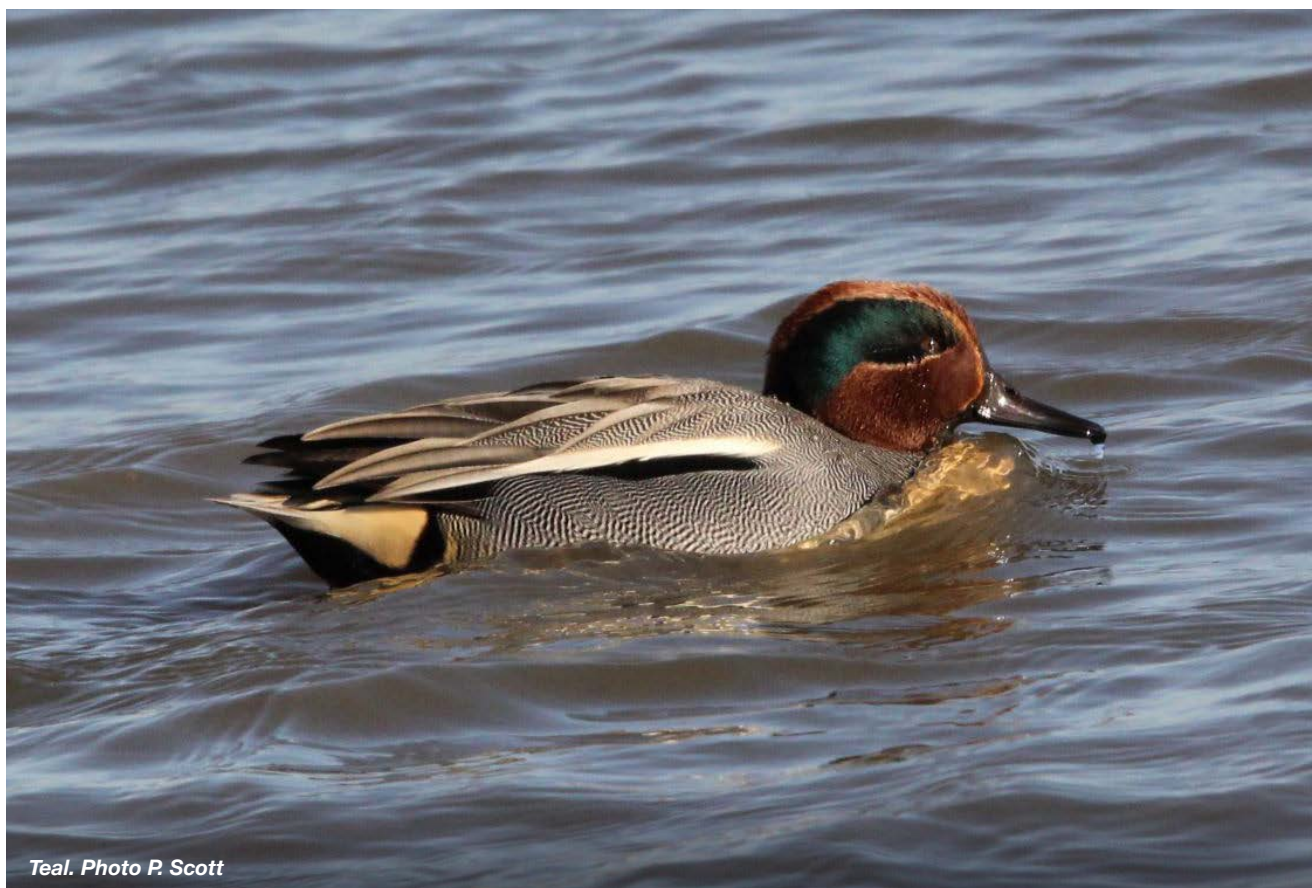
Peter Scott



Pintail. Photo P. Scott

Eyebrook Reservoir 13 February 2022 - Bird List

Mallard	Cormorant
Teal	Crow
Gadwall	Jackdaw
Wigeon	Fieldfare
Goldeneye	Song Thrush
Tufted	Blackbird
Pintail	Pheasant
Shelduck	Red legged Partridge
Moorhen	Magpie
Coot	Blue Tit
Canada Goose	Great Tit
Greylag Goose	Coal Tit
Mute Swan	Long tailed Tit
Little Egret	Chaffinch
Great White Egret	Robin
Grey Heron	Dunnock
Common Gull	Pied Wagtail
Black headed Gull	Great Spotted Woodpecker
Buzzard	Goldfinch
Kestrel	Jay
Great Crested Grebe	



Teal. Photo P. Scott

Osprey walk at Lyndon March 26th

On a beautiful spring morning a group of 17 members collected in the car park at the LRWT nature reserve visitor centre Lyndon, to be welcomed with warm friendly greetings from the volunteer on duty, and Libby Smith. Once in the centre, we settled in front of the large window looking out over the water and Pat the duty volunteer, gave us a potted history of the pair of Ospreys - Maya the female who has been nesting at Lyndon since 2014, and raised 32 young and 33/9, the male who has been her partner for the last 7 Years. This year Maya arrived early (March 14th) and had to wait for just over a week for the male to catch up with her, but they are now settled and busy nesting and mating, which we hope will result in a healthy new clutch of osprey chicks.

The group then set off to walk the perimeter track to Waderscape hide. The sun continued to shine, there was no wind, and it was really a very warm day for late March. En route to Tufted duck hide, we passed through leaves of lots of ramsons, newly emerged but not yet in flower. Along the way, we heard many chiff chaff singing out their persistent song, with dunnock, robin and wren doing their best to compete. At one point, a sharp hearing member caught the sound of a Blackcap singing, probably an overwintered bird, as it was the only one heard all morning. A bee fly was busy in the vegetation at the edge of the path, and lesser celandines flowered in profusion. Several brimstone butterflies fluttered above, both male and female. Peacock and tortoiseshell butterflies flew around us and on the skeleton tree part way along the track, we saw the usual band of cormorant, posing on the bare branches to digest their fishy meals. When we stopped at Tufted duck hide, we were lucky to see a pair of courting Great crested grebe doing their ritual presentation of weed and swaying and mirroring each other with their heads close together – a special sight, and a very lucky moment!

At Waderscape hide we were welcomed by Diane, who helpfully gave us some more information about the birds on the nest. We had a wonderful session watching them, disturbed first by a beautiful Marsh harrier which flew around them then moved off along the southern shore, settling on the ground among some grassy clumps and then eventually disappearing over the treetops, which was later overflowed by a red kite. After some time watching these lovely birds, some of the members then made their separate ways back to the visitor centre, while a few continued to Shallow water hide, listening to the frogs calling loudly in the wet ground alongside the hide. The views of the nest with Burley house in the background were truly spectacular!

On our way back to the centre, a comma butterfly settled on the hawthorn hedge and a pair of goldeneye swam in the bay in front of Lyndon centre- a final treat to end a lovely morning.



Lyndon centre wildlife walk. Photo L. Biddle

Species noted.

Birds	Chiff chaff	Blue tit	Blackcap
	Reed bunting	Great tit	Goldfinch
	Coal tit	Starling	Chaffinch
	Goldeneye (M&F)	Tufted duck	Mallard
	Gadwall	Great crested grebe	Wren
	Dunnock	Osprey	Marsh harrier
	Red kite	Black headed gull	Crow
	Cormorant		
Mammals	Badger diggings		
Amphibians	Common frog		
Insects	Bee fly	Buff-tailed bumble bee	Drone fly
	Water boatman	Pond skater	
Butterflies	Brimstone (M&F)	Tortoiseshell	Peacock
	Comma		
Plants	Lesser celandine	Primrose	Violet
	Ramsons (Not in flower)		

All events are as detailed and as correct as possible at time of publication but can be subject to change at short notice so please check with up-to-date information on the website.

Indoor meetings take place between October and April on the first Tuesday of the month between 7.30 – 9.30pm. We are currently looking for a new location for our indoor meetings beginning in October, as Voluntary Action Rutland (VAR) no longer opens during the evening. If there are government changes to rules, meetings may also be held via zoom if appropriate and members will receive a link via email.

For all indoor and outdoor meetings please book your place with Jeff Wilcox-Smith who will give more detailed information. Contact details at the foot of the programme.

Please note: Outdoor events are likely to be on rough or muddy ground so be sure to wear suitable footwear and clothing and carry drinks and sun cream etc. to suit weather conditions.

Indoor meetings are in **green**. Outdoor meetings in **purple**.

Saturday 7th May. 4.00am. Dawn chorus. Join us for an atmospheric early morning in the woods. Listen quietly for the first murmurings of our British songsters tuning up for a full-scale orchestral concert. For more details, please contact Linda and Anthony Biddle. Contact number at foot of the programme.

Saturday 7th May. Nightingale walk. 9.00am. Pickworth woods. Meet at entrance to track by Quarry farm cottages on RHS from Clipsham to Holywell. Ref: SK986 156. There is a 300yd. uphill slope to the wood and then it becomes flat but can be muddy if wet. Led by Linda and Anthony Biddle. Contact details at foot of programme.

Saturday 28th May. Joint RNHS/RCC market stall on Oakham market. 10.00am – 3.00pm. Meet with RNHS members and representatives from the Council to find out more about our Rutland Verge Nature reserves.

Saturday 11th June. 10.00am. Visit to Bedford Purlieus National Nature Reserve. Led by our very own Peter Scott. Covering 520 acres of ancient woodland, there is a lot to explore in this hidden gem. Located just east of Wandsford. From the Duddington island (A43), take A47 for approx. 3 miles towards the A1. There is a sign on the left indicating FARM ACCESS on the right of the road. Meet in car park about 100yds along track on the left. PE8 6NN. Map ref: TF039006.

Thursday 7th July. 5 – 7pm. Langer wildflowers evening walk. Led by Jenny Harris (our bat recorder). Meet in the car park. NG13 9HP. Map ref: SK731 342.

Saturday 23rd July. BIOBLITZ at Oakham canal. This is an all-day event. Leaders will be the recorders of the RNHS. Meet in the lay-by by Langham Road or Ashwell Road. BEWARE. There is deep water here. Wear stout shoes. Map ref: SK856 110.

Saturday 6th August. 11.00am. Ketton Quarry. Led by our own Jayne Walker and Dave Needham. Always a popular visit to find and record butterflies and flowers in this lovely place. Meet in the car park at Pits Lane. Map ref: SK978 053.

Thursday 15th September. 10.00am. Allerton Trust Project. Loddington, Leics. Set on a 318-acre farm, the Trust carries out research on the effects of various farming methods on wildlife and the environment. Postcode LE7 9XE. Map ref: SP791 024.

Tuesday 4th October. 7.30pm. Alan Cann. (Leicester University and Naturespot). Spiders of Leicestershire and Rutland.

Thursday 20th October. 6.00pm. Deer rutting walk at Bradgate park. Meet at Bradgate Park entrance car park. Newtown Linford, nr. Anstey. Postcode LE6 0HB. CHARGES WILL APPLY. Wild animals, particularly in the rutting season can be dangerous so treat with care. Good footwear is essential for this walk.

Tuesday 1st November. 7.30pm. Prof. James Pearce-Higgins. Birds and Climate change. James is a member of the senior management team for the BTO and author of "Birds and Climate change".

Saturday 12th November. 10.00am. Attenborough Nature reserve. Chilwell, Nottinghamshire. A beautiful complex of flooded former gravel pits and islands, providing exceptional habitat for a wide range of wildlife. There are several trails to choose from on our visit. Post code: NG9 6DY. Meet in the car park where THERE IS A CHARGE OF £3.00 for the day. Details of methods of payment can be found on their website. Suitable clothing and footwear should be worn.

Tuesday 6th December. 7.30pm. Members/ recorders evening. A popular event, allowing members to present their stories of the previous twelve months with pictures and videos – and maybe drinks and nibble this year

Contact details for outdoor events:

L Biddle. Email: abiddle21@talktalk.net. Mobile 07749636919 (Dawn chorus only).

J Wilcox-Smith. Email: wilcoxsmith@btinternet.com. Mobile: 07946733931.



Rutland Natural History Society
Income and Expenditure Account for year ended 31/12/21

2020	2021
Income	
2,379 Subscriptions for Year	2,402
368 Gift Aid tax refund	352
32 Donations	87
425 Calendar sales	345
59 Interest Received	23
3,263 Total Income	3,209
Expenditure	
252 Hall hire & refreshments	242
270 Speakers & visit leaders	515
159 On Line events (Zoom)	144
588 Fieldfare printing	600
436 Publications Distribution	256
90 Insurance	101
127 Postage, sundries etc	91
40 L&RWT membership	50
144 Website	1,310
0 Book sponsorship	200
354 Calendars production	380
2,460 Total expenditure	3,889
803 Surplus/Deficit	-680

Reserves	
8,642 Balance brought forward	9,445
803 Surplus for year	-680
9,445 Balance carried forward	8,765

(includes £2000 Insurance Reserve)

Reserves include £320 (£410 - 2020) from legacy received
to be utilised for ornithological lectures over time

5,560 Melton Mowbray Building Society	5,583
4,572 Lloyds Bank current account	3,725
28 Petty Cash	22
-715 Less Subs received in advance	-565
9,445 Total	8,765

MJConner

Margaret Conner

20/1/2022 Date

The above accounts are in accordance with the records produced to me

Douglas Matthew CA

Douglas Matthew CA

9/2/22 Date



Grabbing an early meal. Photo C Baxter

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Wildlife Recorders

Contact details can be found at head of reports inside Fieldfare and on the RNHS website.

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