



Greater butterfly orchid.
Photo Nick Gibson.

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Welcome

By the time you read this newsletter, the longest day will have come and gone and summer will be in full swing; it's not been great so far, but who can predict our English summers? Despite all the rain and lack of sunshine this spring, the temperatures have been well above average again this year (See Roy's report page 3), turning the countryside a gorgeous emerald green. Not so good for insect life though it seems, with the early bumblebee buzz we love to hear, taking time to gather pace.

Notwithstanding the weather, we had some pleasant excursions out to Launde Park wood in April, and Merry's meadows in May (See reports page 10 -14) and our programme for the next couple of months is "hotting up" hopefully (page 2). Book yourself in with Jeff and enjoy some company in our lovely rural countryside.

Members were invited to the official opening of the "Motus Station" by LRWT at the Volunteer training Centre on 22nd May. The tower, installed at the beginning of the year and situated at Rutland Water, is a radio telemetry "receiver", one of many (34 countries) across the world with a global community of scientists keeping track of possible changing patterns of migration due to climate change. The "transmitters" are little tags placed on the animal before release, which then sends information to the tower as they pass over them. It has already received information on Nathusius pipistrelles, much to the delight of Jenny our Bat recorder. Our Urban Wildlife safari around Oakham on 8th June, led by Tim Sexton And Russell Parry (VC55 Botany recorder) highlighted just how varied and interesting our urban flora and fauna can be in an urban setting (even though we had to borrow weights from the veg stall to keep the gazebo from flying away!)

From June until the middle of August is Glowworm season and thanks to long-time member Linda Worrall, and other past volunteers, we still know about these special sites in the county. If you are a "night owl" and would like to help with recording, please do get in touch. Contact numbers are on the back page. Enjoy the summer to come!

DIARY DATES



The following events are correct at time of publication but may be changed at short notice, so it is important to book your place with Jeff Wilcox-Smith. Details. Mob: 07946733931 or wilcoxsmith@btinternet.com. Full details of all these events appear on our website at www.rnhs.org.uk. Please make sure you are wearing appropriate clothing for the outdoor meetings and if the weather is bad on the day, give Jeff a ring beforehand in case it needs to be cancelled. Jeff may also help with any queries if you are unsure about directions.

RNHS Outdoor meetings.

Saturday 20th July, 10.00am. A walk in John Clare country at Swaddywell with Sarah Lambert.

Sarah joined us back in March for a very popular coffee morning and impressed us with some stunning photographs of the area. Join her and see first hand the amazing wildlife to be found here. **Meet:** on site on Stamford road, Helpston, PE6 7EL. Grid ref: TF116 031.

Saturday 10th August, 10.30am and 2.00pm. Ketton Quarry Family Bug, Bee and Butterfly hunt.

This year we will be joining forces with Leicestershire and Rutland Wildlife Trust for our annual day of family fun discovering all the "B's" you can find in the Quarry. **Park and Meet:** In the Scout hut Car park, Pitt lane, Ketton. PE9 3SZ. Grid ref: SK979 053.

Sunday 8th September, 7.15pm. Bat walk at the volunteer training centre (VTC) with Jenny Harris.

Jenny is the bat care co-ordinator for the Leicestershire and Rutland Bat Group. Join her for a night of nocturnal exploration and learn how to identify the different species. Bring bat detectors if you have them (Jenny has spares). **Meet:** In the volunteer car park, LE15 8TL. Grid ref: SK883 083.

RNHS Indoor meetings.

Indoor meetings will resume again on Tuesday 1st October at VTC until March 2025.

There is an error on the Contact details for Indoor and Outdoor events at the bottom of the Annual Programme. Please contact Jeff as usual for the rest of this year to book your place onto the events. Details as above.

LRWT. Rutland local group.

Sunday 30th June 2.00pm - 4.00pm. Walk at Bloody Oaks.

Join the Rutland group and enjoy some wildflower hunting. Bloody Oaks Quarry, Grantham Lane, Empingham. PE9 4AG. **No need to book. Just turn up.**

Leicestershire and Rutland Bat Group.

Bats and Glowworms walk with Jenny Harris.

Friday 5th July, 9.00pm - 10.20pm. Ketton Church

Nearest postcode; PE9 3RD

To book your place email: batevents@outlook.com

NOTICES

* **Message from John Rodgers: Members sending records to Naturespot, please be sure to use the RNHS project heading (dropdown menu).**

* **Instagram** will be online soon. Kate Fortune Jones will be asking for photo's of any interesting finds that you see.

Volunteers needed for summer surveys.

Verge recording.

We need an update on our (and RCC) Local Wildlife Sites (LWS) in the county. There are quite a few verges to revisit and would appreciate some extra hands to carry out flower observations on these verges in June - August to find out which ones are still worth continuing to record. Expert knowledge is not needed, but if you would like to try your hand at "botanizing", it is a very pleasant way of getting out and about for an hour or so. For information, please get in touch with John Rodgers – Botany recorder at rnhsbotanyrecord@gmail.com.

Summer Glowworm Survey.

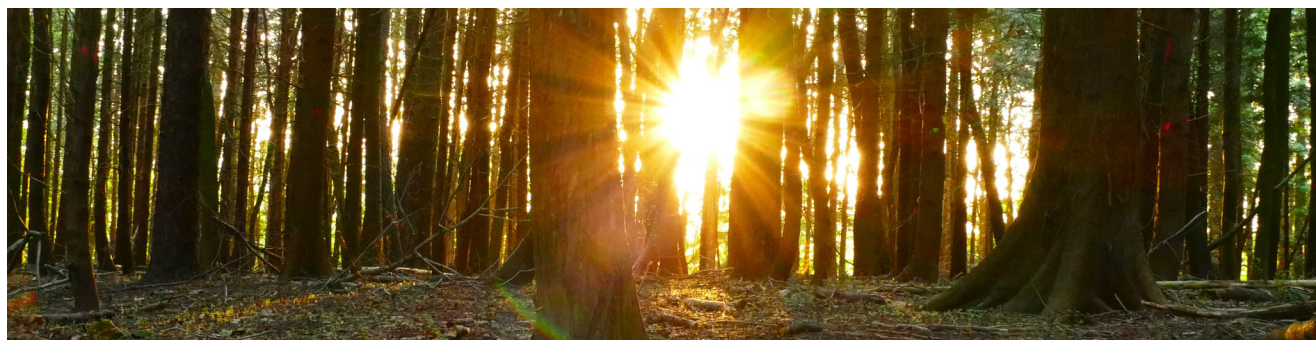
We try to record Glowworms at 4 or 5 sites during their breeding season from June to the end of July. Can you join us from around 10.30pm until midnight to count "glows" from some of these sites. To increase our chances of finding the greatest numbers, we aim to visit each site once a week in June and July. Please contact Carolyn Baxter for more information at rnhsfieldfare2@gmail.com

WEATHER

RECORDER Roy Lemmon

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April 2024

Atmospheric pressure and wind. The first 9 days of the month were low pressure as were the last 6; the lowest pressure of the month was on the 1st at 993.5mb. Winds were generally S-W until the 14th and then NW-NE until the 29th and 30th when they were S-SW. There was one named storm, Kathleen (Met. Office) on the 6th and 7th and gusty conditions were also a feature at other times.

Temperature. The overall mean for the month was 9.97C which places this April the 4th. warmest in the decade 2015-2024 just ahead of April 2015 which was 9.94C. The northerly winds referred to above, together with the gusty conditions meant that the wind chill effect was noticeable. There was one air frost on the night of the 24th-25th when the temperature just dipped below zero C.

Precipitation. A total of 51.2mm. (2.02 inches) for this month corresponds to 123% of my long term mean of 34 years. On Monday 15th at about 08.15 there was a violent squall with thunder, high winds and 4.5mm of precipitation which fell as hail. At about 16.15 on the same day there was another squall, less violent than the first, but again

with hail. It is perhaps worth reminding members that each month from September to the present has had precipitation in excess of 100% of mean, often considerably so.

May 2024

Atmospheric pressure and wind. A rather unsettled month with low pressures except for the 7th-11th inclusive. The lowest was 1002mb. on the 14th. and the highest was 1030.5mb. on the 8th. Winds were very variable in direction and, especially towards the latter part of the month were often gusty. On the 26th., in the early afternoon there was a storm with lightning and thunder and heavy rain which lasted some 25 minutes.

Temperature. With a mean of 15.89C this was the warmest May in the decade 2015-2024. Overnight minima were often relatively high, including 15.0C on the 20th-21st. and the highest daytime maximum was 28.3C on the 12th.

Precipitation. The total here was 52.7mm. (2.07 inches) and equates to 108% of the long term mean of 34 years. Rain fell on 12 days of the month.

AMPHIBIANS & REPTILES

RECORDER Dr C H Gallimore

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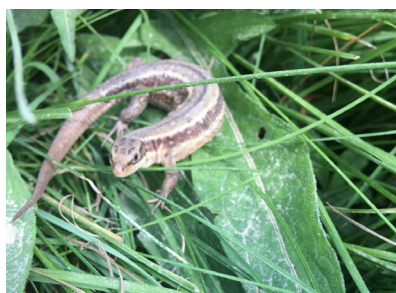
E-mail: chasgall@hotmail.com

April / May 2024

The relatively few sight records for these two months have been enhanced by serendipitous "by-catch" from camera trapping by Anthony Biddle who has furnished records of toad, lizard and grass snake which would have otherwise gone unnoticed.

Amphibian records were sparse – tadpoles of **Common Frog** in Ridlington on 8 April and frogs in Prior's Coppice at about the same date were the only records of frogs. **Common Toad** tadpoles were recorded from Ridlington on 29 April and also in Lagoon 3 at Rutland Water a few days earlier. (An adult toad was camera-trapped near the Lagoon 3 site a few days previously). A very large toad was also observed in the recorder's drive on the night of 28 May.

A **Viviparous Lizard** was also camera-trapped near Lax Hill on 13 May and a report of a thriving population of lizards at St George's Barracks was also received. A **Slow Worm** was observed in Burley away from the wood on 2



Late record of Viviparous Lizard at Pickworth Drift. Photo L. Biddle.

May.

Grass Snakes were also camera-trapped near Lax Hill – two different individuals on separate dates in mid-May, and a dead grass snake was found at Leighfield. Two **Adders** were seen at Ketton on 2 May.

My thanks to the following who sent records:- A Biddle, T Caldicott, J Morrell, D Needham, T Sexton & J Spencer

April 2024

Highlights. Three White-fronted Geese were at Banthorpe GP (1st). Rutland Water had a Long-tailed Duck (10th-13th), a Spoonbill (24th, 29th) with two (30th), a Cattle Egret (5th), c.100 Black-tailed Godwits (6th), a Kittiwake (17th) and eight Sandwich Terns (13th). Five Cranes flew over Oakham (8th).

Rutland Water. The count (9th) produced ten Shelducks, nine Mandarin Ducks, 75 Shoveler, 128 Gadwall, 88 Teal, 22 Pochard, 681 Tufted Ducks, nine Goldeneye (30 on 2nd), 100 Great Crested Grebes and seven Little Egrets. Other wildfowl were a Pink-footed Goose (26th), Garganey to (23rd), eight Scaup to (6th) with two to (12th) and Common Scoter (14th, 26th). The Great Northern Diver was seen to at least (20th). Marsh Harriers were regular at Egleton, and a Hobby was reported (26th). Wader counts included 21 Oystercatchers and seven Curlew (9th), two Avocets (27th), Grey Plover (1st, 30th), nine Whimbrel (27th), a Bar-tailed Godwit (22nd-30th), a Sanderling (27th) and a Little Stint (22nd). Common Sandpipers were noted from (6th). There were Spotted Redshanks (25th-30th) and Greenshanks from (18th). A Caspian Gull was noted (13th, 14th) with the first Arctic Terns (7th and 15 (21st). There were two Black Terns (27th, 28th) and three (30th). A Cuckoo was reported (8th) with Swifts from (23rd) and a Grasshopper Warbler (20th). A Nightingale was first heard (21st). Redstarts were noted (8th, 12th) and Wheatears were at the dam (23rd, 29th), where a 'Channel Wagtail was photographed (15th).

Eyebrook Reservoir. There was a Pink-footed Goose (26th, 27th) and a Garganey (1st). Waders included a Whimbrel (29th), a Bar-tailed Godwit (23rd), three Black-tailed Godwits (28th), three Dunlin (28th), two Common Sandpipers and an impressive 31 Redshanks during heavy rain (28th). There were Little Terns (23rd-24th and 29th), the first Common Tern (3rd) and Arctic Terns from (8th) with 18 (28th). A Black Tern was seen (26th) and a Kingfisher (23rd). There were nine Yellow Wagtails (9th) and two White Wagtails (26th).

Other Sites. A pair of Barnacle Geese were at Banthorpe GP (16th). Up to four Mandarin Ducks were at Geeston, Banthorpe, Quarry Farm and Fort Henry Ponds. 54 Gadwall were at Fort Henry Ponds (4th). An Osprey was over Belmesthorpe (22nd). Two Oystercatchers were on floods near Ryhall (16th) and a Green Sandpiper was at Fort Henry Ponds (14th). A Whinchat was at Stoke Dry (14th) and Bramblings at King's Hill Lodge (to 5th) and Oakham (7th). Five Siskins were in an Oakham garden (1st).



Cuckoo on "Cormorant tree". Lyndon. Photo Steve Smalley.

May 2024.

Highlights. Rutland Water had a Cattle Egret (6th), two Spoonbills (9th), a Red-necked Phalarope (27th), a Kittiwake (25th) and a singing Savi's Warbler (3rd-21st). A Goosander was at Banthorpe GP (1st).

Rutland Water. (See also Wildfowl Count). Wildfowl included single Pink-footed and White-fronted Geese both (7th-8th) and four Mandarin Ducks (17th). There were three Marsh Harriers (11th). Some wader counts were two Avocets (11th), 16 Oystercatchers (15th), three Grey Plovers (12th), six Ringed Plovers (15th), five Little Ringed Plovers (5th) and eight Whimbrel (2nd). Also noted were two Bar-tailed Godwits (2nd, 3rd), Turnstone (11th, 17th), Sanderling (4th-26th), Common Sandpiper (11th, 21st) and three Redshanks (15th) with a Spotted Redshank (1st-5th) and three Greenshanks (11th). Little Gulls were seen (2nd, 9th, 11th) and Yellow-legged Gulls hatched two chicks (11th). There were three Little Terns (10th) and two Arctic Terns (3rd) with five Black Terns (11th). Six Hobbies were at Egleton, and a Spotted Flycatcher was in Barnsdale Wood both (11th).

Eyebrook Reservoir. (See also Wildfowl Count). There was a pair of Garganey from (24th). Wader counts included up to six Avocets (5th-26th), three Grey Plovers (15th), five Ringed Plovers (23rd), Whimbrel (4th), Turnstone (9th, 10th), Sanderling (11th-23rd) with four (16th), 10 Dunlin (23rd) and a Spotted Redshank (9th). There were two Little Gulls (11th), 29 Common Terns (12th) and three Arctic Terns (4th). There were six Black Terns (12th). Stonechats bred with a pair and two young seen (11th).

Other Sites. There were 23 Gadwall (19th) and 19 Tufted Ducks (19th) at Fort Henry Ponds. A pair of Barnacle Geese remained at Banthorpe GP to (23rd). A Marsh Harrier was in Exton Park (16th). There was a Curlew at Cottesmore Airfield (11th) and three Common Sandpipers at Fort Henry Ponds (4th). Cuckoos were heard at four sites. Barn Owls bred at Geeston and Tawny Owls in Exton Park. Kingfishers were at Fort Henry (4th) and Tinwell (11th). Two Hobbies were at Geeston (20th) and Ravens fledged young at four sites. Cetti's and Reed Warblers sang at Geeston (20th) and two Nightingales at Quarry Farm to at least (15th). Spotted Flycatchers were at Empingham (3rd) and Ridlington (12th).

My thanks to the following for their records in April and May:- R.F.Baker, A.Comber, N.Gibson, Dr.C.H.Gallimore, J.Griffin, LROS, P.& B.Lewis, D.Masters, K.Mathers, T.Mitcham, B.Moore, J.Morrell, M.Nourish, C.I.Park, J.S.&J. Rodgers, RWNr, T.Sexton, W.O.Smith



Blackcap singing at Oakham canal. Photo Peter Scott.

Wildfowl Counts – April and May 2024

	RW 09.04.	RW 15.05.	EBR 07.04.	EBR 11.05.
Canada Goose	126	106	8	17
Greylag Goose	108	160	21	14
Mute Swan	116	197	48	40
Egyptian Goose	24	17		2
Shelduck	10	3		1
Mandarin Duck	9	2		
Shoveler	75	9		
Gadwall	128	147	8	16
Wigeon	13		18	
Mallard	180	256	20	88
Teal	88	9	105	
Red-crested Pochard				
Pochard	22	25		1
Tufted Duck	681	110	39	13
Scaup	4			
Common Scoter		1		
Goldeneye	9			
Great Northern Diver	1			
Little Grebe	9			
Great Crested Grebe	100	118	24	57
Grey Heron	3	3	1	2
Great White Egret		2		
Little Egret	7	8	1	1
Cormorant	118	160	2	1
Moorhen	12	9		1
Coot	110	43		
TOTAL	1953	1386	295	254

	FHP/Exton Park 04.04.	FHP/Exton Park 12.05.	Banthorpe GP 01.04.	Banthorpe GP 13.05.
Canada Goose			5	3
Barnacle Goose			2	2
Greylag Goose	17	15	22	29
White-fronted Goose			3	
Mute Swan	9	6	2	1
Egyptian Goose	1	1		
Mandarin Duck		1		
Shoveler		1		
Gadwall	54	24		
Mallard	22	40	7	6
Teal	2		2	
Tufted Duck	34	18	5	4
Grey Heron	1	1	1	1
Cormorant		2	1	
Moorhen	13	8	1	2
Coot	40	27	4	4
TOTAL	193	144	55	52



April/May 2024

The flowering season has arrived despite the current cold. There are many different shades of green on the trees; the verges are full of **Cow Parsley**, and some of the favourite flowers like the Bluebells, have already disappeared until next year. Recording is in full swing. Numerous records have already been received and the Society has had two successful outings.

The first was at Merry's Meadows on a dull day (so there were few butterflies), to find **Green-winged Orchids**, **Cuckoo flower**, **Yellow Rattle** and **Early Purple Orchids**. **Pignut** and **Pepper Saxifrage** were also present. The second took place on the Society's Nature Walks Day, written up elsewhere in this edition. It was led by Tim Sexton, together with two experts, Russell Parry and Lindsay-Ann Heald. The walk took us around parts of Oakham and, including trees and shrubs, yielded over 150 species of plant. The star find was of a bed of **Sanicle** in part of the Council car park at Catmose. This emphasises, dramatically, what we can find around us, in an urban setting, if we give ourselves time to look.

Of the less common records, for the whole county, orchids stand out with the first record of **Greater Butterfly Orchid**

for many years. Messenger last records it in the 60s in the Pickworth area. There has also been **Bee Orchid** in several places, including on the Oakham bypass found by Marian Markham, and a number of **Early Purple**, **Southern Marsh**, and **Pyramidal Orchids**. The last was recorded by Terry Mitcham last week. **Bird's Nest** has also raised its pale head in the usual place at Ketton quarry. The other unusual flower, a first for the county, was **Bur Chervil** in Oakham churchyard. This is similar to Cow Parsley with finer leaves and fruit as characteristic burs, rather like miniature burdocks. A further first was **Mediterranean Nettle**, found by Steve Woodward in Oakham. Easily overlooked by most of us, it differs from Common Nettle mainly by the colour of its flowers. To be a good botanist you have to go back and have a second look- not something I'm very good at. **Herb Paris** was present in its usual place in Prior's Coppice and **Goldilocks Buttercup** at Merry's Meadows and at the Freewards in Essendine.

Mant thanks to those who sent in records; C Bailey, A&J Biddle, T Caldecott, K Fortune-Jones M Grimes, R Lemmon, M Markham, T Mitcham, D Needham, T Sexton.



Bur chervil. Note fruits covered in hooked spines. Photo J. Rodgers.



Leaves and flowers of Bur chervil. Photo J Walker.



Bee Orchid. Photo Marian Markham

FUNGI

April/ May

April heralds Morel season and whilst Rutland cannot boast plentiful numbers – it seems that the Egleton Nature reserve is becoming a reliable site for two less common varieties. The **Semi-free Morel** (*Morchella semilibera*) and the rarer **Thimble Morel** (*Verpa conica*) seem to happily populate the woodland path verge from the Visitor Centre to the Mallard hide. Both morels are distinguished by their conical shaped cap being only attached at the top half of the stem, unlike the sought after edible morels where the stem and cap are joined. I noted some variety in the cap form of the Thimbles with some being very smooth and just dimpled whilst others being quite convoluted and brain like.

(Rather resembling the poisonous False Morel)
The Cup groups of fungi and close allies were still very evident with **Vinegar Cup**, **Palamino Cup** and **Scarlet Elf Cups** frequently seen at Egleton again and Ketton, whilst the tiny **Eye Lash fungi Scutellinia sp.** was found in Wardley Woods and at Merry Meadows by C. Baxter, some of which she collected and observed under the microscope. A possible second type of Eyelash fungi was also found by Tim Sexton. These are found on damp, rotting wood, typically in wet places.

Slime fungi and moulds continued into the month with **Wolf's Milk Slime** frequently encountered and the

delightfully named '**Moon Poo**' or '**Caca de luna**' – *Reticularia lycoperdon* seen at Lax Hill on decaying wood. **Coral Spot** was common and various Rusts were recorded at Bloody Oaks Quarry and Merry Meadows including **Rose rust, Pocket plum, Arum rust and Violet Bramble rust**.

A more palatable April find was the **St. Georges Mushroom** seen in good number around the county, and its borders. My first group found again on the Egleton Reserve along the woodland path. A robust, knobbly, dingy white mushroom which grows in troops in grassy places

often on the edge of woodland. Its name giving away its Spring time appearance – historically reputed to start fruiting on April 23rd St. Georges day.

Other fungi making an appearance this Spring included **Pleated Ink caps, Common Inkcaps, Sulphur tufts, Bay Polypore, Blackfoot Polypore, Turkeytail, Jelly Ear and Willow Shield**. With the larger bracket fruiting types of **Southern Bracket, Hoof Fungus** and a couple of **Dryads Saddles** also on show. These were found around the Rutland Egleton and Lax hill site, Whissendine and at Ketton.

Thanks to those who sent in records.



Scutellinia sp. Wardley woods. C. Baxter



Thimble morel. Egleton. K Fortune Jones.



**“Moon poo”. *Reticularia lycoperdon*.
A slime mould.
K Fortune Jones.**

INSECTS & INVERTEBRATES

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April/ May 2024

This morning there is a report on the BBC news stating that we have 'experienced the warmest spring on record and that nighttime records were particularly high'. The downside to this good news is that it was also one of the wettest. I think we can all agree that it's certainly been wet! However, over the last two months members have reported many insects and 'others', some of which are 'uncommon' records for the VC. Below is a précis of the members sightings.

Records for dragonfly and damselfly records have been trickling in with the **Large Red Damselfly**, *Pyrrhosoma nymphula* and the **Four-Spotted Chaser** *Libellula quadrimaculata*, at Leighfield Fishponds (NGR SK 8314 0374) and Gibbet Gorse Meadows (NGR SK 9025 0575). The **Azure Damselfly**, *Coenagrion puella* has been seen at the Wing Hill Allotments (NGR SK 8891 0288) and the **Southern Hawker**, *Aeshna cyanea* at Manton (NGR

SK 8891 0288). In addition, the **Red-eyed Damselfly**, *Erythromma najas* and the **White Legged Damselfly**, *Platycnemis pennipes* have been noted on Rutland Water Lagoon 7 cycle track (NGR SK 87770624) and the **Common Blue Damselfly**, *Enallagma cyathigerum* at Ketton Quarry (NGR SK 980 060).

Shieldbugs have been seen in a variety of locations with the **Green Shieldbug**, *Palomena prasina* a common record. Others include **Woundwort Shieldbug**, *Eysarcoris venustissimus*, (NGR SK 847 611), **Hairy Shieldbug**, *Dolycoris baccarum*, Wardley Woods (NGR SP 835 994). A **Fine-Streaked Budkin**, *Miris striatus* was recorded at Gibbet Gorse Meadows (NGR SK 9025 0575).

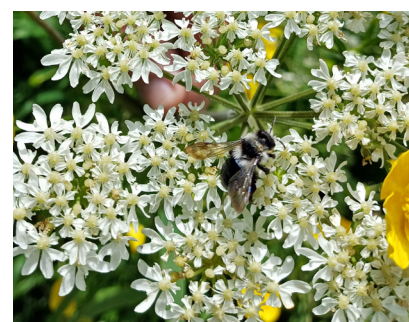
The **Common Sun Beetle**, *Amara aenea* and the **Rust Fly**, *Psila merdaria* were both seen at Wing Hill Allotment (NGR SK 8891 0288) which I thought were apt records for the spring weather!



**Azure damselfly. Oakham canal.
Photo Peter Scott**



**Uncommon Hoverfly
Brachypalpoidea lentus.**



Ashy mining bee. Ketton verge 10

A **hoverfly** *Brachypalpoides lentus* was recorded in Gibbets Gorse Meadows (NGR SK 9025 0575) which is noted as an 'uncommon in VC55'; a photograph of this stunning looking insect is shown below.

Other hoverflies that have been well recorded throughout the County and include **Common Batman Fly**, *Myathropa florea* and *Volucella pellucens*. The **Green Tiger Beetle**, *Cicindela campestris* has been recorded at Ketton Quarry (NGR SK 980 060). I must admit this is one of my favourite beetles. Although I have not gone into details of the **Ladybirds** 'spotted' within the VC55, there have been a welcome number of records, so please keep them coming in.

The **Red-Tailed Mason Bee**, *Osmia biclor* has been recorded at Ketton Quarry (NGR SK 980 060). Other bees

recorded include the **Chocolate Mining Bee**, *Andrena scotia*, **Orange-Tailed Mining Bee**, *Andrena haemorrhoa*, **Ashy Mining Bee**, *Andrena cineraria*, **Gooden's Nomad Bee**, *Nomada goodeniana* and the lovely named **Hairy-Footed Flower Bee**, *Anthophora plumipes* in the County at a number of locations.

Other records include the **Red Slug**, *Arion rufus* which was spotted in Ridlington Field (NGR SK 846 024) and **Leopard Slug**, *Limax maximus* in Wardley Woods (NGR SP 836 996).

I would like to thank the following members who have submitted records: Diana Masters, Jacky Morrell, Tim Caldicott, Dave Needham, Carolyn Baxter and John Rodgers for downloading and forwarding me the records reported on NatureSpot.

MOTHS

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April/ May 2024

With prevailing conditions being cool and unsettled, the Lyndon trap was operated on only two occasions. 51 moths of 15 species were identified from the night of 12th April, a mixture of generally common early and late spring species, of which the highest number was **Hebrew Character** with 16 records. Other species of note were a pristine **Herald** which had probably just emerged from hibernation, both **Swallow** and **Lesser Swallow Prominent** and a count of 6 **Lunar Marbled Brown** with the latter looking freshly emerged from pupation. 45 moths of 22 species were taken from the trap on 12th May including 7 **Poplar Hawk-moths**. **Seraphim** was a new moth for the site bringing the overall species total there to 450 since formal recording began in 2012. Also recorded was a **Grass Rivulet**, a species only occasionally seen in the vice-county but annual at Lyndon albeit as single specimens. It has again been disappointing not to be able to trap more frequently making it difficult to assess how well spring moths are faring there.

In other areas of the county large **larval webs of Spindle Ermine** have been seen in 3 locations although at Eggleton reserve these have not in my opinion been as numerous or as spectacular as those seen in the previous year.

Small Eggar webs were also observed on a Ketton hedgerow,

There have been surprisingly few reports of this moth in its larval stage as the number of caterpillars woven together make an impressive sight in a hawthorn or blackthorn hedge although Rutland is probably at one of the edges of its distribution range. The adult moth flies from mid to late winter and is only occasionally seen in a moth trap at a time of year when traps are rarely put out, hence only one record of it appears on the NatureSpot website. Other larval records were of **Scarlet Tiger** (regular) in Manton and at 3 other locations, and a **Mullein** in Manton.

Adult moth records were of **Cinnabar** and **Silver Y** in Wing on 20th May, **Magpie** and **Silver-ground Carpet** in Leighfield on 25th May with **Burnet Companion** in Ketton and **Yellow Shell** at Rutland Water by the end of the month.

It is to be hoped that the summer period will offer more frequent opportunities for recording.

Thank you to the following for their records:- C Baxter, P Bennett, T Caldicott, K Fortune Jones, R Lemmon, M Markham, J Morrell."



Small Eggar moth caterpillars.
Ketton V10. C Baxter.



Small Eggar caterpillar.
Ketton V10 C Baxter



Dotted Heath moth. Trapped
by Jacky Morrell in Ridlington
churchyard. Noted in NatureSpot as
Nationally rare.

ORTHOPTERA

RECORDER Phil Rudkin

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

E-mail: phil.rudkin@talktalk.net

May 2024

We are all aware of the poor weather conditions, therefore, it is difficult to guess how this will affect the Orthoptera populations during the coming season (June, July August) period. At this part of the season the nymphs of the species are featured!

I am making a plea for members to have ago at finding and identifying the adults while you are out and about. Send photographs to me if you wish, for identification as this will be good for our 'Fieldfare' section. Unfortunately, my reporters have diminished considerably. The dependable Tim Caldicott has sent in his nymphs sightings, so I do have something for the newsletter this time.

Bush Crickets

Roesel's Bush Cricket, *Roeseliana roeselii*

Nymphs found at Pinfold Lane, Pilton, and the Chater Valley jvn. Martinthorpe, on 21 and 24 May 2024, all at regular sites.!

Speckled Bush Cricket, *Leptophyes punctatissima*

Nymphs found in the Gwash valley, Martinthorpe, 11 May. The Wing village allotment, 2 May, Holygate Road, Leighfield, 17 May. Finally. at Pinfold Lane, Pilton, 21 May 2024. All at their regular sites!

Dark bush cricket nymph.
Rutland Water..
T. Sexton



Groundhoppers

Slender Groundhopper, *Tetrix subulata*

Nymphs located in the Wing Village Allotment, 2 May, and the Chater Valley, in Martinthorpe.

28 May 20124.

Many thanks to, Tim Caldicott for his sterling work!

PLANT GALLS

RECORDER Roy Lemmon

87 Empingham Road, Stamford PE9 2SU.

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

April.2024

There were no reports of Galls for April.

May 2024

The plant gall season is getting under way but numbers appear to be low compared with last year. BOQ on the 4th. had just one, the **leaf curl gall** caused by a mite and then on the 25th. another six including **fungal galls on Dog rose**, **Sloe and Buckthorn**. Horn mill on the 15th. had just one, the **mite gall on Cleavers** and the RNHS visit to Merry's meadows on the 18th. produced just six, four of which were

caused by fungi. **Sloe** was badly affected by the fungus *Taphrina pruni* and there were considerable numbers of **Pocket plums** which does not bode well for this year's sloe harvest.

Stretton wood on the 27th. had just three galls, two of which were on Field maple, and Verge 5 on the 30th. gave two galls, both on Dog rose, one the **Robin's pincushion** or Bedeguar gall caused by a gall wasp and the **Rust gall** caused by *Phragmidium mucronatum*.

MAMMALS

RECORDER Linda Biddle

ey Gardens, Stamford PE9 1BH.

tel: 01780 762108 Email: ajbiddle21@talktalk.net

April - May 2024.

The months of April and May flew by with very cool and damp weather, not an encouragement for many of us to go out and about recording wildlife, but the faithful few still send me their reports so that I can compile this summary. Please let us know when you see hedgehogs or badgers even if they are sadly road casualties- it all helps.

I do hope that most of you will have seen the video taken of a **water shrew** at Pollards on RWNr as it sat on one of our water vole monitoring rafts to extract caddis fly larvae from their cases - if not on social media, then on Springwatch this week! Tim Sexton did get a mention, but sadly not the project we are carrying out for LRWT at Rutland water. The reserve was also featured on Countryfile during May and you should be able to see that on catch up if you haven't already. Both Tim Mackrill and Tim Sexton featured, as did a wonderful little boy, an osprey ambassador with great

personal skills. Remember your children and grandchildren can also get involved with the ospreys – a great start to a lifetime of wildlife watching! Just look on the LRWT website for details.

We have now reached further afield with our camera traps, working our way behind Lax Hill, after looking near Harrier and Tern hides. We have recorded fewer water shrews on this end of the reserve, but still plenty of **wood mice**, **voles** and **shrews**, not to mention the occasional **otter** and **badger**, **grey squirrel** and even more occasionally, a **weasel**. No stoats as yet. **Water rails** too, seem to enjoy the bait put out for small mammals, and we regularly have visits from them. The harvest mice seem to have been confined to the one patch near Mallard hide, as we haven't found any more, but keep looking out for them.

Hedgehogs are appearing again; at Barleythorpe on 5th

May, two seen possibly courting or possibly two females competing, nose to nose. In Oakham, John Rodgers had one visiting regularly, and two occasionally. We were thrilled in Stamford (not a Rutland record!) to have one on two occasions in our garden, and watched with bated breath as one crossed the road outside our house at around 9.30pm one evening. This is the first time for many years that hedgehogs have been seen around our home, so hopefully they are doing well locally!

On our regular dog-walk at Walk farm we occasionally see a **brown hare**, sometimes two, but towards the end of May there was a group of 7 playing and chasing around, with a similar number a few days later at the same spot. This behaviour is usually seen in February or March, but was not observed by us then. Perhaps the cold, wet weather



Young badger in Wardley woods. Photo C. Baxter

put them off until later?

One regular sighting that I'm sure many of you will have seen is the **rabbits** near the entrance to VTC. Every time we drive in (sometimes several times in a week!) there is at least one rabbit, sometimes 2 or 3, hopping around on the track. Rabbits are often overlooked when recording, dismissed as too common, but they are not seen everywhere, so any records are useful.

Many thanks to those of you who supplied reports this time. Our next Fieldfare edition is due in August, so please send in any mammal sightings or experiences for June and July at the end of July or early August.

Records received from: A Biddle and J+J Morrell.



Barn owl with prey, possibly short-tailed vole. Photo Marian Markham.

FIELD TRIPS

A visit to Launde Park wood. 27th April 2024

A very cool and grey April morning, (7 degrees) and 11 members, some longstanding, some quite new to RNHS, one guest, and leader Sarah Bedford Senior Reserves Officer, met at the gate into Launde Park Wood. Sarah introduced us to the history of the wood, parts of which date from the sixteenth century and before that, a hunting park set up by the monastery at Launde abbey; much of it clear felled during the second world war. The management of the wood is to coppice small areas called coups, every ten to fifteen years, to allow more open areas for the benefit of ground dwelling plant species and insects which need a certain amount of light to thrive.

We were greeted by the sound of a **great spotted woodpecker** drumming, which was repeated many times during the morning, and at one point some of us were lucky enough to see one of these birds high in the branches of one of the **ash** trees, (*Fraxinus excelsior*) very late to come into leaf this year because of the cold spring. Some of the ash trees were also victims of ash dieback disease (*Hymenoscyphus Fraxinus*)

The group set off to walk through the woodland, seeing **horsetail** plants alongside the path, and a little further along, **lesser celandine** flowers. Sarah had looked up the folklore regarding this particular plant, which opens only through the middle of the day, and when the sun shines, and closes when it rains. The tubers are considered to resemble figs, hence its name *ficaria*. Its historic uses, including a treatment for piles, stem also from the shape

of the roots. In modern medicine it is used for certain skin conditions. Parts of the wood were blue with **forget-me-nots**, and other areas blue with **bluebells**. Again, Sarah's research told us that there are many different names for bluebells, including "fairy flowers", "cuckoo's boots" and "witches thimbles". Bluebells were used traditionally as diuretics to increase urination, or as a styptic to aid healing of wounds, but modern medicine doesn't use them, as the sap is poisonous.

A large bracket fungus was observed on a birch, a **hoof fungus** also known as tinder bracket, and behind the same tree some old **birch polypores** and later the remains of **puffballs** on a tree stump. The **bracken** was just emerging in some places, and some were growing in a cup between forked branches of a **hazel**. When approached to take a photograph, a small **frog** hopped away into the dead leaves. As well as hazel ash and **birch** trees there were several **hawthorn** trees, One hawthorn just coming into bloom with a more delicate flower than the more common hawthorn was identified as **midland hawthorn**, an indicator species for ancient woodland, and more tolerant of shade. The midland hawthorn is identified by its less deeply lobed leaves, and has two stigmas rather than one in the common variety.

By a small stream in one of the steep valleys were a few plants of the small bright green/ yellow **opposite leaved golden saxifrage**, and spotted on the opposite bank was

a small white flowered plant with fern like leaves, later identified as **wavy bittercress**.

One of the highlights of the walk was seeing a **red kite** flying overhead, and spotting a large nest, with a the back of a bird visible over the rim, possibly the female brooding young or eggs.

After a pleasant walk we finally made our way up steep muddy banks, helped by willing hands, and followed the footpath back to the gate to go home and get warm, but having enjoyed the chance to visit this lovely wood. Our thanks to LRWT and Sarah for managing and allowing us to visit the wood, and for leading so well.

Linda Biddle.

**Possibly
Wood
horsetail.
Launde park
wood.**



Species list.

Birds

Chiff chaff *Phylloscopus collybita*
Great Spotted woodpecker *Dendrocopos major*
Wren *Troglodytes troglodytes*
Blackbird *Turdus merula*
Robin *Erithacus rubecula*
Nuthatch *Sitta europaea*
Rook *Corvus frugilegus*
Carrion Crow *Corvus corone*
Red kite *Milvus milvus*
Songthrush *Turdus philomelos*
Pheasant *Phasianus colchicus*
Willow warbler *Phylloscopus trochilus*

Fungi

Hoof fungus or Tinder Bracket *Fomes fomentaria*
Common puffballs *Lycoperdum pilatum*
Hazel woodwort *Hypoxylon fuscum*
Birch woodwort *Hypoxylon multifforme*
Cramp balls *Daldinia concentrica*

Mammals

Hare *Lepus europaeus*

Muntjac *Muntiacus reevesi*

Mole *Talpa europaea*

Horsetails *Equisetidae*

Horsetail probably Wood horsetail *Equisetum sylvaticum*
(not a flowering plant but a herbaceous perennial!)

Flowering plants

Lesser celandine *Ranunculus ficaria*
Common Figwort *Scrophularia nodosa*
Opposite leaved golden saxifrage *Chrysosplenium oppositifolium*
Wood Forget-me- not *Myosotis sylvatica*
Bluebell *Hyacinthoides non-scripta*
Lady's smock (Cuckoo Flower) *Cardamine pratensis*
Wavy bittercress *Cardamine flexuosa*
Red campion *Silene dioica*
Yellow archangel *Lamiastrum galeobdolon*
Wild Garlic (Ramsons) *Allium ursinum*
Dog's mercury *Mercurialis perennis*
Primrose *Primula vulgaris*
Greater stitchwort *Stellaria holostea*
Honeysuckle *Lonicera priclymenum*

A visit to Merry's meadows Nature Reserve. Saturday 18th May 2024

It was a cool, overcast morning when 19 members and friends of the Society visited Merry's Meadows on 18 May, but the sun appeared later to bring out the butterflies. Our visit was timed early in the year to catch the **Green-winged Orchids** at their peak, and we were not disappointed. Large numbers of the orchids were growing along the drier ridges in the first field, Cow Pasture Close, often in large groups, sometimes known as 'swarms'. Flowering had started early in April this year but although many spikes had gone over there were still many thousands, in several colour variants of deep to pale purple, pink and even a few white blooms. The green veins were particularly visible on the hood of the pink and white flowers. Patches of orchids were also present in Donkey Paddocks and Long Field.

The reserve is a Site of Special Scientific Interest because of its wildflower-rich lowland hay meadow grassland, where the traditional management of hay cutting and stock grazing has created a vibrant community of hay-meadow species. **Cowslips, Pignut, Meadow and Bulbous Buttercups, Yellow-rattle, Bugle and Water Avens** were all in flower, while **Cuckooflower** (known by many as Lady's Smock) was flowering in the damper furrows.

Adder's-tongue, though in flower, had disappeared under the exuberant growth of **Common Bird's-foot-trefoil, Lady's Bedstraw, Common Knapweed, Meadow Vetchling, Quaking-grass** and other species that would be flowering later. At the bottom of Donkey Paddocks, the second meadow, we found **Heath Spotted-orchid** in flower and its close relative **Common Spotted-orchid**, from which it is told apart by the short central tooth on its more wavy lower lip. In this area of more acidic soil **Tormentil** was just starting to flower, and the leaves of **Saw-wort** and **Dropwort** showed that they, too, would soon be flowering profusely.

Although the A1 is quite close, there was nevertheless a sense of calm in the Meadows, and the birdsong seemed very loud, with **Chiffchaff, Willow Warbler, Whitethroat, Lesser Whitethroat, Yellowhammer, Skylark, Dunnock, Song Thrush, Blackbird** and **Reed Bunting** all heard almost continuously. **Swift, Swallow** and a **Kestrel** were all seen overhead.

Among the grasses, caterpillars of **Six-spot Burnet moth** seemed common, and when the sun came out in late morning our butterfly list soon contained **Orange Tip, Brimstone, Peacock, Green-veined White, Holly Blue,**

Small Heath and several **Small Coppers**. On the walk back to the cars, a very early **Painted Lady** was sunning on the track.
We avoided Long Meadow, as it was thought a pair of **Curlew** might be nesting (this was proved to be true when a group counting the Green-winged Orchids disturbed the

pair briefly a few days later).

Our thanks to owners Leicestershire and Rutland Wildlife Trust for their policy of open access to the nature reserve.
My thanks to Linda Biddle for her species list from our visit Jenny Harris.

Species list for Merry's meadows.

Botany

Meadow Buttercup	<i>Ranunculus acris</i>
Green-winged Orchid	<i>Anacamptis morio</i>
Cuckooflower	<i>Cardamine pratensis</i>
Cowslip	<i>Primula veris</i>
Common Mouse-ear	<i>Cerastium fontanum</i>
Bulbous Buttercup	<i>Ranunculus bulbosus</i>
Pignut	<i>Conopodium majus</i>
Great Burnet	<i>Sanguisorba officinalis</i>
Bugle	<i>Ajuga reptans</i>
Common Bird's-foot-trefoil	<i>Lotus corniculatus</i>
Common Ragwort	<i>Senecio jacobaea</i>
Lesser Trefoil	<i>Trifolium dubium</i>
Marsh Thistle	<i>Cirsium palustre</i>
Common Spotted-orchid	<i>Dactylorhiza fuchsii</i>
Heath Spotted-orchid	<i>Dactylorhiza maculata</i>
Common Sorrel	<i>Rumex acetosa</i>
Lady's Bedstraw	<i>Galium verum</i>
Yellow-rattle	<i>Rhinanthus minor</i>
Common Knapweed	<i>Centaurea nigra</i>
Hogweed	<i>Heracleum sphonfylum</i>
Cow Parsley	<i>Anthriscus sylvestris</i>
Tormentil	<i>Potentilla erecta</i>
Creeping Buttercup	<i>Ranunculus repens</i>
Pepper-saxifrage	<i>Silene silene</i>
Red Clover	<i>Trifolium pratense</i>
Bush vetch	<i>Vicia sepium</i>
Meadow vetchling	<i>Lathyrus pratensis</i>
Saw-wort	<i>Serratula tinctoria</i>
Dropwort	<i>Filipendula vulgaris</i>
Water Avens	<i>Geum rivale</i>
Germander Speedwell	<i>Veronica chamaedrys</i>
Ground Ivy	<i>Glechoma hederacea</i>
Lady's-mantle sp.	<i>Alchemilla sp.</i>

Grasses, sedges and rushes

Hard rush	<i>Juncus inflexus</i>
Glaucous sedge	<i>Carex flacca</i>
Quaking-grass	<i>Briza media</i>

Ornithology

Dunnock	<i>Prunella modularis</i>
Swift	<i>Apus apus</i>
Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>

Skylark	<i>Alauda arvensis</i>
Chiff chaff	<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>
Whitethroat	<i>Sylvia communis</i>
Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>
Reed bunting	<i>Emberiza schoeniculus</i>
Yellowhammer	<i>Emberiza citrinella</i>
Chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>
Wren	<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>
Jackdaw	<i>Corvus monedula</i>
Great tit	<i>Parus major</i>
Lesser whitethroat	<i>Sylvia curruca</i>
Woodpigeon	<i>Columba palumbus</i>
Songthrush	<i>Turdus philomelos</i>
Willow warbler	<i>Phylloscopus trochilus</i>
Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>

Lepidoptera

Moths Siver Y moth	<i>Autographa gamma</i>
6-spot burnet moth (caterpillars)	<i>Zygaena philipendulae</i>

Butterflies

Orange tip	<i>Anthocaris cardamines</i>
Brimstone	<i>Gonepteryx rhamni</i>
Peacock	<i>Aglais io</i>
Green-veined white	<i>Pieris napae</i>
Small copper	<i>Lycaena phlaeas</i>
Painted lady	<i>Vanessa carduae</i>
Holly blue	<i>Celastrina argiolus</i>
Small heath	<i>Coenonympha pamphilus</i>

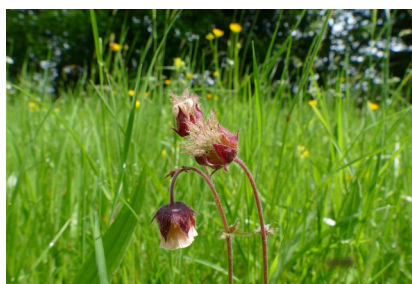
Fungi

Pocket plum gall	<i>Taphrina pruni</i> on Sloe
3 rusts,	<i>Phragmidium bulbosum</i>
	<i>P. violaceum</i> both on Bramble
	<i>P. mucronatum</i> on Dog rose
2 mite galls,	<i>Aculus fraxini</i>
	<i>Aceria fraxinicola</i> both on Ash as

their specific names tell us.

Mammals

Hare	<i>Lepus europaeus</i> (remains of)
Vole sp evidence- holes and runs in meadows	



Water Avens. Photo C Baxter.



Common spotted orchid. Photo C Baxter



Small copper butterfly. Photo Linda Biddle

Tim didn't want to call this Saturday 8th June event in the Market place a "Bioblitz" as the word might conjour up for the uninitiated, scenes of wildlife annihilation rather than what we hoped to achieve - finding and identifying as many species of Fauna and Flora as possible in and around Oakham town centre, all in one day. The idea was to promote two things at once. Firstly a stall to advertise the RNHS to the public, and the other to prove to us all, that you don't need to go out to special sites of wildlife interest to find lots of interesting flowers, bugs and bees etc in an urban setting.

So a huge thankyou to all those members who gladly came and did their stint on the stall despite the wet weather

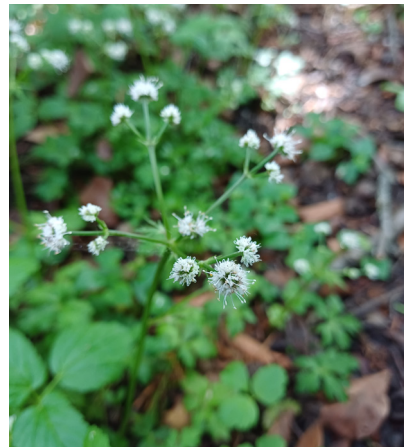
(again) and a special thankyou to the Veg market stall who gave us two hefty weights to stop the gazebo from blowing away in the wind!

Of course we wouldn't have had a "Safari" if it wasn't for the expertise of Tim Sexton (Entomology), Russell Parry and his colleague Lindsay-Ann (County Botanists for VC55) and John Rodgers our own Botany recorder, who led the way around three different sites looking for all things botanical and entomological behind the Rutland Council offices, the Church grounds and the Churchyard. Thankyou so much to them for lending us their time.

The results below for the "Flora" were pretty amazing. Not all were in flower but if you are a County recorder, even a curled up leaf is of major significance!

Species	Scientific Name
Annual Meadow-grass	<i>Poa annua</i>
Annual Pearlwort	<i>Sagina apetala</i>
Ash	<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>
Autumn Hawkbit	<i>Scorzonoides autumnalis</i>
Balm	<i>Melissa officinalis</i>
Barren Brome	<i>Anisantha sterilis</i>
Beaked Hawk's Beard	<i>Crepis vesicaria</i>
Beech	<i>Fagus sylvatica</i>
Biting Stonecrop	<i>Sedum acre</i>
Black Medic	<i>Medicago lupulina</i>
Black Pine	<i>Pinus nigra</i>
Bladder Campion	<i>Silene vulgaris</i>
Borage	<i>Borago officinalis</i>
Bramble	<i>Rubus fruticosus</i>
Bristly Oxe-tongue	<i>Helminthotheca echioides</i>
Broad-leaved Dock	<i>Rumex obtusifolius</i>
Broad-leaved Willowherb	<i>Epilobium montanum</i>
Bulbous Buttercup	<i>Ranunculus bulbosus</i>
Catsear	<i>Hypochaeris radicata</i>
Chickweed	<i>Stellaria media</i>
Cocksfoot Grass	<i>Dactylis glomerata</i>
Comfrey sp.	<i>Symphytum</i> sp.
Common Bent	<i>Agrostis capillaris</i>
Common Dog Violet	<i>Viola riviniana</i>
Common Field-speedwell	<i>Veronica persica</i>
Common Knotgrass	<i>Polygonum aviculare</i>
Common Liverwort	<i>Marchantia polymorpha</i>
Common Mallow	<i>Malva sylvestris</i>
Common Mouse-ear	<i>Cerastium fontanum</i>
Common Nettle	<i>Urtica dioica</i>
Common Ragwort	<i>Senecio jacobaea</i>
Common Whitlowgrass	<i>Erophila verna</i>
Common Grousel	<i>Senecio vulgaris</i>
Cotoneaster	<i>Cotoneaster franchetii</i>
Creeping Buttercup	<i>Ranunculus repens</i>
Creeping Cinquefoil	<i>Potentilla reptans</i>
Creeping Thistle	<i>Cirsium arvense</i>

Crested Dog's-tail	<i>Cynosurus cristatus</i>
Cuckoo Flower	<i>Cardamine pratensis</i>
Cuckoo Pint	<i>Arum maculatum</i>
Cut-leaved Cranesbill	<i>Geranium dissectum</i>
Daffodil	<i>Narcissus</i> sp.
Dandelion	<i>Taraxacum</i> agg.
Danish Scurvygrass	<i>Cochlearia danica</i>
Deadly Nightshade	<i>Atropa belladonna</i>
Dove's-foot Cranesbill	<i>Geranium molle</i>
Early Dog-violet	<i>Viola reichenbachiana</i>
Elder	<i>Sambucus nigra</i>
Enchanter's Nightshade	<i>Circaea lutetiana</i>
False Oat Grass	<i>Arrhenatherum elatius</i>
Fennel	<i>Foeniculum vulgare</i>
Fern-grass	<i>Catapodium rigidum</i>
Feverfew	<i>Tanacetum parthenium</i>
Field Bindweed	<i>Convolvulus arvensis</i>
Field Forget-me-not	<i>Myosotis arvensis</i>
Field Madder	<i>Sherardia arvensis</i>
Fool's Parsley	<i>Aethusa cynapium</i>
Garlic Mustard	<i>Alliaria petiolata</i>
Germander Speedwell	<i>Veronica chamaedrys</i>
Giant Fescue	<i>Schedonorus giganteus</i>
Great Willowherb	<i>Epilobium hirsutum</i>
Greater Plantain	<i>Plantago major</i>
Green Alcanet	<i>Pentaglottis sempervirens</i>



Sanicle behind Council offices.
Photo C. Baxter

Ground Elder	Aegopodium podagraria
Ground Ivy	Glechoma hederacea
Hairy Bittercress	Cardamine hirsuta
Hairy Tare	Vicia hirsuta
Hawthorn	Crataegus monogyna
Hazel	Corylus avellana
Heart's Tongue	Asplenium scolopendrium
Hedge Bedstraw	Galium album
Hedge Mustard	Sisymbrium officinale
Hedge Woundwort	Stachys sylvatica
Hemlock	Conium maculatum
Herb Robert	Geranium robertianum
Hoary Willowherb	Epilobium parviflorum
Hogweed	Heracleum sphondylium
Holly	Ilex aquifolium
Hybrid Bluebell	Hyacinthoides × massartiana
Italian Rye-grass	Lolium multiflorum
Ivy	Hedera helix
Ivy-leaved Speedwell	Veronica hederifolia
Ivy-leaved Toadflax	Cymbalaria muralis
Japanese Anemone	Eriocapitella hupehensis
Japanese Rose	Rosa rugosa
Knapweed agg.	Centaurea nigra agg.
Kontted Hedge Parsley	Torilis nodosa
Lesser Burdock	Arctium minus
Lesser Trefoil	Trifolium dubium
Love-in-a-Mist	Nigella damascena
Male Fern	Dryopteris filix-mas
Meadow Buttercup	Ranunculus acris
Mugwort	Artemisia vulgaris
Nipplewort	Lapsana communis
Norway Maple	Acer platanoides
Opium Poppy	Papaver somniferum
Ox-eye Daisy	Leucanthemum vulgare
Peach-leaved Bell Flower	Campanula persicifolia
Pedunculate Oak	Quercus robur
Pendulous Sedge	Carex pendula
Perennial Rye-grass	Lolium perenne
Persian Cyclamen	Cyclamen persicum
Petty Spurge	Euphorbia peplus
Precumbant Yellow-sorrel	Oxalis corniculata
Prickly Lettuce	Lactuca serriola
Prickly Sow-thistle	Sonchus asper
Procumbent Pearlwort	Sagina procumbens
Purple Toadflax	Linaria purpurea
Rat's Tail Fescue	Vulpia myuros
Red Dead-nettle	Lamium purpureum
Red Fescue	Festuca rubra
Red Valerian	Centranthus ruber
Red-veined Sorrel	Rumex sanguineus
Ribwort Plantain	Plantago lanceolata

Rosebay Willowherb	Chamaenerion angustifolium
Rough Meadow-grass	Poa trivialis
Rowan	Sorbus aucuparia
Sanicle	Sanicula europaea
Sea Holly sp.	Eryngium sp.
Selfheal	Prunella vulgaris
Shepherds Purse	Capsella bursa-pastoris
Silver Maple	Acer saccharinum
Smooth Sow-thistle	Sonchus oleraceus
Spear Thistle	Cirsium vulgare
Spreading Hedge Parsley	Torilis arvensis
Square-stemmed Willowherb	Epilobium tetragonum
Sticky Mouse-ear	Cerastium glomeratum
Stinking Iris	Iris foetidissima
Strawberry	Fragaria × ananassa
Sweet Violet	Viola odorata
Thale Cress	Arabidopsis thaliana
Timothy Grass	Phleum pratense
Toad Rush	Juncus bufonius
Tutsan	Hypericum androsaemum
Viper's Bugloss	Echium vulgare
Wall Barley	Hordeum murinum
Wall Speedwell	Veronica arvensis
Wall-rue	Asplenium ruta-muraria
Wheat	Triticum aestivum
White Clover	Trifolium repens
White Dead-nettle	Lamium album
Wild Cherry	Prunus avium
Wild Strawberry	Fragaria vesca
Wood Anemone	Anemonoides nemorosa
Wood Avens	Geum urbanum
Wood Forget-me-not	Myosotis sylvatica
Wood Sedge	Carex sylvatica
Yarrow	Achillea millefolium
Yellow Corydalis	Pseudofumaria lutea
Yellow Sorrel	Oxalis corniculata
Yorkshire Fog	Holcus lanatus

**Yellow sorrel.
Back of Council
offices. C.
Baxter**



Caught on Camera!

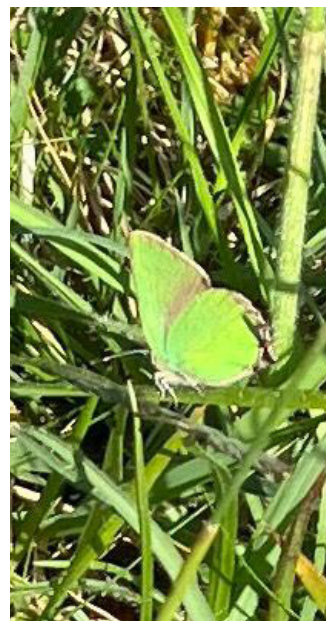
Below are some photo's of the Flora and Fauna of Rutland sent in by members from their mobile phones during May/June. If you have spotted something that you would like to share, why not put them on our RNHS Facebook page? We would all love to see what you have discovered!



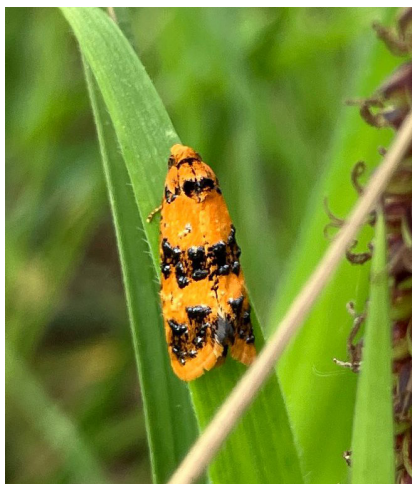
A night visitor to John Rodgers Oakham garden.



Southern marsh orchid. A total of 10 seen by Linda Biddle at George Henry woods.



Green hairstreak butterfly. Ketton Quarry by Kate Fortune Jones.



Orange conch moth found by Nick gibson on a verge of the Great North Rd near Bloody Oaks whilst out on a bike ride!



Gorgeous underwing pattern of Marbled white butterfly seen by Jayne Walker at Bloody Oaks Quarry.



A nice bit of camouflage there! Common lizard. Well spotted by Dave Needham at Ketton Quarry



An unusual sight in daylight. A hedgehog identified by Peter Scott in Normanton.



Ichneumon fly in Jayne Walkers garden



Red eyed damselfly pictured by Peter Scott at Oakham canal.



Yellow Bird's nest at Ketton Quarry. Photo Kate Fortune Jones

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