



Biodiversity News in Norfolk

Issue 3 (June 2011)

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Welcome to our June biodiversity e-bulletin

The long awaited launch of several key national policy and research documents has dominated the news this month; these documents include the 'Natural Environment White Paper', the 'National Ecosystem Assessment' and the England Biodiversity Group's 'ThinkBIG: How and why landscape-scale conservation benefits wildlife, people and the wider economy'.

The highlight locally this month was the success of two major events: the Norfolk Non-native Species Stakeholders' Forum; and the Norfolk Wildlife Trust's Big Urban Wildlife Watch where over nearly 750 species were spotted in 24 hours in Norwich, King's Lynn, Great Yarmouth and Thetford.

If you find this bulletin useful or can think of something that would improve it, please let us know. You can use this very simple "Doodle poll" to let us know what you think (it's very quick and straightforward to complete - and doesn't involve any registration, plus your answers can't be viewed by other participants):

<http://doodle.com/r5an6c36czehtc6t>

Please do email us at nbis@norfolk.gov.uk if you have any news or events that you would like us to feature in the next or coming issues. And do feel free to forward to anyone you feel would also be interested.

If you'd rather not receive this in future, please email us at nbis@norfolk.gov.uk, and we'll remove you from our circulation list.

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Local NEWS

Big Urban Wildlife Watch 2011 - Nearly 750 species recorded in 24 hours

The results are in for Norfolk Wildlife Trust's Big Urban Wildlife Watch which took place in Norfolk's four main urban areas, between midday 4th June and midday 5th June – and the event's target of 300 species has been more than doubled, the latest total being nearly 750 species. See the press release: <http://www.norfolkwildlifetrust.org.uk/Home/News/Urban-event-is-wildly-successful.aspx>

Community Conservation Grant 2011-2012

The Norfolk County Council Community Conservation Grant is aimed at building communities, by creating and enhancing features which contribute to the landscape and biodiversity of Norfolk. Please see link for the grant scheme leaflet and the application form:

<http://www.nbis.org.uk/news.html#NCCgrantScheme2011>

Trial of a Smartphone 'App' to record Invasive Alien Species (IAS)

Following a training session provided by the NNNSI Co-ordinator, BlackBerry phones were provided to trial participants. Participants will now use the BlackBerry phones to record any IAS that they come across as a part of their day-to-day work:

<http://www.nbis.org.uk/news.html#IASsmartphoneApp>

Bug offers opportunity to tackle invasive plant

Norwich has been chosen as one of the places for the controlled release of a biological control agent that will help stem the spread of invasive Japanese knotweed:

<http://www.norfolkbiobiodiversity.org/news/default.asp#70>

Norfolk Non-native Species Stakeholders' Forum

Killer shrimp, Japanese knotweed, American signal crayfish and coypu were just some of the invasive alien species that participants learned about at the Norfolk Non-native Species Stakeholders' Forum on 24 May 2011: <http://www.norfolkbiobiodiversity.org/news/default.asp#71>

Big Lottery funding for wildlife trail at the University of East Anglia

UEA has been awarded £9000 to create a nature trail around the site, linking up with Earlham Park and Yare Valley Walk: <http://www.uea.ac.uk/mac/comm/media/press/2011/April/wildlifetrail>

National NEWS

Defra launches Natural Environment White Paper:

<http://www.defra.gov.uk/environment/natural/whitepaper/>

National Ecosystem Assessment launched:

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/science-environment-13616543>

England Biodiversity Group's ThinkBIG report has been launched to coincide with the White Paper launch:

<http://naturalengland.etraderstores.com/NaturalEnglandShop/NE309>

Caroline Spelman at RHS Chelsea launches new initiative to get kids growing more fruit and vegetables:

<http://bit.ly/mp0dw4>

Latest UK wildlife statistics have been published

Find them here: <http://bit.ly/liLJXp>

Butterfly revival could be threatened by cuts, warns charity:

<http://gu.com/p/2p4qg/ff>

GETTING INVOLVED

Help NBIS hunt for moths (a quick reminder)

NBIS launched a moth survey in the EDP. The help of the Norfolk public is wanted in hunt for moths <http://t.co/5FYX8rd>. Let us know if you spot them!

Adult Wildlife Workshop - Getting to Know Sand Dunes

NWT will be running a free adult wildlife workshop on the 25th June on Winterton Dunes National Nature Reserve. See poster: http://www.nbis.org.uk/documents/Poster_dunes.pdf

Beginner's Guide to Dragonfly Identification (workshop)

NWT will be running a free adult wildlife workshop on the 18th June at NWT Upton Broad and Marshes. See poster: <http://www.nbis.org.uk/documents/PosterDragonflies.pdf>

The OPAL Bugs Count Survey launches.

Download your free survey pack here <http://www.bugscout.org>

Marine Conservation Society (MCS) jellyfish survey on Springwatch

Report any sightings especially any unusual blooms of barreljellies to MCS: <http://bbc.in/kQXF4I>

Tell us what's in your garden

You can take part in Make Your Nature Count from now until 12 June. It's an easy, one-hour survey of the wildlife in your garden or local park -

<http://www.rspb.org.uk/naturecount/index.aspx>

People's Trust for Endangered Species and the British Hedgehog Preservation Society to join forces to launch Hedgehog Street

Neighbourhood watch scheme launched as wildlife charities challenge a prickly problem: the decline of UK hedgehogs: <http://www.nbis.org.uk/news.html#hedgehogstreet>

Norfolk Wildlife Forum

Join in the debate on the Norfolk Wildlife Forum: <http://www.nnns.org.uk/content/norfolk-wildlife-forum>

RSPB urges public to provide mud for birds:

<http://t.co/kxhc3Qj>

Sign up to be a partner in the UN Decade on Biodiversity

<http://www.cbd.int/2011-2020/participate/partner/>

SPECIES HIGHLIGHTS

Big Urban Wildlife Watch 2011 - species highlights:

- A sparrowhawk (**Castle Mound, Norwich**)
- A sandwich tern, carrying a sand eel in its beak (**outside Asda, Great Yarmouth**)
- A spotted flycatcher, one of the UK's most sharply-declining songbirds (**The Walks, King's Lynn**)
- An otter (a 5-minute walk along the river from **Thetford town centre**)

Other highlights included the pair of peregrine falcons nesting on Norwich Cathedral, which were enjoyed by several hundred people over the weekend; the **second-ever Norfolk record of a small fly – *Rhagoletis meigenii*** – discovered in Norwich's Castle Gardens; and one of Britain's rarest dragonflies, the Norfolk hawker, found in central Norwich.

To read more please go to: <http://www.norfolkwildlifetrust.org.uk/Home/News/Urban-event-is-wildly-successful.aspx>

Norfolk WT reserve highlights:

Bonaparte's gull off and on at NWT Cley Marshes on 25 May. Yet another rare bird on the site to go with the more 'ordinary' fare such as spoonbills!

A great snipe, a rare visitor from Scandinavia and Eastern Europe, was found at NWT Cley Marshes on the 12th May.

EVENTS

14th May – 29th August

Hubert Duprat: Caddis, Crystal and Company

Hubert Duprat: Caddis, Crystal and Company is the first UK solo exhibition of the work of Hubert Duprat.

http://www.museums.norfolk.gov.uk/Visit_Us/Norwich_Castle/

[Current_and_Upcoming_Exhibitions/Hubert_Duprat_Caddis_Crystal_and_Company/index.htm](http://www.museums.norfolk.gov.uk/Current_and_Upcoming_Exhibitions/Hubert_Duprat_Caddis_Crystal_and_Company/index.htm)

23 June

CCF Summer Symposium at the Judge Business School, Cambridge

This year that focus will be directed to "Landscape and Localism: Future directions in habitat management"

29th and 30th June

Norfolk Show

Come and visit NBP, NNNSI and NBIS in the Countryside Area at the Norfolk Show, Costessey. We'll also be involved with a display on the biodiversity of the Brecks in the Norfolk Wildlife Trust marquee at the Show.

9th July

NatureFest at Narborough Hall

Contact Kate Haselton-Glee for more details

kate.haselton-glee@breckland.gov.uk

9th July

Natural Neighbours Conference, King's Lynn

Contact Marya Parker for more details Marya.parker@btcv.org.uk

8 October

Society for Landscape Studies Autumn Conference - 'Ancient Trees and Woodpastures' - University of East Anglia (UEA)

<http://www.uea.ac.uk/his/eventsnews/events/ancienttreesandwoodpastures>

AND FINALLY...

Top ten new species of 2010 <http://goo.gl/fb/Qpoy3>

Norfolk Moths – Join in with the daily quiz

Via web, twitter or yahoo: <http://www.norfolkmoths.co.uk/whatsthemoth.php#1306223706>

If you wish to be removed from this mailing list, please email nbis@norfolk.gov.uk

Please let us know what you think about this e-bulletin at: <http://doodle.com/r5an6c36czehtc6t>

Webpages: <http://www.nbis.org.uk/>; www.norfolkbiodiversity.org/; www.norfolkbiodiversity.org/nonnativespecies

Facebook: www.facebook.com/NorfolkBiodiversityInformationService; www.facebook.com/NorfolkInvasives

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