



Biodiversity News in Norfolk No 16 (July 2012)

<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/2.0/>
<http://www.flickr.com/photos/colinsd40/3851967003/>
<http://www.flickr.com/photos/colinsd40/>

Speckled wood butterfly taken at Bacton Wood, Norfolk, credit Flickr user Colin-47. Creative Commons licence.

Welcome to our July biodiversity e-bulletin

Well summer has finally arrived in time for the holidays, and perfectly timed for NBIS and NNNSI to take part in the Strumpshaw Fen Bioblitz. Whilst July often tends to end quietly with the onset of the holidays, things are far from sedate for the Biodiversity team.

Firstly, we were pleased to hear that NBIS had won a Natural England contract to undertake a pilot study on the use of volunteer recorders in providing structured monitoring of species. This project aims to establish a set of reference sites across the county where multi-taxa species monitoring will take place. If successful, the techniques developed will be rolled-out across the country.

This news was quickly followed by the announcement that the joint Norfolk and Suffolk Local Nature Partnership bid has been successful. The new partnership, known as 'Wild Anglia' is now an official entity and we look forward to developments ahead, particularly as new links with business and health are forged.

This was followed a few days later by news of a successful Living Landscapes HLF bid for the Brecks. This contains another NBIS project which will work with volunteers to develop a network of sites where species monitoring will take place.

To cap this all off, July saw the return of the annual Biodiversity Awards championing the work of those local groups and dedicated people who do so much to protect the wildlife of Norfolk. Without these people recording wildlife and working to conserve it our work just wouldn't be possible so it is great to see their efforts celebrated.

Finally, thanks to all who have recently been submitting records and photos. Keep them coming!

Martin Horlock, Biodiversity Information Officer, NBIS

Martin.horlock@norfolk.gov.uk

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.

You can download previous e-bulletins as pdfs here: <http://www.nbis.org.uk/newsletterse-bulletins>

[Top]

[Local NEWS](#)
[National NEWS](#)
[GETTING INVOLVED](#)
[SPECIES NEWS](#)
[EVENTS](#)
[AND FINALLY](#)

Local NEWS

Wild Anglia gets the go ahead

The government has approved the creation of a Local Nature Partnership for Norfolk and Suffolk

http://www.edp24.co.uk/news/environment/government_approval_means_boost_for_norfolk_and_suffolk_s_wonderful_nature_1_1457893

NBP presents green awards to the best Norfolk conservation projects

Twelve outstanding projects were celebrated at the NBP Community Biodiversity Awards evening, which took place on Tuesday 24th July.

http://www.edp24.co.uk/news/environment/best_of_norfolk_s_conservation_projects_celebrated_at_awards_ceremony_1_1458103

Heritage Lottery Fund success for the Brecks

A £1.4 million Heritage Lottery Fund bid to deliver projects in the central Brecks around Brandon has received first round approval. The project, which is being led by the Brecks Partnership, will: deliver conservation schemes; construct a new heritage trail; develop training and volunteering opportunities; organise activities for children and young people.

<http://www.suffolk.gov.uk/your-council/about-suffolk-county-council/news/brecks-funding-gets-a-step-closer/>

JNCC report on ecosystem services modelling available

'Spatial framework for assessing evidence needs for operational ecosystem approaches' report shows how spatial modelling can demonstrate the

links between the physical and biological characteristics of habitats, and the major ecosystem services that they provide. NBIS supplied data for the Broads case study area.

<http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/page-6241>

Killer shrimp experts visit Barton Broad

Wetlands biosecurity officer post to start work shortly.

http://www.edp24.co.uk/news/environment/killer_shrimp_experts_to_go_out_on_barton_broad_1_1444394

MCZ report

Natural England and JNCC have recommended in a report published on July 20th, that all Marine Conservation Zones (MCZ) should go forward to public consultation. Once designated, the conservation features of MCZ will be protected by law.

<http://www.defra.gov.uk/environment/marine/protect/mpa/mcz/>

The recommendation has upset local groups in north Norfolk who are worried about the impact of a marine 'no-go' area at Blakeney.

http://www.northernorfolknews.co.uk/news/campaigners_to_fight_on_to_throw_out_blakeney_marshes_marine_conservation_zone_plan_1_1453823

Find out more about MCZ by signing up for the MCZ newsletter: mczproject@jncc.gov.uk

Wymondham Nature Group local magazine, Swift, available for download

Topical news and features from members of this thriving NWT local group.

http://www.nbis.org.uk/sites/default/files/documents/Wymondham-Nature-Group_SWIFT_Spring-2012_small.pdf

Weathering the storm

Mixed outlook for county's wildlife

http://www.edp24.co.uk/news/environment/much_of_county_s_wildlife_has_weathered_the_storm_1_1457018

<http://t.co/vT0scR10>

Big Norwich bat project

Project leader Stuart Newson reports that 136 one-km squares have been surveyed generating 26,000 bat records for Norwich and the surrounding area. <http://www.norwichbatgroup.org.uk/project.html>

BBC Countryfile films in north Norfolk

[http://www.edp24.co.uk/what-s-on/food_and_drink_2_5148/norfolk-food-](http://www.edp24.co.uk/what-s-on/food_and_drink_2_5148/norfolk-food-features/picture_update_bbc_countryfile_stars_film_in_cromer_blakeney_and_holkham_for_north_norfolk_summer_special_show_1_1443728)

[features/picture_update_bbc_countryfile_stars_film_in_cromer_blakeney_and_holkham_for_north_norfolk_summer_special_show_1_1443728](http://www.edp24.co.uk/what-s-on/food_and_drink_2_5148/norfolk-food-features/picture_update_bbc_countryfile_stars_film_in_cromer_blakeney_and_holkham_for_north_norfolk_summer_special_show_1_1443728)

Volunteers from Kier Construction build boardwalk at Norfolk nature reserve

http://www.edp24.co.uk/news/environment/volunteers_from_kier_construction_build_boardwalk_at_norfolk_nature_reserve_1_1442026

Erpingham Rescue Centre backs Wildlife Aid Foundation's "Save Harry" campaign

<http://t.co/59wz1Q6n>

[[TOP](#)]

National NEWS

The Independent Panel on Forestry says England's publicly-owned forest estate must be not be sold off.

The Panel's Chair, the Right Reverend Bishop James Jones said: "...woodlands, managed sustainably, can offer solutions to some of the most pressing challenges facing society today... There is untapped potential.. to create jobs, to sustain skills and livelihoods, to improve the health and wellbeing of people and to provide better and more connected places for nature."

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/science-environment-18690019>

<http://www.defra.gov.uk/forestrypanel/reports/>

<http://www.defra.gov.uk/forestrypanel/files/Independent-Panel-on-Forestry-Final-Report1.pdf>

New practical guidance for planners

Led by the Wildlife Trust and the Town and Country Planning Association, "Planning for a healthy environment – good practice for green infrastructure and biodiversity," summarises latest policy drivers and provides examples of successful approaches to help local planners deliver positive, practical, and sustainable outcomes for the natural environment.

http://www.tcpa.org.uk/data/files/TCPA_TWT_GI-Biodiversity-Guide.pdf

Government accepts Working Group recommendations

Recommendations calling for greater access to publications arising from research were published by the Working Group on Expanding Access to Published Research Findings, chaired by Dame Janet Finch. <http://www.researchinfonet.org/publish/finch/>

Importance of green spaces highlighted

The Monitor of Engagement with the Natural Environment (MENE) survey highlights the importance of maintaining and developing high-quality local green spaces, particularly in towns and cities.

<http://www.naturalengland.org.uk/ourwork/research/mene.aspx>

Visits to the countryside will improve health, say MPs

<http://t.co/xrbWCd43>

2020 vision

Summer newsletter available here: http://www.2020v.org/graphics/newsletter/Newsletter_Jul2012.html

Or download the image-a-day-feature (images available as wallpaper downloads) <http://www.2020v.org/wow.asp>

Flora locale launches ecological restoration website

The website provides information about restoring wild plants and habitats across Britain:

www.ecologicalrestoration.org.uk

www.floralocale.org

More national news stories here:

<http://www.nbis.org.uk/news#July2012NationalNews>

[\[TOP\]](#)

GETTING INVOLVED

Your pond needs YOU!

Doing the Big Pond Dip is a fun way to spend an afternoon, and in the process will tell us more about one of the most common but least understood freshwater habitats - the garden pond. Jeremy Biggs, Pond Conservation.

<http://www.pondconservation.org.uk/bigponddip/bigponddip>

Big Butterfly Count 14th July – 5th August

Still time to send in your sightings! (It only takes 15 minutes to do a butterfly count.) <http://www.bigbutterflycount.org/>

River Restoration Centre seeks 'gold medal' restoration projects

The River Restoration Centre's monthly e-newsletter provides up to date news updates and features on river restoration. Their July issue is currently seeking "gold medal" restoration projects, which will be considered for inclusion in the "River Restoration Manual of Techniques." Closing date for entries: 9th September 2012.

<http://therrc.co.uk/Bulletin/Jul2012/July%202012%20-%20Issue%2018.pdf>

<http://www.therrc.co.uk/index.php>

Mammals on the Road Survey

Record sightings of any mammals, dead or alive, that you spot from your car for the People's Trust for Endangered Species.

<http://www.ptes.org/?page=173>

Society of Biology flying ant survey

<http://t.co/T3RxX318>

<http://t.co/ljYPoWAr>

Submit your records of flying ants here:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/flyingantsurvey>

Have you seen a stag beetle?

If you are lucky enough to have spotted one, record your sighting here:

<http://t.co/142qjoCO>

Floodplain meadows partnership calls for local observations

<http://t.co/qLbSoChg>

Encourage bee orchids in your lawn

<http://t.co/irc4FFDz>

Look out for solitary bees – often overlooked, but important pollinators

<http://t.co/eqK3n08A>

[\[TOP\]](#)

SPECIES NEWS

Firecrest thriving in East Anglian woodlands

<http://t.co/j6N00cyu>

Killer whales spotted off Bacton

<http://t.co/GH8iQMag>

Norwich Bat Group has a Facebook page

<http://www.facebook.com/NorwichBatGroup>

Rare Midas tree-weaver spider found in Hainault Forest

<http://www.woodlandtrust.presscentre.com/News-Releases/One-of-the-UK-s-rarest-spiders-discovered-in-Hainault-Forest-for-first-time-in-32-years-b6e.aspx>

Guardian reveals winners of species naming competition

<http://t.co/czdgWx4W>

Small wind turbines 'halve' bat numbers

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-19048787>

[\[TOP\]](#)

EVENTS

13th October – Wild About Norfolk

Easton College 10am – 4pm

More information at www.wildaboutnorfolk.co.uk/wildaboutnorfolk

24th – 25th October Conference for communicators involved in biodiversity

Bristol Natural History Consortium, Bristol.

Contact ben@bnhc.org.uk for more details

20th November – Implementing the Green Deal: Engaging Businesses Consumers and Boosting Local Growth

Westminster 11 am – 3.30pm

Key issues will include: legislation; empowering businesses; consumer-protection; partnerships; information-mapping and more.

Details from Louise.mcgough@westminster-briefing.com 020 7593 5738

23rd November NBN Conference: "Biological Recording – Fit for Purpose?"

The Royal Society

The Sir John Burnett Memorial Lecture, 2012 "Making Space for Nature – the importance of biological recording" will be delivered by Sir John Lawton. Free entry for NBN members, £40 for others (until 21st September).

<http://nbn.org.uk/Events/Events-and-Training/Seminars-and-conferences/NBN-Conference-2012.aspx>

[\[TOP\]](#)

AND FINALLY..

Lego birds – the tropical collection

<http://t.co/h3xUCLD0>

Animal Olympians: nature's track and field stars

<http://t.co/YXvFAY74>

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

Your comments about this bulletin are appreciated - please complete our survey at:

<http://www.nbis.org.uk/e-bulletin-survey>

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

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/NorfolkBiodiversityInformationService>

Twitter: <http://twitter.com/norfolkbis>