



Biodiversity News in Norfolk

No 26 (May 2013)

Photo: Elm tree © W L Cutler, Creative Commons Attribution-Share Alike 2.0 generic

Welcome to our May e-bulletin

We have crept rather faster and further into June than we would like for our May edition, but we shall carry on regardless as there is plenty to talk about this month.

We launched our new series of recording challenges last month. Every month we will be getting people to record one key species - our "**Species of the Month**". The inaugural species was the **Cuckoo** and we successfully received over 50 records, which is a pretty good result for such a short period. So many thanks to all of you who sent records in to us. The distribution map of results so far can be viewed here: http://www.nbis.org.uk/Cuckoo_Map You can also still record cuckoos here: <http://www.nbis.org.uk/Cuckoo>.

This Month our "**Species of the Month**" is the **Elm**. Have you seen one of the remaining large elm trees in Norfolk? We have a map (on our recording page, link below) drawn in 1996 which shows where large elm trees grew then – but how many still survive? Did some elms that were too small to be captured on the survey then, grow to become mature trees today? NBIS is hoping that local knowledge can provide the answers. Please do help us by recording here: <http://www.nbis.org.uk/Elm>.

There are plenty of exciting things going on in this month's issue:

- Bioblitz at Dinosaur Adventure is a success again in second year (Local News)
- Norfolk Bat Survey already showing promising results (Local News)
- State of Nature Report from 25 UK wildlife organisations shows most UK Species declining (National News)
- Plenty to get involved with this month - Ladybird app launched; citizen science survey monitoring

threats such as oak processionary moth and ash dieback disease; Broads invasive species communication survey.

- All four Peregrine chicks fledged at Norwich Cathedral (Species Highlights)
- Plenty of events to go to this month, including The Royal Norfolk Show and the Abbey Farm (Flitcham) Open Day (Events)

Biodiversity and Countryside Team
Environment, Transport and Development,
Norfolk County Council
nbis@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 this e-bulletin as a pdf here: <http://www.nbis.org.uk/sites/default/files/documents/E-bulletinMay2013.pdf>
You can also download past e-bulletins as a pdf here: <http://www.nbis.org.uk/newsletterse-bulletins>

[top]

[Local NEWS](#)

[National NEWS](#)

[GETTING INVOLVED](#)

[SPECIES HIGHLIGHTS](#)

[EVENTS](#)

[AND FINALLY](#)

Local NEWS

UEA research contributes to a new national report on the effect of climate change on UK biodiversity

The Terrestrial Biodiversity Report Card was launched. Produced by 40 of the UK's most eminent ecologists, academics and with the Met Office, this summarises the latest scientific evidence and understanding of how climate change is affecting UK biodiversity: <http://t.co/dHmRg3bWKw>

Cuckoo Chris stars for ITV Anglia

He's fit and well 2 years and 40,000+ miles post-tagging and ITV recently attempted to find him on the ground, see the results in this You tube video: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4qR-FknU4sE&feature=youtu.be>

Successful bioblitz at Dinosaur Adventure!

For a second year NBIS helped, along side some County Recorders, with the bioblitz at Dinosaur Adventure. Although the results were not as good as last year there were still 241 species recorded in 24 hours. To view the breakdown of the results please click here: http://www.nbis.org.uk/DinosaurAdventureBioblitz_ResultsMap

Norfolk Bat Survey already a success

The project has already added at least two records of the rare Leisler's bat to only 10 previous county records. So far roughly 300 1km squares across Norfolk have been reserved for survey and people are continuing to sign up (you can sign up here: <http://www.batsurvey.org/>). The first 100 1km squares (300 nights of recording) have been analysed, which represents over 30,000 recordings. Soprano pipistrelle, then Common pipistrelle are by far the most commonly recorded species so far.

[TOP]

National NEWS

State of Nature report shows most UK species declining

25 UK wildlife organisations have come together to publish the State of Nature Report, which shows that 60 per cent of the species studied have declined over recent decades. It also shows how crucial wildlife recording is! See a Guardian article here: <http://t.co/2GTUEmkHna>

You can download the full report from the RSPB website: <http://t.co/Pcy5wwXp28>

Micro wind turbines and wildlife: integrating planning with ecology

The ecological impacts of micro wind turbines (up to 50 kW) are treated in a diverse way by different local authorities in the UK during the planning approval process, research suggests. The study calls for ecologists, policymakers, planners and industry representatives to improve the integration of ecological information within planning, and for greater guidance for local authorities on the ecological considerations of micro-turbines. <http://ec.europa.eu/environment/integration/research/newsalert/pdf/325na4.pdf>

2012 worst year on record for UK butterflies

The latest figures from the UK Butterfly Monitoring Scheme show that 2012 was the worst year on record for UK butterflies, with 52 out of the 56 species monitored suffering declines.

<http://www.ukbms.org/>

State of Natural Capital Report

The Natural Capital Committee's first annual State of Natural Capital Report has been published. The Report is a high-level document setting out the NCC's approach for the better measurement, valuation and management of our natural capital. <http://www.defra.gov.uk/naturalcapitalcommittee/work/state-of-natural-capital-reports/>

Marine and coastal biodiversity offsetting reports published

The Institution of Civil Engineers has published The Role of Coastal Engineers in Delivering No Net Loss through Biodiversity Offsetting. <http://www.ice.org.uk/Information-resources/Document-Library/The-Role-of-Coastal-Engineers-in-Delivering-No-Net>

Short-haired bumblebee queens hoped to boost UK population

<http://t.co/X4iAOsEApO>

Increased biodiversity decreases the spread of disease

<http://ec.europa.eu/environment/integration/research/newsalert/pdf/327na2.pdf>

More National news here:

<http://www.nbis.org.uk/news#May2013NationalNews>

[TOP]

GETTING INVOLVED

NBIS are still looking for volunteers to join our species monitoring project more at

<http://www.nbis.org.uk/SpeciesSurveillanceNetwork>

Install the ladybird app for free and send your records in

http://www.nbn.org.uk/News/Latest-news/iRecord-ladybirds-phone-app.aspx?utm_source=eshot&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=NBN%20eNews%20May%202013

UK public asked to spot biggest threats to tree health

Citizen science survey to monitor threats such as oak processionary moth and ash dieback disease
<http://t.co/U56vfSnjFw>

Volunteering plays a crucial role in looking after the landscapes and wildlife of the Norfolk Coast AONB.

For more information and how to get involved see their website: <http://buff.ly/12x1HEq>

BBC Nature - How to be a citizen scientist for wildlife

<http://bbc.in/13IP2oz>

Complete guide to identifying amphibians in the UK:

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/nature/22120791>

Invasive species communication survey - The Broads Authority needs your help

The Broads Authority and its partners have been running a publicity campaign to help people identify and control the spread of key invasive species within the Broads, such as the 'killer shrimp'.

To find out how well they are communicating their messages, they are asking you to fill in a short survey.

http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/invasive_survey

[TOP]

SPECIES HIGHLIGHTS

First Swallowtail of the year reported from Wheatfen - have you seen any this year?

Andy Brazil our County Butterfly Recorder reported this sighting on the U.K. Lepidopterists Study Group Forum on May 20th and others have been seen since. You can see Swallowtails for yourself at Wheatfen this Sunday (10am-4pm), through one of the guided walks, more details here: <http://butterfly-conservation.org/291-4145/norfolk-swallowtail-day-at-wheatfen.html>. If you see any Swallowtails report them to us here:

<http://www.nbis.org.uk/AllSpeciesSurvey>

All four Peregrine chicks fledged from Norwich cathedral

See the video of the chick fledging (falling backwards) here: <http://fb.me/2gF1h8qWG>

[\[TOP\]](#)

EVENTS

Norfolk Swallowtail Day at Wheatfen

Sunday 16th June 2013 10am-4pm

Wheatfen Nature Reserve

Held in conjunction with the Ted Ellis Trust at Wheatfen Nature Reserve, Surlingham. An opportunity to see Swallowtails and other interesting fauna and flora on the paths around this special reserve.

Guided walks all day from 10am – wellies or stout footwear recommended. Refreshments available. Information stalls at main entrance.

Parking at TG325057. Post code NR14 7AL

The Royal Norfolk Show

26/27 June

Catch us in the Countryside Advice shed on both days.

Workshop on the Norfolk Bat Project and using passive bat detectors

9 June 19.30

BTO, The Nunnery, Thetford (to be advertised as part of the Norfolk and Norwich Naturalists Society programme of workshops).

Free for survey participants. Email norfolkbatsurvey@gmail.com

Abbey Farm Open Day

7 July

Abbey Farm, Flitcham

This event is a chance to enjoy the landscape and wildlife of Abbey Farm, Flitcham. There are open walks of varying lengths to take at your own pace. You can start these at any time from 8am to 8pm. They go to the farm's wetlands with a chalk stream and orchid meadows, arable fields and flower-rich grasslands on the chalk hill-tops.

More details, including the event poster can be read here: <http://www.nbis.org.uk/news#AbbeyFarm2013>

British Ecology Society Project "Summerwatch-Dawn to Dusk"

13 July

Lion Wood (Norwich)

For children, families and adults, will have nature related events running from dawn until dusk

Learn more about wildlife in your area. Norfolk & Norwich Naturalists Society are offering new workshops this year.

See the general poster here <http://bit.ly/ZduQFN> and the list of workshops here: <http://bit.ly/18sZWYG>

[\[TOP\]](#)

AND FINALLY..

Deer, oh deer! Muntjac bursts into Wicklewood Primary School

<http://t.co/2ZxlGeaLHR>

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>

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

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

Twitter: <http://www.twitter.com/NorfolkBIS>; <http://www.twitter.com/NorfolkNNSI>

Please consider the environment before printing this email