

Shropshire (VC40) Dragonfly Newsletter



Spring 2016

Sue Rees Evans

Introduction

Well a new year is here and a new surname! As for many dragonflies, autumn proved to be the best part of 2015 for me too and I was married in September - incredibly in glorious Shropshire sunshine! And now with the January monsoons upon us it seems the perfect opportunity for summarising all the other important events of 2015.

Despite a challenging flight season I still received well over 800 records from over 60 recorders and notably 14 recorders contributed records of exuviae which is great! An increasing number of recorders also used iRecord to enter their data which



'Maybe I'll grow into it?'

Photo: M. Randall

enables me to easily check grid references and any attached photos. The **Shropshire Dragonfly Watch Blog** had a successful second year with some great sightings reported allowing us all to see how the season was shaping up. Again photographers generously sent in some superb shots including this shieldbug taking up residence in an exuvia! I'd definitely encourage people to keep an eye on the blog from spring this year to see how things unfold. We've had daffodils out in our road since December so I'm not sure when spring is this year, but usually we expect the first damselflies in mid-late April. The blog is found at the following web address: <http://shropshire-dragonfly-watch.blogspot.co.uk>

This however may well change if /when I manage to embed the blog in the new Shropshire Dragonflies website which is coming soon.....read on for details!

And most importantly, **THANK YOU** again for keeping an eye on our fantastic Shropshire dragonflies. All of the records you send give us valuable evidence to help conserve these stunning insects.

Flight Season 2015

In 2014 we saw the earliest ever start to the Shropshire flight season. In stark contrast 2015 produced the **latest ever records** for a number of Shropshire species.

Large Red Damselfly *Pyrrosoma nymphula* was predictably the first species on the wing, again recorded by Dan Knight this time at Aston Locks on April 18th. Though not the earliest ever record, this was still a fairly quick start to the season and **Common Blue Damselfly** *Enallagma cyathigerum* and **Broad-bodied**



The fabulous striking red eyes of Large Red Damselfly.
Photo: J. Shields

Chaser *Libellula depressa* also appeared reasonably early on 4th May. This early promise however failed to really take off and in contrast to 2014 when nearly all species were recorded earlier than usual, the majority of species were rather late in emerging. **White-faced Darter** *Leucorrhinia dubia* illustrates this well and is a relatively reliable example as this species is regularly and thoroughly recorded at Whixall Moss. In 2014 the earliest ever record for this species in Shropshire was made by B. Smith on April 28th whereas the first record in 2015 was made on May 15th. This pattern was echoed in other UK counties with early sightings of **Broad-bodied Chaser** on 21st and 22nd April in Hampshire and Berkshire respectively (Perrin, 2015a) and then deteriorating weather into May rather slowing down events.

Locally a number of recorders found it a frustrating start to the year with site visits often resulting in few records and rarely reports of great abundance with a notable exception of 59 **Banded Demoiselles** *Calopteryx splendens* seen by David Williams on the River Severn at Hampton Loade in late May. The other end of the flight season provided the real talking point with the majority of species flying far later than in 2014. The latest ever Shropshire records were made for 5 species:

✂	Emerald Damselfly <i>Lestes sponsa</i>	2 nd October
✂	Blue-tailed Damselfly <i>Ischnura elegans</i>	2 nd October
✂	Common Hawker <i>Aeshna juncea</i>	20 th October
✂	Migrant Hawker <i>Aeshna mixta</i>	12 th November
✂	Common Darter <i>Sympetrum striolatum</i>	20 th November

The final record of **Common Darter** was made by Stephen Barlow at Brown Moss- on a day when he also saw hoverflies, wasps and a butterfly- clearly not your average late November! Stephen's record is the latest ever of a resident Shropshire species, which previously stood at 8th November, 1986 (Common Darter recorded by Alex Lockton). Stephen's record was one of a number of late sightings for this species in October and November. Paul Spear recorded and photographed (see below) approximately 10 pairs of Common Darter ovipositing at Eardington Nature Reserve on 20th October and recorded Common Darters near Ironbridge on 15th November. Stephen Barlow saw a number of darters (just north of the border into Wales) still exhibiting territorial behaviour on 16th November.

The mild extended autumn resulted in similar extraordinary sightings across the UK including a **Migrant Hawker** seen in Aberdeenshire on 25th September and an **Emperor Dragonfly** *Anax imperator* seen in Dorset on 9th October (Parr, 2015). The latest UK

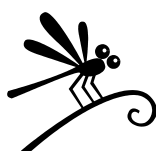


record prior to 2015 was a **Common Darter** seen in Somerset on 17th December 2004 (Parr, 2014). This has already been surpassed with the January British Dragonfly Society e newsletter revealing sightings of this species on 26th and 27th December in Devon and Nottinghamshire respectively.

The table below shows the first and last dates for those species recorded in Shropshire in 2015, but it is important to understand that these are directly influenced by recorder effort and the sites visited.

First and Last Recorded Sightings 2015

Species	Common Name	Date of first record	Date of last record
<i>Calopteryx splendens</i>	Banded Demoiselle	23 rd May	15 th September
<i>Calopteryx virgo</i>	Beautiful Demoiselle	21 st May	15 th July
<i>Lestes sponsa</i>	Emerald Damselfly	28 th June	2 nd October
<i>Coenagrion puella</i>	Azure Damselfly	17 th May	14 th August
<i>Coenagrion pulchellum</i>	Variable Damselfly	9 th June	23 rd June
<i>Erythromma najas</i>	Red-eyed Damselfly	8 th June	16 th August
<i>Pyrrhosoma nymphula</i>	Large Red Damselfly	18 th April	26 th August
<i>Enallagma cyathigerum</i>	Common Blue Damselfly	4 th May	11 th September
<i>Ischnura elegans</i>	Blue-tailed Damselfly	23 rd May	2 nd October
<i>Ischnura pumilio</i>	Scare Blue-tailed Damselfly	5 th July	5 th July
<i>Platycnemis pennipes</i>	White-legged Damselfly	9 th June	14 th August
<i>Aeshna cyanea</i>	Southern Hawker	8 th June	20 th October
<i>Aeshna grandis</i>	Brown Hawker	23 rd June	2 nd October
<i>Aeshna juncea</i>	Common Hawker	30 th June	20 th October
<i>Aeshna mixta</i>	Migrant Hawker	12 th August	12 th November
<i>Anax imperator</i>	Emperor Dragonfly	9 th June	6 th September
<i>Gomphus vulgatissimus</i>	Common Club-tail	15 th May	28 th May
<i>Cordulegaster boltonii</i>	Golden-ringed Dragonfly	5 th July	12 th August
<i>Cordulia aenea</i>	Downy Emerald	10 th June	10 th June
<i>Leucorrhinia dubia</i>	White-faced Darter	15 th May	17 th July
<i>Libellula depressa</i>	Broad-bodied chaser	4 th May	18 th July
<i>Libellula quadrimaculata</i>	Four-spotted Chaser	4 th May	23 rd August
<i>Orthetrum cancellatum</i>	Black-tailed Skimmer	7 th June	26 th August
<i>Orthetrum coerulescens</i>	Keeled Skimmer	5 th July	12 th August
<i>Sympetrum danae</i>	Black Darter	3 rd July	18 th October
<i>Sympetrum sanguineum</i>	Ruddy Darter	12 th July	27 th August
<i>Sympetrum striolatum</i>	Common Darter	23 rd June	20 th November



Species Summary

A total of 27 species were recorded in 2015 comprising 16 dragonfly and 11 damselfly species. This is numerically identical to the 2014 flight season.

Common and widespread species were as usual well recorded with **Azure Damselfly** *Coenagrion puella* producing the most records followed closely by **Blue-tailed Damselfly** *Ischnura elegans*, **Common Blue Damselfly** *Enallagma cyathigerum* and **Large Red Damselfly** *Pyrrhosoma nymphula*. Of the dragonflies the **Common Darter** *Sympetrum striolatum* produced the most records and the **Brown Hawker** *Aeshna grandis* was also well recorded.

Also of note were sightings of **Black-tailed Skimmer** *Orthetrum cancellatum* - considerably more than in previous years and well over double the number of records made in 2014. In addition this species was recorded in 3 new county hectads during 2015. Though directly related to recorder effort these increased sightings appear to mirror trends discussed in the recent National Atlas (Cham et al., 2014) where analysis showed this species to be expanding in range to the north and west.

White-legged Damselfly *Platynemis pennipes* has also shown some northward range expansion in the UK (Cham et al., 2014) tending to move further along rivers and canals in which populations are already established. In Shropshire I noticed large numbers of this species on the Llangollen Canal between Blakemere and



A male White-legged Damselfly clearly illustrating the flattened lower legs and chestnut pterostigma (wing spots)
Photo: S. Barlow



A stunning shot of the magnificent Brown Hawker
Photo: S. Loose

Colemere. Stephen Barlow also followed this canal from Whixall Moss to Whitchurch in late June seeing numerous specimens that surprisingly outnumbered the **Banded Demoiselles** *Calopteryx splendens*. Interestingly David Williams whilst completing a regular transect along the River Severn at Hampton Loade also noted large numbers of White-legged

Damselflies again out numbering the typically more numerous Banded Demoiselle.

At the other end of the scale a number of species showed worryingly low numbers of records; **Common Clubtail** *Gomphus vulgatissimus*, **Downy Emerald** *Cordulia aenea* and **Variable Damselfly** *Coenagrion pulchellum*. The latter was highlighted in the last newsletter as only 2 sightings had been made in 2014. No improvement was seen in 2015 with just 2 records made by myself on 9th and 23rd June at Shomere. Despite numerous visits to Berrington Pool this species was not recorded here as it had been in 2014. This species is rare in Shropshire, but this may be partly due to under recording as it is easily confused with the very common **Azure Damselfly** *Coenagrion puella*. This photo shows a 'textbook' specimen with clear 'exclamation marks' on the top of the thorax and a black goblet shape on segment 2 of the abdomen. There is also a black 'bat' shape towards the end of the abdomen. Individuals can be very variable so do look closely to ensure you do not miss any variable damselflies- and if in doubt send a photo!



Male Variable Damselfly
Photo: S. Rees Evans

Individual Species Reports



Common Club-tail **G. vulgatissimus**



I highlighted this species last year following just 3 recorded sightings in 2013 and 4 in 2014. During 2015 only 4 records were made including the one illustrated here! David Williams photo shows a fairly bad day for this individual- first being ensnared in a web and then being devoured by a Scorpion Fly- apparently the spider appeared to assess the situation and

then left the Scorpion fly to lunch alone! Sadly despite regularly walking a transect on the River Severn at Hampton Loade this was the only specimen David saw in 2015. This lack of Club-tails was echoed in other well known emergence sites in the UK on the Thames, the River Wye and the River Rother in West Sussex (Perrin, 2015b). This Odonata Red Data List (Daguet et al., 2008) 'Near Threatened' species breeds in the River Severn and only inhabits certain stretches of a few other rivers in the UK. It emerges on mass in mid to late May before dispersing sometimes many kilometres which may well account for the low number of records. Looking back over the years sightings have been sporadic at best and between 2001 and 2009 there are no records

on the Shropshire database. The last substantial set of records were made by D. Pryce in 2000 when he recorded this species at 7 sites on the River Severn between Ford (west of Shrewsbury) and Apley Park north of Bridgnorth. It may simply be a case of little recorder effort during quite a small 'recording window' but it would certainly be reassuring to have a few more records in 2016- and live ones!



Keeled Skimmer *O. coerulescens*



Male Keeled Skimmer at Cramer Gutter.
Photo: J. Almond

This discreet dragonfly has well established populations at Cramer Gutter and on Wild Moor (Long Mynd). In recent years there have been a number of suspected sightings at Whixall Moss. 2 previous records from this site were made in 2006 and 2007 and then more recently an adult was recorded in 2013 for the first time in 6 years. The interest has again continued this year with 'likely' sightings made in early July by Stephen Barlow and in early August by Paul Spear. It would be great if we could firm up these sightings this year with photographs and ideally gather some evidence of breeding behaviour- just throwing down a gauntlet....



Downy Emerald *C. aenea*

Sadly not such a good year to report for this species –possible falling foul of the poor weather at the start of the season. Despite repeated visits to likely breeding sites at Bomere and Shomere and Berrington Pool, no individuals were recorded. The only recorded sighting in 2015 was made at Ebury Hill where individuals have now been seen 3 years in succession holding territories around the edge of the pond. It should be noted that this quarry forms part of Ebury Hill campsite and access is only available to those staying at the campsite. In addition Bomere, Shomere and Berrington Pool are private sites though the latter can be accessed with permission- please contact me if interested.



Downy Emerald in flight at Shomere in 2014.
Photo: J. Almond



Ruddy Darter

S. sanguineum

And just for a positive note it was interesting to note that Ruddy Darter was recorded by Bob Kemp at Cramer gutter this year for the first time. A tandem pair were observed at this popular and well recorded site. In addition there was a possible though unconfirmed sighting of this species by Paul Hope at Wildmoor Pool -again for the first time at a very well recorded site. Both records were made on 12th August. The recent National Atlas (Cham et al., 2014) did show a slight increase in Ruddy Darter distribution expanding northwards and some recent gains were seen in Shropshire. This may be due to increased recorder effort though it is interesting that these sightings are at already well recorded sites.



Male Ruddy Darter with all black legs and a ruddy frons.

Photo: P. Spear

Missing In Action...



- ✧ **Hairy dragonfly** *Brachytron pratense* –following the 2013 record made by B. Smith at Whixall Moss there have been no sightings. Known to be present in Cheshire so there remains the possibility it may be seen again in Shropshire. Typically the first hawker dragonfly on the wing in mid-May so be on the look out near clean water with lush surrounding vegetation and nearby shelter (Brooks, 2004).
- ✧ **Vagrant Emperor** *Hemianax ephippiger* –following the first ever Shropshire record made by G. Hiatt on 23rd November at Muxton Marsh (SJ715132) in 2013 there have been no local reports of this incredibly rare migrant.
- ✧ **Red-veined Darter** *Sympetrum fonscolombii* – remains unrecorded since the 2012 sighting at Venus Pool. Elsewhere in the UK a good number of records were made during 2015 (Parr, 2015) and it is possible that this migrant will cross our borders again in the future so always bear it in mind.
- ✧ **Yellow-winged Darter** *Sympetrum flaveolum* - no Shropshire records since the mid 1990's. Recent records were made at Norfolk in 2015 (Parr, 2015). If further migrations occur in 2016 there's an outside chance they may revisit Shropshire.
- ✧ **Scarce Chaser** *Libellula fulva* – a regular slot in the 'missing in action' column and still living up to it's name! Only 1 Shropshire record ever made at Attingham Park in June 2008 by J. Balcombe. This species has a relatively early flight season emerging on mass in early May and is typically found on neutral or base-rich muddy slow flowing small rivers, dykes in floodplains and water meadows (Smallshire & Swash, 2014).

Eardington Nature Reserve

This is a relatively new 20 hectare reserve on the site of an old sand and gravel quarry near Bridgnorth. During the 2015 flight season the following 7 species were recorded:

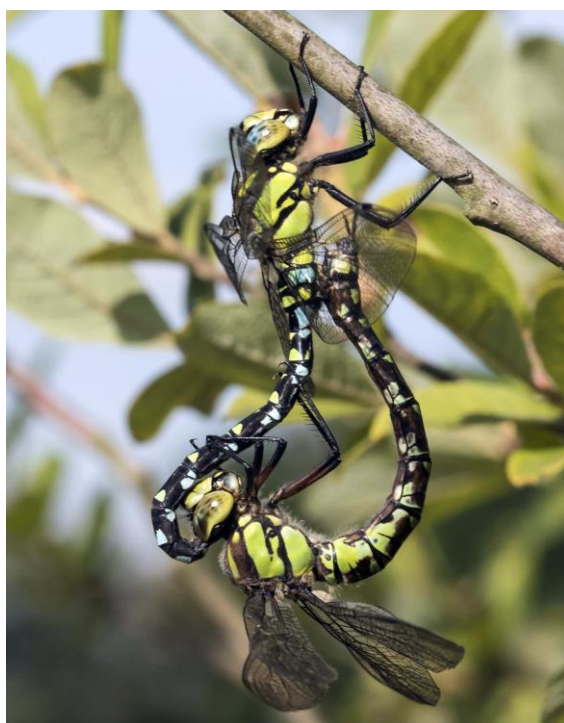
- ✧ Blue-tailed Damselfly
- ✧ Emerald Damselfly
- ✧ Southern Hawker
- ✧ Common Hawker
- ✧ Migrant Hawker
- ✧ Common Darter
- ✧ Black Darter



Black Darter



Common Hawker



Southern Hawker

Most notably Eardington NR is potentially a new breeding site for **Black Darter** and **Common Hawker**- both species with more specific habitat requirements favouring acidic pools. Paul Spear visited this site a number of times this year capturing these great photographs. All 3 hawker species recorded were exhibiting reproductive behaviour as indeed were Common Darters and Blue-tailed Damselflies. Hopefully next years records will indicate this sight does represent successful breeding habitat for a number of species- any records of exuviae would be great! For more information on visiting Eardington NR go to www.fenr.org.uk



Common Darter

STILL Coming Soon to a Pond Near You.....and now in Cheshire!

Sorry to include this yet again, but the first county record is still to be made! **Small Red-eyed Damselfly** *Erythromma viridulum* is now not only in Worcester but was recorded this year in Cheshire in August (Perrin, 2015c). The range expansion of this species continues and hopefully 2016 will be our year? In light of this I have included again the main identification tips that differentiate between this species and **Red-eyed Damselfly** *E. najas*.



The male Small Red-eyed Damselfly has bright red eyes – often described as a brighter ‘tomato’ red than the deeper ‘burgundy’ red seen in the Red-eyed Damselfly. The blue colouration on the abdomen extends onto the sides of segment 2 from the thorax and onto segment 8 from

segment 9. In addition a black X mark can just about be seen here on the dorsal surface of segment 10. When at rest the wings extend just beyond the join between segments 6 and 7 (Brooks, 2004).

In contrast the wings of the Red eyed Damselfly extend further down the abdomen upon which there is far less blue colouration. Segments 1, 9 and 10 are blue, but this does not spread onto segments 2 or 8. In addition there is no black X mark seen on the dorsal surface of segment 10.



Any records of Small Red-eyed Damselfly received will be a first for Shropshire so it is important to try and get some good photographs highlighting those diagnostic features listed above. Even if you don't manage to get photographs please let me know where you think you've seen them and I'll come and take a look.

On the Wing in Woore

Having highlighted a few less well recorded areas in the last newsletter I was really impressed that this year Peter Roberts single-handedly put Woore on the dragonfly map. Prior to 2015 the north eastern hectad in which Woore is situated (SJ74) had 1 solitary Shropshire record of a **Blue-tailed Damselfly**. Peter has added 9 species to the list of residents; **Southern, Brown and Migrant Hawkers, Four-spotted and Broad-bodied Chasers, Black-tailed Skimmer, Common Darter and Azure, Blue-tailed and Large Red Damselflies**. What's more Peter's garage walls seem to be particularly good for emergence as his photos show:



Four-spotted Chaser exuvia and teneral



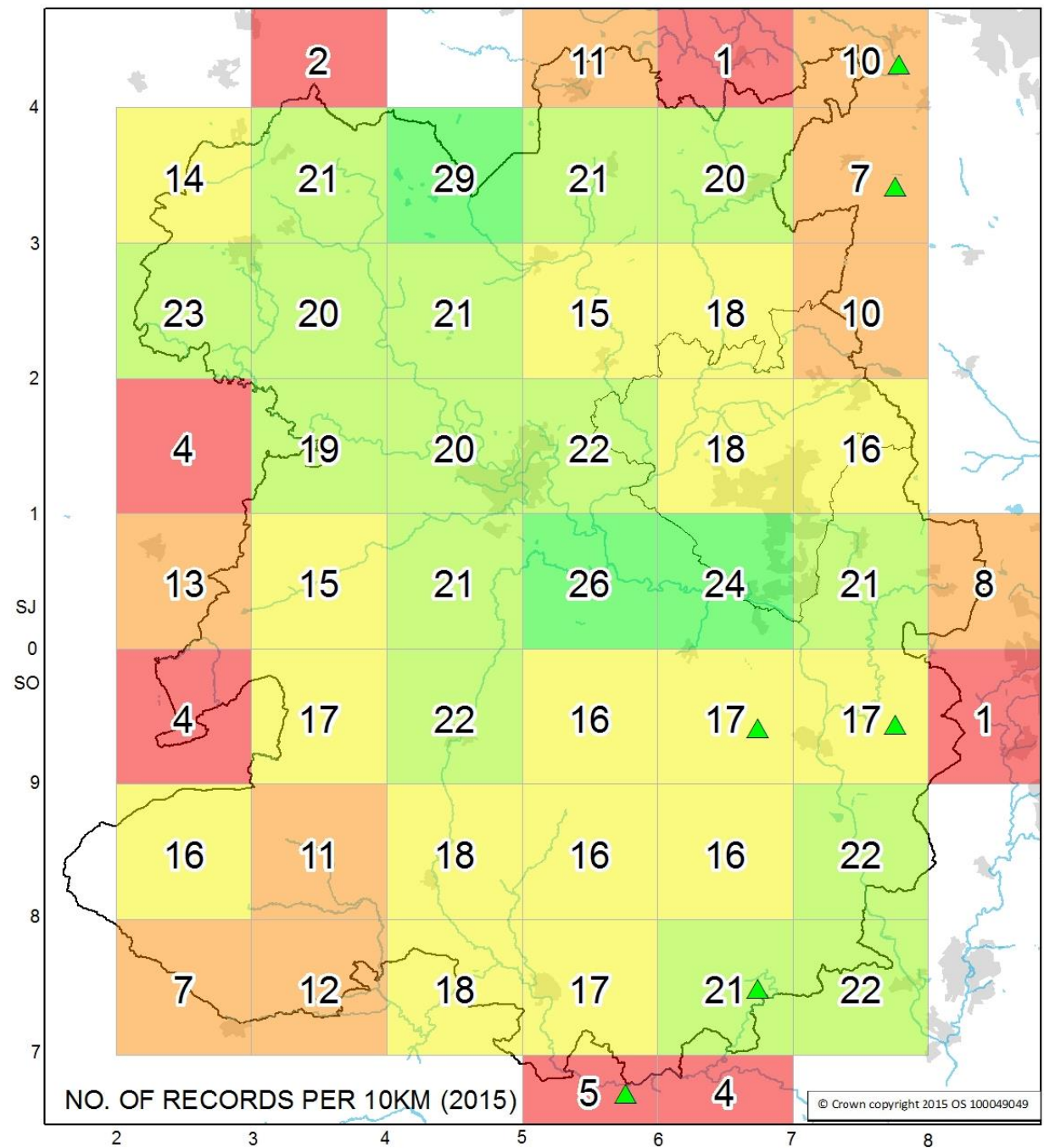
Southern Hawker

Just in case anyone else is tempted to visit some less well recorded areas I've included an updated map on the next page kindly produced by Jonathan Groom (Biodiversity Data Officer for Shropshire Council). This shows the species richness in each 10km square throughout the county. The yellow, orange and red squares show those hectads with the fewest species recorded. If anyone is looking for suggestions it would be great to receive more records from

any of the yellow squares and most notably the 3 orange squares in the SW of the county. Many sites are open to the public, but please ensure if this is not the case you find out who owns it and get the necessary permission.

Species Richness by Hectad in 2015

Green triangles indicate an increase in species recorded in that hectad. Top climber is SJ74 (Woore parish) with 9 new species records.



Shropshire Dragonflies Website Update!

Having spent some long winter nights on this project I'm fairly optimistic that the Shropshire Dragonflies website will finally become a reality this spring! The finished article will detail all our local species providing photographs to aid identification and local distribution maps. The maps will be updated annually following submission of records so the information will be current. In addition we hope the website will keep people up to date with dragonfly news, events and of course the blog allowing people to keep abreast of the flight season as it unfurls. As mentioned earlier the blog will remain at the current address until we launch the website- rest assured all on my mailing list will be notified when we go live!



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The Last Word..

Prior to launching the proposed website I will shortly be updating the Shropshire page on the BDS website

<http://www.british-dragonflies.org.uk/content/local-groups>

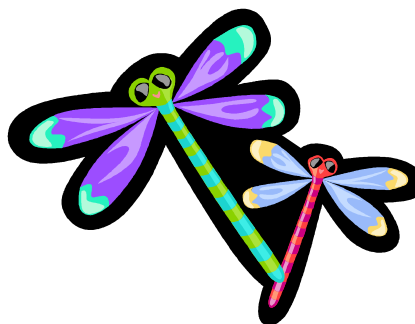
Once the website is up and running there will simply be a link from the BDS webpage. There is currently a link on the webpage that will take you to the Shropshire Dragonfly Watch blog –please do take a look in 2016 and get in touch with your sightings and photographs.

I am again running a number of courses this year which I have detailed at the end of this newsletter. As ever if you don't fancy tackling exuviae identification yourself, I am more than happy to do this so if you are lucky enough to find some and they don't personally appeal then please send them my way!

Thank you once again for your continued interest in Shropshire dragonflies and all your recording efforts. Please don't hesitate to contact me with any records, newsletter suggestions, ID queries, 100s of exuviae (!!!) etc. at

info@shropshiredragonflies.co.uk

Fingers crossed for an outrageously long hot summer and enjoy the dragonflies!



References

Brooks, S. (2004) **Field Guide to the Dragonflies and Damselflies of Great Britain and Ireland**. 4th ed. Hook: British Wildlife Publishing.

Cham, S., Nelson, B., Parr, A., Prentice, S., Smallshire, D. and Taylor, P. (2014) **Atlas of Dragonflies in Britain and Ireland**. Wallingford: Biological Records Centre.

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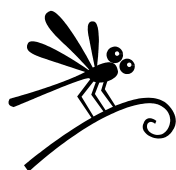
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Perrin, V. (2015b) Wildlife Reports: Dragonflies. **British Wildlife**, 26(6): 425

Perrin, V. (2015c) Wildlife Reports: Dragonflies. **British Wildlife**, 27(1): 48

Smallshire, D. and Swash, A. (2014) **Britain's Dragonflies. A field guide to the damselflies and dragonflies of Britain and Ireland**. 3rd ed. Hampshire: Wild Guides

Courses



Saturday 23rd April, 2016

Preston Montford Field Centre, Shropshire

Aim: Dragonfly Larvae Workshop with County Recorder Sue Rees Evans (formerly McLamb). Aimed at beginners this course will commence with an introduction to dragonfly larvae and the part they play in the dragonfly lifecycle. Indoor practical sessions will then focus on the identification of exuviae. After lunch the afternoon will be spent out and about at the field centre dipping in ponds and practising some hands on identification.

Meet: Please report to reception at Preston Montford Field Centre (SJ433143). The workshop will start at 10.00am and finish at 4pm.

For further directions see

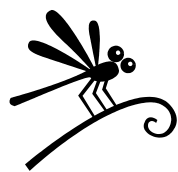
<http://www.field-studies-council.org/centres/prestonmontford/location.aspx>

Requirements: Packed lunch .Wellies/walking boots and waterproofs as we will be venturing out! Total walking will be no more than 1km. Larval identification guides and hand lens if owned.

Contact: For further details and booking please contact Preston Montford Field Centre Tel: 0845 3307372 or email: enquiries.pm@field-studies-council.org

Cost: £35

NB: For those who wish, the 'Field Guide to the larvae and exuviae of British Dragonflies' by Steve Cham will be available for purchase at £10 (correct cash/cheque only).



Tuesday 17th May, Tuesday 28th June and Tuesday 16th August, 2016

National Trust Carding Mill Valley, Shropshire

Aim: Discovering Dragonflies- a repeat of the successful series of 3 dragonfly identification workshops with County Recorder Sue Rees Evans (formerly McLamb). Aimed at beginners this series will enable people to identify a range of species that occupy different flight periods throughout the season. Classroom inputs during the morning will focus on identification of 'seasonal species' and an understanding of the natural history of these fantastic insects. Participants will also learn how the life cycle is adapted for species emerging at different times of the year. Following a brief lunch the afternoons will be spent outside at 3 different locations on the Long Mynd putting identification skills to the test in a variety of habitats.

Meet: Please report to the National Trust's chalet pavilion at Carding Mill Valley, Church Stretton, Shropshire, SY6 6JG. The workshop will start at 10am and finish at 2pm. For further directions see

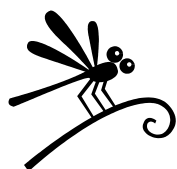
<http://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/carding-mill-valley-and-shropshire-hills/how-to-get-here/>

Requirements: Packed lunch essential. Wellies/walking boots and waterproofs as we will be venturing out! Total walking will be no more than 1km. Identification guides and hand lens if owned.

Contact: Booking essential via Emily Knight 01694 725000 or email emily.knight@nationaltrust.org.uk

Cost: £10 per session. For those who wish, the latest 'Field Guide to the damselflies and dragonflies of Britain and Ireland' by D. Smallshire & A. Swash will be available for purchase at £17.95 (correct cash/cheque only).

NB: Weather permitting 2 afternoons will be spent at pools on top of the Long Mynd so some participants will need to drive and car sharing will be very much appreciated.



Introduction to Dragonflies and Damselflies

15th-17th July, 2016

Preston Montford Field Centre, Shropshire

Aim: This course is aimed at all those with a desire to learn more about these stunning insects. Open to all levels of ability we aim to introduce you close up to a good number of the 32 Shropshire species of dragonfly and damselfly so that you will leave confident in your own abilities to identify them and make species records. Classroom sessions on identification, life history, larvae and exuviae will be combined with a number of field visits to a range of aquatic habitats. This will allow you to put your skills into practice and to observe and understand the visual spectacle of these fascinating insects on the wing.

Tutors: Sue Rees Evans (formerly McLamb) is the County recorder for Dragonflies in Shropshire and Odonata Tsar for the Shropshire Ecological Data Network.

Location: Preston Montford Field Centre (SJ433143). For further directions see <http://www.field-studies-council.org/centres/prestonmontford/location.aspx>

The course will start on Friday evening and finish on Sunday late afternoon.

Contact: For further details and booking please contact Preston Montford Field Centre
Tel: 0845 3307372 or email: enquiries.pm@field-studies-council.org

Cost: £258 (residential)

NB: For those who wish, the latest 'Field Guide to the damselflies and dragonflies of Britain and Ireland' by D. Smallshire & A. Swash will be available for purchase at £17.95 and the 'Field Guide to the larvae and exuviae of British Dragonflies' by Steve Cham will be available for purchase at £10 (correct cash/cheque only).



Shropshire Wildlife Trust Dragonfly Identification Day at Pam's Pools

10am-3pm Sunday 31st July, 2016

Pam's Pools, nr Bridgnorth, Shropshire

Aim: Dragonfly enthusiasts of all levels of ability are welcome to come along and learn more about these stunning insects. The day will start with a classroom session introducing this group of insects and focusing on their identification. After a picnic lunch we will then head to the pools and hopefully introduce you close up to a good number of our Shropshire species. Weather permitting there will be ample chance to allow you to put your identification skills into practice and to observe and understand the visual spectacle of these fascinating insects on the wing.

Tutor: Sue Rees Evans (formerly McLamb) is the County recorder for Dragonflies in Shropshire and Odonata Tsar for the Shropshire Ecological Data Network.

Location: Full directions will be given on booking.

Contact: Booking essential as space is limited. For further details and booking please contact Pam Yuille Tel: 07793939291 or email: pamela.yuille@doctors.org.uk

Cost: £1 (children 10yrs and older free)

Requirements: Packed lunch essential (tea/coffee/juice will be provided). Wellies/walking boots and waterproofs as we will be venturing out around the pools. Total walking will be no more than 1km. Identification guides and hand lens if owned.

NB: Sorry no dogs or children under 10yrs.