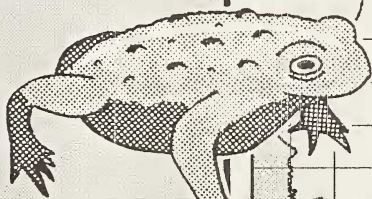


# THE NORFOLK NATTERJACK



THE NATURAL  
HISTORY MUSEUM

8 AUG 2000

EXCHANGED  
GENERAL LIBRARY

NNNS Excursions 2000-2001

## Toad-in-the-hole...

Since the last 'Natterjack' the Society has appeared on national television, held its first ever appearance at the Royal Norfolk Show and jointly hosted a Public Open Day at Wheatfen with the Ted Ellis Trust. The latter two projects involving a lot of time and effort by council member David

Nobbs. From what I have heard both events can be deemed a success in attracting interest and new members. David deserves our thanks and a resounding pat on the back, particularly for the RNS days.

Less central to the NNNS but with much involvement by some of its members is the Beeston Common Management Group who recently

were presented with a 'highly commended' certificate for its long term commitment to the valuable wildlife site. The award was made on July 14<sup>th</sup> by North Norfolk District Council as part of their Environmental Awards 2000 community project. FF

## Transactions

Vol. 33 Part 1

It has been noted that some of the photographs of the Sawfly larvae (between pages 50 and 51) have been printed in the wrong position. Please note that they should read as follows:

Key:	
1-3	5-7
2-4	6-8

- Photo 1 should be Photo 7
- Photo 6 should be Photo 1
- Photo 7 should be Photo 6

also the heading opposite page 25 should read:

Two Orchids from Holt Country Park not Two Orchard from Holt Country Park. Similarly the Bird's-nest Orchard in the second paragraph should read Bird's-nest Orchard.

## Freak Clover at Hilborough

Whilst recording plants for an on going project to update the Flora of Stamford Training Area, I was walking across Hook's Well Meadow, on the northern part of the area when I spotted half a dozen bright pink spikes of bloom at about 50 metres distance which were obviously something unusual. My first thought had been Pyramidal Orchids, but as I drew nearer there seemed to be a similarity with some exotic species of Bistort. I was therefore astonished to discover that the plant was a pink flowered clover with all the flowers deflexed instead of upright in the terminal head. The individual flowers were somewhat smaller than in normal red clover

(*Trifolium pratense*) and of a clearer pink. The leaves were like those of that plant, but the stems were somewhat elongated and I had the impression that they might even root along the stem, given time.

A similar note to this is being prepared to send to BSBI News, the newsletter of the Botanical Society of the British Isles, along with a colour slide of the plant. Gillian Beckett has seen a specimen and has not seen anything like it before, and I would be interested to hear from any one who has. The B.S.B.I unfortunately, do not have a referee covering the genus *Trifolium*. Bearing in mind the above, I am actually wondering if the plant might just be a hybrid *T. pratense* x *T. repens*. Any comment would be welcomed.

Alec Bull

The quarterly bulletin  
of the  
Norfolk & Norwich  
Naturalists' Society



Founded 1869  
Registered Charity No. 291604

Number 70  
August 2000

## Everything...s in the pink!

Pink elephants I can cope with, real live flying elephants - the Elephant Hawk Moths, of course - but pink woodlice? Bright pink woodlice the colour of boiled lobster!

Were the children winding me up again? Or was it just an extreme colour variation of the common woodlouse, *Philoscis muscorum*? This woodlouse can occur in shades of yellow, brown and even red as well as the normal grey.

"If it's got a big black line down the back it's a common *Philoscia*," I shouted as I shovelled up some debris of weeds and dust off the patio. The children were supposed to be moving bags of tin cans into the car to take to the recycling centre; instead they were huddled over a damp patch on the concrete-slabbed patio.

"No! It's pink with a yellow line down the back," one of them replied, "Come and look!" Humour them and we can get this job finished I thought as they moved apart to let me kneel down with them.

I was fairly confident that I knew all the types of woodlouse living in our garden. I had got a key to the British Woodlice a couple of years ago and have found four large flat species, the Pill Woodlouse that rolls into a ball, two tiny pale grey or brown species that are normally overlooked as babies of the larger species and the blind white woodlouse that abounds in ants' nests under the paving slabs.

Now I had another species, *Andronicus dentiger*, a smallish one under 6mm long but a distinct and obvious bright pink with a yellow line down the back. This must be a new arrival since I had

diligently checked any odd-coloured woodlice when I got the key and would have investigated any strange woodlouse.

According to the key this woodlouse is native to southern Britain and widely distributed, occurring in 20 of the 59 'vice-counties' used for recording purposes, and living in loose colonies often becoming common in the locality. It can survive in a variety of habitats and it should be easy to spot even for the non-expert.

With species like this one it makes one wonder why it seems so uncommon. Is it just a lack of people looking for it or does it need some microhabitat requirement we don't yet understand? Often the breakthrough in these situations comes not from scientific research but from casual observations from the public or detailed notes made by interested amateurs.

Robert Maidstone  
Aug. '99

## Friendly Robins

The path down to Salhouse Broad from the carpark is probably 400 yards or so long, but in this shortish stretch live many robins. All of them are fairly tame and quite happy to take crumbs from around your feet, but one at least, probably two, are so confident that they will fly on to an out stretched hand and feed.

Wendy and I have been trying recently to capture this on film. It has given much pleasure to see how confiding these lovely birds can be. We do have a pair of robins in the garden, they come to the bird table just outside the window, but they are very wary and leave as soon as somebody steps outside.

Tony Horvcs

## Unusual Prey.

During a late afternoon walk (15th May) over Beeston Regis Common I disturbed a male Kestrel which took flight from the recently cleared heath at the southern end of the common. As it climbed I became aware of something in its talons. It was a reptile - an Adder about 15 -18" long - at least judging by its thickness and the habitat it was more likely to have been a snake than a slow-worm although I could not make out any colouring as it flew against a low sun. One foot gripped the unfortunate animal directly behind its head whilst the other held the middle of the snake, thus preventing any kind of attack presuming it was still alive. David and Janet Mower had commented to me previously that they had seen a Kestrel carrying an Adder near Holt Lowes around 1990. I checked in various references including BWP for any listing of this unusual prey and found that in fact snakes were only reported rarely as part of the diet and then generally from southern Europe.

Francis Farrow

## A casualty of war!

The spectacular peregrine is a favourite with every birder but it wasn't always flavour of the month. Actress Prunella Scales, president of the Council for the Protection of Rural England, recalling her childhood in Devon during the war, remembers a woman "whose wartime job it was to find peregrine falcon nests and destroy the eggs, because the mature birds would prey on War Office carrier pigeons".

David Paull



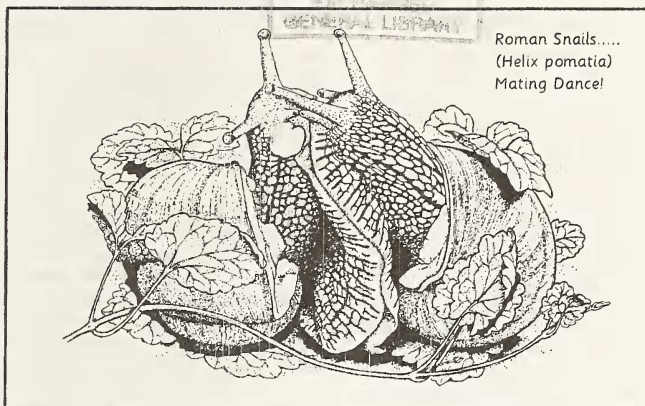
## The Snail and the Equal Opportunities Course

As a Police Officer I have had to attend two Equal Opportunities courses. I came out of the second still confused as to how I felt about the subject. I thought that the principle of equal opportunity for women, and men, was admirable but seemed somehow to almost deny the differences that exist between the sexes. On the other hand there were some Old Cops who gave the female tutor a very hard time with their rather cliché and Victorian attitude to sexual equality. Both views had validity but I felt the need to consult Nature for an answer to my confusion.

On 25th July, 1999 I was watching the mating of *Helix pomatia*, the Roman or Apple Snail of garlic butter and French cuisine that so repulses the average British palette. Sadly not a Norfolk species, Europe's largest snail is now rare in Britain. These were part of a small colony I had found in the chalklands of Suffolk. They are huge, twice the size of *Helix aspersa*, the Garden Snail.

Roman Snails are hermaphrodites and these snails may have possibly mated earlier as they sat, balancing on their tails, sole to sole. At 2200 hours mating commenced. Both reared up, still sole to sole and a slow and extraordinarily sensual dance began. They rocked from side to side and mouthed each other whilst gently stroking each other's tentacles. A calcium dart was then fired from each dart sac into the body of the other snail. This apparently increases arousal and at 2230 copulation commenced. From the side of the head the sex organs burst forth like grotesque deformities. The male organ of each plugs into the other's female organ and sperm is passed between them. Each snail will then go on to develop and lay eggs in the soil.

At 2250 the sex organs were retracted and the snails lay together, tentacles placid, apparently exhausted well into the night.



Roman Snails....  
(*Helix pomatia*)  
Mating Dance!

Morning found them apart and feeding.

As I was pondering on the subject of equal opportunities at the time I wondered if it could all be solved if we were hermaphrodites, equal in every way. Why are we not hermaphrodites? It appears to me that no hermaphrodite has evolved much further than an animal that lays and then abandons its' eggs. The young are independent from the time of hatching.

In order for a human to grow a brain large enough to enable it to develop into the most fantastic creature on the planet takes a long time. Some 16 years or so are needed. Who will nurse it, care for it, protect it for every minute of the day, feed it, teach it and love it? Its' parents I hope! If we were hermaphrodites how could we possibly divide the labour. After all, what man could stay at home nursing the baby when he could go out hunting with his mates? The division and differences between the sexes clearly has a purpose. The answer I was looking for was an understanding that the roles of men and women are designed by Nature to be different but however different they may be they share equal importance in the overall plan, namely the bringing of our young to adult-hood and independence.

If the roles are equal in importance then so are the rights of each sex. It seems to me that a confusion between roles and rights is responsible for the problems from which the

equal opportunities Issue has evolved.

Mind you, I really don't know what all the fuss is about. Everyone knows that female is the greater sex...or is it? I find that life is easy if I capitulate to female demands at every opportunity! Is that a sexist comment? Oh dear, it seems I'm still confused.

Garth M. Coupland

### SWALLOWTAIL SIGHTING

On Monday 3rd July 2000 I was walking along the north bank of the staithe at West Somerton (TG464 205) when a Swallowtail butterfly flew across the path in front of me.

Is this an unusual sighting away from it's strong hold at Hickling and the Strumpshaw area?

Colin A Jacobs

From my experience Swallowtails can range many miles from their natural habitat, however, in this case the nearest colonies are probably at Horsey Mere, approximately 1 1/2 miles away, although it is possible they also occur around the adjacent Martham Broad. 'An Atlas of Norfolk Butterflies 1984 -1988' by MR Hall does show a 'dot' in the West Somerton tetrad. Perhaps therefore not that unusual but still a rare and beautiful sight. In 1989 a Swallowtail reached Beeston Regis, some 20 miles from its nearest known colony. FF



## Fred Ashton remembered (2)

My first recollection of Fred was in the summer of 1935, when I used to visit Gunns in St. Giles street to get my entomological pins and also sometimes to purchase foreign birds for my aviary. Fred worked in a small room at the back of the shop opposite the small cages holding the Java Sparrows, Silver-bills, Cut-throats, Diamond Doves etc. No doubt any dead occupants finished up on his bench in due course.

On one visit the door was open and I could see what he was doing. I think he was having a working lunch, he was eating sandwiches with his left hand whilst his right hand was rubbing a foxes skin with what he told me was arsenical soap. I thought of the old saying, "never let the left hand know what the right hand is up to". Lesser mortals would have died a grisly death attempting such an operation, but Fred evidently was immune.

He used to cycle miles all over the county to attend our field meetings and when we were having our lunch he would produce from his pockets some of the more recognizable road casualties he had picked up on his way, dead Stoats, Weasels or Squirrels seemed to be the usual. Not all those who were enjoying their cheese sandwiches were amused and a number would return their half-eaten lunch to the box and retire to the other side of their car. On one occasion he had made a detour to retrieve some carcasses before joining us at Wayland Wood near Watton. The lunch had started and as usual about halfway through Fred rummaged in his pockets and produced a paper bag from which he withdrew two Long-eared Bats, then stretching out their wings he

explained their life history etc. They looked perfect specimens, although he would not say where he had got them from he made it clear that he had a customer for them when he had plied his trade.

He was, as Reg Jones hinted in the last issue (*Natterjack* No. 69), a likable character. I can visualize him now, having passed him many times in Larkman Lane, pushing his trade cycle loaded up in front and with a large galvanized pail on each handlebar full of pigswill etc.

This gave him a very recognizable aroma as it often splashed out onto his coat and trousers.



One visit in 1939 I saw Fred putting the finishing touches to, I think it was, a Snow Goose. It looked super, and then many years later when I visited the museum in Liverpool I again saw the same goose and verified it by Gunn's label on it. It was then in the recent acquisition section.

Despite his appearance, he was an expert at his craft. His home was full of his work, and when visiting him one had to beware of the Tawny Owl that used to sit on top of the grandfather clock and would jump onto the shoulders of visitors if they approached too close. It would then try to make a meal of ones earlobes; either through affection or hunger I do not know which! I expect it finished up on the 'operating table' in due course.

Fred told me that he sometimes made a meal of a specimen he thought was edible "a pity to waste it" he would remark.

He was, as time went by, made an honorary member of the Society, as strict rules were enforced in his trade and times were getting hard for him.

Ken Durrant

## A seasonal occurrence

In late May, my attention was drawn to a "fungus" present on the bark of the lime trees, particularly the younger specimens, which are a feature of Lime Tree Road in Norwich. The infestation took the form of numerous small clusters of white cottony threads, barely one centimetre in diameter, each being capped by a hard shield-like cover, warm-brown in colour and distinctively ridged. They were not associated with a fungal infection but scale insects, very like those illustrated in *Chinery's Insects* and labelled *Parthenolecanium corni*. However, after photographing a specimen, I referred the matter to Ken Durrant who identified the insect as a close relation of *P. corni* - *P. coyli*. Each unit was a degenerate female, wingless and legless, and quite static on the bark of the tree. I gather such infestations have been widespread in Norwich this year.

Reg Jones

## Pigmy Shrews

Please note the reference by Tony Leech to AB/RB, in the May issue of *'Natterjack'*, as having been responsible for the destruction of two Pigmy Shrews in a second loft in Edgefield is incorrect. The loft concerned was in a bungalow in East Tuddenham, the property of A & R Bull



Alec Bull

## Broom Galls

I read with interest two recent notes about galls on broom (Feb & May 2000), as the gall-former, *Aceria genistae* (Nalepa) (recently moved from *Eriophyes*), is currently being considered as a potential biological control agent for *Cytisus scoparius* for several countries (Australia, New Zealand, Canada, USA and Chile) where broom is a serious exotic weed. A biological control agent is a natural enemy of the target weed that is both highly specific to the weed and also damaging under a wide range of environmental conditions. The aim of biological control is to use these agents to bring down the abundance of this weed in its exotic range without any risk that the agents will move on to other plant species in this environment. These activities assume that a lack of natural enemies on the weed in the exotic range may have been part of the cause of its invasion. *Aceria genistae* can certainly be damaging. It has been observed to kill plants in shady conditions in southern France. The exact host range of the species is not so precisely defined.

*Aceria genistae sensu latu* has quite a wide number of recorded hosts range forming galls on *Cytisus scoparius* and *Cytisus purgans* (including horticultural varieties and hybrids with these as parents) and *Ulex europaeus*, but also having been collected off, *Ulex parviflorus*, *Genista pilosa*, *G. cinerea*, *G. corsica*, *G. tinctoria*, *G. monspessulana* and *Spartium junceum*. Recent work has shown that mites from galls on *Spartium* are a separate species (*Aceria spartii* (Castagnoli 1978)), and causal observations have shown that when galled *C. scoparius* plants are in close association with *Ulex europaeus*, *Cytisus striatus*



(very hairy pods) and *Cytisus multiflorus* (white flowers) where they have been widely planted along roadsides in the UK and in continental Europe galls are restricted to *C. scoparius*. Also where galls have been seen on *Ulex europaeus* in New Zealand adjacent *C. scoparius* plants had no galls. This had led to the idea that *A. genistae* is either still a complex of several species or at least has a number of clearly distinguished host races.

Before *A. genistae* can be clearly useful as a biological control agent this last conundrum needs to be solved. To address the problem we are conducting a taxonomic analysis of *A. genistae* collected from a number of host species and a number of localities. I would be very interested to hear from anyone who would be prepared to collect galls for us from broom or related garden varieties (if variety is known) from Norfolk. What we are after is 5 galls from 5 separate plants from a site dropped into tubes of ethanol (galls from one plant can go in the same tube). Your assistance would be duly acknowledged in any forthcoming publication. I can be contacted at the address below and can provide the tubes and ethanol if necessary. Any non-*C. scoparius* host records would also be of great interest to me.

Many thanks  
Andy Sheppard

CSIRO Entomology,  
European Laboratory  
Campus International de Baillarguet  
34980 MONTFERRIER-SUR-LEZ France

email: andys@ento.csiro.au

## Foreign Conifer Hedging!

I have some good news about these fast growing "Foreign" conifer hedges, that received a lot of bad publicity in the national Press some time ago. Apart from the obvious fact that planting them only in a position that is not going to cause future problems, I have to report that the local wild bird population really approve of them! Some twelve years ago I planted a "hedge" of Castlewallan Leyland Cypress along the east side of my garden, stretching about 120ft. in length and in front of it another row of various garden conifers, making a solid barrier to the east and also as a screen to and for the newly converted barn next door. My garden is in a very rural position on the edge of open organic farmland. The "Hedge" is more like a line of small individual trees having been planted originally at about twelve feet apart.

This season I can report the following birds nesting in these conifers: From north to south: Chaffinch, then about twelve feet on Long Tailed Tits. Approx. 15ft. on a Blackbird, then Dunnock after approx another 15ft. Song Thrush 10 ft further on and Finally (I think!) Greenfinches. The great thing about these conifers is that they are virtually cat and Sparrow-hawk proof!

Of course the birds aren't daft! I feed them (two birdtables) and also have battery powered ultrasonic "Cat Scarers" around the garden (which I hasten to add are harmless!).

Roger A R Clarke



## THE SCOLT HEAD ISLAND EXPERIENCE

The Society were invited by English Nature to spend the second week in June to study some aspects of the natural history of Scoln Head Island. The specific areas of interest focused on the diatom flora of the salt marshes and the invertebrate communities associated with shrubby seablute *Suaeda fruticosa*.

The data from these studies will be published later but in this report we would like to write about some of the wider interests which we enjoyed on the reserve.

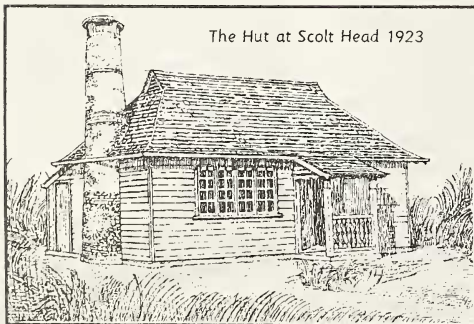
The dunes support myriads of the lovely bee orchid *Ophrys apifera*. So many in the dune sand-sedge swards so great care had to be taken not to crush them underfoot. Elsewhere in Norfolk the bee orchid occurs rarely and in smaller numbers but on Scoln it is everywhere. There is a magnificent picture of a bee orchid in Gillian Beckett and Alec Bull's *A Flora of Norfolk* on page 265. Often in the same groupings we came across spikes of the pyramidal orchid *Gymnadenia conopsea* and the contrasting colours of the two species beautified the dunes. The flowers of pyramidal orchids only appear after five to ten years growth and

during this time the plant is heavily dependent upon its mycorrhizal fungus. The mucilage derived from the root tubers goes under the pharmaceutical name of 'Salep' which is an Arabic word describing 'testicles of a fox'. Salep mucilage was used in Britain to relieve itching.

Sea holly *Eryngium martimum* thrives on the fore dunes and again one had to walk carefully so as not to destroy the delicate silver-green leaves and bright blue thistle like flowers. In their *Flora* Gillian and Alec write that, "First recorded when Sir Thomas Browne noted that he had received information from the 'eryngo diggers' of Yarmouth in 1668". Apparently its roots were eaten as a sweet-meat after being candified. The generic *Eryngium* is taken from the Greek ereugomai which means 'I belch'. The plant was once used to relieve flatulence. Sea bindweed *Calystegia soldanella* produced pink carpets with their trumpet-shaped flowers. The blossoms are visited by bumble bees, hawk-moths and small bee-flies. Another feature of the dunes are the stands of common polypody ferns and more extensive bushes of privet.

collected. These came to lamps on or near the dunes where privet formed a shrubby cover. In the day-time we noted a number of Painted Ladies, Common Blue and Small Heaths. Ragwort was often covered with caterpillars of the Cinnabar Moth and many adults were also seen. Other moths caught included Mother Shipton, Nutmeg, Common Wainscot, Large Yellow Underwing and Sand Dart.

The foreshore at Scoln is covered in places by the shells of gastropods and bivalves. The two species of razor shells noted included the colonising *Ensis americanus* from the other side of the Atlantic. The fleshy feet of razor shells when cooked in butter and with salt and black pepper and considered by some to be a delicacy, but then so is tripe!!! Another invader of our Norfolk coast washed up on the shore is the American Slipper Limpet which was accidentally introduced into the UK from America in 1890 and first noted in Norfolk in the mid-1970s. Species of cockles, gapers, piddocks, buckies, whelks, mussels, scallops and oysters also littered the water line. A shell collectors paradise!!!!



The Hut at Scoln Head 1923

The fresh winds over Scoln limited the numbers of moths caught during the stay but two nights trapping resulted in five Privet Hawk-moths being

We are planning to resume our studies in late August through day visits. This will mean catching and early morning tide and returning on the evening tide. If anyone would like to join us then please telephone Roy Baker (01508 570 609).

Roy Baker,  
Keith Clarke,  
Derek Howlett



## FIELD & INDOOR MEETINGS Aug - Oct 2000

Please note that start times are variable and that one of the meetings this quarter can only take limited numbers so that booking is essential.

**I** Rubber boots recommended.

**II** Rubber boots essential.

### Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> August

#### Cranwich Heath.

11.00 a.m. Full Day.

Directions: Leave the Mundford roundabout westwards on the A134 towards Downham Market & King's Lynn. After about 1 Km., bear left towards Methwold then take the first road left (just before Cranwich Camp). Meet at the entrance to Fire Route 43, TL772934. The meeting will have special reference to beetles and the Norfolk beetle recorder, Martin Collier, will be joining us.

Leader: Nick Gibbons.

### Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> August

#### North Cove Reserve, Suffolk.

10.45 a.m. Full Day.

Directions: Heading east on the A146 from the Beccles bypass towards Lowestoft, North Cove church is just after the B1127 roundabout. TM461893. As there is limited parking at the reserve, we will leave some cars near the church and share transport to the reserve itself. This is a joint meeting with the British Plant Gall Society.

Leader: Rex Hancy

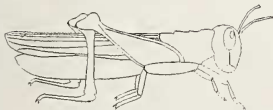
### Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> August

#### Heggatt Hall, Horstead.

11.00 a.m. Full Day.

Directions: Park at the Hall, TG271183. This was the venue of the first excursion of the society in 1869. We are grateful to Mr. Gurney who has given us permission to visit the site on this occasion.

Leader: Ken Durrant.



### Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> August

#### Carlton Marshes Reserve, Suffolk.

11.00 a.m. Full Day.

Directions: There is parking at the Wildlife Centre (turn north off the A146 near Carlton Colville). TM508920. This is a joint meeting with the Great Yarmouth Naturalists' Society

### Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> Sept.

#### Orford Ness, Suffolk.

10.30 a.m. Full Day.

Directions: We will meet in the Pay and Display car park at Orford. TM426496. The party is limited to 24 persons so please book with Stephen Martin on 01603 810327.

Leader: David Paull.

### Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> Sept.

#### Great Ryburgh.

11.00 a.m. Full Day.

Directions: From the A1067, turn west at Stibbard. After the maltings, turn north into Highfield Lane then follow the track to Highfield farm and park on the sugar beet pad at TF946279. We will be walking through meadows and woods in the Wensum Valley.

Leader: Robin Gooldeen.

### Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> Sept.

#### Santon Meadows

11.00 a.m. Full Day.

Directions: Meet at the car park by the railway crossing in Santon Downham. TL821880. We will be recording the meadows and the meeting will be combined with a "field workshop" on spiders.

Leaders: Nick Gibbons and Garth Coupland.

### Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> October

#### Ditchingham House Estate

11.00 a.m. Full Day

Directions: Park in the meadow by Wood House. TM324915. A fungus foray by kind permission of Dorothy Cheyre.

Leader: Mike Woolner.



### Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> October

#### Cley/Blakeney

11.00 a.m. Full Day

Directions: Meet at the NWT car park at Cley Beach. TG048453. A walk mainly for birds.

Leader: Mike Poulton.

### Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> October

#### Kelling Heath

11.00 a.m. Full Day

Directions: Turn north from the A148 Holt / Cromer road just west of Bodham towards Weybourne. Turn west at the sign to Kelling Heath Holiday Park and meet in the car park at TG108415. A fungus foray.

Leader: Tony Leech.

## INDOOR MEETINGS

To be held at Room 7, The Sports and Leisure Centre, Easton College, Easton, Norwich. 7.30 p.m.

### Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> September

#### "Norfolk Valley Fans"

Dr. Francis Rose

### Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> October

#### "The Norfolk Hedgerow Survey"

Dr. Tom Williamson

Bob Ellis, Chairman  
Programme Committee

## Ebb & Flow Marshes

(TG363160)

Species List from Field Trip  
18<sup>th</sup> June 2000

## Butterflies

Large Skipper *Ochlodes venata*  
Swallowtail *Papilio machaon*  
Brimstone *Gonepteryx rhamni*  
Large White *Pieris brassicae*  
Red Admiral *Vanessa atalanta*  
Small Tortoiseshell *Aglais urticae*  
Speckled Wood *Pararge aegeria*  
Meadow Brown *Maniola jurtina*

## Moths

Cinnabar *Tyria jacobaeae*  
Silver Y *Autographa gamma*  
Green Oak *Tortrix viridana*

## Dragonflies

Blue-tailed Damselfly *Ischnura elegans*  
Azure Blue Damselfly *Coenagrion puella*  
Red-eyed Damselfly *Erythromma najas*  
Hairy Dragonfly *Brachytron pratense*  
Norfolk Hawker *Aeshna isosceles*  
Emperor *Anax imperator*  
Broad-bodied Chaser *Libellula depressa*  
Four-spotted Chaser  
*Libellula quadrimaculata*

## Beetles

Longhorn Beetle  
*Agapanthea villosa viridescens*

## Birds

Marsh Harrier *Circus aeruginosus*  
Grasshopper Warbler *Locustella naevia*  
Willow Warbler *Phylloscopus trochilus*  
Reed Bunting *Emberiza schoeniclus*

Paul King



## Please note:

The Norfolk Bat Group now has its own domain name and site:

<http://www.norfolk-bat-group.org.uk>

Comments please to Mark Benfield:

[markbenfield@netscape.net](mailto:markbenfield@netscape.net)

## 'Warnings from the Wild'

Many of you no doubt would have seen the BBC2 television programme '*Warnings from the Wild*' presented by Julian Petifer on May 10 which featured members of the Society at a meeting on Beeston Common last year, led by Ken Durrant. Apart from this the BBC also put up a synopsis of the programme on the 'World Wide Web'. The following account regarding the Society was taken from that website:

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/nature/earth/warnings>

### NORFOLK UK

#### Butterfly increases its range

We were looking for a story from the UK to bring it home to viewers that climate change is not just something which is happening to exotic species in far away places.

At a wildlife and climate change conference in Norwich in September 1999, we heard a presentation from Jane Hill of the University of Durham, who talked about the spread of the speckled wood butterfly *Parage aegeria* throughout England.

She explained how insects such as butterflies were particularly responsive to climate change, and how this species had been rapidly shifting its distribution northwards over the past 50 years.

One of the themes we wanted to develop in the programme was the importance of information collected by amateur naturalists in many scientific studies. Above all, researches studying climate change need long time series of data so they can track changes in species behaviour and distribution over the years and then compare these with changes in temperature. In many cases, amateurs have provided this data, and so we looked for local groups in Norfolk who might be continuing this tradition

We were fortunate to hear about Ken Durrant and the Norfolk and Norwich Naturalists' Society. They were planning a Sunday Walk on Beeston Common - where, in 1990, the first speckled wood had been recorded on its recent expansion northwards - and we went along to film them as they collected data.



Ken Durrant

The above account also included a direct link (hyperlink) to the Society's own website. Such a link will certainly provide the NNNS with an international status and who knows might even increase the membership!

FF

### Millennium Conservation Tuesday November 21st

This meeting will be a discussion forum with a panel consisting of Dr. Roy Baker (N&NNS), Brendan Joyce (NWT), Andy Millar (EN), and Ian Robinson (RSPB). The title will be "Management or Non-intervention". In order to start the ball rolling and to allow the panellists to prepare for the evening, **members are invited to submit written questions**. The forum chairman will select several of these and the members will have the opportunity to read the question to the panellists. After each written question, we hope there will be further questions from the floor followed by lively debate. If you have a written question you would like to submit to the panel, please send it to Dr. Stephen Martin at 3 St John's Close, Hethersett, Norwich, NR9 3DQ or e-mail it to:

[smartin@redhotant.com](mailto:smartin@redhotant.com)  
by 30 October 2000.

Please address questions to the panel as a whole.

### ADVANCE NOTICE

## 'An Evening in the Countryside'

Wed. 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2000

An evening event at  
The Playhouse, Norwich in aid  
of the 'We-care' Appeal

Presentation of slides followed  
by a question and answer  
session featuring the EDP  
nature correspondents:

Grace Corne - Rex Hancy  
Moss Taylor - Percy Trett

*Full Details Later*

### A note to CONTRIBUTORS.

The next *Natterjack* will be in November. It would be much appreciated if any correspondence could be sent to the following address, *as soon as possible by October 1<sup>st</sup>*, and marked with NNNS on the envelope. For those with access to a computer a WORD document or an ordinary text file on disc would be most helpful, or you can send an e-mail to: [francis.f@virgin.net](mailto:francis.f@virgin.net)

FF

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