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The Norfolk NATTERJACK

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Toad-in-the-hole....

Welcome to the 2004 spring edition of *The Norfolk Natterjack*.

Again my thanks to all contributors for such a varied collection. For those of you who are active and out and about the County further surveys are detailed within requiring your participation.

If you haven't sent anything into *Natterjack* before please do not hesitate - all notes and observations are welcome - particularly short pieces. Also if you know any young people (under 16) who can write show them the back page of this edition.

FF

URGENT APPEAL

David and Iris Paull took over the distribution and sale of the Society's Norfolk Bird & Mammal Report from the 1997 issue and had hoped to continue for one more issue - their eighth. But, after a "rather scary encounter" with deep vein thrombosis over Christmas (and "celebrating" the New Year in hospital), David is now under orders to take things easier for some time and has decided that he must therefore "retire" before the publication of the 2003 Report in the early autumn. So, is there a volunteer out there to take on this valuable service to Society members and the hundreds of birders who buy the Report every year? David and Iris will be very happy to act as "consultants" to try to ensure a smooth handover.

What are the basic job requirements? A computer and some storage space.

If you feel you could take it on, please phone David on 01603 457270 for a full job description.

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HONOUR FOR LIL

My last - and very pleasant - task before I ceased to be chairman at the annual meeting on March 16 was to propose that Lil Evans should be made an Honorary Life Member of the Society "in recognition of her outstanding contribution to the study of natural history in Norfolk and her constant readiness to share her knowledge with other naturalists". Reg and Lil Evans were an amazing partnership but, of course, Lil is a considerable expert in her own right. Not only does she have an encyclopaedic knowledge of fungi in general - and an astonishingly retentive memory for all those Latin names - but she is an expert in one of the more obscure specialisms in this field, the Myxomycetes - the slime moulds. She is responsible for 1,817 of 1,972 modern records for myxomycetes in the Norfolk Mycota database, which will form the basis for the forthcoming book on the county's fungi. And her expertise is not just in fungi. Back in 1991 she wrote a book on "Some Norfolk Plant Galls". Her name appears in the list of contributors to the Millennium Atlas of Norfolk Butterflies. And she has a wide knowledge of wildflowers.

Society Council unanimously recommended that Lil should be made an honorary life member - and, not surprisingly, the proposal was approved by the annual meeting - with acclamation!



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Norfolk & Norwich
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David Paull

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HORNETS

Over the years, I have had quite a few opportunities to get acquainted with Hornets, and have learned that they have been victims of much bad press and false rumour. They are probably the most tolerant to human presence near to their nest, of all the wasp family, provided that they are shown respect.

I have photographed Hornets at close range on a number of occasions, but always away from the nest, and although I have found a number of nests in the past, they have either been in hollow trees, or other inaccessible places such as a church roof. In September 2003, I was privileged to be shown a nest in the roof of a shed only 8 feet from the ground. The nest had been started in the second week of August (which I would have thought was somewhat late in the year), and was about half completed, so I was able to photo-

graph the insects busily constructing the nest, and preparing brood cells. The most surprising part of this experience, and what will probably be the most lasting memory, was the loud crackling/rustling noise coming from the nest. On the first occasion that I saw the nest, it was late evening, and as it got dark the noise could be heard from at least 6 yards away. In the darkness this noise seemed almost sinister.

On the second occasion I photographed the nest at a distance of less than one foot, the insects completely ignored both me, camera, and flash-guns. Sometimes a Hornet would land on me, probably using me as a landing stage on its way to the nest, but never did I feel in any way threatened. The local insect population probably felt differently judging by the Small Tortoiseshell and Red Admiral wings found discarded on the ground nearby. On one occasion, I saw the headless and wingless body of a Migrant Hawker dragonfly

taken into the nest. Common Wasps were very frequent items of prey.

About 50 yards from the nest was a pear tree, with many windfall pears beneath it. These were a great attraction for numerous insects including the Hornets. It was with some surprise that whilst taking close-up photos of the Hornets catching and overpowering Common Wasps that on no occasion did a Hornet use its sting to subdue the wasp, but simply grasped the wasp with their legs and used their jaws to great effect. Most attacks lasted from one to four seconds, from beginning, to carrying the prey item off to the nest. Wasps were frequently decapitated. I was also surprised at the considerable amount of pear that was carried off to the nest in the form of pellets that the Hornets cut from the fallen pears with those formidable jaws. Very impressive insects indeed.

Hans Watson

More Hornets....

Last year my mother-in-law rang me to say she had found something strange in the loft of her house near Cromer. I duly went over to investigate - below is a picture of what I found - a large Hornets nest filling one corner of the loft space. This was March 2003 and both she and her husband had not any idea that it was there. They had noticed a few 'large wasps' about during the previous summer but the extent of the nest must have housed a good few thousand individuals. This just shows that if you leave them alone they will not bother you.

Francis Farrow



Barbastelle bats at Paston Great Barn – an update

As members will know, Paston Great Barn, as well as being a Scheduled Ancient Monument and listed building, is an internationally important site for barbastelle bats, and as such is designated under both national and European nature conservation legislation. Over the past few years it was something of a controversial site, a situation which culminated in English Nature taking on a 50 year lease in 2002. A view of those events can be found in the 2001 Norfolk Bird and Mammal report, p288-297.

As part of English Nature's work we have commissioned the Bat Conservation Trust to undertake a three year monitoring programme, looking at the population of barbastelle bats, and building on the earlier work carried out by others, including the Norfolk Bat Group. The first year's results are now in and members may be interested to know that in 2003 the numbers of barbastelles recorded exceeded all previous counts, with 36 adults counted in June, and a maximum of 56 adults and young counted in July/August. The previous highest count was in 1998 when 30 adults were recorded, and the lowest in 2001 when approximately 22 adults were recorded. Barbastelle bat populations may of course fluctuate for many reasons, some of which could be unrelated to conditions at Paston Great Barn. (It would be good to link the here to work elsewhere on this species). It is, however, evident that Paston Great Barn remains an internationally important site for barbastelle bats.

Should members wish to see a full copy of this monitoring report please contact me at English Nature, 60 Bracondale, Norwich, NR1 2BE.

Rob Cooke



Holkham Park

One of the advantages of living on the North Norfolk Coast is that there is a wide choice of often contrasting environments to visit, some natural, like the beaches and saltmarshes, and some man-made (or at least man-highly-influenced) like Felbrigg and Holkham Parks. The latter is just next door for me, so it is not surprising that I have got to know it pretty well over the last 35 years.

The central part of the estate: the Hall, its surrounding deer park, the lake and quite a bit of agricultural land, is enclosed not only by the famous 9-mile long wall, but perhaps more significantly by continuous woodland, while other large and small plantations are scattered around (I believe we have "Capability" Brown to thank for this). The park is, I am glad to say, open to the public, most of whom, especially in summer, gravitate towards the Hall and the mile-long lake. The latter attracts bird-watchers, and is well worth a look in winter for the large numbers of waterfowl - including, at the time of writing in late February, the biggest gathering of Shoveler (100+) that I have ever seen.

It is the woodland that particularly attracts me, however. The old-established plantations are easily recognised not only by the height of the trees but, in early spring, by the fresh green carpet of Dog's Mercury. I can forgive this

otherwise rather boring species much for this early splash of colour! Along the rides there are occasional botanical surprises: Creeping Bell-flower and Sanicle in one, Clustered Bell-flower in another. Sweet Violet, in both its blue and white forms, puts in an early appearance by one of the tracks.

I have occasionally called my wife on my mobile to let her hear a Cuckoo (pretty scarce round here now), or once, a Nightingale (unprecedented), but one day I called her to listen to the silence! What a rare thing! I was in one of the Holkham plantations, and realised that I could hear nothing at all - no traffic, no aircraft, not even the distant roar of the sea, it having been calm for several days.

There is a six-foot high fence around the deer-park, which is occasionally damaged by falling trees. One then comes across small groups of Fallow Deer, with a rather guilty look about them, outside their normal domain, but generally still inside the wall. In recent years, however, I have seen the occasional Muntjac, outside the deer-park, but sometimes so near the fence that they give the impression that they would like to be inside! I don't know how welcome they would be, either by the staff or the resident deer.

Footnote: If you have been puzzled by a signpost to "N. Holkham", due south of Holkham village, the "N" stands for "New"!

Paul Banham

RICHMOND PARK

Walking round Richmond Park earlier this week gave me an opportunity to observe some of the wildlife found there. This is a large Park, eleven miles round, the same as the Norwich ring road, it is undulating and very picturesque, with many ancient and gnarled oaks in the well wooded landscape.

These venerable old trees, with many holes, cracks and fissures are proving a great attraction to large numbers of ring necked parakeets (*psittacula krameri*). Their shrill calls are very evident all over the park, and with their slim, long tailed silhouettes are unmistakable in flight. These are very beautiful birds, bright green with scarlet bills, and very acrobatic.

Despite their good looks they have a bad reputation, and many people frown on them, they have a penchant for getting into trouble, and can cause much damage to buildings, bird tables etc. They seem to be on the increase, I have heard of one night time roost where an estimated eight thousand birds congregate in the winter months. Our mild climate over the last few years has obviously been kind to this species, originating from Asia and Africa, they came here as cage birds, and with

the inevitable escapes have now got a strong foot hold in southern England.

The deer in the park however are the main feature, two species are to be seen, fallow and red, all together numbering about six hundred animals. These were the reason for our being there, a friend and I had arrived early to try and photograph these majestic beasts, several of the red deer stags have twelve points or more on their antlers, these massive bony structures will be dropped over the next few weeks, but at the moment they are looking very macho indeed.

Tony Howes



WHITE GHOSTS

Barn owls have always been one of my favourite birds, they have a special magic all of their own and I am always thrilled when I see one in the countryside. In recent years I have become rather more involved with this charismatic bird with a programme of making and erecting nest boxes for them, mainly on farms in the Yare valley.

Checking these boxes out in spring is always interesting. Some have pellets in them showing that the owls are happy with the situation and are using them for roosting sites. The biggest thrill however comes from finding a clutch of pure white eggs, it's then that all the hard work seems worthwhile and I know that given a bit of luck, and a good vole year, there will be another barn owl family hunting the grazing marshes by the years end.

Recently I was shown an area on the upper Bure at Buxton that seems ideal for photographing these lovely birds. The Wroxham/Aylsham light railway line runs through rough grass fields at this point and by standing on the elevated footpath bordering the line you have good views of any owl hunting the rough ground below you. Barn owls are quite happy to hunt during the daylight hours, even in bright sunny conditions and so it proved with these Buxton birds. They could be observed flying up and down the marshy ground in a very random way, often hovering over possible vole holding spots, or spending long periods perched on marsh fence posts inspecting the grass all around with their penetrating dark eyes. On one occasion in early March there were four different owls in flight all at the same time, unusual in my experience but a lovely unforgettable sight. These "White Ghosts" must capture the hearts of all who know them.

Tony Howes

Where do Harvest Mice go in Winter?

When I want to find out anything about the lives and habits of our mammals, I turn, not to the latest work on the subject (if there is one which does not deal superficially with all the mammals in Europe, rather than just Great Britain and Ireland), but to a three volume work published in 1912 and called simply 'The Nature Book'. More than 1200 pages of information on every subject under the sun relating to British wildlife, and superbly illustrated with black and white photographs. The articles on mammals are by a gentleman called Douglas English who seems to have studied our mammals at first hand, and in many cases, has bred them in captivity so that he could write about them. Thus, I find that Harvest Mice spend the winter in the corn stacks, occupying the highest level in the stack with the House Mice lower down-providing there were no rats which would, of course, eat both.

Now, there are no corn stacks, so where do the Harvest Mice spend the winter? Come to that, where do they spend the summer in todays intensive world? English gives their breeding season as July/August, with the young mobile three weeks after birth, in other words from late July into September. With their nests among the corn stalks, many of them were carted to the corn stacks within the sheaves, though some would no doubt have had to run for it. The fate of any corn dwelling Harvest Mice today, with combine harvesters moving through the corn faster than a man can walk is best left to the imagination. From this, it would appear that the species must now be largely confined to marshes where they can nest undisturbed in the reed beds and other tall vegetation.

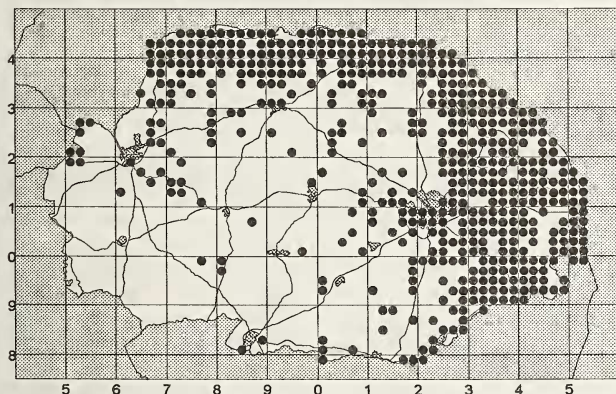
There is a rough marsh below our property which probably serves as home to a population of these endearing little creatures, and, from time to time they are encountered on the property. A year or two ago, we even had a nest in some tall grass at the end of a piece of cultivated ground. They also appear-brief flashes of sandy and white diving for cover-where hay is stored in an out-building. This winter, however, one took up residence and was first seen on Dec. 17th in the sheep's 'hayrack', an old bedspring with some of the wires removed with wall. behind it and roofed over with a removable corrugated iron lid. It has not been seen every day, but perhaps, two or three times in a week, quietly dodging over the top of the wall by way of a convenient bramble, or scuttling out of the rack to hide in loose hay which had fallen out of the end. On March 11th, there were two and the pair were seen again on March 31st, so hopefully we still have a viable breeding population in this part of the River Tud valley. Incidentally, English states that the national distribution of Harvest Mice is governed by the July/August mean rainfall/ and that they are not likely to occur where this exceeds 4 inches over the two months. He sites Leicestershire as the likely northern limit for the species. Perhaps global warming will help the Harvest Mouse move further north.

Alec Bull



Alexanders (*Smyrnum olusatrum*) Survey.

There is a general feeling that alexanders is extending its range in Norfolk and is becoming a problem in some places by out-competing less robust species. With the tetrad maps published in the Flora five years ago, we have a good opportunity to gather some hard evidence about its alleged expansion. To this end, the Norfolk Flora Group is planning to survey alexanders this spring and to provide a base line for future surveys, it would be ideal (though not essential) to have records based on 1km squares. We are particularly keen to cover tetrads adjacent to those where alexanders occurred in the Flora as shown by the map.



We would be grateful if members of the society would take part. To do so simply note the 1km squares where you see plants or even better, have a black and white copy of part of the Landranger (1:50 000) O.S. map of your chosen area (copies are allowable for scientific purposes) and colour in either the 1km squares where you see plants, or all the roads which have alexanders along their verges.

Records should be sent to Gillian Beckett, Bramley Cottage, Docking Road, Stanhoe, Norfolk, PE31 8QF.

County Flower

On May 5th, the wild plant charity, *Plantlife*, will announce the winners of the County Flower millennium project. Each county in the United Kingdom will be represented by a flower that has received the most votes from the public.

The floral finalists include, for example, Hop and Lady orchid in Kent, Snowdon lily and Welsh poppy in Caernarvonshire, Bearberry and Harebell in Aberdeenshire. The Harebell, also known as the Scottish Bluebell has also won over voters in eight other counties. The Cowslip is another favourite, being on the list for Cambridgeshire, East Lothian/Haddingtonshire, Hertfordshire, Northamptonshire, Rutland, Somerset, Surrey and Worcestershire. Norfolk, I believe has Corn Poppy and the subject of the survey above - Alexanders. Personally I would like to have seen Norfolk Reed among the finalists as it is something the public can identify with from the Broads to the coastal marshes.

Francis Farrow

Greater water-parsnip Species Action Plan

Greater water-parsnip *Sium latifolium* is a Nationally Scarce plant found in 62 10km squares in Britain during the latest Atlas recording period of 1987-1999. Its distribution has declined substantially since 1945. Norfolk remains one of the plants' strongholds although there is evidence of a long-standing decline here too - Ted Ellis in his *New Naturalists'* book *On The Broads* (1965) referred to it as "a rare and disappearing species."

In Norfolk the main populations are found in fen habitat in Broadland although the plant also occurs along some grazing mash dykes, notably in the Halvergate - Wickhampton area. There are few recent or historical records for the west with the Ouse Washes representing the main site.

As part of the Norfolk Species Action Plan for *Sium* help is required with the following:

- collation of historical records
- field survey to assess current distribution and status
- field survey to monitor key populations and gather ecological data
- collection of seeds to deposit in the Millennium Seed Bank (Wakehurst Place)

If anyone is willing to help with any of the above activities or can submit any recent (post-1995) records I would be pleased to hear from them. I can provide details of records currently held on the Norfolk database and could also help with gaining access permission to private land.

Jeremy Halls,
2 West End Avenue, Brundall,
Norwich, NR13 5RF
Tel 01603 716710
e-mail jm.halls@virgin.net

NB
all maps shown in
this Bulletin are
produced via
DMAP

Gaps in butterfly recording, 2000-2004

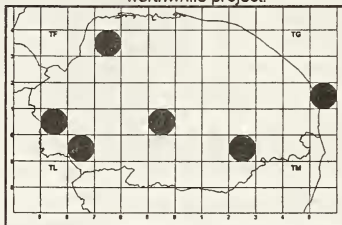
'Butterflies for the New Millennium' is the national recording scheme, launched in 1995 by Butterfly Conservation and the Biological Records Centre. Its first milestone was the beautiful hardback book *The Millennium Atlas of Butterflies in Britain and Ireland*, covering 1995-99. The maps were based on the 10-km squares of the National Grid as marked on all O.S. maps and many road atlases. You'll also see these squares on all the maps in our local book *Millennium Atlas of Norfolk Butterflies*.

Recording continues, with distributions evolving rapidly with urbanisation, farming and climate changes. Records from 2000-04 will be used to compile a new book to be published in 2005 as a glossy, attractive and informative report.

So this will be the *final year* of the new five-year period. Here in Norfolk there are several blank 10-km squares. A 10-km square is a large area (38 square miles!) and I believe that every Norfolk square should hold at least 15 species, even if most of it seems like an 'arable desert'.

Very few species have been recorded in the following squares, so virtually any butterflies seen there will be new for this survey:

TF50 Fenland west of Downham Market
TL69 Hilgay, Southery, Methwold Fens
TF73 Docking, Sedgeford, Great Bircham
TF90 Watton, Shipdham, Bradenham
TM29 Newton Flotman, Brooke, Woodton, Hemphall
TG51 Caister-on-Sea



If you live in or visit any of these areas, I'd really welcome any records you have from 2000-03 and/or 2004. Dates are not essential, but location is important. The basis of recording is the maximum number of each species seen in the same place on any one day. You can approximate numbers using the codes A (= 1 individual), B (2-9), C (10-30), D (31-100) and E (100+), or you can state the actual number counted.

We really need to get these squares up to the magic 15 this year. This doesn't mean slogging all over the 38 square miles! All you need to do is get out your O.S. map and find a couple of bigish villages you can walk around and an accessible bit of woodland and field edge, then make one visit in May and another in July or early August, choosing as perfect weather as you can. You'll be surprised how quickly you reach that magic 15 - it's just a matter of spending a little time there.

We have our standard recording sheets which I can send you on request, or you could use the Wildlife 2000 forms, or just list the records. If you need clarification on what and how to record, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

It's always fun filling in the gaps, knowing that every sighting counts! Let's try to get Norfolk really well covered for this worthwhile project.

Patrick Bonham,
(BC county recorder),
Woodland View,
Dixon Road,
North Walsham
NR28 9EA

(tel. 01692 403917,
e-mail wv@lineone.net)

NORFOLK SPOTTED FLYCATCHER PROJECT 2004

The Spotted Flycatcher, an attractive summer visitor, is the subject of a study by Norfolk ringers which commenced in 2003. The population of this delightful species in the UK declined by 78% between 1972 and 1996. It is therefore a species of high conservation concern, and is listed as a red data species. It nests in scattered locations across Norfolk, and there are probably no more than 600 breeding pairs in the county.

The aims of this study are to learn more about the breeding biology of the Spotted Flycatcher, and to determine their preferred habitat and site fidelity. In 2003, we invited members of the public to report sightings of nesting flycatchers to us, and made arrangements to ring the nestlings. In all, 22 pairs of flycatchers

were monitored and 54 nestlings were ringed. This year our aim is both to determine whether or not 2003's nestlings will return to their natal sites, and also to expand the study to include new sites. In order to collect more information in 2004, we are hoping that both birdwatchers and non-birdwatchers (whether they participated in 2003 or not) will report any breeding pairs that they come across.

We also complete a "Nest Record Card" for the British Trust for Ornithology for each nest. This contributes valuable information to a national database used for analysis of breeding biology. If sufficient data is collected, we would be able to determine whether changes in breeding success are contributing to the population decline, and, if birds prove to be site-faithful, whether over-winter survival is declining. If the owner of the land on which they are nesting is happy for us to do so,

we shall arrange for a local bird ringer to visit the site to ring the nestlings with a colour ring and a metal BTO ring. In this way it will be possible to monitor if the same birds return to the site in a subsequent summer. Birds will only be ringed if the landowners give their consent.

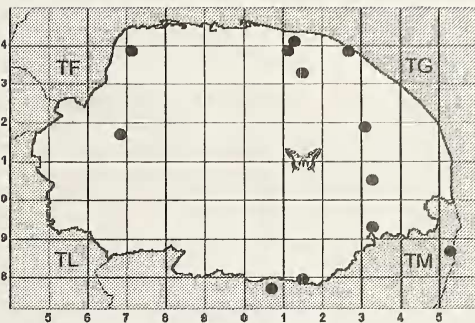
If you find a Spotted Flycatcher nesting in Norfolk, or the birds appear to have set up territory in your area, please contact the project organiser, Rachel Warren at rfwarr@care4free.net or telephone 01603 593912 during the day/early evening and leave a message if necessary. Rachel will send out a simple form on which you can record your flycatchers' breeding activity. This will enable her to complete a "Nest Record Card" for the BTO. She will also provide an opportunity for a local ringer to visit you.

Moss Taylor



Excursion Reports

● 2004-05 Field Meeting location
Easton College
Indoor meetings



With this edition of 'The Norfolk Natterjack' you will have received the new programme card. The excursions aim to cover Norfolk's rich and varied landscapes and enable the study of different aspects of natural history. The map above shows the extent of the field meetings throughout Norfolk this coming year. For two

of the meetings it looks like passports will be required as we pass over the boarder into Suffolk. I hope members will be able to support the events as much as possible. Please note some excursions require advance booking.

The last field meetings of the 2003-2004 programme were to Gun Hill

Dunes for lichens (15/02/04) and Litcham Common for mosses and liverworts (07/03/04). Unfortunately no reports of these excursions were received prior to publication. Could leaders please arrange short reports to be sent on the days events early if possible, as this will be very helpful.

FF-Editor

REG EVANS 1915 - 2004

When, as a diffident schoolboy, I joined the Birmingham Natural History Society, it was Reg and Lil Evans who came to my rescue. I was fascinated by the lectures but daunted by the formality and the fact that none of the other members seemed to be less than three times my age. Reg and Lil quickly ensured that I was greeted and befriended. On one of the few field meetings I attended, I remember Reg picking up a dead branch and, lens to his eye, reeling off the names of the microfungi growing on it as if he were reading a page of a book, with Lil writing it all down (and querying the occasional identification). I had not even heard of any of the names.

Fifteen years later I found myself in Norfolk and met up once again with Reg who, after spending most of his working life as a pharmacist in Stratford-upon-Avon, had retired to his natal county. When we established the Norfolk Fungus Study Group in 2001 it transpired that all the founding members had similar stories of the help that they had been given by this remarkable couple. Reg worried that his unwillingness to accept records from those not known to him might discourage nascent mycologists but nothing could have been further from the truth; he encouraged our critical approach and any improvement on our part gave him much pleasure.

Before leaving Warwickshire, Reg and Lil played a major part in the production of the Fungus Flora of Warwickshire, the first county mycota and still a model of its kind. Since 1976 they have recorded Norfolk fungi equally assiduously and Reg is currently responsible for more records on the British Foray Record Database than anyone else in the country. He has recorded at least seven fungi as new to Britain and one species new to science, *Rosellinia evansii*, a small pyrenomycete named in his honour. In 1994 he was awarded the British Mycological Society Benefactors' Medal and his extensive fungus herbarium has been donated to Kew.

His interests in natural history were wide, with spiders, galls, flies (especially those feeding on fungi) and parasitic hymenopterans receiving his meticulous attention. Indeed, he probably published as many notes and papers in entomological journals as he did in mycological publications. He was an accomplished illustrator, too.

Reg led 46 field meetings for the Norfolk & Norwich Naturalists' Society and was made a Vice President but sadly never found us as congenial as the Birmingham Natural History Society. His many friends will remember him for his ready wit and cheeky sense of humour which he maintained until his death on 19th January.

Tony Leech

YOUNG NATURE WRITER AWARDS

Top prize in the Young Norfolk Nature Writer Award, established in memory of that doyen of nature writers, Michael Seago, has gone not to an individual but to a year group at a school. Year 8 at Taverham High School were set the challenge of producing nature articles or diaries as a geography project by teacher Nathalie Kausch, who is a Watch leader and former Norfolk Wildlife Trust education co-ordinator. Scores of projects were produced and about 20 of the best were submitted for the competition.

A difficult task for the judges, Sylvia Seago, Don Dorling representing the Trust, and David Paull for the Society. So difficult, in fact, that it would have been invidious to single out the work of any individual pupil, so it was decided that the fairest outcome would be to award the £75 cheque to the year group to buy educational material.

The cheque and the winner's plaque were received from Sylvia Seago by three of the pupils on behalf of the year, Ben Gray, Abigail Lee and Sam Foot, who were accompanied by Nathalie Kausch and deputy year tutor Peter Orr. Second prize of £25 went to last year's outright winner, Holly Hancock.



Young Norfolk Nature Writer of the Year Award 2004

Closing date: September 30th

Do you fancy yourself as a nature writer? Do you take note of what you see in the local countryside? Do you keep a record of the birds and butterflies that come into your garden? Do you take a close look at what goes on in your school or village pond?

Why not try your hand at writing an article or illustrated diary of not more than 800 words about your observations of nature in Norfolk?

You could win a prize in the Young Norfolk Nature Writer competition 2004. Entries will be judged in two categories: Up to 11 years and 11-15 years. There will be a prize of £50 and a trophy in each category.

The prizes and trophies are being generously donated by Mrs Sylvia Seago in memory of her late husband Michael who devoted 60 years to studying and writing about Norfolk's birds and other wildlife.

Entries should be submitted by September 30th, 2004, to: Young Norfolk Nature Writer of the Year, Norfolk Wildlife Trust, Bewick House, 22 Thorpe Road, Norwich NR1 1RY.



WATSONIA

If any member is interested in the following BSBI publications could they please contact me:

- Watsonia Vol 9 (1972) - supplement
- Watsonia Vol 14 (4) (1983)
- Watsonia Vol 16 (2) (1986)
- Watsonia Vol 16 (3) (1987)
- Watsonia Vol 16 (4) (1987)
- Watsonia Vol 17 (1) (1988)
- Watsonia Vol 17 (2) (1988) - 2 copies
- Watsonia Vol 17 (3) (1989) - 2 copies
- Watsonia Vol 17 (4) (1989) - 2 copies
- Watsonia Vol 18 (1) (1990) - 2 copies
- Watsonia Vol 18 (2) (1990) - 2 copies
- Watsonia Vol 18 (3) (1991)
- Watsonia Vol 20 (1) (1994)
- Watsonia Vol 20 (2) (1994)
- Watsonia Vol 20 (3) (1995)
- Watsonia Vol 20 (4) (1995)

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Would all contributors please send your notes etc. to the editor as soon as possible by **July 1st, 2004** to the following address: Francis Farrow, Heathlands, 6 Havelock Road, Sheringham, Norfolk, NR26 8QD or by email to: francis.f@virgin.net

