

Newsletter No.55 September 2016

Hampshire & Isle of Wight
Wildlife Trust
Protecting wildlife. Inspiring people.



Welcome to our autumn newsletter. Included are dates and details of local events followed by Nature Notes and details of the Bioblitz at Hazleton Common, Horndean on 5/6th August 2016.

Meetings and Events in the South Down Group area from October 2016 to March 2017

Saturday 17th September **"Shieldbugs and Leatherbugs Workshop"** 10.00am - 4 pm.

There are more than 35 species recorded in the Britain, many are quite large and some of the more striking inhabit our gardens. The workshop provides an introduction to the species found in Hampshire. Led by Brian Pinchen and Christine Taylor. Prior booking is essential as numbers limited. Venue: Chilcomcomb House, nr. Winchester, SO23 8RD
Tel: 01962 826726. More info and leaflet with details from John V, a lift from members attending can be arranged.

Tuesday 18th October **"Speaking Up for Wild Plants"** 8.00 pm

An invitation from Hambledon Horticultural Society to a Talk by Sue Southway from PLANTLIFE at Hambledon Village Hall, An introductory talk about the flora and habitats of the UK and why Plantlife came into being. We have a wonderful range of habitats and flora under threat from modern life, we can all help in their conservation. (Non-members welcome)

The following Wednesday meetings are all at St. Wilfrid's Hall (PO8 8DZ) 7.30 to 9.30pm.
Admission £3.00 to pay for the hall etc Refreshments are included

Wed.. 19th October **"The Potential Threats to our Local Countryside & Water Sources"** 7.30 pm

Peter McDowell, retired geophysicist will be talking about local geology and hydrology including chalk aquifers, springs, streams, swallow holes etc. and the potential pollution from housing and oil extraction on our countryside. There will be a small display of fossils ('ancient biodiversity') found in the rocks beneath us. Bring in your own finds.

Wednesday 9th November **"Solent Bird Studies and Recording Projects"** 7.30pm

Please Note - *This is a week earlier than originally advertised in the HWT Diary.*

Ed Rowsell will give an illustrated talk on the Solent Bird Project including a description of nature reserves along our coastline. *There will be **No meetings in December***

We mention a talk that may interest SouthDown Group members in the diary of the Havant and Emsworth Group held at Warblington School, Havant, Wed 23rd November. "Wildlife of Pagham Harbour & Medmerry" at

7.30-9.30pm An illustrated talk given by Peter Hughes of the RSPB. More info, contact Andrew Powling tel:92258457

Wednesday 18th January 2017 **"Wildlife Through the Seasons in the New Forest"** 7.30pm

Andrew Watts is showing us his superb photographs taken in the New Forest throughout the year.

Wednesday 15th February **"The Changing Fortunes of Hampshire's Butterflies"** 7.30pm

Andy Barker of Butterfly Conservation gives an illustrated talk on the state of these popular insects.

Wednesday 15th March **"The Ecology of Portsdown Hill"** 7.30pm

Richard Jones introduces us to the plants and animals of the chalk downland north of Portsmouth and discusses the management of this wonderful nature reserve.

For more information about South Down Group Activities contact :

Peter Leversha on 023 92592711 or E < p.leversha@btinternet.com > or

John Vigay on 023 92592647 or E < wildlife@vigay.com > or see on www.wildlife.vigay.com

Horndean Biodiversity Group E-< horndeanbiodiversitygroup@gmail.com >



News and Nature Notes

Autumn 2016

Report on the "Bioblitz" at Hazleton Common 5/6th August

This year we had excellent weather and a good number of people came. Over 160 species were recorded by small groups walking the common during the day to spot wild flowers, native trees, reptiles, including adders and variety of species were seen on pond dipping trips. At night there was a bat survey where a party were all equipped with bat detectors by Nick Knight and Pipistrelle Bats were detected near the pond and later the moth traps attracted a good number of moths, an early arrival was the **Oak Eggar** moth seen here and photographed by many visitors on their mobile phones ! More details below.

Below: This stunning **Reed Beetle (*Donacia versicolores*)** was identified and photographed by Stuart Ball by the pond (new record for HZC).



Another new addition to the list were **Silver-washed Fritillaries**. Photo by Matt Madill. Over 60 species of insects were recorded during the 24 hours. Here is a small selection, the full list will be put on our website and most of the records will be sent on to 'Living Record'

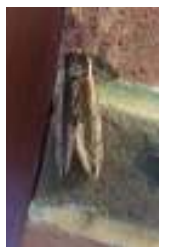


left to right. 1. micro moth *Carcina quercana* (JV) 2. A leafhopper *Cicadella viridis* (SB) 3. lacewing larva (SB) 4. Dance fly *Rhamphomyia erythrophthalma* (SB) 5. Flame Shoulder *Ochropleura plecta* 6. Ruby Tiger *Phragmatobia fuliginosa* 7. Light Emerald *Campaea margaritata* (JV) 8. Micro *Scoparia basistrigalis* (JV)

A young **Great Crested Newt** was found in the pond together with dragonfly larvae and other freshwater species showing a very healthy 'bio rich' pond. **Blue-tailed damselflies**, **Emperor** and **Red Darter dragonflies** were seen flying around the pond. A few interesting galls were spotted which John Nundy has photographed and found a fancy name for the wasp that made this their home. Full lists of Bioblitz species at Hazleton Common will be found on the HBG website when complete - still a few ID problems ! There will also be report on the new moth trap after a few trial runs - there still seems to be quite a few moths around. We have not seen many **Hawkmoths**



this year but a magnificent specimen of a **Privet Hawkmoth** was photographed by Guy Shepherd on his doorstep at Catherington Lith on 29th June. >>



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| Horndean Biodiversity Group | - | WWW.horndeanbiodiversitygroup.co.uk |
| Horndean Parish Council | - | WWW.horndeanpc-hants.gov.uk /countryside. |
| Rotherlands Cons. Group. Petersfield | | WWW.Rotherlands.co.uk |
| Horndean Tree Register | - | WWW.HorndeanTrees.co.uk |
| Yoells Copse, Lovedean | - | WWW.yoellscopse.co.uk |
| South Downs National Park | - | WWW.southdowns.gov.uk |
| HWT- South Down Group | - via | WWW.wildlife.vigay.com |