

Alnwick Wildlife Group

Promoting awareness of the countryside and its flora and fauna



REVIEW OF AUGUST 2012

NEWSLETTER 132

www.alnwickwildlifegroup.co.uk

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NEXT MEETING - 31ST OCTOBER 2012 7.30.P.M.

GEORGE JOHNSTON - BERWICK'S MARINE BIOLOGIST - PETER DAVIS

Professor Peter Davis trained as a marine biologist, oceanographer and ecologist. He has been Deputy Curator of the Hancock Museum and has held important posts at Newcastle University and the University of Gothenburg in Sweden. As Chair of the Natural History Society of Northumbria he played an active role in the re-development of the (now) Great North Museum: Hancock, which is a major resource for the teaching and research programmes. We are very fortunate that he has been willing to come to talk to AWG and his choice of topic harks back to his marine biological training. It should be an excellent evening.

WHAT TO LOOK FOR IN OCTOBER.

For me, October is one of the most interesting months of the year. The changing autumn colours of our trees and shrubs in a misty early morning atmosphere, with the bark of 'buck' roe deer or the call of a cock pheasant. Nothing can be more serene and peaceful.

For most native trees and shrubs, October is the month of change as they shut down for the winter. The onset of colour is a result of a number of factors such as the reduction in day length and light intensity to name but a few. Changing colour is a direct result of the decomposition of chlorophyll (green) and other pigments such as carotenoids (creating yellows and oranges) and anthocyanins (which create the colours red, blue and purple). Chlorophyll is the dominant pigment. When it breaks down it reveals the carotenoids and as these pigments break down the anthocyanins start to accumulate as a result of a build up of sugars. The build up of anthocyanin is the final stage prior to the leaf falling. The fall of the leaf is not the end of the story as the decomposition starts to take place. Invertebrates, fungi and bacteria help to recycle nutrients back to the roots for the future health of the woodland. Some of the best places to see autumn in action include Hulne Park, The Hirsell near Coldstream and the woods at Callaly.

For many of our resident species, this is an important time for gather food for the winter. This includes species such as red squirrels, rodents and some bird species. One of the most vociferous birds at this time of year is the jay. This member of the crow family is often difficult to approach and the fleeting glimpse of a white rump or flash of sky blue from the wing is often as much as you see. As the acorns start to ripen, jays can become conspicuous as they search amongst the branches of an oak tree or amongst its leaf litter. There are references to suggest that jays will store up to 3000 acorns in one month. In some years, there are irruptions of jays from Scandinavia and beyond as a result of a failure of the acorn crop on the continent. In these years, jays can become a relatively common bird in our hedgerows and woodland.

Of course, it is not just the woodlands that are providing interest at this time of year. October is a special time on the coast. Thousands of geese and ducks will pass though on their way to Norfolk and Lancashire. Rocky shores at Boulmer, Craster or Berwick can thong to the quarrelsome behaviour of turnstones and purple sandpipers. Whilst off-shore at Ross and Bamburgh, rafts of scoters can be accompanied by all three species of diver, several species of grebe as well as auks, long tailed ducks, little and if you are lucky a Sabine's gull. At this time of year, you never know what you can find. If anyone finds a Siberian Rubythroat the number to call is 01665 578 645 thank you!

Jack Daw

Please send sightings reports for August, no later than 6th October to: Ian & Keith Davison, The Bungalow, Branton, Powburn, NE66 4LW or Tel: 01665 578 357 or email to redsquirrel@alnwickwildlifegroup.co.uk Copies of the monthly Newsletter and sightings will be made available on the web site one month after the paper publication.

PLANT CORNER

Before we moved to Northumberland we lived in a small Nottinghamshire town. About 200 metres from our house was the main East Coast rail line and, as with many railways, the sides of the tracks had large stands of **Rosebay Willowherb** (*Chamerion angustifolium*). In late summer the wind-borne seeds would fill the air and many would end up germinating as weeds in our garden. I grew accustomed to waging war on this species.



In suitable contexts, of course, the tall pink flower spikes can be very attractive. Until the 20th Century it was a comparatively uncommon native plant in Northumberland, confined to scattered rocks by the Roman wall and in corries, ravines and burn sides in the Cheviots. In some counties it was not recorded in the wild at all until the mid 1800s, although it was known as a garden plant.

Then with the spread of the railways and particularly after the second world war it spread enormously to reach its current ubiquitous distribution. Its red-purple flowers take over from the earlier foxgloves as splashes of colour in many country areas. The long thin capsules (siliculas) split lengthways from the top to release up to 80,000 seeds each with a plume of long silky hairs.

There are eleven other species of Willowherb in Northumberland and for some of them, including ones growing as garden weeds, telling them apart is not particularly easy. But the **Great Willowherb** (*Epilobium*

hirsutum) is quite distinct and is rarely found in gardens. Its preferred habitat is in wet ground in full sun, usually at the sides of streams or ponds. Its alternative name, Codlins & Cream, is supposed by some to refer to the pink of the flowers being similar to the pink blush on old-fashioned cooking apples (codlins). Then the creamy four-lobed stigma in the flower centre represents the cream.



Of the four species of *Epilobium* that have four-lobed stigmas (rather than club-shaped ones) one is a common garden weed. Unlike the Great Willowherb, **Broad-leaved Willowherb** (*E. montanum*) is a medium-sized plant and, except for the fruiting capsule, is almost hairless. Its pale pink notched petals are much smaller than those of its big hairy cousin. It has rather broad, toothed and short-stalked leaves. **BUT**, if you think you've got *E. montanum* in your garden, do check first that the white stigma really is four-lobed. You don't need a lens to see it. If it's club-shaped there are about four other species it could be. For example I've got Marsh Willowherb, American Willowherb and Short-fruited Willowherb in my garden, as well as Broad-leaved.

I'll finish with a very different Willowherb.

You'll most often find it on the sides of forestry tracks and by upland stream sides growing on gravels. The **New Zealand Willowherb** (*E. brunnescens*) is a small, prostrate plant whose stems root at the nodes and which therefore tends to form loose mats on the gravel surfaces. It has small white flowers, but is best found later in the year when it has gone to seed and you spot the rather rusty brown patches with the long thin seed pods, some of which are likely to have split to release the seeds.



Thank you, Dave!

Dave Makepeace is standing down from our steering committee and his contributions to our newsletter are likely to be less frequent, due to ill health. Over the years, Dave has been an enthusiastic supporter of the Alnwick Wildlife Group and regularly contributed to discussions within evening meetings especially relating to bird ringing, migration and red squirrels. His Swarland snapshot article is always filled with a rich source of natural history from his local area and will be greatly missed. The Alnwick Wildlife Group committee would like to thank Dave for his support over the years. We wish him a speedy recovery and look forward to seeing him at future meetings.

Howick (and further afield!) August 2012 Highlights.

August proved to be quite a mild month with showers and some breezy spells. An improvement on the year so far.

Passerine migration was underway with **Whitethroat, 3+Willow Warblers and 2 Chiffchaffs** in the garden on 1st / 2nd.

20 Greylags, 3 Swifts and a Crossbill all flew south in the morning of the 3rd.

The 5th turned out to be an interesting day, starting with a 2nd summer **Mediterranean Gull** with a few Black headed in the coast field. At sea 5 **Manx Shearwater** flew north, **12 Sandwich Tern, 2 Arctic Tern, 3 Whimbrel and 49 Oystercatcher** moved south.

The pond field area held **1 Kingfisher**, 1 ad and 1 juv **Buzzard, 2 Blackcap, 3 Jay** with single **Bullfinch** and **Kestrel**.

In the afternoon I took a short trip out to Boulmer where another **2 Whimbrel** moved south before heading down to check the River Aln at Foxton Bends. A bit of bird activity here included **2 Greenshank, 1 Green Sandpiper, 5 Common Sandpiper, 80+ Redshank** and **3 Turnstone. 5 Goosander** and another **Kingfisher** added interest.

In the evening an exciting phone call came from my friend Gary Woodburn who had found Northumberland's first **Stilt Sandpiper** on the new scrapes near Newton Pool. Needless to say I was there within 20 minutes watching this Nearctic version of Curlew Sandpiper in the soft evening light. Fortunately for the keen listers it hung around for the rest of the week.

On the 12th I took a walk from home, down the Long Walk and back via the coast. Some nice mixed post-breeding flocks of birds were noted consisting of **tits, willow warblers, chiffchaffs, nuthatch, bullfinch** etc. At the coast path a **Whimbrel** flew off with a **Curlew**.

In one corner of a field were **46 Green veined White butterflies**.

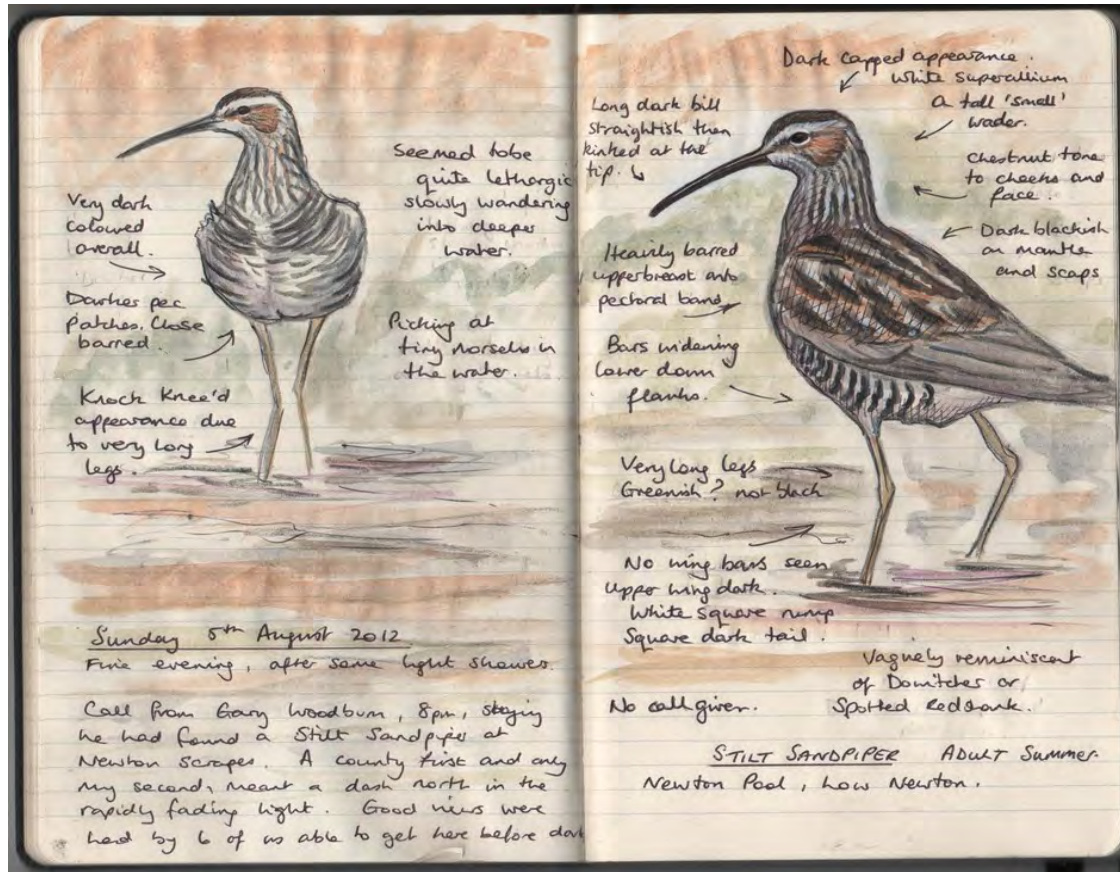
On 14th **2 Yellow Wagtails** flew south over the garden, and a short while later a nice **Tawny Owl** showed well in daylight as it glided over the road in front of the car.

30+Swifts were over our garden on 18th.

While checking the moth trap on the morning of the 19th **2 Tree Pipits** flew around the back field, calling.

A **Spotted Flycatcher** was a garden 'tick' for me on 27th.

The month ended with **6+ Broad leaved Helleborines** in flower in the village wood. **Hedgehogs** have been very much in evidence this month with daily sightings at both evening and during the day. Several different animals were involved.



Above - Stilt Sandpiper in my notebook.

Stewart Sexton, Howick.

BEYOND THE BORDER

Number 10: August 2012

I have to confess that I do find Sedges a most interesting yet really challenging group of plants. The Cyperaceae family is said to have roughly 4,000 species (in approx. 90 genera) but if you add to that figure many hybrids then there are a great many different Sedges to examine. Distribution is near world-wide and although I'm familiar with some species I've never seen and certainly lack the ability to identify the majority. A good number have the typical triangular cross-section and that can often be felt if you roll the stem between your fingers but, just to be awkward, others have round stems. Beginners may also be confused by names such as **Black Bog Rush** (*Schoenus nigricans*) – locally common on Holy Island and **Deer Grass** (*Scirpus cespitosus*) – abundant on some moors as both are SEDGES!

Having puzzled over a single clump of an unknown sedge for more than a year I eventually sought professional advice and was most surprised to learn that it was **Leer's Sedge** (*Carex divulsa leersii*). It was roughly 18 inches (45 cms.) tall, erect and bearing panicles of fruiting green spikelets but otherwise blending into the vegetation of a roadside verge to the east of Kelso. The significance of the find was that it was apparently within a new hectad and just the third record for the Scottish Borders and so highlights the potential of undiscovered gems which any of us might well stumble upon. Happy hunting!

I first became acquainted with **Moth Mullein** (*Verbascum blattaria*) back in the 1970's whilst holidaying in the Cotswold Hills. I remembered it well when finding a single plant on an estate near Kelso (Aug 15) because it has such distinctive stamens that bear vivid purple hairs. It does not appear in my gardening books but, other than an accidental introduction, how else would a 'Gloucestershire plant' have made its way into the Borders? I was shown a more than special site for **Common Wintergreen** (*Pyrola minor*) in woods near Duns and thought it interesting that it not only grew along the margins of a path but also beneath a seat where it was not hindered by the scuffing of feet. It had rosettes of (slightly) toothed round leaves and some of the short-stalked spikes of five-petalled white flowers were still in bloom on the 18th. **Corn Marigold** (*Chrysanthemum segetum*) would once have been commonplace in arable fields of the area but it is now seldom seen in southern Scotland. The bright yellow rayed flower-heads are instantly recognisable but, alas, there was just a single plant (16th) near Yetholm.

My experience, to date, has been of finding the occasional native **White-clawed Crayfish** (*Austropotamobius pallipes*) in south Northumberland but I was aware that they are under great threat from the alien + predatory **Signal Crayfish** (*Pacifastacus leniusculus*). Unfortunately it was the latter species which I discovered beside the Kale Water (Aug 26). Approx. 5½ inches (14 cms.) long and with red undersides to the claws.

The remains lay along a short stretch of riverbank and would almost certainly have been preyed upon by Otters.

The clear 'ticking' produced by **Common Green Grasshoppers** (*Omocestus viridulus*) helped me to locate some surprisingly good populations of these wonderful insects. Ancient pastures near Greenlaw and up on Peniel Heugh were amongst the best sites encountered. **Emerald Damselflies** (*Lestes sponsa*) and **Common Blue Damselflies** (*Enallagma cyathigerum*) regularly appeared in my pocket notebook after a more than slow start to the season. I attended a field meeting held jointly between BDS (The British Dragonfly Society) and TWIC (The Wildlife Information Centre) on August 4. It centred on a cluster of ponds close to the point where Lanarkshire and the Lothians merge and amongst the many highlights of that day were the numbers of small **Black Darter Dragonflies** (*Sympetrum danae*).

Butterflies continued to fly whenever conditions allowed but numbers were generally not just disappointing but worrying low. **Ringlets** and **Meadow Browns** were best seen during the first ten days of August but thereafter they were much reduced. A lone **Speckled Wood** flitted below trees near the Blackadder Water to the east of Greenlaw (3rd) and I heard of a few more found near Eyemouth. Some **Small Tortoiseshells** and **Peacocks** began to re-appear in gardens – most particularly by the month-end. Another most successful event was jointly held between Butterfly Conservation and the Scottish Wildlife Trust (August 17+18) with a moth-trapping session conducted within the grounds of Duns Castle. It's not fair to steal news (as I was merely noting the skills of others) but 47 different species were caught with some being of particular significance to Berwickshire. Amongst those which I considered to be visually extra-special was the **Blue-bordered Carpet** (*Plenyria rubiginata*) and the **Satin Beauty** (*Deileptenia ribeata*).

Common Toads and **Common Frogs** were often spotted on wet roads after dark with the former slowly crawling across the tarmac and the latter sometimes unmistakable as they moved forward with a series of rather spectacular bounds. I was fortunate to find two more **Common Lizards**. One was on a small rock face near Greenlaw (2nd) and the other (9th) was discovered in the foothills of the Cheviots. I was sitting on some scree whilst scanning a small area of water for Dragonflies when I suddenly realised that this tiny reptile was pressed close to another (warm) tumble of rocks. It was also waiting for the sun to re-appear!

Yetholm Lodge supported good numbers of **Mute Swans** with 54 counted there on August 16 but the pair at Hen Poo (Duns) have been quite remarkable in that they've managed to raise 2 cygnets! It was whilst walking along a valley-bottom in the Cheviot Hills that I rested for a time and looked up to see a **Peregrine** fly in. The bird perched high above me and proceeded to peer down but merely observed my departure without being disturbed.

Grouse shooting is a particularly emotive subject to many people yet “contributes £30 million/year to the rural economy of Scotland”. The “Glorious Twelfth” passed peacefully north of the border as it is considered an accepted custom not to shoot on Sundays – and so this year it became the “Glorious 13th”. Weather conditions were generally appalling for ground-nesting birds and many of the first broods suffered greatly whilst the second broods were said to

have had mixed fortunes. As you’ve probably noticed on your TV screens the NE of Scotland has had some of the best weather this year and it was on those moors where **Red Grouse** fared much better. Populations were so low in some areas that estates were forced to cancel all shoots for the year. I think it is best that I do not divulge the location but on one of my visits to the Cheviot Hills I found myself amongst 500+ **Red-legged Partridge** and probably 2000+ **Pheasants**. My thoughts had turned to something along the lines of “no one is going to believe me” when I came upon an army of Gamekeepers who were transporting crates of these birds out into remote areas of the uplands. Subsequent conversation led to the knowledge that the exercise was going to take “days” and that just for this one locality “50,000 Red-legged Partridge and 30,000 Pheasants” were being set free.



Photo Nigel Case

at Aberlady Bay (East Lothian/5th) with approx. 800 present. 7 **Black-tailed Godwits** were also there that day with the black tail, white rump and white wing-bars best seen when they took to flight. These birds were quite magnificent to behold, however, because not only did they show off their prominent identification features but they were still in summer breeding plumage with warm-red heads, necks and breasts. A flock of 40+ **Lesser Black-backed Gulls** fed in a field at Mersington (nr. Leitholm/3rd) and on the night of the 8th I noticed 2 **Barn Owls** in North Northumberland and then another at Hadden near Sprouston. **Swifts** continued to frequent the Ednam/Kelso area at the beginning of August but I saw no late birds this year. They were once referred to as “Devil Birds” because of their piercing screams.

The white rumps of **Wheatears** could sometimes be distinguished from quite a distance – useful when they are high on the slopes. Large patches of **Bracken** (*Pteridium aquilinum*) in the Cheviot Valley-bottoms sometimes supported **Whinchats** and on one occasion I watched two fledged young being fed by their mother. **Ravens** came and went with great regularity in the Hownam-Oxnam area and although it was difficult to determine how many were present up to three were in the air at one time over the Roman Camps at Pennymuir (26th). A family party of 4 **Spotted Flycatchers**

frequented a wooded retreat near Kersquarter (Sprouston/12th) with the fledged young again being fed. **Reed Buntings** appeared along the hedgerows close to the River Tweed but there were more beside the Kale Water and at Acreknowe Reservoir to the SW of Hawick.



Photo Nigel Case

Night-time sightings of **Hedgehogs** were possible near Clovenfords, Gavinton, Greenlaw, Ladykirk and Selkirk but unfortunately their habit of wandering about on roads led to further losses of what is already an endangered mammal. It was tremendous to be told of a pair of **Red Squirrels** seen within the grounds of Duns Castle. My thoughts were on aquatic insects when I participated in a field trip (already mentioned) on the 4th and so it was not until the second or third “plop” that I came to my senses – **Water Voles!** Examination of the bankside revealed burrows, feeding platforms and underwater exits and eventually one animal did show itself. Mid-month and I discovered another of those wonderful creatures which not only featured so prominently amongst the pages of ‘Wind in the Willows’ but was

an animal we once knew so well. This last find was made much closer to home in the Scottish Borders and so there are at least some still frequenting our area.

Can you imagine my surprise when driving near Innerleithen I passed a **Wild Boar** lying dead on the road. It was most unfortunate that I was unable to stop and inspect the pig but I had a wagon filling my rear mirror (and lacked the time to turn round and return). It might have been a wild animal but it might have wriggled out of a farmer’s trailer and been killed on impact – or struck by a passing vehicle ... The presence (or otherwise) of an ear tag would have provided proof but with it looking so fresh (and the corpse gone when I returned that evening) I’m sure that it is now inside someone’s freezer!

	SIGHTINGS AUGUST 2012
BIRDS	
Little Grebe	4 at Branton Ponds on the 31 st
Great Crested Grebe	2 at Branton Ponds all month,
Black-necked Grebe	1 at Woodhorn Flash on the 26 th
Manx Shearwater	8 off Newton Point on the 8 th and 1 on the 14 th
Little Egret	6 at Warkworth Gut on the 17 th
Spoonbill	1 at East Chevington on the 20 th
Brent Goose	11 at Fenham Flats on the 28 th
Goldeneye	4 at Branton Ponds on the 24 th
Goosander	38 at Branton Ponds on the 31 st
Long-tailed Duck	1 on Cresswell Pond on the 13 th
Buzzard	1 at West Cawledge on the 8 th
Osprey	1 at Fenham Flats on the 9 th
Sparrowhawk	1 at Swarland on the 1 st and 5 th
Marsh Harrier	1 at Low Newton on the 15 th , 1 at Branton Ponds on the 18 th
Peregrine	1 on Holy Island causeway on the 18 th , 1 at Smeafield on the 21 st
Water Rail	1 at Branton Ponds on the 9 th
Golden Plover	7 at Newton Point on the 8 th . 70 at Low Newton on the 26 th
Little Ringed Plover	2 near Elwick Hide on the 19 th
Ringed Plover	64 at Fenham Flats on the 19 th
Oystercatcher	589 at Guile Point on the 19 th
Bar-tailed Godwit	130 at Fenham Flats on the 19 th
Black-tailed Godwit	5 at Elwick Flash on the 19 th , 1 at Cresswell Pond on the 20 th , 2 at Newton Scrape on the 26 th
Curlew	280 at Fenham Flats on the 19 th
Dunlin	70 at Elwick Flash on the 19 th
Green Sandpiper	1 at Elwick Flash on the 19 th , 1 at Branton Ponds on the 23 rd
Knot	3 at Newton Scrape on the 14 th
Snipe	20+ at Newton Scrape on the 14 th
Ruff	15 at Newton Scrape on the 14 th , 11 at Elwick Flash on the 19 th , 10 at Newton Scrape on 26 th
Common Sandpiper	1 at Branton Ponds on the 17 th
Wood Sandpiper	1 at Newton Scrape on the 14 th , 1 near Elwick Hide on the 19 th , 1 at Cresswell Pond on the 20 th 1 over Branton Ponds on the 31 st
Turnstone	2 at Newton Point on the 8 th
Whimbrel	1 at Newton Point on the 8 th , 6 at Fenham Flats on the 19 th , 1 at Low Newton on the 2 nd
Stilt Sandpiper	1 at Newton Scrape from the 6 th , a rare North American vagrant-1st record for Northumberland
Greenshank	2 at Newton Scrape on the 6 th , 1 at Branton Ponds on the 7 th , 15 at Elwick Flash on the 19 th , 1 at Warkworth Gut on the 20 th , 2 at Newton Flash on the 2 nd
Lapwing	60 at Branton Ponds on the 7 th
Avocet	2 adults and 3 chicks at Cresswell Pond on the 13 th
Little Stint	1 at Cresswell Pond on the 17 th
Arctic Skua	3 in Druridge Bay on the 13 th , 1 at Newton Point on the 14 th
Lesser Black-backed Gull	5 at Swarland on the 8 th

Common Gull	290+ at Swarland on the 7 th
Little Gull	2 juveniles at Newton Scrape on the 26 th
Roseate Tern	3 at Guile Point on the 19 th
Common Tern	60 at Guile Point on the 19 th
Black Tern	1 at Newton Scrape on the 26 th
Cuckoo	1 at Cresswell Pond on the 17 th
Kingfisher	1 at Branton Ponds throughout the month
House Martin	100 at Swarland on the 19 th and 21 st
Swallow	Last brood fledged at Swarland on the 26 th
Yellow Wagtail	2 at Cresswell Pond on the 17 th , 4 at Elwick Flash on the 19 th
Redstart	1 at Hadston Carrs on the 13 th
Garden Warbler	Several juveniles around Branton Ponds on the 7 th
Common Whitethroat	Several juveniles at Hadston Carrs on the 13 th
Barred Warbler	1 at Hadston Carrs on the 20 th
Lesser Whitethroat	1 at Hadston Carrs on the 20 th
Grasshopper Warbler	1 at Branton Ponds on the 22 nd
Greenish Warbler	1 at St Mary's wetland on the 26 th
Pied Flycatcher	2 at Low Newton on the 15 th
Rook	40+ at Swarland on the 7 th
Raven	2 in the Upper Coquet on the 11 th
Jackdaw	40+ at Swarland on the 7 th
Lesser Redpoll	1 in Branton on the 19 th
MAMMALS	
Red Squirrel	1 in Branton on the 8 th 1 at Branton Ponds on the 23 rd ,1 at Swarland on the 16 th
Common Shrew	1 at Swarland on the 4 th
Brown Hare	3 at Swarland on the 22 nd
Hedgehog	1 at Swarland on the 10 th
INVERTEBRATES	
Great Water Beetle	1 at Branton Ponds on the 13 th and the 22 nd
10 Spot Ladybird	1 at Swarland on the 24 th
Southern Hawker	1 at Branton Ponds on the 19 th and 2 on the 31 st
Common Darter	Several around Branton Ponds on the 18 th , several near Elwick on the 19 th
Wall	Many near Elwick on the 19 th
Red Admiral	Throughout month at Swarland, 3 at Smeafield on the 26 th
Ringlet	Throughout month at Swarland, numerous at Smeafield Farm on the 7 th
Small White	Throughout month at Swarland
Large White	Throughout month at Swarland
Small Tortoiseshell	Throughout month at Swarland, 20+ at Smeafield on the 26 th
Meadow Brown	Throughout month at Swarland
Peacock	Throughout month at Swarland, 1 at Smeafield on the 26 th
Small Copper	Several near Elwick on the 19 th
Tawny-barred Angle Moth	1 at Swarland on the 7 th

Marbled Beauty Moth	1 at Swarland on the 13 th
REPTILES	
Adder	1 at Branton Ponds on the 9 th and the 16 th
PLANTS	
Agrimony	At Newton Point on the 14 th
Grass of Parnassus	Lots on Holy Island on the 18 th
Broad-leaved Helleborine	40+ in flower at Swarland Wood during the month
OBSERVERS	G&R Bell, I&K Davison, G Dodds, A Keeble, D Makepeace,
	S Reay, J Rutter, S Sexton.
RAINFALL	55.9mm

Please send sightings reports for September, no later than 6th October to: Ian & Keith Davison, The Bungalow, Branton, Powburn, NE66 4LW or Tel: 01665 578 357 or email to redsquirrel@alnwickwildlifegroup.co.uk Copies of the monthly Newsletter and sightings will be made available on the web site one month after the paper publication.

ALNWICK WILDLIFE GROUP - Final Accounts for 2011

RECEIPTS

Subscriptions	£1,194.00
Pay-at-the-door	£42.80
Mannings store sponsorship	£50.00
Northumberland Estates survey payments	£1,000.00
Donations	£86.00
TOTAL	£2,372.80

PAYMENTS

Insurance premium	£220.00
Website maintenance & licence	£106.95
Hire of Hall	£350.00
Speakers' expenses	£200.00
Projector + screen	£250.00
Cable protector strip	£34.52
Room hire for Committee mtgs (1 @ £16)	£16.00
Stamps, envelopes & printing for newsletters	£308.70
TOTAL	£1,486.17

Bank balance at 1 January 2011	£1,406.30
Float at 1 January 2011	£25.00
Add receipts	£2,372.80
Sub-Total	£3,804.10
Total	£3,804.10
Less payments	£1,486.17

Balance at 31 December 2011 £2,317.93

n.b. End of year balance comprises £2290.85 in bank plus £27.08 in float

I have examined the records of income and expenditure presented to me, including an explanation of the activities of the group. I believe this summary to be an accurate record of the financial activities of the group. I can also confirm that the Risk Assessment and Assets Register also reflect the activities of the group.

1 Jan

Marian Davis

12 Sept 2012