

Alnwick Wildlife Group

Promoting awareness of the countryside and its flora and fauna



REVIEW OF JUNE 2012 NEWSLETTER 130

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WHAT TO LOOK FOR IN AUGUST

As I write this article, it has been one of the wettest summers on record. This has had an adverse effect on many of our local wildlife with the exception of slugs, snails and orchids. August, is for me, a month of change. The breeding season has ended and flocks of birds start to appear in many of our habitats such as woodland, mudflats and ponds. A number of plants are in full-bloom; Heather, Devil's-bit Scabious and Meadowsweet. By the end of the month the onset of autumn has started. And yet, this is probably the best time of year to enjoy our rocky coastal habitats.

By the time you read this article many of the Swifts have left for warmer climes. The shrieking hoard of Swifts, over the rooftops of Berwick-upon-Tweed on warm summer evenings just before they leave is one of my abiding memories of childhood. This is a great bird, an aeronautical genius that spends most of its time on the wing. Last year, Swifts were fitted with geolocators. One bird travelled 5000 km in five days. The main wintering area is over the tropical jungles of the Congo. But around Christmas time they go off on their holidays to Zanzibar, Mozambique and the shores of the Indian Ocean before returning to the Congo basin to feed up before moving north. I encourage you all to take some time, on a warm summer evening, watching this bird before they leave our shores.

August sees a colour change on our moorland. Heather and its relatives, Cross-leaved Heath and Bell Heather are in full bloom and the hills are a riot of lilac purple. For some people flowering heather sees the start of the grouse-shooting season. However, a wet May, June and July has meant that brood sizes are small and there are even reports that day old chicks have been seen in mid July. There is a suggestion that there will be very few grouse shot in the Cheviots this year.

On the coast, it is well worth spending some time looking waders especially in places such as Fenham Flats. This is a time of year where there is a riot of colour as Godwits and Knots turn up in their summer red coats, Grey and Golden Plovers start to change their breeding black bibs and there is always the agitated call of Greenshank or Whimbrel. A disturbed flock of waders or gulls is often a signal that a bird of prey on the prowl and one of the commonest on the flats at this time of year is the Osprey. Birds are seen almost every day as they hunt in the shallows for flatfish and Bream. My record count for one day is four birds in the air at one time. A theory of mine is that these are birds from the breeding population in the Borders that are feeding up before they move south to West Africa.

As a youngster and a young parent a large amount of time was spent on the beach especially in rock pools. The colours of seaweed, sponges and coralline algae in the best rock pools can be spectacular. Many of these pools have a rich diversity of life such as Periwinkles, Mussels, Hermit Crabs, Squat Lobsters, Weaver fish, Edibles and Paddlers crabs. Some of the best rock pools in the UK can be found on our shores, at Boulmer, Berwick and Seahouses.

Hopefully the weather will improve and there will be a period of warm sunny weather well into September.

Jack Daw.

SWARLAND SNAPSHOTS JUNE 2012

Three species of finch have figured more prominently this month than has been seen previously in June. Goldfinch, Siskin and Lesser Redpoll have been reported from garden feeders all around the village, a few bright pink-coloured males of the latter exciting some mistaken, if perhaps given the vividness of some of these birds, not surprising claims for visiting Scarlet Rosefinches! (See below)

In recent years Goldfinch locally activity here has tended to be concentrated in a spring passage movement followed by a pair or two of locally breeding birds continuing to visit the feeders through the summer. This year the passage was much heavier than before, with seventy birds ringed up to the end of May being 60% more than the previous highest annual total, and up to three pairs continuing to feed daily throughout June.

Since being first ringed here in 1983 Siskins had been, until last autumn, almost exclusively a spring passage bird with just 2.7% caught outside this period and, up to last year, only nine being caught during the two “mid-summer” months. This year’s spring the passage was light and late not peaking until May, however, some of the early arrivals had begun breeding locally, since juvenile birds were present by the end of April and continued to appear through May and into June. It would seem the breeding range of this species within the County may be extending.

Lesser Redpoll has been an infrequent user of feeders here, excluding 1981, 1994 and 1995 (10; 14 & 12 respectively) just 22 have been caught in thirty years. There have always been indications of a few breeding locally, but they are more often found on the high ground and heathlands. There have reportedly been signs of increasing population in some parts of the UK which may be being reflected here. A marked increase in numbers was seen early this year with many more than usual coming to niger seed also several juveniles have been seen and caught here this month.

Greenfinch and Chaffinch numbers feeding have been noticeably low, although there have been a few juveniles of the former. Several instances of sickly birds have been noted and a number of dead specimens of both found in the last month or so have been sent for pathological examination to test for the respiratory disease trichomonosis. Bullfinches continue to use the feeders daily, with three new males and one juvenile caught towards the end of the month bringing the total of individuals handled here this year to thirty-one, just four more than at this time last year.

The three common tit species have all been seen regularly on the feeders but generally only single birds at a time. Two juvenile Great Tits were caught towards the end of the month but no young Blue or Coal Tits have been seen yet; the occasional adults of the two species caught were all well into their post-breeding autumn moult.

Swallows, despite a seemingly slow start, are well into their first breeding session now, with five broods half-grown or more, two with small young and three with incomplete clutches at the end of the month. House Martins are few and far between out feeding with the Swallows and single Swifts were seen in the last week feeding high and flying south.

Dave Makepeace.



Lesser Redpoll *R.S.P.B.*



Scarlet Rosefinch *R.S.P.B.*

BEYOND THE BORDER

Number 8: June 2012

I rather doubt that readers would thank me if I was to write at length about different species of grasses but these plants are essential to the ecology of most areas. Amongst their many uses are as the principal source of food for the majority of grazing animals and the provider of seeds upon which so many of our seed-eating birds depend.

It's not necessary to be able to differentiate between all the species but it is satisfying to be able to admire their graceful form. Even the names are a real delight and **Sweet Vernal** (*Anthoxanthum odoratum*), **False Oat Grass** (*Arrhenatherum elatius*), **Crested Dogstail** (*Cynosurus cristatus*), **Quaking Grass** (*Briza media*) and **Silver Hair-grass** (*Aira caryophylla*) were just a few of those found beside the cliff-tops of the Berwickshire coast during mid-June. Growing alongside were a number of instantly recognisable favourites with **Sea Champion** (*Silene maritima*), **Birdsfoot Trefoil** (*Lotus corniculatus*) and the '**Sea Pink**' **Thrift** (*Armeria maritima*) contributing greatly to the overall show.

Wood Cranesbill (*Geranium sylvaticum*) is so named because, together with many of its relatives it produces fruits which are long, straight and pointed – just like the beak of a Crane. The similar and well-known **Meadow Cranesbill** (*Geranium pratense*) of our roadside verges has large violet-blue flowers whereas those of the former species are more mauve and frequently display a near-white centre and petals with a small notch. *G. sylvaticum* is very much a northern species (and extremely rare elsewhere in Britain). I do know of sites in Northumberland but have been thrilled to find it far more frequently north of the border. Recent opportunities to admire this elegant perennial have been possible near Camptown, Galashiels, Hawick, Longformaeus and Selkirk. I understand that there are many other inland sites where semi-shaded hedgebacks and woodland fringes are the norm whilst in the Scottish Highlands it is mountain-ledges that are sometimes occupied.

Pyrenean Valerian (*Valeriana pyrenaicum*) is a plant you'd expect to see within moist wooded areas of the Pyrenees. I have in the past encountered the occasional patch which has naturalised but was most unprepared for the huge colonies that have established beside the River Teviot – upstream from Hawick. It's a tall plant and also rather distinctive with good-sized feathery clusters of tiny pink flowers. The massive patches examined (June 8) confirm that the species is rather too well suited to the Scottish Borders!

Many of the regions roadside verges are important refuges for different species of orchids. One of the most readily seen is the **Northern Marsh Orchid** (*Dactylorhiza purpurella*) whose often sizeable rich red-purple flower spikes can be admired as you travel along the main highways. The species is well distributed around our area and amongst its chosen locations is the A68 road as it passes over the high point of Soutra to the Lothians.

Another orchid, **Common Twayblade** (*Listera ovata*) has the ability to grow in all manner of different habitats. I was taken to a moist and shady woodland site near Eyemouth (June 14) and shown a long-established colony where quite a number of plants were already in bloom. The flowers, being yellow-green, are not as showy as many orchids but do have prominent forked lips. The most memorable features, however, are the basal leaves which are broad, oval and appear as a pair at the base of each plant. Charles Darwin spent much time studying Common Twayblade orchids whilst engaged in his research into pollination. I joined a small team in Selkirkshire (June 24) as we attempted to rediscover **Coralroot Orchid** (*Corallorhiza trifida*) where last seen in 1978. Unfortunately we failed but it's a sizeable area and the terrain was something similar to the swamps of Borneo! I'll have to think of it as a challenge for the future.

June 2012 was said to have been "the dullest and wettest June since records began" (1910). A great many species really suffered but there are always those that thrive. Some molluscs had a wonderful time with phenomenal numbers of **Common Black Slugs** (*Arion ater*) and **Grey Field Slugs** (*Deroceras reticulatum*) seen on roads, in gardens and amongst farmers' crops. 20+ **Azure Damselflies** (*Coenagrion puella*) flitted amongst lakeside vegetation at The Hirsel (Coldstream/4th) and one more appeared at Whitmuir Hill Loch (nr. Selkirk/24th). Small numbers (max=8) of **Common Blue Damselflies** (*Enallagma cyathigerum*) hugged the riversides of the Sprouston area from June 18-20.

Orange Tip Butterflies appeared at locations which included the Coldstream and Sprouston areas but the best count (15+/June 19) took place near Birgham. Up to 25+ **Small Whites** were also there (18th+19th). 5+ **Large Whites** took to the wing within a woodland clearing near Eyemouth (14th) but, no matter where, it was generally **Green-veined Whites** which were the most numerous species. Meanwhile a **Small Copper** had settled onto the Berwickshire Coastal Path (14th) and **Small Tortoiseshells** were present, albeit irregularly, throughout the month but specimens seen during the final week were extremely worn and faded. **Red Admirals** and **Wall Browns** were only occasionally encountered but 8 **Speckled Woods** beside the Ale Water (June 14) provided occasional confirmation of the expansion taking place to their range.

Caterpillars of the **Bird Cherry Ermine Moth** (*Yponomeuta evonymella*) remained beneath their protective tent-like webs on **Bird Cherry** (*Prunus padus*) bushes within the grounds of Floors Castle (Kelso/28th). A few days earlier (24th) 9 of the (almost) all-black **Chimney Sweeper Moths** (*Odezia atrata*) flew above a rocky bluff near Selkirk and there were more in subsequent days further to the east. These sites all had one thing in common – the presence of **Pignut** (*Conopodium majus*) which is the food plant not just of swine but also for the larvae of these moths.

At least 8 **Little Grebe** were present on The Hirsel Lake (June 4) with some being juveniles. 8 **Canada Geese** flew north along the Berwickshire coast on the evening of the 14th and would almost certainly have been heading for the

Beanly Firth (Inverness-shire). It's there that they travel each year – on a 'moult migration'. Recent footage taken by webcam has been repeatedly shown and much discussed as it featured a **Buzzard** snatching an **Osprey** chick from a nest.

I would argue that such things will always happen in nature but that they should certainly not be regarded as common practice. The captured incident apparently took place at Lochter in Aberdeenshire and yet it has prompted loud calls from some quarters to "cull **Buzzards** everywhere". **Ospreys** continue to be seen within our area and occasional sightings have been possible at points from Carham upstream to beyond Peebles.

A **Peregrine** was viewed above the Berwickshire Coastal Path (June 14) but later that evening a family group of 4 of these falcons could be admired. All were hugging the face of a large rocky outcrop beside the sea. The parents stood upright, alert and sentinel-like acutely aware of human presence but in no way being afraid. Their heavy build and prominent dark moustachial streaks were readily seen. Beside them were two plump offspring who were probably not long fledged. Unlike their parents they lay completely flopped down – soaking up the last warmth of the sun!

News from the south of England confirmed that **Quail** had returned not weeks but months ago. I've listened and searched but it was June 17 before I first made contact with their whic-wh-which ("wet my lips") call coming from cornfields in different parts of the Kelso area. A grass field to the SW of Burncastle (Lauder/29th) had been cleared for silage and was not only bare but extremely wet. This proved to be an important magnet for birds and 25+ adult/juvenile **Oystercatchers**, a pair of **Lapwings**, **Herring Gulls**, **Common Gulls**, **Black-headed Gulls**, **Swallows** and more all gathered to feed on the one small area. A **Woodcock** was flushed from carr woodland between Lilliesleaf and Selkirk the bird remaining unseen until it fled from my feet.

Grey Wagtails successfully raised young within a stone wall between the main road and river at Hawick. Another nest, in very close proximity, held a healthy clutch of **Wrens**. Further upstream on the River Teviot that same day I witnessed a **Jay** carrying off an unknown fledgling. **Lesser Redpolls** were occasionally sighted in the Sprouston-Kelso area and (June 14) at least 4 **Crossbills** appeared amongst a small stand of conifers close to Eyemouth.

Mild evenings provided good opportunities in many areas for viewing **Pipistrelle** (???) **Bats** but early one morning (whilst travelling to a survey site) I was surprised at the frequency of seeing these tiny mammals – still hunting just as dawn was breaking. There was a day when all local sightings would have been of **Red Squirrels** but, most sadly, almost all are now **Grey Squirrels**. Some confusion still exists between the two species and (6th) I watched a 'red' animal within the grounds of Floors Castle and (8th) a decidedly 'black' individual in woodland near Hawick and yet both were Grey Squirrels.

I was searching for plants on a grassy bank in the Lammermuir Hills when I found myself staring at a tiny nose. It was peeking out at a point where close cropped vegetation suddenly changed (→with deeper soils) to rank grass. On crouching down I discovered a tiny **Brown Hare** leveret with blinking eyes – and almost at my feet. I paused for a moment to savour the scene but then backed off slowly leaving it hidden within the form. An extremely wet and bedraggled **Stoat** continued to hunt in torrential rain at Floors Castle (6th) and a Red Fox bolted from cover to cover on the Berwickshire cliffs (14th). Animals such as that have remarkably safe refuges, will experience little in the way of persecution and have a larder of seabirds (etc.) readily available and close to hand.

ROGER MANNING.



Orange-tip Butterfly *Mike Thurner*©

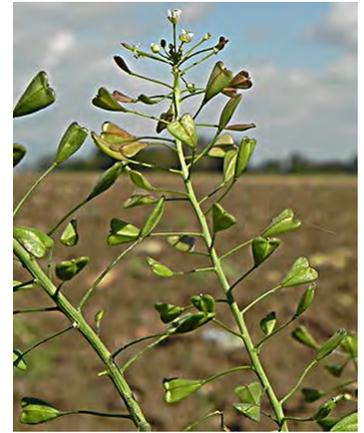


Common Twayblade *Laurie Campbell*©

Plant Corner

In this glorious summer weather the chances are that as you walk along pavements, paths or tracks you'll have your anorak hood up and your eyes cast down to avoid the puddles. So what better than to start by featuring two species that often specialise in such habitats.

Shepherd's Purse (*Capsella bursa-pastoris*) is very common and many of us will be only too familiar with it as a garden weed as well as a plant of waste places and pavement cracks. It is an ephemeral – it germinates, grows, flowers and fruits in a few weeks, enabling it to have several generations in the year when conditions are good. In mediaeval Britain people, especially peasants (like you and me), often had small leather purses hanging from their belts containing their few pennies and groats. The seed pods of Shepherd's Purse were seen as miniature versions of these belt-purses, hence the name.



Thale Cress (*Arabidopsis thaliana*) is another quite common member of the mustard family, *Brassicaceae*, and lives in similar habitats. It is also an ephemeral with roughly a six-week life span from germination to seed dispersal. The leaf rosette looks quite similar to Shepherd's Purse although the leaves are not as deeply indented but if you



can find the long thin seed pods you will know it's Thale Cress.

Thale Cress is particularly interesting to botanists because it is the botanical equivalent of *Drosophila*, the fruit fly, for zoologists. It has only five small chromosomes and it is the first plant to have had its full genetic code mapped. With its short life-cycle, prolific seed production and ease of cultivation, it is used experimentally to investigate plant genetics and genetic modification.



Finally I can't resist telling you about a rather special find made on 1st July by a small group of us doing a botanical survey by the River Breamish at Powburn. On a pile of riverside gravel was a group of 12 plants of yet another ephemeral member of the *Brassicaceae*,



Shepherd's Cress (*Teesdalia nudicaulis*). Its *Teesdalia* name comes from the surname of its discoverer rather than the South Durham river valley. It is very uncommon in our area and although it has been recorded from the Breamish in the past, it is still an excellent find. You can see how the seed pods differ in shape from this month's other two species.



Howick June 2012 Highlights.

The southern position of the jet stream meant that we still have northerly airflow even after 8 weeks.

A late male **Orange Tip** was on the wing in Village Wood on the 4th followed by an even later one on 13th.

The 10th provided some annoying drama in the garden. An almighty commotion below the bird table attracted my attention and I was prepared to see a marauding Sparrowhawk with its prey. When I looked out I was very surprised to see a **Jackdaw** with one of my **Tree Sparrow** fledglings hanging by the neck from its bill. The victim flapped, pointlessly, and before I could cause a distraction, the Jack flew off with the Tree Sparrow to feed its own nestlings.

I have never seen this before, but some internet research showed that the possible reason for the predation is that, with young, Jackdaws need large amounts of protein usually in the form of insects. When the weather is cool and there is little invertebrate activity, anything small enough may be a target. It was just unfortunate that one of my burgeoning Tree Sparrow colony became the meal!

Speaking of which, I have at least three occupied nest boxes with some birds on to second broods now, a great result, when only three years ago, the birds were an uncommon winter visitor here.



Above – A Tree Sparrow family below the garden bird table.

The drama of the 10th was not over at this stage however. In the evening as we took a stroll north along the coast path towards Cullernose Point a calling **Oystercatcher** demanded a look. We turned to find a nice **Osprey** slowly heading north, low and very close, with an entourage of **Oystercatchers**, **Black headed Gulls** and a **Curlew**. The bird did not deviate from its course and vanished over Craster.

This is the third consecutive year I have seen **Osprey** on the Howick patch, showing what a success story this bird is.



Osprey heading north. Our bird photographed earlier on course over Hauxley by Ian Fisher.

Poor weather during the month continued to make hard going for keen wildlife observers.

On the 20th June we were visited in the garden by a whole family of **Pheasants**. Adults are regular but a female brought 4 chicks for the first time.

Rain on the 22nd displaced 44 **Swifts** flying NW over our house in 10 minutes, a **Nuthatch** was on our bird table and a Barn Owl flew over the house in the evening. To end an good garden day, a new moth arrived at the trap - **Beautiful Carpet**, a scarce species in the county.

The end of the month was spent on holiday in Suffolk where we had very nice weather, and avoided those nasty Alnwick floods!

SIGHTINGS JUNE 2012

BIRDS	
Great Crested Grebe	2 at Branton Ponds all month, 4 at East Chevington on the 6 th
Shag	8 at Needles Eye near Berwick on the 4 th
Cormorant	12 at Needles Eye near Berwick on the 4 th
Barnacle Goose	1 at Branton Ponds from the 12 th
Goosander	10 at Branton Ponds on the 25 th
Gadwall	1 at Branton Ponds on the 16 th
Marsh Harrier	2 at East Chevington on the 6 th and 1 on the 30 th
Osprey	1 at Branton Ponds on the 15 th
Buzzard	1 at West Cawledge on the 14 th , 1 at Swarland on the 25 th
Sparrowhawk	1 at Swarland on the 27 th
Peregrine	1 over Branton Ponds on the 16 th
Hobby	At least 1 hunting Swallows and Swifts at Glanton on the 5 th , 1 at East Chevington on the 30 th
Quail	1 near Glanton on the 26 th
Coot	Several young birds at Branton Ponds on the 13 th
Woodcock	1 at Thrunton Woods on the 25 th
Knot	1 at Branton Ponds on the 14 th
Curlew	3 at Swarland on the 17 th
Avocet	4 at Cresswell Ponds on the 30 th
Little Ringed Plover	1 at Branton Ponds on the 22 nd
Common Sandpiper	3 at Branton Ponds on the 17 th and the 26 th
Little Gull	1 at East Chevington on the 6 th , 7 at Cresswell Ponds on the 30 th
Mediterranean Gull	1 at Cresswell Ponds on the 30 th
Sandwich Tern	10 at East Chevington on the 6 th
Arctic Tern	2 at East Chevington on the 6 th
Common Tern	6 at East Chevington on the 6 th
Puffin	2 at Needles Eye near Berwick on the 4 th
Common Guillemot	30 at Needles Eye near Berwick on the 4 th
Razorbill	20 at Needles Eye near Berwick on the 4 th
Stock Dove	2 at Branton Ponds on the 14 th and 3 on the 18 th
Cuckoo	1 calling at Hethpool on the 9 th , 1 at Kimmer Lough on the 10 th , 1 at Branton on the 20 th , 1 at East Chevington on the 30 th
Tawny Owl	Several around Branton on the 17 th , 1 at Glanton on the 25 th
Little Owl	2 at Elwick on the 5 th
Long-eared Owl	1 at Druridge on the 30 th
Barn Owl	1 hunting at 4 pm beside A697 near Wooperton on the 9 th , 1 near West Lyham on the 11 th , 4 around Branton all month
Swift	30-40 all month over Branton Ponds
Great Spotted Woodpecker	1 at Swarland from the 17 th
House Martin	Large numbers over Branton Ponds all month
Tree Pipit	1 at Holystone Woods on the 3 rd , 7 in Thrunton Woods on the 4 th
Meadow Pipit	36 at Kimmer Lough on the 10 th

Whinchat	1 at Kimmer Lough on the 10 th , 2 at Smeafield on the 30 th
Redstart	Several in Holystone Woods on the 3 rd and on the 5 th , 1 in Thrunton Woods on the 17 th , 1 at Branton on the 25 th
Mistle Thrush	2 at Smeafield on the 27 th
Whitethroat	5 at Kimmer Lough on the 10 th
Blackcap	3 newly fledged youngsters sitting together on a branch at Branton Ponds on the 9 th
Marsh Warbler	1 at Hadston Carrs on the 6 th
Wood Warbler	1 in Holystone Woods on the 3 rd and 5 th
Reed Warbler	2 at Branton ponds from the 1 st several at East Chevington on the 6 th
Goldcrest	2 juveniles in Thrunton Woods on the 4 th
Spotted Flycatcher	Several in Holystone Woods on the 3 rd several around Branton from the 11 th , a pair in a nest box at Elwick all month
Willow Tit	1 at Branton Ponds on the 3 rd
Long-tailed Tit	1 at Smeafield on the 14 th
Nuthatch	1 at Smeafield on the 10 th
Treecreeper	2 at Old Swarland on the 1 st
Hooded Crow	1 at Ross Back Sands on the 24 th
Jackdaw	150 roosting at Swarland on the 23 rd
Raven	2 at Thrunton Woods on the 25 th
Starling	200 at Swarland on the 24 th
Tree Sparrow	Up to 3 pairs all month at Swarland
Bullfinch	Several juveniles around Branton Ponds on the 15 th
Goldfinch	2-3 pairs at Swarland all month
Crossbill	Several in Thrunton Woods on the 4 th
Siskin	Up to 8 in Swarland all month, up to 10 at Smeafield all month
Lesser Redpoll	2 at Branton Ponds on the 9 th 14 at Kimmer Lough on the 10 th , several in Swarland from the 6 th
Reed Bunting	7 at Kimmer Lough on the 10 th
Yellowhammer	1 at Smeafields on the 29 th
MAMMALS	
Red Squirrel	1 near Netherpton on the 3 rd , 1 at Branton Ponds on the 27 th , 1 on old A1 at Middleton on the 6 th
Hedgehog	1 in Swarland on the 23 rd
Weasel	1 at West Thirston on the 30 th
Roe Deer	1 at Kimmer Lough on the 10 th , 2 very young fawns on the 11 th near Harehope, 1 near Branton Middlesteads on the 25 th
Fox	4 cubs at an undisclosed site on the 22 nd
Otter	1 feeding on fish at East Chevington on the 30 th
INVERTEBRATES	
Wall Brown	1 at Needles Eye near Berwick on the 4 th , 2 at Smeafield on the 4 th
Red Admiral	1 at Smeafield on the 27 th
Small Copper	1 at Needles Eye near Berwick on the 4 th
Small Tortoiseshell	1 at Branton Ponds on the 27 th , 1 at Smeafield on the 3 rd
PLANTS	
Chickweed Wintergreen	Several plants in Beanley Woods on the 2 nd , large numbers at Kimmer Lough on the 10 th
Round-leaved Wintergreen	Several plants at Holy Island on the 7 th

Marsh Orchid	Many plants at Holy Island on the 7 th
Common Spotted Orchid	1 spike at Branton Ponds on the 22 nd
Twayblade	Several hundred at Swarland
Broad Leaved Helleborine	103 flowering spikes at Swarland on the 30 th
Cowberry	In flower Thrunton Woods on the 4 th
Kidney Vetch	In flower at Needles Eye near Berwick on the 4 th
Birds Foot Trefoil	Lots at Druridge Bay on the 30 th
Bloody Cranesbill	Lots at Druridge Bay on the 30 th
Climbing Coryadalis	Many plants at Kimmer Lough on the 10 th
Lousewort	A few plants at Kimmer Lough on the 10 th
Common Cow Wheat	Many flowers in Thrunton Woods on the 17 th
Houndstongue	Ross Links on the 24 th
Purple Milk Vetch	Ross Links on the 24 th
Rest Harrow	Ross Links on the 24 th
Sea Milkwort	At the Wideopens (Ross Sands) on the 24 th
Thrift	At the Wideopens (Ross Sands) on the 24 th
OBSERVERS	W Banks, D Clark, I&K Davison, G Dodds, A Gibson, D Makepeace, R&J Poppleton, S Reay, M Rolley.

Please send sightings reports for July, no later than 6th August 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.