

Alnwick Wildlife Group



Promoting awareness of the countryside and its flora and fauna

www.alnwickwildlifegroup.co.uk

Email: redsquirrel@alnwickwildlifegroup.co.uk

NEWSLETTER 180 SEPTEMBER 2016

Review of August 2016

MEETING 26TH OCTOBER

NATIONAL TRUST COAST

SPEAKER: KEVIN REDGRAVE

Kevin Redgrave has, for a number of years, been the Coastal Warden for the Northumberland section of the National Trust-owned coastline. His talk will look at some of the more stunning sections of the Northumberland coast, its places and management.

GREEN CHAMPION AWARD

Jill and I attended the Best of Northumberland gala ceremony, on behalf of Alnwick Wildlife Group, on the 15th September at Linden Hall. AWG were short-listed, for the Green Champion Award (sponsored by the Banks Group) along with Alnwick Cemetery nature conservation group and the Hedgehog Rescue Centre. Our Group was highly commended for its contribution to nature conservation and education as well as the survey work that is carried out especially at the Cawledge Woodland and Thomas Percy sites. Deservedly, the Green Champion Award went to Carole at the Hedgehog Rescue Centre for all her valiant work for this species.



The Branton Ponds report for 2016 can be found in the Surveys section of the Archives page on Alnwick Wildlife Group website.

Please send sightings reports for September, no later than 6th October 2016 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.

AWG welcomes contributions for the newsletter and items for inclusion should be submitted by the 12th of the month to redsquirrel@alnwickwildlifegroup.co.uk

AUG 2016:

Ringling at Howick has continued this month with good catches of soon to migrate Swallows, Chiffchaffs and Willow Warblers. The Chiffchaffs seem mostly to be very juvenile birds hatched in the local area; while most of the Willow Warblers are just stopping on migration as they start travelling south to Africa for their 'holidays'. The other regular Howick warbler – the Blackcap was scarce until the end of the month when numbers seem to have suddenly built up of both very juvenile (local) birds and birds from further afield; that have all moved in to feed on the berries in the arboretum.

The numbers and proportion of locally resident birds such as Blue Tits and Great Tits and Long Tailed Tits is definitely down on most previous years; indicating the poor breeding year they have had. However, the last two mornings of the month were particularly interesting with an adult Great Spotted Woodpecker being recaptured on the 26th (that was originally ringed as a juvenile in September 2004). This was with a juvenile of the year with its distinctive red tonsure (see pictures attached). Then on the 27th (when we captured 53 birds) we caught the juvenile woodpecker again (clearly not as bright as its parent) and a beautiful juvenile male Sparrowhawk (see pic.). This was along with 18 Blackcaps and a Goldcrest (see pic.).

The saga of this year's very late Barn Owls is continuing but looking quite good for the late nesters with three nests having hatched their eggs within the last week

or so. I will not be going to ring these for at least 20 days – and they will not fledge until October! I have at least two more nests to check on in September.

Recent returns of controlled birds from the British Trust for Ornithology for birds caught near home (already carrying rings) have been interesting with a Siskin from Kemple End in Lancashire, another from Lakenheath Fen in Suffolk and one from Strensall near York. The Lancashire and Lakenheath birds were both first ringed in 2013; while the bird from York was in its first adult year and only ringed in February 2016.

As the season for bird migration develops I will continue to ring most Friday and/or Saturday mornings at Howick into October. Just look for us on the edge of the car park (before 12:00 noon). If it's windy or wet, it will not go ahead.

Phil Hanmer

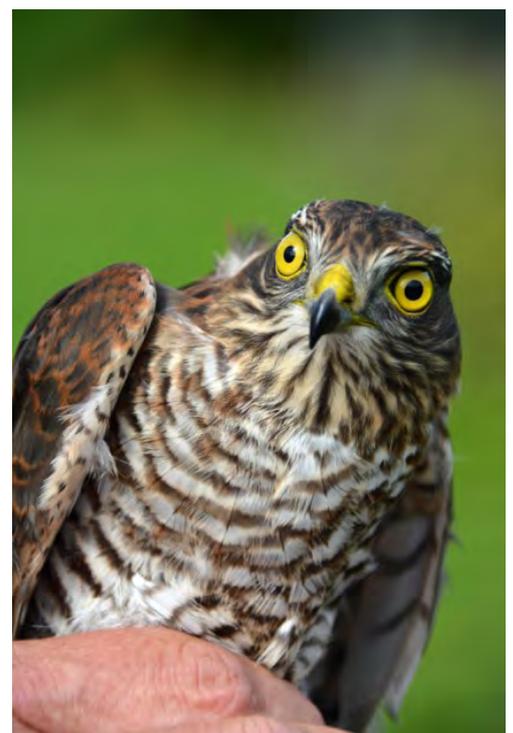
A Ringer & Trainer

Natural History Society of Northumbria Ringing Group

(Hancock Museum)

E-mail: tytoalbas@btinternet.com

P.S. Walking at Howick after ringling on the 26th produced lots of butterflies for the first time this year: Red Admiral, Comma, Small Copper, Peacock, Small Tortoiseshell, and Painted Lady as well as Golden Ring Dragonfly.



CONTINUED AT END OF STEWCHAT

PLANT CORNER

And now for something completely different! I'd like you to picture the scene – the Otterburn Ranges on a fine, sunny August morning. Off the tarmac and along a narrow Army approach track to an area about 1½ miles due south of Blindburn in Upper Coquetdale. Dry rounded Cheviot hills and steep-sided denes with their small hill burns. Deep vegetation – grasses, heather and bracken on the hills; other grasses and rushes in the wet parts, frequently concealing deep shell holes, mostly water-filled. Anthony Gormley sculptures – or perhaps the old rusting carcasses of military vehicles used as targets by the artillery gunners.



Anthony Gormley sculpture??

We are, of course, in the live-firing artillery impact area in the northern part of the Ranges. Enter stage left a group of four intrepid botanists; one a lithe, young, fit 73-year old plus three geriatrics of similar age. Stumbling around in the small valley of the Ridleshope Burn we set about spending six hours exploring the vegetation, falling occasionally into shell holes – a wetting and disconcerting, not to say potentially dangerous, experience - and generally getting hot, bothered and midge-bitten.

Now, to be fair, I have to admit that (a) we had permission from the Army to be there; (b) it was Bank Holiday Monday so there was no firing, and (c) the other three wouldn't be at all happy to be described as geriatrics while I (oh, you guessed that was me!) was the other one.

AWG members who have attended one of Chris Metherell's talks will know about the new On-line Flora of North Northumberland project. Over a ten year period, led by Chris who is the botanical recorder for North Northumberland, keen local Northumbrian botanists have been working to carry out surveys of all the 450+ tetrads (2km² areas) that make up the northern part of our county.



A Cheviot hill burn

Way back in 1852 a man called Hewett Watson divided Britain into areas called Vice Counties (because many of them were roughly half of the old administrative counties) which were a suitable size for various types of biological recording. We are in VC68, known these days as North Northumberland but originally called Cheviotland. Not really having looked closely at the map I had long assumed that the southern boundary of VC68 followed the River Coquet. But for some reason best known to Watson, when you get about half way up Upper Coquetdale the boundary wanders off south of the river and includes a block of the northern part of the Ranges.

There are nine tetrads in this part of VC68 and Chris has been keen to try to get permission for us to have access. So this summer he succeeded in arranging for about fifteen people to attend an Army briefing session at Range Control at Otterburn Camp. I don't know whether I'm really happy that the Army now knows who I am and has my photo and my car registration plate, although without this I wouldn't be allowed in. We can now go into the Ranges and off the public roads on non-firing days, providing we let Range Control know we shall be there, when we've arrived and when we leave. To do this and to allow you to report in if there's been an accident, you must phone Range Control. Except, of course, there's no mobile signal in large parts of the Ranges. Hey ho!

Anyway, we actually had a good day. It's easy to look at these rather bleak Cheviot hills and assume that everything is very much the same, but botanically it is often the denes with their hill burns that provide the plant variety. In this case the shell holes were also a real bonus. Almost all were water-filled and some had clearly been there for several years. Except for the most recent, one of which was like a mini swimming



Tufted Forget-me-not

pool, they have each developed a bog vegetation, but often they were significantly different from each other. All had Bog Stitchwort and Marsh Willowherb, but some had Marsh Speedwell and Marsh Horsetail, while others had Branched Bur-reed and Water Horsetail with Tufted Forget-me-not round the margins.

Sadly I had no camera with me so I can't show any shots of the shell holes or the general landscape, so I've had to make do with some photos of one or two of the more interesting species. The interest wasn't confined to the wet areas. At the sides of the dene were outcrops of mini-craggs which were very worth exploring for species that prefer the much drier and sometimes less acid soils. All the time you have to be aware of the most important dictum that if you spot any army debris you avoid it and particularly don't pick it up or give it a kick as you pass. And there was plenty of it, not that I have the expertise to say what most of it was.



Marsh Speedwell

Some of the botanists I join for survey work recall the days when they were rather younger and used to go out on what they called 'extreme botany' days in wild and rather inaccessible areas. Well, I reckon our day in the ranges qualified as an extreme botany event. In this sort of terrain it's impossible to do any sort of thorough survey of a whole tetrad in a day. Usually the best you can manage is a monad (1km²) which is all we covered this time. This summer we've probably, between us, covered about half the area of our part of the Ranges and we hope to complete the task next summer.

The end result of our day was a total of 125 species with three more still to be confirmed by Chris. This is a good total for an upland square and, while botany isn't overtly competitive, it's nice to emerge from a day's effort with a creditable species count.

Richard

MICRO-MOTHS – TORTRICIDAE - ACLERIS

One of the most variable *Tortricidae* tribes is the *Acleris*. Although there are only 25 British species, they are well represented in Northumberland with 22 species recorded. Larval foodplants are mainly the leaves of deciduous trees and shrubs, with a couple of species specialising on Norway Spruce and Heather. Most feed during summer with the adults emerging in the late summer/early autumn and although many mate and lay their eggs in autumn, some hibernate from late September and don't mate and lay their eggs until March/April/May the following year. All are medium sized micros with a wingspan of 16 -24 mm. As mentioned, some of these species have highly variable adults, particularly those that hibernate and many forms were originally named as separate species. I can't hope to do justice to the variability of some of these species in a few photos so as well as the examples below I will bring some drawers of set specimens of *Acleris cristana* to the September meeting to show the full range.



Garden Rose *Tortrix Acleris variegana* - form
Very common: August – October



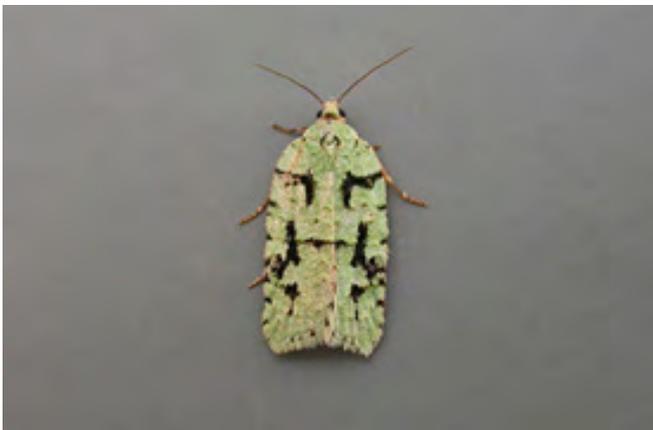
Garden Rose *Tortrix Acleris variegana* - form
Foodplants: Sloe, Hawthorn & Rose



Acleris emargana - form
Very common: August - October



Acleris emargana – form
Foodplants: Sallows/Willows



Acleris literana – form
Local in Northumberland: July – May



Acleris literana – form
Foodplant: Oak



Acleris hastiana - form
Common: August - May



Acleris hastiana - form
Foodplants: Sallows/Willows



Acleris hastiana - form



Acleris hastiana - form



Acleris cristana – *f. vittana*
Rare in Northumberland but increasing



Acleris cristana – *f. subfulvocristalana*
Foodplant: Mainly Sloe & Apple

Alan Fairclough.

STEWCHAT...

August was generally a bit warmer with some fine spells and oddly breezy days, mostly from the West .

Bird migration starts in earnest this month as many of our summer visitors leave quietly by the back door with little fuss. Some, such as Sedge Warblers and Sand Martins go without us even noticing, but by September most have gone.

As some leave others pass through, especially the waders. On the Coquet Estuary on the 7th, there were 53 Dunlin, 120 Redshank, 50 Lapwing, 20 Curlew and singles of Bar tailed Godwit and Turnstone. Many of these birds were still in summer plumage.

On 13th a warm day encouraged lots of local butterflies on the wing with 10 Red Admirals, 1 Small Tortoiseshell, 2 Comma, 2 Painted Lady, 1 Peacock, 2 Wall, lots of Meadow Brown and 1 late Ringlet all found during a short walk into Howick Arboretum. This same weather must have been responsible for the arrival of a Dusky Sallow into my garden moth trap, a first for VC68 and only the 4th for the whole county.



Figure 1: Dusky Sallow at Howick.

Back down to the Coquet Estuary on 14th were fewer waders but 8 Little Egrets and a Merlin were good records. Meadow Pipits had begun moving south in small numbers 'seeping' overhead. However the 21st was an excellent birding day on the Coquet at Warkworth. Aside the usual warblers in the car park scrub and waders on the flats, 1 Marsh Harrier flew N, 9 Black tailed Godwits dropped in as did 1 ad and 4 juv Curlew Sandpipers, an Osprey flew low up the Old Water before heading over Helsay Point to the village, the returning Caspian Gull was in Amble Harbour and best of all a White rumped Sandpiper fed out on the mud at the Marina.

Inspired by this, I took an evening walk to Boulmer on the 23rd where 1 ad and 3 juv Curlew Sandpipers and 2 Little Stints fed along the tideline along with 2 Common Sandpipers and 100 Dunlin.



Figure 2: Two Little Stints at Boulmer.

An unusual sighting on 28th was a juvenile dark phase Arctic Skua flying inland across Howick Village.

As the bank holiday arrived a flock of 150+ House Martins departed from Hips Heugh at Howick while 60+ Goldfinches fed on the seeding heads of Knapweed.

Another trip along to Boulmer found a nice adult male Peregrine harassing waders including 3 juv Curlew Sandpipers and 4 Bar tailed Godwits.

The August BankHols often sees the start of rarer passerine migrants making an arrival so lets hope this year isn't any different. Watch this space...



Figure 3: An Osprey flies north up the Old Water.

Stewart Sexton, Howick.



CONTINUED FROM RINGERS YEAR

Male Greater Spotted Woodpecker originally ringed September 2014 at Howick. Recaptured on 26th August 2016.

Juvenile Greater Spotted Woodpecker ringed 26th August 2016 at Howick. Offspring of the adult.



Wednesday 23rd November 2016

MARK HAMBLIN - 'WILD ADVENTURE OF THE CAIRNGORMS'

Alnwick & District Camera club continue their tradition of playing host to some of the country's finest photographic talent, with a presentation from Mark Hamblin entitled,

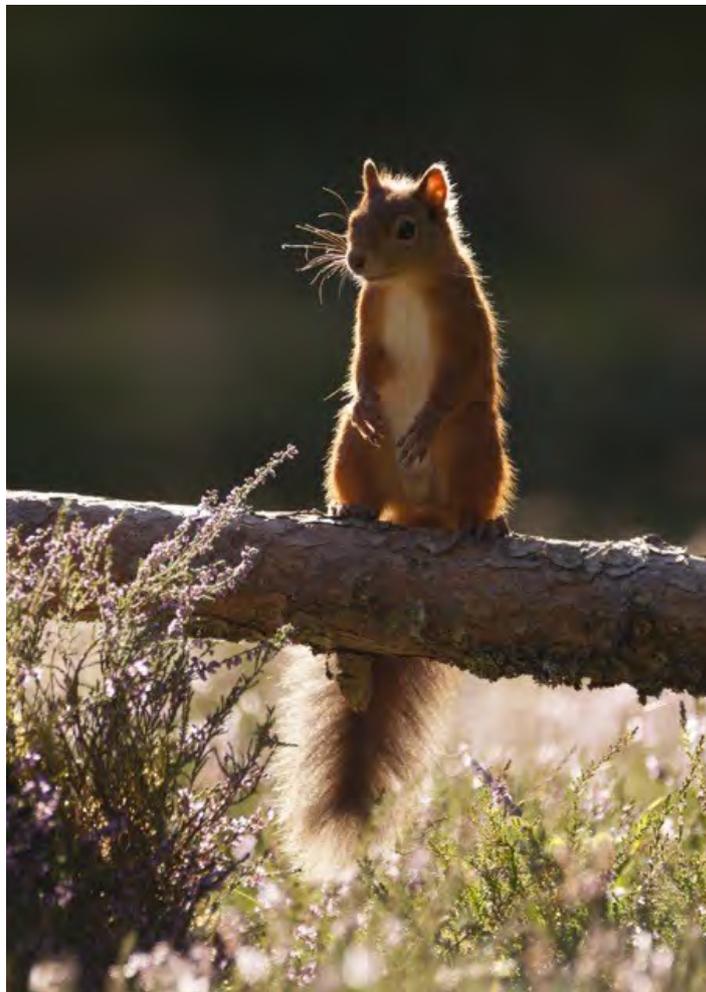
'WILD ADVENTURE OF THE CAIRNGORMS'

Originally from Warwickshire, Mark Hamblin has been working as a freelance nature photographer since 1995, His work may already be familiar, as he contributes regularly to many of Britain's leading wildlife and photographic magazines, with over 100 published articles.

His images are represented by a number of international photographic agencies including, Getty Images, Nature Picture Library, Nature in Stock and RSPB Images and his work is regularly used worldwide in magazines, books and calendars. Mark's work has been recognised in several leading photographic competitions, including seven highly commended images in the prestigious BBC Wildlife Photographer of the Year competition.

As well as photography-oriented projects, including a number of books, he also works on projects focused on conservation. His visit to Alnwick Playhouse promises to be an entertaining and informative evening illustrated by top quality photography. This should be of interest not only to photographers, but to anyone with an interest in the natural world.

More information about Mark and his work can be found at <http://www.markhamblin.com>



Tickets on sale from Alnwick Playhouse <https://www.alnwickplayhouse.co.uk/event/1208>



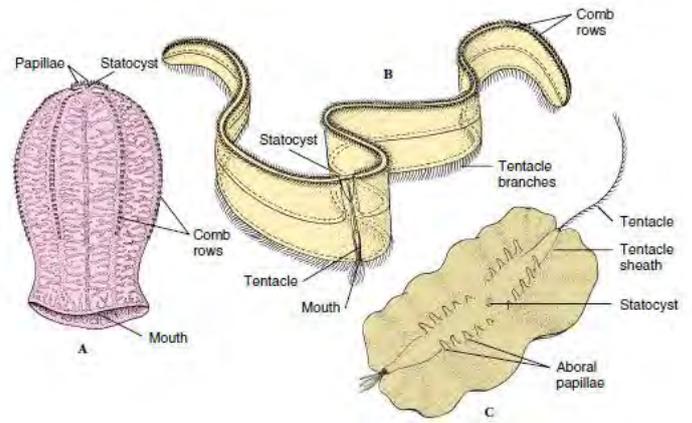
INVERTEBRATE CORNER

SEA GOOSEBERRIES AND COMB JELLIES:

These marine invertebrates belong to the phylum **Ctenophora** (comb-bearing organisms), and share a similarly primitive position on the evolutionary tree as the **Cnidaria** (corals and jellyfishes). Like cnidarians, they have a gelatinous body which gives them a nearly transparent appearance (see photographs below). Despite some similarities, however, ctenophores are only very distantly related to cnidarians. There are just over 100 known species and representatives are found over a wide geographic range, from polar to tropical waters.

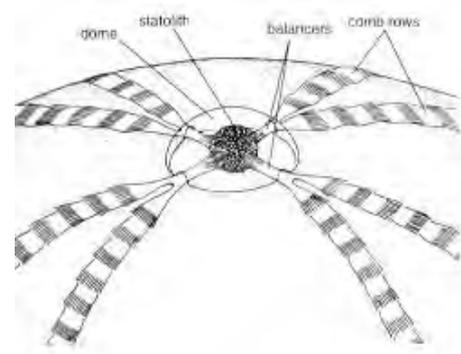


Ctenophore species vary widely in size, from a few millimetres to around 1.5 meters. Most live in the open ocean where they live exclusively as predators on a variety of prey in the plankton. Many are spherical, although some are ribbon-shaped or flat, and the phylum is divided into two main classes based on whether they have tentacles or not (see examples).



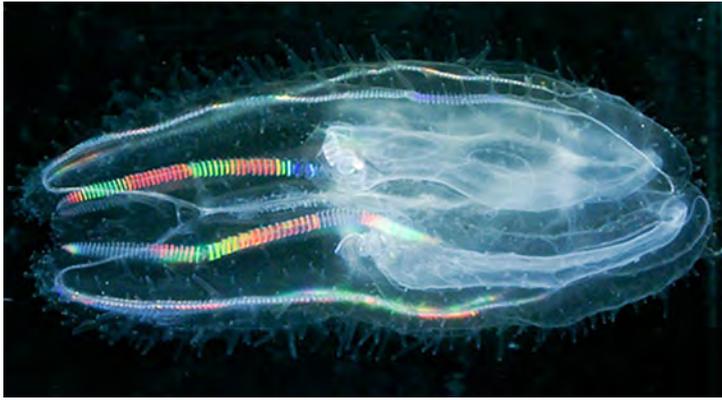
Unlike cnidarians, they lack stinging cells for capturing prey, instead they have sticky cells called colloblasts.

Swimming is achieved by means of many bands of long hairs (cilia). Each band is called a ctene (from the Greek word 'comb') and there are typically eight rows of these equally spaced around the body (see photograph). Positioning of the body in the water-column is controlled via pressure from a single, centrally located grain of calcium carbonate (the statolith; see diagram) on the comb-row bases. Thus, if the animal tilts, the statolith presses more on one base than the others which causes the cilia in that comb-row to beat faster and restore orientation. This sensitivity and response are controlled by a primitive nerve network located just under the epidermis. Ctenophores are the largest animals known to swim by means of cilia.



A key characteristic of most ctenophores is that they are bioluminescent, using patterns of flashing both to distract predators and to lure prey. In addition to this form of display, ctenophores exhibit rainbow-like colours that run down the comb-rows as a result of

light diffraction by the moving cilia (see photograph below).



Some species are highly invasive. For example, the native habitat of *Mnemiopsis leidyi* (see photograph right top) is the Atlantic coast of North and South America, where it lives in a broad range of salinities and temperatures. Added to this, it is a self-fertilizing hermaphrodite also capable of regenerating from body fragments. It was accidentally introduced into the Black Sea in the early 1980s, possibly with ships' ballast water. Here, the species caused the near collapse of the anchovy fishery, by competing for food with these fishes, eating their eggs and larvae, and clogging fishing nets. In 2006 it was recorded as having reached the North Sea. Presently, the *Mnemiopsis* populations in the Black Sea seem to be coming under control, ironically, by the invasion of a cannibalistic ctenophore, *Beroe ovata* (see photograph right, middle), also derived from American waters. The natural predators of ctenophores include some jellyfishes and fishes, and turtles.



*Dudley Williams
Newton on the Moor*

WHAT WILDLIFE TO LOOK FOR IN OCTOBER 2016

As I sit and write this article, flock of Swallows and House Martins are gathered on the wires in Glanton. Large numbers have already departed. Groups of House Sparrows have also started to gather in a Dog Rose waiting to be fed – I am one of those that resists the temptation to put feed out over the spring and summer. It will only be a matter of time before they are knocking on the window – it has happened before.

Two weeks on the Hebrides is now consigned to memories but what a two weeks. The family and I have been going to the North West of Scotland, on and off for the last 6 years. This was probably the best trip for both wildlife and the weather. Both species of Eagles, Otters and Divers were seen regularly. Wader migration was slow in the first week but picked up in the second with large numbers of many species being seen. Highlights included Little Stint, Curlew Sandpiper, White-rumped Sandpiper and a Semi-palmated Sandpiper. Parts of the machairs were still in flower and this produced a Great Yellow Bumblebee. Autumn Gentians were just coming into flower. There are one or two very unusual exhibits for this autumn's show-and-tell (one of which still does not have an answer as we go to press).

Species of the month: waders and waterfowl. Normally, I chose a selection of species to look at. This month, I have chosen a spectacle. I am fortunate enough to carry out monthly Wetland Bird Survey (WeBs) at the Fenham Flats. The October bird count is both exhilarating and stressful on a rising tide. If you have a few hours to spare in the middle weeks of the month and there is a rising tide – take yourself off to Fenham le Moor bird hide with a thermos and a pair of binoculars and sit and watch/listen to the spectacle of thousands of birds pushed in on the tide.

The main players in the performance are the Wigeon (15,000 counted in 2015), Curlew (800+), Shelduck (1400+), Light-bellied brent geese and Dunlin (1200). Other species that join the feeding frenzy include Bar-tailed Godwits, Lapwing, Golden and Grey plover, Redshank, Teal, Pink-footed Geese, Eiders and Little Egrets to name but a few. This is probably one of the largest gatherings of birds anywhere in the North East during the autumn and if the weather/conditions are

right it can be very special. Tides look good from the 10th October until the 18th October.

Hopefully we will get plenty of spells of good weather into the autumn

Jack Daw.



A pair of White-tailed Eagles viewed from the cottage (female on left)

SIGHTINGS AUGUST 2016

BIRDS

Great-crested Grebe	Pair with 1 juvenile at Branton Ponds all month 1 at Cresswell Pond on 4th
Bittern	1 at Cresswell Pond on 29th
Grey Heron	6 at Cresswell Pond on 4th
Little Egret	9 at Cresswell Pond on 4th and 3 at Fenham Flats on 21st 17 at Cresswell Pond on 29th 2 at Budle Bay all month
Red Breasted Merganser	Female with 7 young at Budle Bay on 2nd
Osprey	1 on Holy Island causeway on 28th 1 near Smeafield on 24th
Marsh Harrier	1 at East Chevington on 6th
Water Rail	At Cresswell Pond on 29th
Turnstone	35 at Seaton Point on 23rd 30 at Stag Rocks on 2nd
Knot	54 at Stag Rocks on 2nd 1 at Cresswell Pond on 4th
Dunlin	50+ at Coquet Estuary on 18th 100+ at Boulmer on 23rd 200 at Cresswell Pond on 4th 100 at Low Newton Scrape on 30th
Little Stint	1 at Low Newton Flash on 4th 2 at Cresswell Pond on 22nd 2 at Boulmer on 23rd 3 at Cresswell Pond on 4th
Ruff	1 at Low Newton Flash on 4th 19 at Fenham Flats on 21st 3 at Low Newton Scrape on 26th 10 at Charlton Mires Flash on 26th at Alnmouth Estuary on 10th 1 at Fenham le Mill on 7th
Green Sandpiper	1 at Low Newton Flash on 4th 3 at Branton Ponds on 19th 1 at Hedgeley Lakes on 20th
Common Sandpiper	2 at Branton Ponds on 4th 1 at Low Newton Flash on 4th 2 at Boulmer on 23rd
White-rumped Sandpiper	1 at Coquet Estuary on 22nd
Black-tailed Godwit	11 at Low Newton Flash on 4th and 13 on 3rd 20 at Cresswell Pond on 4th
Greenshank	4 at Low Newton Flash on 4th 1 at Holburn Moss on 13th 2 at Hedgeley Lakes on 20th 1 at Fenham Flats on 21st at Cresswell Pond on 29th
Spotted Redshank	1 at Budle Bay on 23rd
Avocet	5 at Cresswell Pond on 6th at Cresswell Pond on 29th also pair with 2 young on 4th
Curlew Sandpiper	1 at Coquet Estuary on 18th 5 at Druridge Pools on 22nd 1 at Low Newton Scrape on 26th 3 at Boulmer on 23rd 3 at Cresswell Pond on 29th
Spotted Sandpiper	1 at Low Hauxley on 13th and 14th
Whimbrel	1 at Low Hauxley on 14th 22 at Fenham Flats on 21st 1 on Holy Island on 28th 1 at Seaton Point on 23rd 4 at Fenham le Moor on 8th
Ringed Plover	20+ at Boulmer on 23rd
Golden Plover	50 at Newton Point on 26th 200 at Cresswell Pond on 4th
Grey Plover	96 at Fenham Flats on 21st
Caspian Gull	1 at Coquet Estuary on 21st and 22nd
Lesser Black-backed Gull	19 at Branton Ponds on 31st
Mediterranean Gull	10 at Cresswell Pond on 4th
Arctic Tern	1 at Annstead on 11th
Roseate Tern	2 at Newbiggin on 24th
Black Tern	1 at QE 2 country park on 24th 1 at Newbiggin on 24th
Cuckoo	1 juvenile on Holy Island on 28th
Short-eared Owl	1 at Fenham le Moor on 8th
Barn Owl	1 at Cresswell Pond on 4th
Little Owl	2 at Druridge on 22nd
Swift	3 over Branton Ponds on 13th 60 over Yearle on 6th
Kingfisher	1 at Branton Ponds on 4th and 1 on 29th
Yellow Wagtail	1 at Low Newton Flash on 4th 3 at Boulmer on 23rd
Whinchat	1 on Holy Island on 28th

Stonechat	1 pair at Chevington Dunes on 4th pair with 2 young in Upper Coquet on 27th
Common Whitethroat	2 at Chevington Dunes on 4th
Sedge Warbler	1 at Chevington Dunes on 4th
Wood Warbler	1 at Cresswell Pond on 25th
Spotted Flycatcher	1 at Ingram on 13th
Nuthatch	1 at Branton Ponds on 22nd
Tree Sparrow	Pair with young at Yearle on 12th
Linnet	20 at Low Newton on 3rd
Crossbill	2 at Kyloe Woods on 13th
REPTILES	
Adder	1 at Branton Ponds on 4th and 3 on 15th
Slow Worm	2 at Branton Ponds on 4th and 3 on 15th
FUNGI	
Blackening Waxcap	At Whittingham on 1st
INVERTEBRATES	
Emerald Damselfly	At Cragside on 4th
Common Darter	1 at Branton Ponds on 1st 2 near Belford on 13th 3 at Hedgeley Lakes on 20th at Cragside on 4th
Black Darter	At Cragside on 4th
Southern Hawker	1 at Branton Ponds on 1st 10+ near Belford on 13th 2 at Branton Ponds on 26th and 1 on 29th at Druridge Bay country park on 16th
Common Hawker	1 at Branton on 2nd 2 on Holy Island on 28th at Cragside on 4th
Large Heath	At Steng Moss on 1st
Common Blue	2 at Chevington Dunes on 4th
Ringlet	1 at Newton Links on 10th
Small Copper	4 at Branton Ponds on 29th
Speckled Wood	3 at Low Newton on 26th 5+ at Branton Ponds on 29th 1 at Smeafield on 20th
Comma	At Beadnell on 6th
Wall	1 at Branton Ponds on 25th 4 at Low Newton on 26th 1 at Yearle on 22nd and again on 29th 1 at Newton Links on 30th
Large White	2 at Yearle on 29th
Green-veined White	2 at Chevington Dunes on 4th 1 at Yearle on 29th
Painted Lady	2 at Low Newton on 26th 1 in Upper Coquet on 27th 1 at Yearle on 29th and 2 on 31st 1 at Smeafield on 31st
Red Admiral	2 at Yearle on 29th and again on 31st 5 at Smeafield on 13th
Peacock	10 at Yearle on 29th and 5 on 31st 2 at Smeafield on 17th and 12 on 31st
Small Tortoiseshell	1 at Yearle on 31st 12 at Smeafield on 12th
Small Skipper	3 at Branton Ponds on 4th
Treble Bar	1 near Lowick on 1st
True-lovers Knot	2 at Branton on 6th
Shuttle-shaped Dart	1 at Branton on 6th
Sallow	5 at Branton on 13th
Dusky Sallow	1 at Howick on 12th
Centre-barred Sallow	2 at Branton on 23rd
Rosy Rustic	1 at Branton on 13th
Red Carpet	1 at Branton on 13th
Feathered Gothic	1 at Branton on 18th
Large Yellow Underwing	96 at Branton on 18th and 268 on 23rd
Lesser-swallow Prominent	2 at Branton on 23rd
Clouded Border	1 at Branton on 23rd
Garden Tiger	1 in Wooler on 22nd
Great-diving Beetle	1 larvae at Branton Ponds on 8th

Horntail (Wood Wasp) 1 at Kyloe Woods on 13th

MAMMALS

Otter 1 at Branton Ponds on 19th 1 at Hedgeley on 21st

Fox 1 at Fenham Flats on 21st

Red Squirrel 1 at Hauxley on 13th 2 at Smeafield on 14th

PLANTS

Common Centaury On Holy Island on 21st

Grass of Parnassus On Holy Island on 21st

OBSERVERS

G&R Bell, I&K Davison, M McMahon, J Rutter, S Sexton,
D Taylor. S Reay.