

NATURE SOCIETY NEWSLETTE



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Issue 6

NATURE SOCIETY
Making a real difference

NEW SIGHTINGS

What a place this is with so much wonderful wildlife to spot. The warm weather has brought much to everyone's attention.



There have been a few reports of Common (Smooth) Newts around the Marina. Newts are mostly nocturnal. During the spring and summer months (March to June) adult newts may be

seen in garden ponds, drainage ditches and lakes whilst they are breeding. Outside of the breeding season they can be found in a variety of habitats, including woodland, gardens and parks. During the summer, tadpoles may be seen in ponds.

After leaving the pond at the end of the breeding season, adult newts take up residence under logs and stones, in crevices of walls and in other similar places. They frequently hibernate in such places, some will bury themselves in the soil, or use underground cavities around the foundations of buildings.

MYSTERY BEETLE

Seen on one of the bee nesters this totally yellow beetle was a bit of a mystery. Looked like a ladybird but no spots? Sent photo to Derbyshire entomologist and yes it



would seem to be a ladybird that has just emerged from its pupa its colour and spots will appear in a day or two.



There have been a lot of ladybird larva around the whole of the marina which are now emerging. You may well find a lot of old, empty pupa cases. This is good news as we will now have a lot of new ladybirds to feed on the aphids.



BEE ORCHIDS



We have a new crop of Bee Orchids out now at various locations. Not so many as last year. They can occur in many habitats grassland, roadsides, quarries and often on disturbed ground. Small but flamboyant, the bee orchid is one of nature's great mimics. Perched within the large pink sepals are petals shaped and coloured like a visiting bee. The deception goes further than visual appearance alone: as well emitting a female bee scent, the fake "bee" is hairy to touch.

DAMSELFLIES

Lots of these about including the Banded Demoiselle an absolute stunner. Keep eyes open for the bigger bolder Dragonflies due any time now.



AUGUST EVENT

Our second Wildlife Weekend will be taking place on Aug12/13th and as before we will be holding a Nature Photography Competition. Saturday will be for animal pics mammals, reptiles, amphibians etc. and Sunday is for Flora, wild flowers please not cultivated. Just email them to Jane Wakeham or the office.