



June 2016

HOLDERNESS COUNTRYSIDE



Hoverfly photographed in a Kilnsea garden, Peter Martin

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JOURNAL OF THE SOUTH HOLDERNESS COUNTRYSIDE SOCIETY

Free to members. Available to non members for a minimum donation of £1.50

No 126

Registered Charity No. 701627

SOUTH HOLDERNESS COUNTRYSIDE SOCIETY

Registered Charity No: 701627



Welcomes you to their

Country, Arts and Craft Fair



Saturday 18th June 2016

From 1 pm

A range of fantastic local craft stalls

– ideal for presents or a treat for yourself

Nature stands

*– come and find out all you need to know about
bats, barn owls and other wildlife ...*

Tombolas

Bug hunt

Refreshments



Admission free

Come and join us for a fun afternoon out

**Ivy House, South Carr Dales Road, Hollym,
Nr Withernsea HU19 2SQ**

(Parking on the Council recycling area adjacent to the A1033)

**EYMS bus 75, 76 or 77 Hull to Withernsea route – get off at
Hollym**

Chairman's Report, 2016

I recently became indisposed at the time when certain things had to be done for this Society and it brought home to me that we really do need a strong Committee with people able to take up the reins when one or more of us falls over. I thank each and every person, *en bloc*, for doing their bit on and behind the scenes to keep us afloat. In doing so, I keep my report brief.

The Journal, *Holderness Countryside*, is in limbo but not for much longer. We have a new voluntary Editor in Mr Peter Martin, poised for action, and we hope he enjoys working with us.

The Hollym Carrs grassland maintenance is done free of charge by the Fisher family and we thank them for this heavy work, which has to be done to comply with our Environmental Stewardship Agreement. We have started the third year of management under Higher Level Stewardship which grants us £2040 per annum for grassland and woodland maintenance. We expect some capital works for Greater Crested Newts and Water Voles, costs covered by Rural Payments, this year.

I have stopped representing the Society on the Easington Beach Study Group meetings which were set up to oversee the Kilnsea Wetlands development incorporating part of our Beacon Lagoons Nature Reserve. Although meetings are infrequent I found that my contribution to discussions was increasingly of less value than my own time. A replacement is needed.

Rebecca had just got to grips with the post of General Secretary when her career turned to working offshore. I very much appreciate the time she has given to the Society and I thank her, and wish her well.

Our new audio-visual equipment is being put to use and I hope this will help us to grow. Our meetings are an ideal place for people to develop confidence in showing their photographs and public speaking, which fits in well with our educational brief.

The treasurer's report tonight gives us an analysis of our monetary situation but our assets are rarely mentioned. We own nature reserves at Kilnsea, and Hollym both of which are held in perpetuity by the Charity Commissioners. We can never realise the capital from this ownership even if we wanted to. Through hard work in the past we have custodial responsibility and liability for about a quarter of a million pounds worth of land, some of it with SSSI status that is dedicated entirely to creating a better place for wildlife.

In our ownership of Ivy House we have invested about £40K in capital expenditure and that sum again in goodwill and the gifting of time and materials. The Young Nats club is thriving there and is contributing splendidly to its running and purpose thanks to Margaret and team.

Our use of IH as a resource is still very limited though, and in a cold-blooded financial analysis it is only a viable investment because it was generously gifted to the Society in the first place and is run entirely by volunteers. Like our nature reserves we would never be able to realise this capital investment. Fund raising therefore remains an essential component of the Society's life and continued existence and this is where we draw on our invaluable human assets. As Steve has commented, expenditure still exceeds income for general management of the Society.

This brief asset appraisal is given to highlight just how effective this Society has been in carrying out its charitable objectives of protecting wildlife and educating the public and we should be proud of it. However, believe it or not, there are people out there who have not heard of us. So, I ask of each of you to please go out and tell everyone who we are, and what we have achieved.

Peter J Cook, May 2016

Treasurer's Report for the 2016 AGM

Summary for the year ended 31/1/2016

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total	Last Year
<u>SHCS General Management</u>				
Current Acct	£19,160		£19,160	£20,086
Deposit Acct	£12,936	£7,586	£20,522	£20,476
Cash in hand	£0		£0	£20
<u>Young Nats</u>				
Current Acct	£2,275		£2,275	£1,989
Deposit Acct	£3,505		£3,505	£3,503
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	£37,976	£7586	£45,462	£46,074

Summary of Income

Income from membership was £1,030, down from £1,050 last year. Gift aid was £380, down from £392. Member donations were £772, up from £718 and interest was £45, down from £80. This means that member donations / gift aid and interest once again more than doubled the membership fee income. General grants and donations totalled £1,695. This sum included £500 from Centrica, £500 from the Burton Pidsea Windfarm Community Fund for our new projector and £600 from the James Reckitt Trust. Countryside Stewardship/wayleave payments totalled £1,685; Fundraising totalled £243. Young Nats fundraising/subs totalled £803.

Summary of Payments

Fundraising and society activity costs were £1,722 (this sum included buying a new projector at circa £1,000 and a new mower at £180). Services and administration cost £2,320 (Insurance circa £2000, accountant £210, journal printing etc). Ivy House running costs were £582 down from £2,002 which included some building costs. Conservation projects were £2,125 down from £2,775 – HCNR hedge cutting / Inland Drainage Board costs and a crested newt survey £1,864. Young Nats payments were £516 (materials / field trips etc).

Overall Summary

The society accounts are at present in a healthy state. We do however have a continuing trend over the accounting period of expenditure exceeding income by £612. This trend is ongoing but is slightly down from last year's £770 deficit. The committee is monitoring this trend and may perhaps decide to cut costs and or start a new fundraising drive at some point.

As can be seen from this report the society is at this present time well funded. We do however have circa £3,000 of work expenditure and some grants to apply for at HCNR which should have been done over the winter but did not get done because the committee is stretched. This cost will now come in later in 2016. We also have some potentially expensive issues at Ivy House which at the moment we are monitoring, but we must be careful to retain sufficient funding in case we need to involve third party expertise.

[This is abridged; the full inspected and signed Receipts and Payments accounts and Statements of Assets and Liabilities are available for inspection on request.]

RECENT SOCIETY EVENTS

February 12th – Alan Jones gave us (32) an interesting talk on how industry, through the Humber Nature Partnership, is making an impact on conservation along the South bank of the Humber.

March 11th – Larry Malkin gave us (24) an amusing off-the-cuff talk about Holderness “East End” characters, especially those frequenting the Coach and Horses pub in Welwick.

April 8th – Peter Cook and David Constantine gave us (17) interesting illustrated talks on ‘wildlife in the wrong place’. Peter talked about invasive alien weeds, especially those recently banned by EEC Directive. David spoke of birds and mammals and their shifts in distribution.

May 13th – The Annual General Meeting progressed successfully with Peter Cook and Steve Moore returned unchallenged as Chairman and Treasurer respectively, and Peter Martin elected as Executive Committee member volunteering as Editor of our journal. After reports, refreshments and general chinwag Peter gave a brief illustrated talk continuing the ‘wildlife in the wrong place’ theme looking at Slender Speedwell, Welsh Poppy, and Danish Scurveygrass.

May 18th – The Easington Beach Study Group overseeing Kilnsea Wetlands met, however, the SHCS was not represented on this occasion. The next meeting will be on 18 July.

May 24th – Mr Ian Bowes, representing Natural England, visited Hollym Carrs Nature Reserve with Peter and Andy to see our management under Higher Level Stewardship.

OPPORTUNITIES TO HELP

There are several ways in which members can help this Society achieve its aims to ‘create a better place for wildlife’. Every little helps. Attendance at our open meetings, usually on the second Friday, is a good way to meet us, exchange views and perhaps be offered something to do or to volunteer. Finding speakers that are available on Friday nights at a price we can afford is becoming increasingly difficult. If you are experienced, or just striving to become experienced at presenting illustrated talks, please speak to us. This Society is an ideal ‘incubator’ to help you develop these skills.

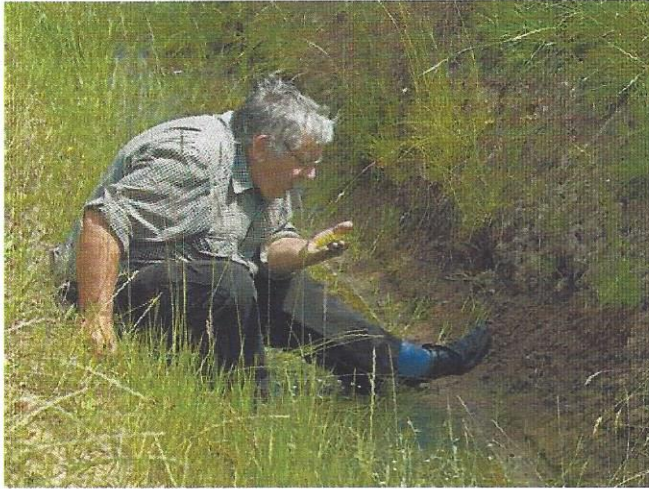
Our business meetings on the first Friday of the month in Ivy House are open to members but participation in the Agenda is only by invitation. However, we are here to listen to any proposal you may have to improve the Society.

Volunteering for conservation tasks is encouraged but health and safety, liability insurance, duty of care, provision of toilet etc, etc. means that we have to be very careful about letting people work on their own. If we can build a core of people we can call upon to form a conservation team we will do our best to provide all these and organise task events. Please let any member of the Committee know if you are interested in practical conservation.

This Journal also needs support. We have a new and experienced Editor and he will need a constant flow of articles to pad out issues. Quite often a mere snippet of news, with or without a photograph, is needed to fill a gap. We can accommodate anything within our brief as a Society and that informs the people who receive the journal. We cannot accept commercial adverts.

However, if you are reading this you have already helped by signing up as a member. Enjoy being the member.

The lengths to which a botanist will go.....



assessment before embarking on the retrieval of the abovementioned plant material. This would probably have included an assessment of appropriate footwear too.

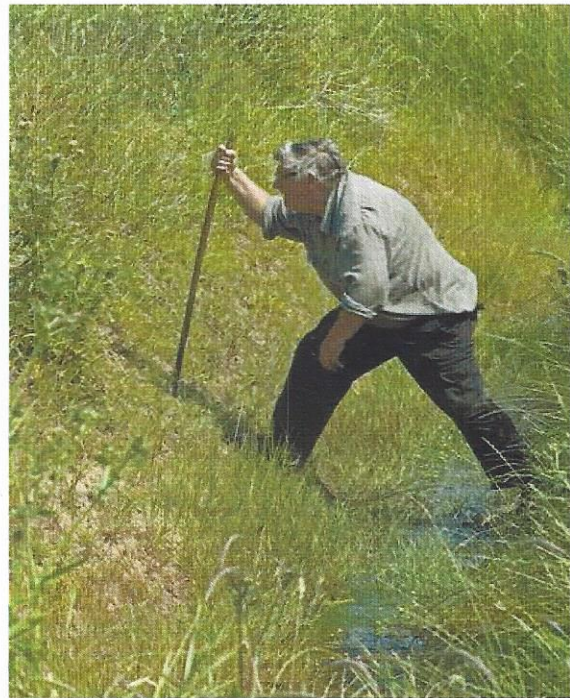
This was the scene, which, unfortunately, was witnessed by only two people during the guided walk at Kilnsea Wetlands on a fine Saturday afternoon last July. The lengths that some people go to in the pursuance of extending their knowledge and understanding of the environment!

On a more serious note though, the disappointing turnout to this field visit has left the committee questioning the viability of organising similar visits in the future. We therefore invite members to let us know what they would like in terms of meetings 'in the field'.

This visit to Kilnsea Wetlands presented an opportunity to see and learn more about the recent development of this reserve and to see some of the wildlife for which it is already so important. Wildlife highlights included Little Terns and Little Egrets



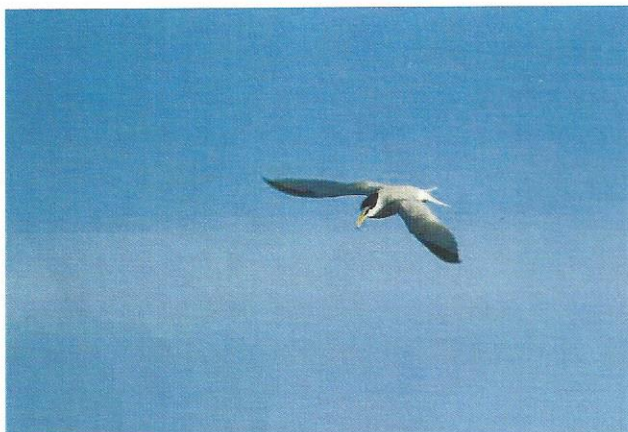
There are times when the pursuance of knowledge requires risks to one's dignity. If a particular plant needs to be retrieved from its growing position in a dyke in order to confirm its identity, then, in the absence of a suitable implement for reaching it, the noble thing to do is to get in there. Then there is the matter of getting out again. It helps, perhaps, that the person in question, our esteemed Chairman, is the South Holderness Countryside Society's Health and Safety Representative and therefore will no doubt have performed a detailed risk



fishing for sticklebacks right in front of the hide, a Spoonbill, an infrequent visitor, roosting alongside several Little Egrets, flocks of waders, many still in breeding plumage, flying in to roost at high tide, an obliging Roesel's Bush-cricket, recently emerged Ringlet butterflies and that intriguing plant, Thread-leaved Crowfoot.

David Constantine

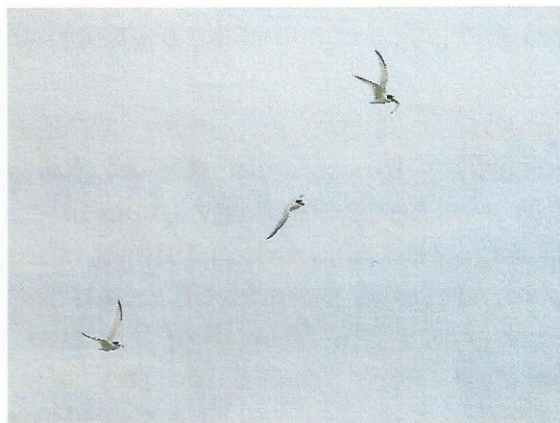
Beacon Lagoons Nature Reserve 2016 – Early Spring update



After the success of the last few seasons it is hoped that the continuation of effective wardening and protection from predators will help to ensure another successful season this year. The following information has been provided by this year's warden, Sara Rodriguez. Although the first Little Terns arrived a little later than usual, with eight seen on 28th April and 19 were counted two days later, numbers built up quickly to 42 on 4th May and 75 on the 13th

Display behaviour by one pair was observed on 30th April and by the second week of May up to eight pairs were displaying and some birds were making nest scrapes. Two birds have also been seen regularly at Kilnsea Wetlands.

After last year's breeding season the tern rafts, which had been anchored in the lagoon in the hope of attracting nesting Little Terns, were removed for maintenance, including the replenishment of gravel, and to prevent, as happened last year, early occupation by Avocets which would deter any terns. To date, the rafts have not been replaced due to unsuitable weather conditions. However, this has not deterred the Avocets from breeding. They have moved to Kilnsea Wetlands where up to 31 birds were counted, including 15 incubating on nests, during the first two weeks of May.



Most of the nests can be viewed easily from the screen along the path between the hide and the flood bank adjacent to Beacon Lagoons. As in previous years Oystercatchers are present with up to five pairs seen in the area, one with a nest near the Avocets. About 10 pairs of Ringed Plovers are also present with one incubating eggs.

David Constantine



RESERVATIONS

I have to confess that before a late Sunday in May this year I had never visited our Hollym Carr Nature Reserve. Now that my arm has recovered from the twisting it received from Peter Cook when he persuaded me to take over from Paul Fisher as editor of this journal, I decided it was time to make amends.

I left my home in Kilnsea and headed for Hollym. I ignored the Kilnsea Wetlands Reserve and avoided a sideways glance as I passed Hodgson's Field in Skeffling. I confess to stopping my car to watch a cream crowned Marsh Harrier quartering a cliff top field of wheat at Out Newton but hardly gave a glance to a couple of hares in a field near Holmpton. My goal was Hollym Carr.

The notice at Ivy House which told me that I had a 45 minute walk to the reserve was in no way a deterrent. In fact the walk to the reserve took considerably longer than the time forecast. At breakfast my wife and I had talked about the lack of butterflies in our garden this year. The walk along the public bridleway off South Carr Dales Road showed clearly that things had changed almost overnight.

Around a score of male Orange Tip butterflies frustratingly refused to settle, thus making photography impossible. To a photographer who enjoys nothing more than taking close-up pictures of insects this was more than a little frustrating. However, I saw my first Red Admiral of the year and managed a photograph of a Speckled Wood butterfly.



Strolling along a path bordered with the beautifully named and beautiful Queen Ann's Lace is always a delight. With May in full bloom and Silverweed adding to the delights the adventure got better and better and I hadn't reached the reserve yet. A range of birds including migrant wablers and resident blackbirds and robins serenaded my walk. Beautiful.

Eventually I reached the reserve where my hopes were fully realised. Having read the account of the acquisition and early development of the reserve it was still hard to believe that virtually everything that I saw had been created by members of the society. The identification posts telling me the names of the trees was a great help. On such a warm sunny morning the benches placed by the footpaths provided perfect stopping places. Sitting in spring sunshine listening to a Whitethroat singing from the top of a hawthorn bush in full bloom is close to one of my ideas of heaven.

Eventually the path I was following lead me to the gate separating Burnham Meadow from the rest of the reserve. Walking through a field which is due to be cut for hay is clearly a non starter. This would not normally have bothered me but for several of the elusive Orange Tip butterflies fluttering around the clumps of Lady's Smock dotted around.

The path back to the reserve entrance was mainly under the trees and in consequence the grass was still rather on the damp side but nothing to worry about. My first visit the Hollym Carrs was a truly memorable experience and one which will certainly be repeated very soon.



Immature Azure damselfly photographed on the bridleway to Hollym Carrs

On the return journey to Ivy House there was still plenty to see, most memorable being the immature damselfly which very obligingly alighted on pathside vegetation and allowed me just enough time to take one photograph before flitting off across a ditch never to return.

Peter Martin

EDITOR'S NOTE

I hope that you find this, my first effort at editing the journal to your liking. Peter Cook and I feel that we should adopt a house style of our own for the journal and I have tried to achieve this. In addition I have included an article of my own called Reservations. I hope that this will become a regular item in the journal, my intention being to visit nature reserves in Holderness as near as possible to the date of publication in order that anyone choosing to follow in my footsteps has a chance of seeing what I saw. Please feel free to comment on any aspect of the journal and also let me know if there is anything you would like included in future editions.

Peter Martin

The Young Nats Page

2016. Another season for the Youngsters. Another series of new things to learn, and we've already started with a bang. The first couple of club meetings were taken up once again with the preparation of the Young Nats garden. New, additional soil and compost were added to the plot, ably distributed by Adam and George who managed to get some at least within walking distance of where it should finish up. Then seedlings which the members had previously taken home to look after were planted in their now prepared garden. Bee and butterfly attracting plants and flowers is this year's crop.

Then, on April 23rd, an experience which we had all been looking forward to since last year. A visit to the Spurn Peninsula, hopefully to witness the ringing of the migrating birds. However this was not to be. The weather was freezing cold together with a strong northerly wind and only two birds had been caught by the time we arrived. Even these two, a young blackbird and a tiny willow warbler had been already "ringed" on some previous occasion. Nevertheless, the blackbird was duly released by young George, under the supervision of Paul, of the Spurn \bird Observatory, and the little willow warbler was released by Felicity, one of the more senior club members.



Felicity was absolutely enthralled by being allowed to handle, even so very briefly, such a tiny, delicate little creature, and to release it once again to fly free. Many cameras were clicking but I don't think anyone actually caught that special moment.

A ride on the "Unimog", a special ex-army off road vehicle which carried us over the uneven track to the newly renovated lighthouse had the children squealing with delight as it tilted into some of the large holes. The visit was concluded by a very welcome hot drink at the Blue Bell café. We owe our most grateful thanks to Andy. Spurn wildlife officer and member of our very own Society for organising the visit. He did a great job on our behalf. The trip was enjoyed by everyone, even our coach driver.

This year, the children are working on their RSPB Silver Award. Having gained the Bronze last year, we are now after even greater achievements. The club will also take it's place at our SHCS Open Day on June 18th, and further interesting things are already planned for later in the year.

As usual Margaret has researched and planned many interesting things for the Young Nats well into 2016, therefore, as the saying goes....."Watch this space"

.....Freddy.....

PUBLICATIONS

Holderness Countryside is the journal of the South Holderness Countryside Society, and is issued free of charge to members, up to four times per year. All Rights Reserved.

Holderness Countryside is edited and printed by Peter Martin. Items for publication may be posted in manuscript or e-mailed to the Editor:

Chapel Cottage, Kilnsea Road, Kilnsea, HU12 0UB
peteratthechapel@hotmail.co.uk

The Society welcomes articles of general interest in the genre of natural and social history pertaining to southern Holderness. The views expressed are those of the contributor. Contributions are acknowledged along with the relevant articles.

Other publications may be produced from time-to-time.

YOUNG NATURALISTS CLUB

The Young Naturalists' ("Young Nats") Club meets twice monthly at our Ivy House Centre in Hollym. Supervisors have Enhanced DBS certification.

Members must be of primary school age, 5-11 years. Young Nats are taught and encouraged to take a more positive interest in natural history and to publish articles in *Holderness Countryside*. Articles should be sent to the Editor via E-mail or, a telephone call to organise collection.

SCHOOLS

Copies of *Holderness Countryside* are distributed to local schools. Schools are permitted to photocopy extracts from the Journal for educational use within their school. All other reproduction in whatever form is subject to copyright.

WILDLIFE RECORDS

The Society tries to encourage recording of wildlife in National schemes and publish records in *Holderness Countryside*. Records submitted for publication by the SHCS should be referenced at least to OS 10 km grid squares. Any records from the Society's reserves should be sent to the Society's Office.

NATURE RESERVES & CONTACTS

Beacon Lagoons Nature Reserve (Chairman)

Hollym Carrs Nature Reserve

(Andy Mason; andymace2305@yahoo.co.uk)

Kilnsea Wetlands Reserve (Chairman)

(by affiliation and lease of land to YWT)

Little Tern Protection (David Constantine)

(by affiliation with Spurn Bird Observatory)

CHARITABLE OBJECTIVES

The South Holderness Countryside Society was first registered as a Charity No 701627 on 30th May 1989. Defined objectives of the Charity are;

(1) *Work principally within the area of Holderness, (East Riding of Yorkshire), for the region's natural and local history.*

(2) *Educate the public in the natural and local history of the area.*

(3) *Secure the preservation and protection and improvement of natural history.*

(4)

Management of the Society's affairs is by elected Trustees. Trustees meet on the first Friday of the month at 19.15 hrs in the Society's Office. Members may attend but may contribute to the meeting only if invited to.

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Position	Name	Telephone (01964)
Chairman	Peter Cook	614466
Vice Chairman	VACANT	
Treasurer	Steve Moore	624313
Editor	Peter Martin	650477
Elected Member	Jeff Marshall	630045
Elected Member	David Constantine	631354
Elected Member	Fred Kennedy	671492
Gen. Secretary (Non-Executive)	VACANT (CHAIRMAN ACTING)	614466

KEY ADDRESSES

SHCS Office	The Ivy House Centre, South Carr Dales Road, Hollym, HU19 2SQ. E-mail: shcs25@aol.com . (NB NO TELEPHONE – 614466 for now)
Gen Sec'y	VACANT
Member Secretary	Mrs Denise Failey, Demswood, Boreas Hill, Paull, HU12 8AX. 01964 622576 (ALL payments and membership correspondence to Denise please)
Young Nats	Mrs Margaret Kennedy, 18 Glebelands, Burton Pidsea, HU12 9AS. 01964 671492
Treasurer	Mr Steve Moore, 14 Trinity Close, Burstwick, HU12 9HQ.
WEBSITE	VACANT

www.southholdernesscountrysidesociety.co.uk

MEMBER SUBSCRIPTION RATES:

Single Adult: £12. Family: £14. Corporate and Affiliate: £20.
Schools: Free.



The SHCS is funded through member subscription and generous private, commercial and charitable donations. The Ivy House Centre received Lottery Funding

PROGRAMME OF EVENTS

Unless otherwise stated the venue is PATRINGTON CHURCH HALL at 7.30pm.

The hall is situated behind the HOLDERNESS INN on HIGH STREET.

Alternative access can be gained from Northside Court but car parking is limited.

THEMES: This season we have: June, fund raising/fun; July, birds; September, birds; October, birds&wildlife; November, trees; December, wildlife&fun. We regret that we are finding it increasingly difficult to find speakers to provide a balanced diversity of subject themes. We would welcome your suggestions.

JUNE 18TH – Country Arts and Craft Fair at Ivy House Centre, Hollym. Craft exhibition stands. Nature stands (bats, owls etc.), Bug hunts, tombolas. Refreshments. Young Nats activities and fund raising. Bring friends of any age. Opens at 1 pm.

[Please note that car parking may be difficult. Please do not park on grass verges near Ivy House. There may be room on the Council area on the corner but please allow access to the recycling bins.]

JULY 8TH – Sal Cook on, “Bikes, Boats and Birds” including some birding in the Himalayas and Oman and a preamble about Bempton and work as a RSPB trustee.

AUGUST – NO MEETING

SEPTEMBER 9TH – to be arranged but possibly Sal Cook again, “Visiting Kazakstan's Celestial Mountains”. This is a talk more focussed on birds with scientific study background (not heavily academic).

OCTOBER 14TH – to be arranged but possibly David Constantine presenting excellent photographs.

NB: THE SPEAKERS FOR SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER MAY BE SWAPPED OVER.

NOVEMBER 11TH – Professor Roland Ennos on, “How Trees Work”. Roland is from the Dept of Biological Sciences, Hull University, and is a specialist on trees with interests in the Hull and East Yorkshire Woodlands (HEYWOODS) project. He is about to publish a book on the subject through the Natural History Museum.

DECEMBER 9TH – **Members' Night.** The pre-Christmas extravaganza including presentations and exhibits by Society members. This is an opportunity for anyone to cut their teeth on public presentation, swap Christmas cards and both entertain and be entertained.