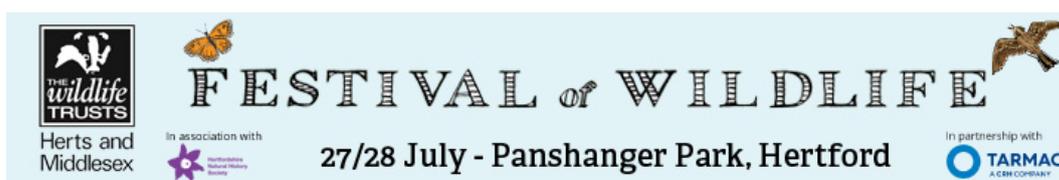




HNHS News – June 2019

Welcome to the HNHS Summer Newsletter. We hope you find the information useful – you will see that it features important dates for your diary.



Don't miss this year's Festival of Wildlife in the lovely surroundings of Panshanger Park on Saturday 27 and Sunday 28 July (10am to 4pm). Organised by the Herts & Middlesex Wildlife Trust, in association with HNHS and Tarmac plc, this free festival celebrates the diversity of wildlife in our county and features walks, talks, family activities and conservation demonstrations. Food and drink also be on sale.

Herts Bird Club members will be staffing a bird viewing and identification point and HNHS has organised a programme of family-friendly talks on topics ranging from Water Voles, eels, bats and birds of prey to wildlife gardening and identifying animal droppings ('Have I got Poos for you!'). HNHS books will be on sale at bargain prices.

John Catt Symposium: Herts Geology and Landscape (Saturday 13 July)

John Catt was the distinguished contributing editor of our best-selling book on *Hertfordshire Geology and Landscape*. He sadly died in December 2017 and this day-conference at Bayfordbury Field Station has been organised by Hertfordshire Geological Society and East Herts Geology Club in association with the HNHS in his memory.

It offers an exceptional opportunity to hear experts explaining the key geological features that shape our county's natural history. The cost for the day is only £25, including lunch.

For full details of the programme and booking information, visit the meetings page on our website. (hnhs.org/meeting/john-catt-symposium-hertfordshire-geology-and-landscape). *Hertfordshire Geology and Landscape* is available price £34 plus p&p, via our publications page (hnhs.org/publication/hertfordshire-geology-and-landscape) in a new printing that includes a tribute to Prof. Catt.

Don't forget your 2019 subscription!

A reminder that, if you have not already paid, your 2019 subscription is now due. Rates for this year are, again, unchanged:

- £18: individual membership plus Hertfordshire Naturalist and Herts Bird Report
- £12: individual membership plus Herts Bird Report or Hertfordshire Naturalist
- £22: family membership plus Hertfordshire Naturalist and Herts Bird Report

You can pay by:

* Standing order or bank transfer: our Lloyds Bank account number is 02994402, sort code 30-94-08

* Credit/debit card using the Virgin Money Giving link on our website (<http://hnhs.org/how-to-join>)

* Cheque - payable to 'Hertfordshire Natural History Society' and mailed to Geoff Hill, Membership Secretary, 84 Park Avenue, Bushey, Herts. WD23 2BB.

Gift aid will increase the value of your subscription to the Society by 25%, if you are a UK taxpayer. For more information, please e-mail Geoff. (geoffrey.hill83@ntlworld.com)

Nominations for this year's 1875 Awards

Do you know an outstanding Hertfordshire naturalist or someone who has made outstanding contribution to natural history in our county? If so, do consider nominating them for one of the HNHS's prestigious 1875 Awards.



The awards for 2019 will be presented at the Society's Autumn Meeting and AGM. HNHS members should send their nominations for consideration by the management committee to Tim Hill (tim.hill@hmwt.org) with a short message explaining why they think their nominee should be honoured. Visit the website to read more about the 1875 Awards, the assessment criteria and previous recipients. (hnhs.org/1875-awards) The deadline, recently extended, is now 31 July.

Send us your mammal, amphibian and reptile photos (and keep submitting those records!)

The survey for a new Hertfordshire atlas of mammals, amphibians and reptiles (Herts MARA) is scheduled to end this year. We want the resulting book to match the high presentational standards of its predecessors, including Birds of Hertfordshire, Butterflies of Hertfordshire and Middlesex and Beetles of Hertfordshire. That means ensuring the authors have access to a good choice of photographs of all the different species, that have all been taken in Hertfordshire. You can send your favourite shots to the MARA team via photogallery@hnhs.org.

With six months of 2019 already passed it is also clear that more mammal, amphibian and reptile records are still needed, not least from tetrads where the coverage remains patchy. Visit <http://mammal-atlas.hnhs.org> to find out what has been seen so far in your neighbourhood. Contact the team at mammal-atlas@hnhs.org to discover where walking site visits are most needed.

Wishing you wonderful summer – not least when you are out enjoying and monitoring the wildlife around us!

With best wishes,

David

David Utting
HNHS Secretary