

NATS' GALLERY: February 2008



IRISH RUFFWORT *Moerckia hibernica*, Catfield Hall Fen, September 2007. This bright green thalloid liverwort of fens and coastal dune slacks is rare in Norfolk. It is unusual in its persistent strong smell and is usually covered with feathery outgrowths on the upper surface of the thallus. See article. *Photo:* Colin Dunster.



GHOSTWORT *Cryptothallus mirabilis*
Catfield Hall Fen,
September 2007 - a
new vice-county
record. This
subterranean,
parasitic liverwort
lacks chlorophyll
and obtains its
carbon from a
basidiomycete fungus
associated with
birch. See article.
Photo: Colin Dunster.



BITTERNS

at Strumpshaw Fen RSPB
reserve, November 2007.
Seeing one in flight is lucky
enough, but two...?

See article.

Photos: Brian Macfarlane.





WATER VOLE is Britain's most endangered mammal. The Broadland Flood Alleviation Project has generated large numbers of records, and significant efforts are made to reduce the impacts of the works on Water Vole populations. See article.

Photo: BESL.

NORFOLK HAWKERS

in tandem. This species benefits from the ongoing protection of freshwater grazing marshes by the Broadland Flood Alleviation Project. See article.

Photo: BESL.



COMMON LIZARD is not usually considered to be a 'wetland' species, but Broadland flood banks can support good numbers and flood defence works can be structured to take this into account. See article.

Photo: BESL.



GREAT SPOTTED WOODPECKERS are regular garden visitors, but can be bullies. See article. *Photos: Tony Howes.*



NATTERJACK TOAD or 'Runn'n tood' is confined to three sites on the Norfolk coast and just about clings on inland at Syderstone Common. Members should note that this species is now specially protected, and cannot be handled without a licence. See article. *Photo: Paul Banham.*





WINTER SCENES Thompson Common in December with grazing ponies (above) and Wretham Heath with Langmere half-frozen (below). *Photos: Bob Blandford.*





BROADLAND FLOOD ALLEVIATION PROJECT (BFAP)

Left: Excavating material for floodbank strengthening from a new dyke at Cantley Marshes. Below: New soke dyke one year after construction. See article.

Photos: BESL.

STUDENT radio-tracking Water Voles (below) and **WATER VOLE** with radio-collar (right).

See article.

Photos: BESL.



FALLOW DEER

come in a variety of colours; introduced by the Normans, most are still effectively domesticated. See article. *Photos:* Tony Howes.



BITTERN (right) a surprise find at Beeston Common's Newt Pond on 16 January 2008.

Photo: Ellie Farrow.

RAY'S BREEM Holkham Bay, 4 November 2007; the boot is 26 cm long (see article). *Photo:* David & Jo Lester.





MARMALADE HOVERFLY

Episyrphus balteatus
5 January 2008, Booton
Common NWT
Reserve.

An unseasonal record of Britain's commonest hoverfly, perhaps reflecting the relatively mild conditions. See article. *Photo:* Colin Dunster.

NOSTOC PRUNI-FORME Cantley, July 2007. Nostocs are colonial cyanobacteria, often mistaken for jelly fungi. They can assume a variety of forms, this species forming pea-like spheres. See article. *Photo:* Hans Watson.



NOSTOC sp.

Cantley, July 2007. The more amorphous forms are easily overlooked, See article. *Photo:* Hans Watson.

