

BRINSLEY HEADSTOCKS
Heritage & Nature Reserve.

DRAGONFLIES

2016

By 2011, only one species of dragonfly had been recorded on site – brown hawker. With the creation of four new ponds on site during the early part of 2012, the number of species attracted to the site increased astonishingly, considering that the ponds were newly planted and taking into account the extremely wet summer.

2016 was a rather disappointing year, with low numbers being recorded and only 7 species seen in the year (7 species were also seen in 2015, but 9 species were seen in 2014). With the sighting of a new species for the site in 2015 (azure damselfly) the total species recorded on the site is now 11.

BANDED DEMOISELLE *Calopteryx splendens*

Not recorded in 2016. Two males were seen by Brinsley brook pond on June 22nd 2014.

LARGE RED DAMSELFLY *Pyrrhosoma nymphula*

There were four records of this species in 2016 (only two records in 2015). On May 17th a pair were mating on the dipping pond, on June 7th a pair were egg-laying on the dipping pond, a single was on the dipping pond on July 7th and a single was on the dew pond on July 20th. The first site record for this species was of a single insect seen on Brinsley brook pond on June 18th 2014.

AZURE DAMSELFLY *Coenagrion puella*

Five males were seen on the dew pond on July 5th. The first site record of this species was in 2015.

COMMON BLUE DAMSELFLY *Enallagma cyathigerum*

Much lower numbers than 2015, when there were 6+ males on Brinsley Brook pond on June 15th 2015. There were three sightings in 2016, with a maximum of only three. This species was seen both on the dew pond and the dipping pond.

BLUE-TAILED DAMSELFLY *Ischnura elegans*

This species did seem to be established on the site, with three records in 2015. However, disappointingly, there were no records in 2016.

SOUTHERN HAWKER *Aeshna claneai*

This species was observed on most visits during suitable weather in 2014, but was very thin on the ground in 2015 and again in 2016. One was in the Dell on July 5th 2016 and another at this location on September 4th.

MIGRANT HAWKER *Aeshna mixta*

Just a single record of this species in 2016, on September 4th. There were no records in 2015. The first site record for this species was in 2014.

EMPEROR *Anax imperator*

No records for 2016. The first (and only) record for the site is September 9th 2012.

BROWN HAWKER *Aeshna grandis*

Just a single record of this species, a single over the Headstocks meadow on July 20th 2016. This species is usually recorded on numerous occasions, although there was only one record in 2015 also.

BROAD-BODIED CHASER *Libellula depressa*

This species was not recorded in 2016. This was disappointing, as a male was present for most of the summer in 2014 and 2013.

COMMON DARTER *Sympetrum striolatum*

Records of this species were disappointingly low, with a female seen in Willow Holt on August 13th 2016 and four males seen on September 4th 2016.

