

BRINSLEY HEADSTOCKS
Heritage & Nature Reserve.

DRAGONFLIES

2019

By 2011, only one species of dragonfly had been recorded on site – brown hawkler. 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.

A relatively low total of 6 species were recorded in 2020 (the same number as 2019). The total species recorded on the site is now 11.

BANDED DEMOISELLE *Calopteryx splendens*

A good show of records for this exquisite species in 2019. A single was seen on July 4th and then three were seen on July 29th. There had previously been no records since 2014.

LARGE RED DAMSELFLY *Pyrrhosoma nymphula*

An increase in records for 2019, when a maximum of five were seen on May 15th, including a pair egg laying. There were only single records of this species in both 2017 and 2018. 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*

There were no records of this species in 2019. The last record was on July 8th 2017, when two males were seen on Brinsley Brook Pond. The first site record of this species was in 2015.

COMMON BLUE DAMSELFLY *Enallagma cyathigerum*

Normally a common insect, there were just two records for 2019. A single was seen on July 4th and three were seen on July 17th, including a pair egg-laying. 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, 2017, 2018 or 2019.

SOUTHERN HAWKER *Aeshna claneai*

This species was observed on most visits during suitable weather in 2014, but was very thin on the ground since. There were two records in 2019, a single on 29th July and a single on 20th August.

MIGRANT HAWKER *Aeshna mixta*

A scarce insect on the site, there was a single record in 2017 (one in the Dell on 8th July) and no sightings in 2018. The first site record for this species was in 2014.

EMPEROR *Anax imperator*

No records for 2019. The first (and only) record for the site is September 9th 2012.

BROWN HAWKER *Aeshna grandis*

Just a single record of this species in 2019, with two seen on 29th July. This species is usually recorded on numerous occasions.

BROAD-BODIED CHASER *Libellula depressa*

This species was not recorded in 2019. This was disappointing, as a male was present for most of the summer in 2014 and 2013.

COMMON DARTER *Sympetrum striolatum*

There were numerous records of this insect in the latter part of the summer in 2019. The first record was of two females on 29th July, with seven on 20th August (2 males & 5 females) and a late record of a single on 2nd October.

