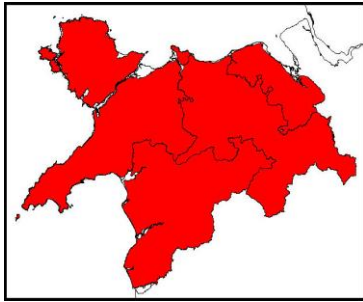
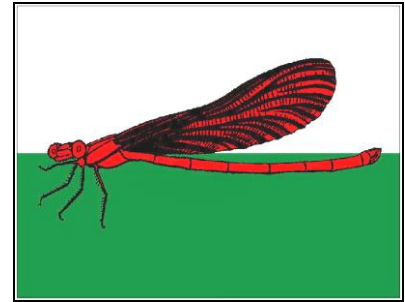




Y Fursen

**North Wales
Dragonfly
Newsletter
No. 104**

5th July 2025



**Odonata news and events from across the vice counties of
Anglesey, Merionethshire, Caernarvonshire, Denbighshire and Flintshire**



Hi all,

Continuing range expansions in response to Climate Change

This has to be a very exciting time for those interested in observing Odonata species as they are definitely on the move, even though the underlying cause has to be extremely scary.

Today I got confirmation from Nathan Brake, Reserve Manager of Whixall Moss astride the Wales/English border, that the Green-eyed Hawker (or Norfolk Hawker - *Aeshna isocles*) has now been confirmed on the Welsh side of the border. It was already known from the English side and the new Welsh sighting was at a similar pond habitat to that across the border. Unfortunately, a photograph of the species has not yet been obtained but Nathan was sure of his identification. He states that “the [green] eyes were unmistakable as it sat perfectly for me.” He has alerted volunteers to keep a vigil and get a photograph if possible. Unfortunately, the specific area is not accessible to the general public.

This unmistakable species (see photos) can now be expected almost anywhere in North Wales so please look out for it.



Male *Aeshna isosceles*, Zerouka, Morocco, 2017. Photo A. Brandon.



Male *Aeshna isosceles*, Zerouka, Morocco, 2017. Photo A. Brandon.

Red-veined Darter migration into North Wales

On the 22nd June, Zak Spauld saw and photographed a male Red-veined Darter (*Sympetrum fonscolombii*) on the Trewyn [SH32989368] at Cemlyn, Anglesey. There have been pitifully few records for Anglesey with two in 2017 and one in 2019. This is a regular summer migrant from the Continent and it has been confirmed to breed in Britain but so far not in North Wales.



Male *Sympetrum fonscolombii* from Cemlyn, Anglesey.
Photo Zak Spauld 22nd June 2025.

Amazingly, on the very same day a male, which must be part of the same migration wave, was also photographed on Bardsey Island. This information has just been reported to me by Steve Stansfield of the Bardsey Bird Observatory.



A much breezier day out there with a variety of weather from sunny spells to fog and rain. Perhaps the highlight of the morning South End patrol was a **Red-veined Darter** found amongst the low vegetation, the first record for several years of this small dragonfly (also the first dragonfly species of the season). This species is a migrant, often turning up more regularly in the south of the UK but can be found anywhere in the right wind conditions.



Red-veined Darter (C) Greg Lee

Allan

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