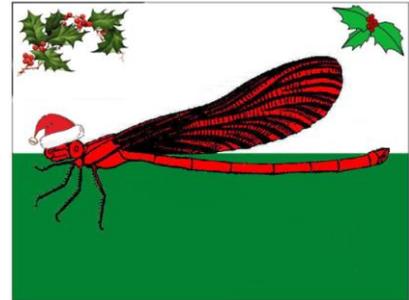


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### NORTH WALES DRAGONFLY NEWSLETTER No. 78



15<sup>th</sup> Dec 2014

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



Hi all,

#### Acknowledgements for the 2014 season

I would like to warmly thank those who have taken the trouble to send me their dragonfly records this year. Here they are in alphabetical order:

Eileen Carroll, Hugh Knot, Ian Brodie, Ian Hawkins, Ian Sims, Ian Stansfield, James Robertson, Jane Ainsworth, Jim Clark, Julian Thompson, Karl Martin, Les Colley, Les Starling, Malcolm Watling, Maria Jones, Michael Foley, Paul Hope, Paul Hopwood, Peter Heywood, Rhion Pritchard, Rhys Jones, Richard and Sheila Perry, Shirley Roulston, Simon Hugheston-Roberts, Steve Palin.

I would also like to thank those who have sent their Odonata records to Cofnod. Please remember that to avoid duplication you should not send records to both Cofnod and me. I verify all Cofnod records so will see them in due course and a copy of all my records, including those sent to me, is sent to Cofnod.

#### Dragonflies erroneously portrayed in art

I'm obviously not the only one to be irritated by artworks that wrongly depict dragonflies and damselflies with long antennae like butterflies. We should all be aware that they do in fact have short antennae in both larval and adult stages (see photo below) but they are often confused with distantly related antlions that have long antennae in their superficially similar adult stage. See the comments of entomologist 'DragonflyWoman':

<http://thedragonflywoman.com/2011/03/07/damselfly-taxonomy-fail/>

I was visiting the Paris Musée d'Orsay in October and came across this Art Nouveau screen that is a typical case. It is painted antique glass in a mahogany frame created by Gustave Serrurier-Bovy of Liege in 1899.



Photo Allan Brandon



Costa Rican *Tramea calverti* showing short antennae. Photo Allan Brandon.

### **Dragonflies cause seriously expensive damage to cars**

Who would have thought that dragonflies could cause the powerful car industry serious problems? Dragonflies are attracted to the glossy surfaces of new cars on the manufacturers courtyards, and in mistaking them for areas of water lay their eggs there.

Apparently these eggs produce a strong acid, similar to sulphuric acid, capable of corroding the protective layer of the paint. See:

<http://revistapesquisa.fapesp.br/en/2000/11/14/car-manufacturers-vs-dragonflies/>



Could dragonflies have attacked this car? Photo from article by Sami Haj-Assaad in AutoGuide.com for 21<sup>st</sup> March 2013.

**Merry Christmas**

**Allan**

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