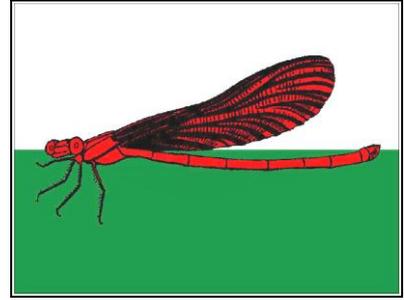


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**North Wales
Dragonfly
Newsletter
No. 81**

7th July 2015



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



Hi all,

Red-veined Darter on Bardsey

Robin Sandham photographed a male *Sympetrum fonscolombii* (Red-veined Darter) on Bardsey on the 18th June whilst twitching a Cretzschmar's Bunting. He thoughtfully passed the record on to Cofnod. This darter will be part of a June migratory wave and there may be others still around so please keep a look out.



Male *Sympetrum fonscolombii* on Bardsey, 18th June 2015. Photo Robin Sandham.

Distinguishing the common bluets – people who should know better

In my role of verifying the North Wales dragonfly records I often come across wrongly identified common bluet species of the genera *Coenagrion* and *Enallagma*. Fortunately I can check IDs against photos when they are submitted with the record and correct the mistakes but goodness knows what gets through when there are no photographs to help verification. Even media personalities, including Welsh ones, make mistakes and perhaps should not be forgiven. What would people say if a Robin was called a Blackbird – they're both thrushes after all! I have John Bundock to thank for this BBC Springwatch blog link:

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/blogs/natureuk/2012/06/knowning-your-damselflies---an.shtml>

Knowing your damselflies - an apology and a quick ID guide

Post categories: **Springwatch**



Paul Deane | 17:42 UK time, Tuesday, 5 June 2012

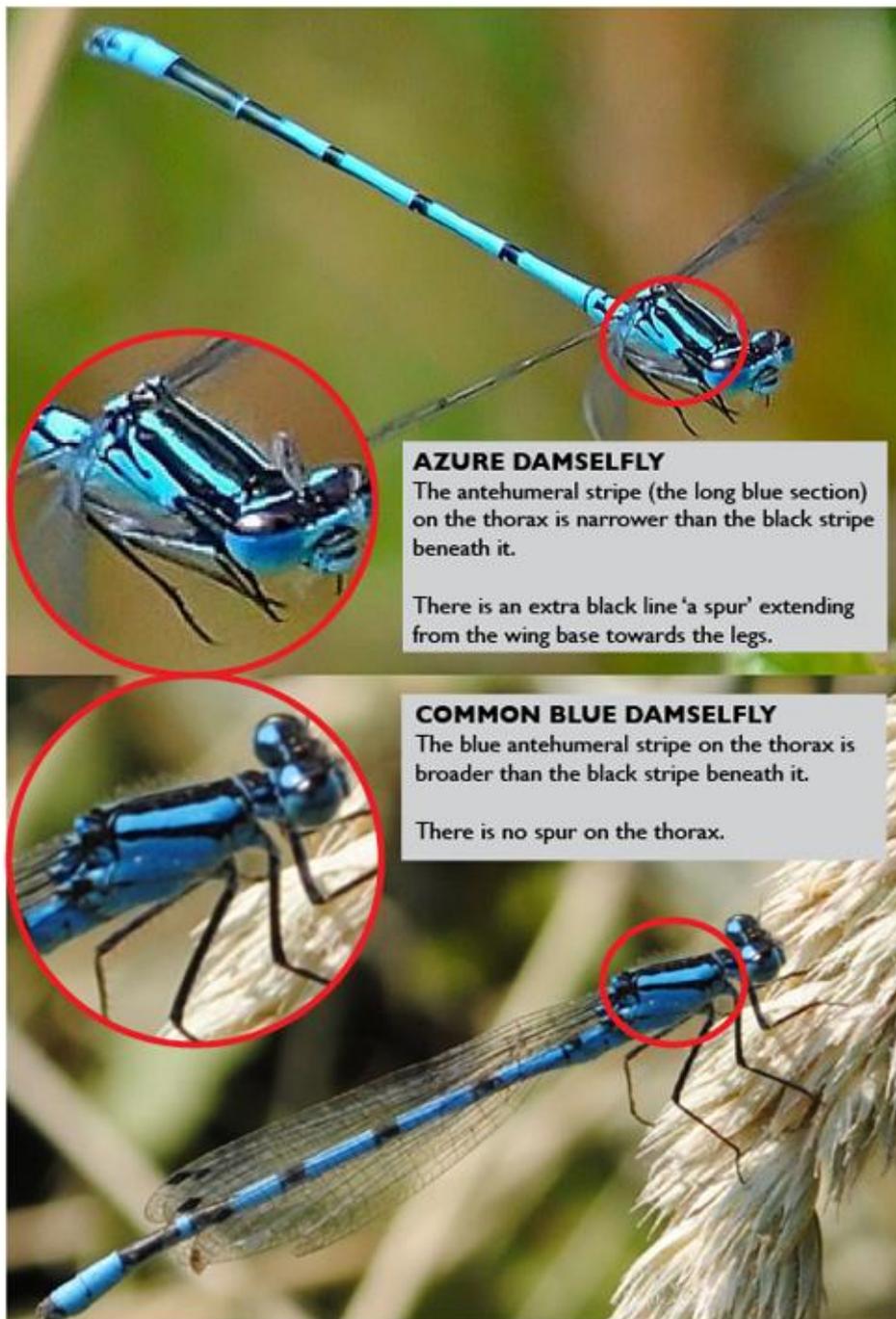
Q - How do you tell the difference between an azure and a common blue damselfly?

A - Well we didn't get it right...

In last night's programme we ran a **Jubilee-themed quiz** where we asked you to identify three species that were partly distorted under a Union Jack flag. The theme was 'Red, White and Blue' and we had thought we'd picked a redstart, a white-tailed fish eagle, and a common blue damselfly.

As was pointed out by SeanGraham25, Colin Law, pen-y-bont_mike, Elaine Rice, Dave Smallshire, Huddsbirder and others, we made a mistake!

The picture that we posted was actually an azure damselfly, not a common blue damselfly. So we've put together a quick ID guide so that next time you're out damselfly spotting, you hopefully won't make the same mistake as us!



Common and azure damselfly ID guide

A few photos from Anglesey

Sue Loose took her camera out to the eastern Anglesey NNRs and obtained some excellent shots, including some of our less common species.



Male *Coenagrion pulchellum*, Cors Erddreiniog, 20th June 2015. Photo Sue Loose.



Male *Ischnura pumilio*, Cors Bodeilio, 20 June 2015. Photo Sue Loose.



Male *Libellula depressa*, Cors Erddreiniog, 20 June 2015. Photo Sue Loose.

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