

## North Wales Dragonfly Newsletter No. 53. 8<sup>th</sup> June 2011.

Hi all,



### More Downy Emerald at Llyn Tecwyn Isaf

Mike Howe visited Llyn Tecwyn Isaf between 9.00 and 9.30 am on warm and sunny 3<sup>rd</sup> June and was rewarded with 7 to 8 very mobile *Cordulia aenea* (Downy Emerald), hawking around very fast amongst the emergent vegetation [at SH63023710].

Three days later, on an equally sunny 6<sup>th</sup> June, Dick Eastwood spent 5 hours completing 3 circuits during which he 'saw the lake transform'. By midday the 'shores of the lake were just humming with wings, most memorable being the skirmishes between hairy hawkers, downy emeralds, 4-spotted chasers and large red damselflies, many flying in tandem – each with its own distinct flight manner.' He 'guestimated' the number of Downy Emeralds at 30! Dick writes: 'The Downy Emerald pictured on my finger landed at my feet and then seemed quite happy to perch on my finger for ten minutes before jumping off!'



A very obliging male *Cordulia aenea*, Llyn Tecwyn isaf, 6 June 2011. Photo Dick Eastwood.



Male *Cordulia aenea*, Llyn Tecwyn isaf, 6 June 2011. Photo Dick Eastwood.

Dick also managed to find a female *Ceriagrion tenellum* (Small Red Damselfly) which is the first record for the year. Below is just one of some 15 *Orthetrum coerulescens* (Keeled Skimmers) he observed round the lake.



Immature male *Orthetrum coerulescens*, Llyn Tecwyn Isaf, 6 June 2011. Photo Dick Eastwood.

#### **Scarce Bluetail at Cors Bodgynydd**

The 6<sup>th</sup> June proved to be an excellent day to go dragon watching. Phil Corley showed that *Ischnura pumilio* (Scarce Bluetail) continues to do very well at Llyn Tyn-y-mynydd, Cors Bodgynydd as he found more than 30 individuals including about 12 of the female *aurantiaca* orange phase.



*Ischnura pumilio* female *aurantiaca* phase, Cors Bodgynydd, 6 June 2011. Photo Phil Corley.



Male *Ischnura pumilio*, Cors Bodgynydd, 6 June 2011. Photo Phil Corley.

He also found plenty of teneral to immature *Orthetrum coerulescens* (Keel Skimmer) and sent in these photos.



Male *Orthetrum coerulescens*, Cors Bodgynydd, 6 June 2011. Photo Phil Corley. This male is incipiently pruinosed - compare with Dick Eastwood's photo above showing the non-pruinosed earlier stage.



Female *Orthetrum coerulescens*, Cors Bodgynydd, 6 June 2011. Photo Phil Corley.

### **Dig a pond for dragonflies**

Anna Williams obviously practises what she preaches. Only a couple of months ago she dug a new pond in her Waunfawr garden and it is already full of life and her 14

year old son Peter is reaping the educational rewards. He has also been out practising his photographic skills on an early colonising male *Libellula depressa* (Broad-bodied Chaser) and an ovipositing pair of *Pyrrhosoma nymphula* (Large Red Damsel).



Ovipositing tandem pair of *Pyrrhosoma nymphula* on a Waunfawr garden pond, 5<sup>th</sup> June 2011. Photo Peter Williams.

If you haven't already done so, why don't you dig a wildlife pond in your garden? It not only increases local biodiversity and creates habitats for damselfies and dragons as well as other aquatic wildlife but educates children and adults in their ways.

### **Allan**

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