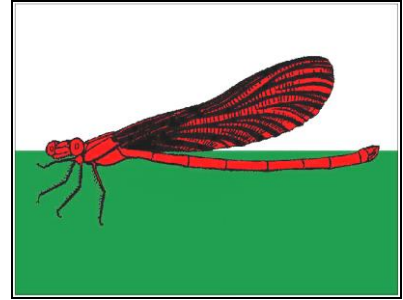


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**North Wales
Dragonfly
Newsletter
No. 103**

17th June 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

It is evident that the ranges of some species are continuing to undergo dramatic changes. Please keep a look out for the species mentioned below as they might be expected almost anywhere across North Wales given suitable habitat.

Yesterday, North Wales got its very first confirmed record of Lesser Emperor (*Anax parthenope*). The species has been present in southern Britain for a number of years and has bred in places. Yesterday, a male was seen flying at the Brickfields Pond [SJ012803] at Rhyl and photographed in flight by Jac French. He kindly sent me a copy. The species might be seen patrolling still water bodies between at least June and September.



Male *Anax parthenope* at Brickfields Pond, Rhyl
on 16th June 2025. Photo Jac French.

We got the first North Wales record of Small Redeye (*Erythromma viridulum*) last year at Parc Menai. Having been established in the adjoining counties of England for a few years, the species was expected to reach North Wales within a short time but the first sighting so far west at the Parc Menai pond took everyone by surprise. Please keep a look out for it anywhere in North Wales from July to September at ponds with copious floating

vegetation such as Hornwort or Water Milfoil.

Confirmed sightings at two different localities along the Ogwen Valley of Common Clubtail (*Gomphus vulgatissimus*) in July 2023 would seem to indicate this river species has been wandering far from its long-established haunts along the River Dee river system in recent years. It is my hunch that it reached the Ogwen system via the Conwy and Llugwy valleys. I have been out searching for it along the River Conwy in the Llanrwst area, above the tidal range, so far without success. The Llugwy, like the Ogwen would appear to be too fast-flowing for the species. If it has indeed reached the River Conwy then other large rivers between there and the Dee might be suitable places to search. It would be best to choose sections upstream of any tidal influence.

Lastly, in recent years two other species have appeared much father west and north than their traditional eastern English ranges. The riverine Scarce Chaser (*Libellula fulva*) and distinctive Green-eyed Hawker (or Norfolk Hawker - *Aeshna isoceles*) of standing water bodies are favorable contender species to keep a look out for.

Allan

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