

Delivering Living Landscapes – Citizen Science Survey



- Duration Survey:** August 2015
- Theme of Survey:** Garden wildlife survey
- Species Recorded:**
- Hedgehog
 - House martin nests
 - Red admiral

Promotion:

- A6 cards distributed in two Living Landscape areas
- A4 poster distributed in two Living Landscape areas
- NWT E-newsletter
- Press release
- Social media

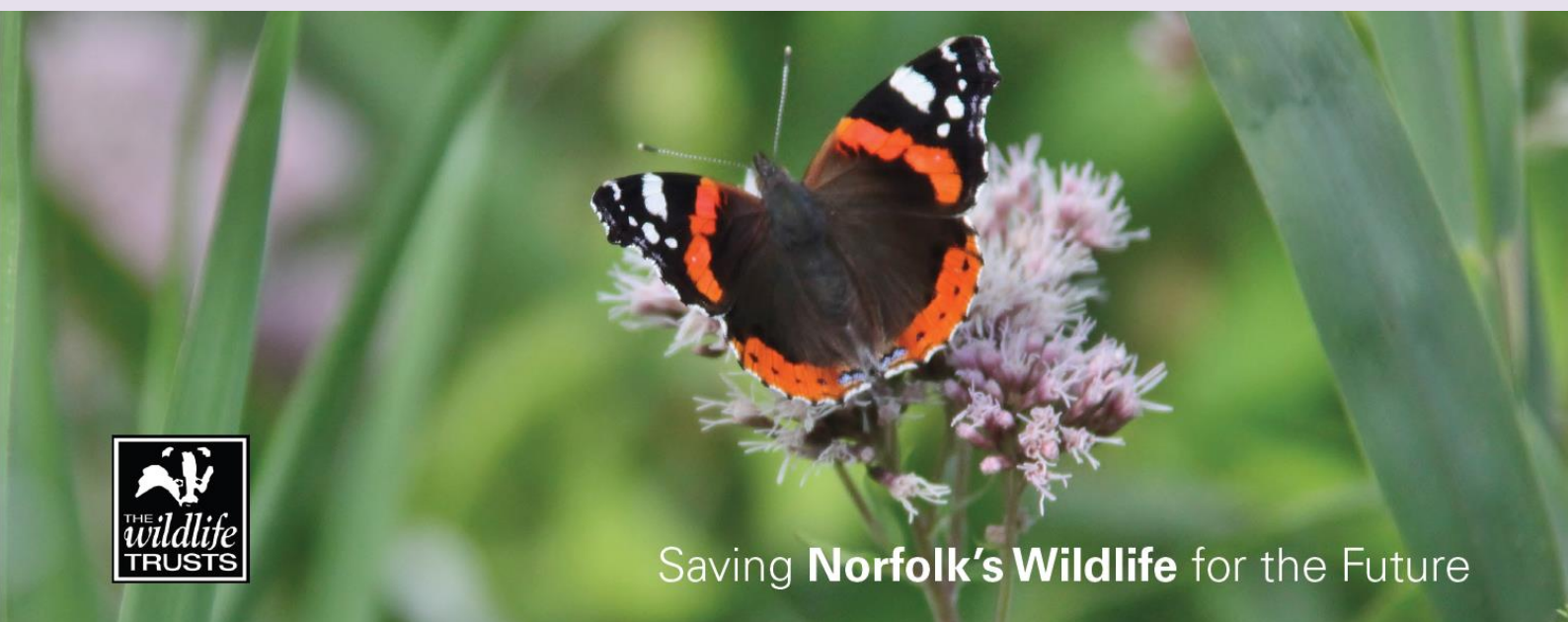


Survey overview

In August Norfolk Wildlife Trust asked people to get in touch about the wildlife visiting their garden, requesting sightings of hedgehogs, red admirals and house martin nests. Through sending in wildlife records people could actively engage in wildlife conservation as it is a way to help us monitor within in the county, helping us gain an understanding of an animal’s distribution. All records were submitted to Norfolk Biodiversity Information Service.

Survey Summary:

- 458 records uploaded
- 259 individuals submitted records
- 437 records submitted online
- 21 records via phone calls or emails



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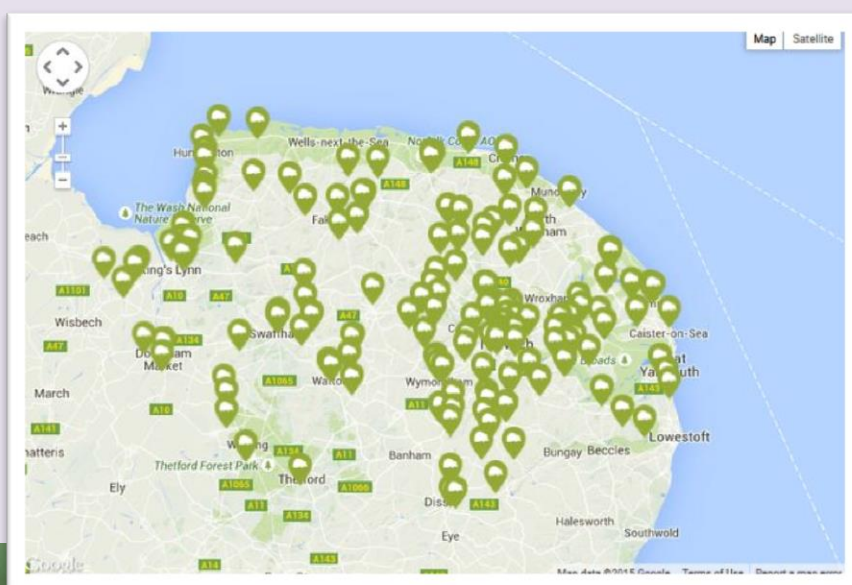


Further information:

Hedgehog

According to a project be running by the British Hedgehog Preservation Society and People's Trust for Endangered Species three recent surveys all indicate downward trends in hedgehog populations: "We appear to have lost around 30% of the population since 2002 and therefore it seems likely that there are now fewer than a million hedgehogs left in the UK." Hedgehogs now appear to be declining in the UK at around 5% a year, in both rural and urban habitats, that is the same rate as tigers are globally!

Our survey saw **205** records being submitted by **158** people to the online survey, recording **290** individual hedgehogs. With the highest record of **6** individuals being seen in two separate locations in **South Wootton** and **Northacre**.

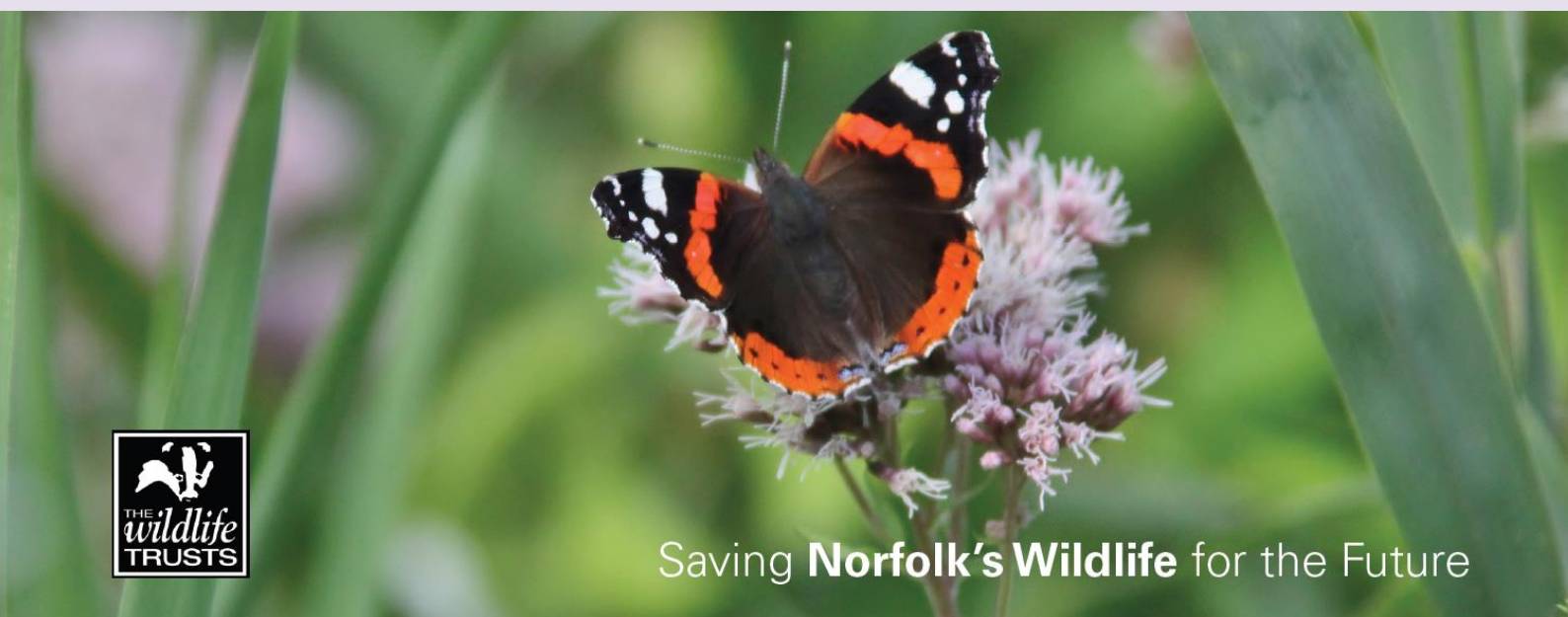
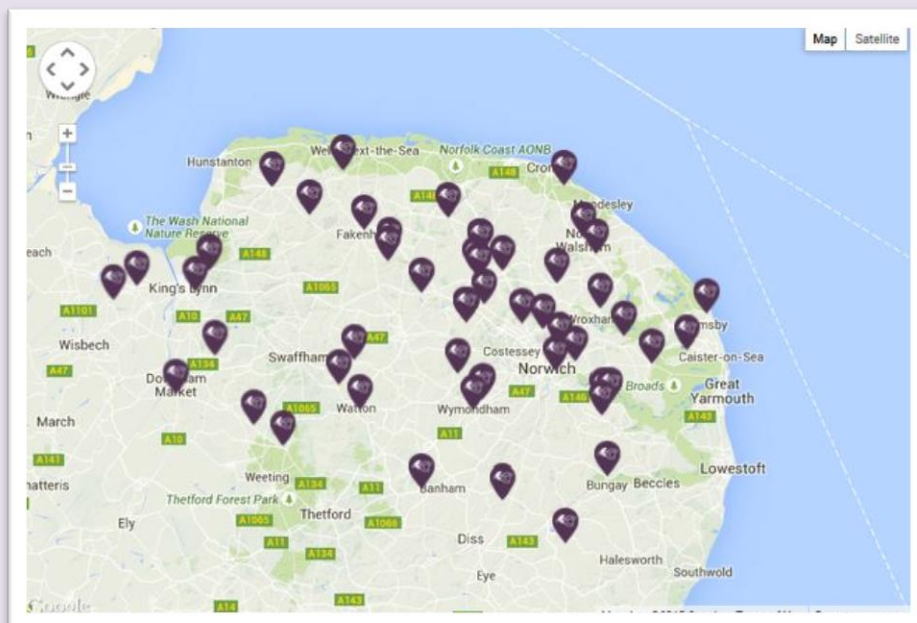


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House martin nests

For this sighting we asked people to look up high and see if they could find a house martin nest on the side of their house or on any buildings where they lived. House martins are rapidly declining, but it is not clear why. This survey once again links to a national survey being carried out to investigate house martin numbers. We wanted to make sure that Norfolk's house martins are not forgotten and are part of the national survey.

During this survey **55** records were submitted by **58** people to the online survey, recording **243** individual nests. The most house martin nests **30** seen in the **New Holkham** area.

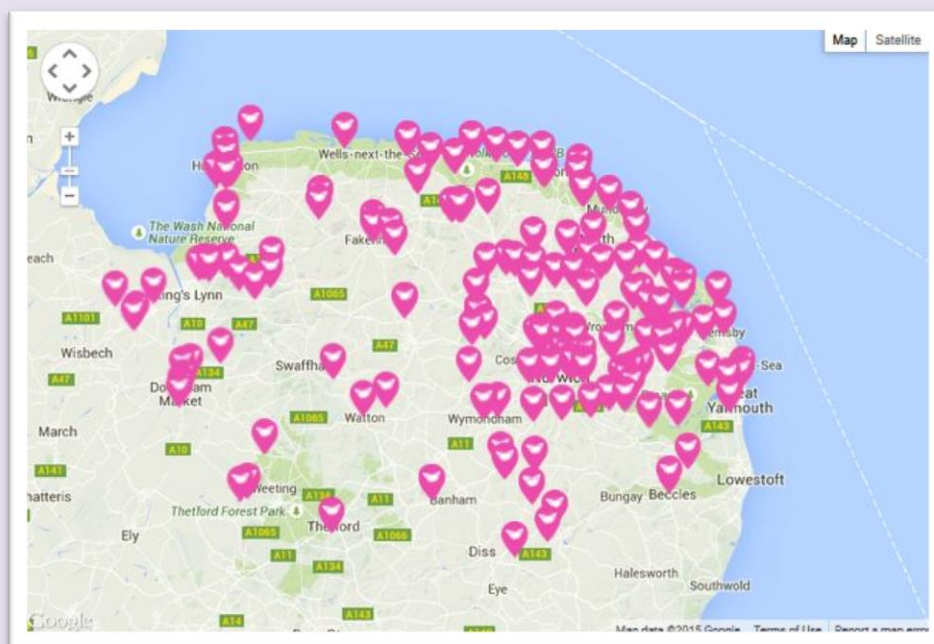


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Red admiral butterflies

Red admiral butterflies are frequent visitors to gardens, often seen feeding on buddleia, ivy blossom and bramble. With the velvety black wings and striking red bands this butterfly is a welcome and unmistakable visitor to gardens. Interestingly this butterfly is primarily a migrant to Norfolk with populations coming from central Europe. Butterflies are valuable indicators of the health of the environment, and hence records are always of interest.

During this survey **209** records were uploaded by **139** people to the online survey, recording **416** individual red admiral butterflies.



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In conclusion

We were delighted with the response to this survey, especially as the survey duration was only for one month. As can be seen from the maps the sightings for hedgehog and house martin nests were from across the county. The red admiral sightings were more concentrated to the east of the county, which is to a greater extent expected as this is a migratory species coming from Europe.

As well as the online recording of individual species we also received a number of anecdotal accounts and photographs, in particular of hedgehogs. It was fantastic to hear reports of regular visits of hedgehogs to gardens, year on year.

All the records were sent to Norfolk Biodiversity Information Service and added to Norfolk's biological record database.



Brenda Ward



Ros Marsden



Vicky Shurly



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