

Wharfedale Naturalists Society

April News 2019

From the President, Peter Riley

SUBSCRIPTION

It is that time of year again and my message remains the same – **PLEASE do renew your Subscription** to maintain our status as one of the UK's most thriving wholly voluntary natural history societies. The standard Form is attached (or make a Bank Transfer). To encourage renewal, **we are again holding the cost at £12-50** which, I'm sure you will agree, is a snip given the range and number of events that we offer. In light of this, **please consider a donation given that all our surplus money goes to support wildlife conservation** activities around Wharfedale. The message is clear – our wildlife is in deep trouble so we must play our part, however small, in trying to alleviate this regrettable trend.



OTLEY WETLAND NATURE RESERVE TREASURER

This Reserve, which WNS has supported since its inception, is in **urgent need of a Treasurer**. This is not an onerous or time-consuming role but, if you are okay with numbers please consider helping us out. **You would become a Trustee and have access to a thriving private Nature Reserve and there is no other obligation connected to this role.** Please do contact me (862916) if you think you can help – we are desperate!

SUMMER PROGRAMME

Spring has 'sprung' and let's hope that the weather is kind to our wildlife over the next few months. As always at this time of year **there is much to look forward to not least our Summer Programme** (attached) co-ordinated once again by Helen Steward and other volunteers. I think it would be a bit greedy to expect another summer like last year and, in any event, it might not be the best thing for our wildlife, such as butterflies, whose caterpillars might have struggled with the lack of moisture. We will just have to wait and see. **Many thanks to Helen and I hope Members will support the events as much as possible.**



The **SUMMER COACH TRIP** this year will be to the **RSPB's Reserve at Old Moor in South Yorkshire on 18th May**. This event has usually run at a loss in recent years and we cannot continue to sustain this so please sign up and **help us to fill the Coach**. Old Moor is a Reserve that just gets better every year so, as well as a warm welcome from the RSPB staff, a rewarding wildlife experience is assured. **The Booking Form is attached** so do please sign-up as soon as possible!



ADDINGHAM ENVIRONMENT GROUP, WILDLIFE FRIENDLY OTLEY AND CLIMATE ACTION ILKLEY

These local initiatives have the full support of our Society and I would like to take this opportunity to ask our members in these localities to give whatever support they feel able, to facilitate the organisers' efforts to improve their local environments and benefit wildlife.



Haycock & Jay Associates Ltd are glad to support WNS through the printing of this Newsletter

COMMITTEE

Welcome to our **new Committee member, Steve Parkes**

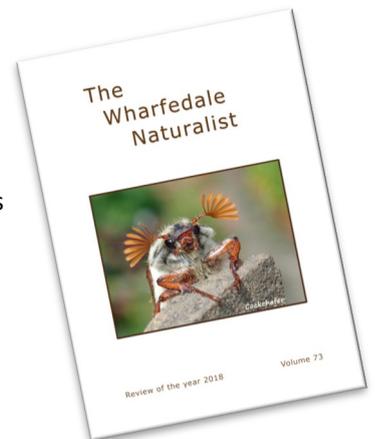
Recording



Please help our Recorders by **submitting your records through the year** rather than leaving them all to the end as this spreading of the workload makes their job significantly easier. **Recording Forms can be downloaded from the website.** We have a **new Vertebrates Recorder, Denis O'Connor**, who replaces Sylvia Jay. Many thanks to Sylvia for her stint in this role.

Our 2018 Annual Review

is on sale now at the **stable price of £5**. This publication goes from strength to strength thanks to our esteemed Editor, John Stidworthy, our Recorders and all the contributors. The Review is a comprehensive record of our 2018 wildlife observations and activities together with members' personal reflections on noteworthy experiences. **Use the attached Form to get your copy from Gordon Haycock – not to be missed!**



Nature Reserves and Conservation

Working Parties at all the five Reserves with which we are associated are of course continuing. **New volunteers are always welcome**. Details are given below:

Ben Rhydding	Gallows Hill	Grass Wood	Otley Wetland	Sun Lane
<p>Second Saturday of the month from 9-30am. Contact Steve Parkes on 01535 647220</p>	<p>First Tuesday of the month at 10-30am.. Contact Gordon Haycock on 01943 968112</p>	<p>No general Work Parties in Summer.</p>	<p>No Work Parties in April or May. Thereafter Sunday 16th June and third Saturday in July/August. (9.30am) Contact Peter Riley</p>	<p>First Sunday from August (10am). No Work Parties April to July. Contact Peter Riley</p>

N.B. If you know of any local Wharfedale wildlife conservation initiatives in need of financial support please tell them to get in touch with me!

Once again, many thanks for all your support!

Peter

