

Habitat Regulations Executive Committee

2020-21 Annual Business Plan Annual Report: Appendix B – e-newsletters

Shores, Heaths and Dunes

 SOUTH EAST DEVON
HABITAT REGULATIONS
PARTNERSHIP

Shores, Heaths and Dunes

Hello there! We are the [South East Devon Habitat Regulations Partnership](#) (SEDHRP for short).

East Devon, Exeter and Teignbridge Councils have come together to form SEDHRP to protect internationally important wildlife for future generations. My colleague, Will, and I patrol these areas and work with [our partners](#), the [Pebblebed Heaths Conservation Trust](#), [RSPB](#), [Devon Wildlife Trust](#), [Exe Estuary Management Partnership](#) and [Natural England](#).



You can find us on the [East Devon Pebblebed Heaths \(Woodbury Common\)](#), [Dawlish Warren](#) and the [Exe estuary](#). We are there all year round and in all weathers, talking to people about the wildlife around us and helping them to enjoy their visit whilst avoiding negative impacts.

Since lockdown has eased, we have been welcoming new visitors to our nature reserves as people are looking for different areas to explore. We have been helping people understand how they can help by keeping dogs on paths during the bird breeding season and by appreciating the risks of wildfire from BBQ's on nature reserves.

Wildlife to look out for this month

Here are some of the most commonly seen species to look out for this month


Please share your sightings with us or tag [@sedwildlife](#) on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) and [Twitter](#)



The Jersey Tiger moths' stronghold is in the south west. These striking day flying moths can be seen from July to September



Six spot burnet moth can be



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Hello again from the South East Devon Habitat Regulations Partnership (or SEDHRP for short)

To misquote a popular series: Autumn is coming! Despite the unseasonably warm weather recently, we are welcoming back our winter birds to the [Exe Estuary](#). We're also saying a fond goodbye to our summer visitors such as the [Nightjars](#) on the [Pebblebed Heaths](#). They are currently winging their way back on an epic mission to sub-Saharan Africa for the winter.

From Sun to Sea



Oystercatcher are present on the Exe Estuary all year round. However during autumn many more arrive from their breeding grounds both near and far. Our [Wildlife Refuges at Dawlish Warren](#) and [Exmouth Duckpond](#) are key spots to find them.



The changing seasons also mark a shift in the focus of our work. This is due to changes in the activity of both the birds and people in South East Devon.

During winter, thousands of birds return to winter on the Exe Estuary. Being creatures of habit they return each year to rest and refuel after their busy breeding seasons and three thousand-mile migrations. This can make them vulnerable to disturbance in the limited roost and feeding spots around the estuary. Our [Exmouth Duckpond](#) and [Dawlish Warren Wildlife Refuges](#) have been created in two critical feeding and roosting spots to help reserve a special place for these

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The birds are breeding!

After a wet stormy winter we are looking forward to a sunny spring and the start of bird breeding season (1st March - 31st July). As we head into spring and overwintering birds on the Exe Estuary migrate to their summer breeding grounds in the high Arctic, our priorities shift to vulnerable ground nesting birds on the heathland.

In this edition of Shores, Heaths and Dunes, we have an update from the Devon and Cornwall wader ringing group on their [Oystercatcher and Curlew](#) project. They have been using GPS tracking to study the movement of these species for the past 3 years. We also dive headfirst into all the wonders that spring brings.



Daffodils emerging from the undergrowth

Breeding season 01/03 - 31/07

Spring is one of our favourite times of year at SEDHRP - it's when the countryside springs back to life. When the ground starts to thaw, plants can be seen breaking through the soil. Insects and reptiles start to emerge and the birds become more active. Hibernation is over!

As the flowers start bursting into life, so does the bird song as male birds start to set up their territories and go about

What to spot this Spring!



Devon Loves Dogs Newsletter



Welcome to the spring edition

It's been a long, dark winter but spring is just around the corner and I'm sure you're all noticing the longer daylight hours and the increasing signs of spring. Being out in nature is officially good for us, and who better to spend it with than our dogs. With working practices changed many people have seized the exciting opportunity to become first time dog owners. As well as information on where to walk, we also have a business directory on our website with lots of local dog specialists including trainers, walkers, groomers and much more. Feel free to share this newsletter with your dog loving friends.



Photo of a Nightjar chick by Joshua Marshall

Ground nesting bird season 1st March - 31st July

Newsflash... Not all birds live in trees!

We tend to think of birds building nests high up in tree branches, safe from everything that goes on at ground level, but this isn't always the case. There are several species of birds that live in heathland areas such as Woodbury Common who nest and breed either right on the ground or very low down. So, when we're out walking with our dogs we could be surprisingly close to a nest of young Dartford Warblers or Nightjars. The Nightjar chick in the photo has a big mouth, so that when fully grown, it can catch moths and other large insects at night.

It's lambing season

With many more of us using public rights of way across farmland during lockdown it's really important to remember a few top tips to keep our dogs and livestock safe and happy. Read here to find out how.

Top tips for walking near sheep



Space for all



The Pebblebed Heaths (often known as Woodbury Common) is a fantastic place to walk your dog but it's also popular with other visitors. To help everyone share the space the Pebblebed Heaths Conservation Trust have three different codes to help people share the countryside. Check out the Dog, Bike and Horse codes for more information.

[See all the codes here](#)

New member Dottie

We're thrilled to introduce our newest team member. At just 15 weeks old Dottie is keeping Anne on her toes! We love sharing photos of your pups too, old or young, we love to see them! If you've joined as a member but not sent us a photo for our Members Gallery it's not too late, you can email us a photo woof@devonlovesdogs.co.uk

