



Derbyshire Mammal Group

News

Spring
2007
(Issue 9)

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The Derbyshire Mammal Group
is affiliated to
The Mammal Society



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The Derbyshire Mammal Atlas Project

In 2006 the Derbyshire Mammal Group, in partnership with the Sorby Mammal Group and the Derbyshire Biological Records Centre, launched the Mammal Atlas Project (more on page 6). The aim of the project is to undertake a large-scale, comprehensive survey of the status and distribution of Derbyshire's mammals, and to bring together the results into a new 'Mammal Atlas of Derbyshire'.

We are hoping to involve as many people as possible in the project so why not become a mammal detective and help with the survey? You can take part in a number of different ways, including:

- Letting us know about any mammals you see when you are out and about by filling in a Mammal Recording form.
- Sending us any records you have of mammals dating back to 1990.
- Taking part in events such as 'nut hunts' and owl pellet analysis sessions.

To find out more about the project and how you can get involved, please visit the Derbyshire Mammal Group website at:
<http://www.derbyshiremammalgroup.com>

or contact Anna Evans (e-mail benanna@adventures.fsworld.co.uk)

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Recorder's Report

Derek Whiteley

First of all, a big thank-you to all members who send in records. Keep 'em coming.

Since the last report records have been arriving thick and fast; and from a greater number of observers. We have regulars who send in annual lists in the New Year, or monthly lists, and we have new recorders who have sent in their 'back catalogues' in addition to new sightings. Special appeals for fox records have resulted in a minor gush of records, especially for suburban Derby, and the recording facility on our web site yields a steady trickle of records from new people.

Our database has now passed 12000 records, with an estimated 1000 or so pending input. Nearly all these records are from DMG members so give yourselves a pat on the back.

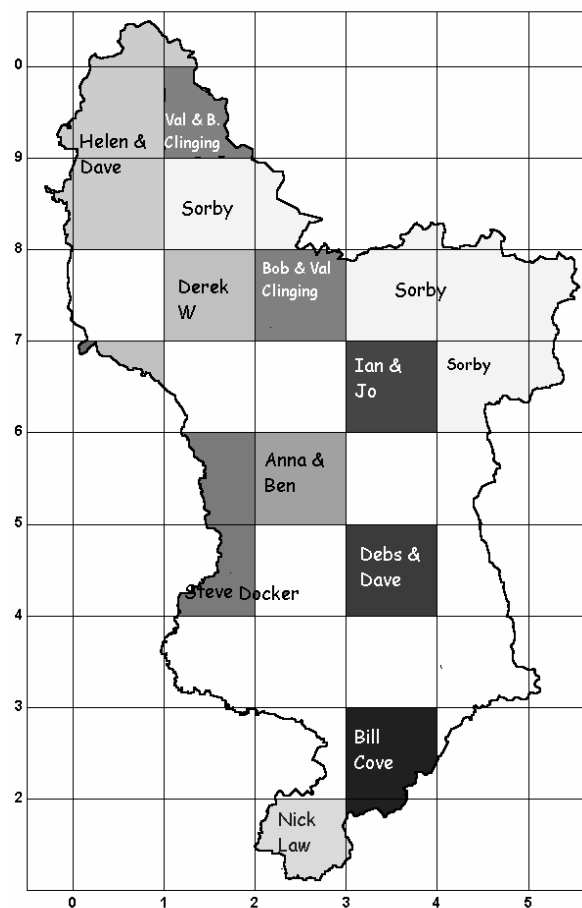
We have also been working with our partners on the Derbyshire Mammal Atlas project. Derbyshire Biological Records Centre has agreed to license us for the use of its records and we are now at the stage where we await the license agreement. Our other Atlas partner is Sorby Mammal Group. Val Clinging is currently entering the Sorby's Derbyshire records to an identical RECORDER database and we are due to exchange records in a few weeks time.

For the Atlas project we have a number of new "Square Stewards" and the latest map is included here. Let me know if any additions or changes are needed. Part of the fun in being a 'Square Steward' is visiting places that you have never walked before. Over the Christmas and Half Term breaks our family walks took us to some undiscovered gems to record common mammals. The Sorby Mammal Group's winter "Midweek Mammal Walks" have also taken us to new places in North-East Derbyshire.

Over the next few weeks I will be making a special effort to get Badger records on the database so that we can target unrecorded squares. With a range of unambiguous field signs such as tracks, latrines and setts Badger is one of the easier mammals to record. Sadly, there are all too many road casualties too, but please record them all. On the bats front, discussions with the Derbyshire Bat Conservation Group are promising, and the Sorby and Sheffield Bat Groups will make their records available for the Atlas.

Finally the Atlas Working Group has proposed that we post a set of working maps on our web site. So look out for those in the next few weeks.

Enjoy your mammal recording.



Current Derbyshire Mammal Atlas
Square Stewards

Finding Maurice

Just for fun, it has been suggested that Maurice the mountain hare - the mascot of the Derbyshire Mammal Group - be hidden somewhere within the pages of the newsletter.

So, while you eagerly devour every item in this issue, look out for Maurice - pictured here to remind you what you're looking for!



Mammal Course

Eighteen enthusiastic Derbyshire Wildlife Trust members attended the “An Introduction to British Mammals” run by Debbie Court on behalf of the Derbyshire Mammal Group. The course provided those new to mammal conservation the confidence to be able to identify and record mammals. The course first looked at features which make mammals different from birds, amphibians and other classifications of animals. Different British mammal species were then classified into appropriate families with similar characteristics. A wide variety of resources including mammal skins, stuffed mammals, books and pictures helped the participants pick the key identification features of 25 different mammal species.



Deer identification
Photo by Debbie Court

Nests, tracks, hairs and droppings were used to identify mammals from the clues they leave behind them. In the last session participants pulled owl pellets apart to find and identify remains of small mammals.



Owl pellets and contents
Courtesy of the Mammal Society

The participants were very keen to use their newly found skills and many have subsequently submitted records for the Derbyshire Mammal Atlas Project.

Work Party Wonders

Jo Bissell & Ian Wildbur

During the winter months, whilst things are quieter on the DMG front, we look forward to the work parties at Ogston Reservoir. Monthly work parties are arranged and attended by all the different users of the reservoir, fishing club, bird club, sailing club and all this is overseen by the watchful eyes of Severn Trent Rangers. It is not all work though and in this “work party” season we have had a couple of lovely surprises.

During the November work party, whilst clearing the North bank of lots of bramble and scrub (because the fishermen get their flies hooked in it!!) we found three harvest mice nests. This bank is on the opposite side of the reservoir to where we have previously found nests during the DWT harvest mouse survey day.



Harvest mouse nest
by Laura Berkeley

Foxes are also regularly seen in the fields on this bank and, when working on this side, tracks and signs of fox kills can usually be seen. At January's work party, held on the West Bank, the grass had been cut and the task was to rake it. At the edge of the cut area, where it met the bramble, what is thought to be a field vole's nest was discovered.

It is thanks to DMG members who have organised events and shared their knowledge that we can now pick out and to some extent recognise these signs, which would have previously been overlooked.

Ngorongoro: ‘The Eighth Wonder of the World’

Anna Evans & Ben Young

The Ngorongoro Conservation Area is undoubtedly one of Africa’s best known and most valuable wildlife refuges. Along with the Serengeti National Park it forms an immensely rich and extensive ecosystem in Tanzania’s northern Safari Circuit. Often described as “the eighth wonder of the world”, it occupies an area of 8288 km² in the volcanic highlands between the Great Rift Valley and the Serengeti Plains. It was formed as a result of the volcanic upheavals that accompanied the formation of the Rift Valley some twenty to thirty million years ago.

The undisputed highlight of the Conservation Area is the Ngorongoro crater. Originally a volcano higher than Mount Kilimanjaro, the crater is thought to have been formed some 2.5 million years ago when an enormous explosion emptied the magma chamber below the volcano. The vacuum left behind caused the mountain to collapse in under its own weight leaving an enormous crater. At 600m deep and 19 kilometres wide it is the world’s largest unbroken and unflooded caldera.

The crater provides a natural amphitheatre for the wildlife spectacle on its floor. Unbelievably, it is estimated that some 25-30,000 large mammals live within the crater. The majority of these are herbivores; however predators and giants are also present in good numbers.

Having read and heard so much about the crater we were hugely excited by having the chance to visit during our recent trip to Africa. After enjoying a close encounter with some olive baboons at the entrance gate our appetites were well and truly whetted and anticipation was high as we began to climb through the forest that coats the outside of the crater walls. On reaching the top we were greeted by an unbroken view of the crater below us and with binoculars firmly attached to eyes we descended to the crater floor.



Ngorongoro Crater
Photo by Anna & Ben

Almost immediately we were surrounded by the animals we had come to see: Thompson’s and Grant’s gazelle grazed by the side of the track, unfazed by our presence whilst buffalo cautiously eyed us up. A warthog family darted off into the distance, giving us only views of their rear ends whilst time and time again we had to stop to let animals cross the road – it gave a whole new meaning to the phrase zebra crossing!



Zebra
Photo by Anna & Ben

As we slowly snaked our way around the track a single hartebeest came into view, followed by vast herds of wildebeest. Next some movement was seen in the grass: a jackal, no doubt searching out something to eat.

Suddenly we were caught in a downpour and the roof of the 4-wheel drive was quickly re-attached. Fortunately it didn't last long and our spirits were not dampened as our thoughts increasingly turned to predators and giants. As this was the first day of our safari we were eager to see more and we didn't have to wait long. The first was also the rarest: a black rhino, numbers of which have reduced so dramatically in recent times that it is now threatened with extinction. The crater holds a population of 13 and we were lucky enough to get great views of this gigantic beast.



Black Rhino
Photo by Anna & Ben

Still buzzing from this encounter we drove on and soon came upon a small pride of lions. Despite looking slightly wet and bedraggled it was magnificent to see them taking it easy by the shores of the lake and obviously not feeling the need to tackle the very brave gazelles that were grazing a little too close for comfort.



Male Lion
by Laura Berkeley

Unfortunately it was soon time for us to leave and we headed for the exit road back up the incredible crater wall. As we left we finally got our first views of elephants in the form of a couple of fairly large bulls heading out from the trees and into the grassland that covers most of the crater floor. We would have loved to stay longer – 3 hours is nowhere near enough. You could easily spend a whole day there mammal spotting (never mind the huge numbers of birds both small and large that also inhabit the crater) and probably need to in order to really take in the immenseness of where you are.

Much is said about the crater resembling some sort of zoo. True, it can undoubtedly get very busy with safari-goers and for the purists it may provide too easy an opportunity to get close to the animals; however it also provides a safe haven for thousands of large mammals and other species. The ease with which you can see many of these charismatic species can also be a good thing. It acts as a magnet and the money it brings in through tourism not only benefits the local economy but also helps to protect the animals. The potential for education and awareness-raising is also high.

If a trip to the Ngorongoro crater encourages just a small proportion of the people who visit it to support wildlife conservation projects then maybe there can be some hope for the survival of Africa's fantastic wildlife.

Mammal Symposium

Dave Mallon

Over 70 people attended a one-day mammal symposium organised jointly by DMG and Sorby MG and held on 14 October 2006 in Calver Village Hall. The symposium had a strong local focus on mammals of Derbyshire and the Peak District and the 12 speakers were limited to 15-minute presentations, in order to ensure a packed and varied programme. The symposium began with Dr Derek Yalden, President of the Mammal Society, giving an account of the Peak District mountain hares which he has been studying for over 40 years. Mountain hares are probably the most distinctive feature of the local mammal fauna, and the population is currently thriving.

Helen Perkins, DWT's Water Vole Officer described the current status of upland water voles in the Peak District. The discovery of many small populations along moorland streams had been a fascinating feature of the Trust's water vole survey 1997-2000 and subsequent work by DWT. Unfortunately, the latest monitoring data suggested declines and disappearance of many of these small colonies, often correlated with expansion of mink range in the north of the county. Philip Precey, DWT's Water for Wildlife Officer, recounted the return of the otter to Derbyshire, an event that was not generally envisaged 20-30 years ago. After a steady spread, particularly in the Trent, Dove, and lower Derwent catchments, it was excellent to have news of confirmed breeding within the county. Steve Docker's account of the results of monitoring riparian mammals along the Henmore Brook, near Ashbourne, showed the value of regular monitoring and neatly linked to a later theme of recording. The last item on the wetland and riparian theme concerned water shrews; Dr Steve Furness must be the first person in the history of British mammalogy who could give a talk entitled 'Watching water shrews'. The stunning photos, taken at his garden ponds just down the road from our meeting venue, backed up by detailed observations were genuinely enlightening on the behaviour of this hard-to-observe species.

Steve Lonsdale recounted the return of the polecat to Derbyshire, following an absence of more than 90 years. The first recent record was in 1993, since when specimens have been recovered from most

parts of the county. A third species making a comeback in the county is the dormouse, though this time not through natural spread, but via reintroduction as part of the national Species Recovery Programme. The two colonies established so far have suffered contrasting fortunes, with one at a very low point, and the other currently flourishing. Dormice also featured in the presentation by Derek Crawley, Chair of Staffordshire Mammal Group, covering rare and elusive species in the county. This included intriguing photos of a pine marten taken in the wild and subsequent installation of nest boxes in an attempt to confirm and monitor presence of the species.



Launch of Derbyshire Mammal Atlas Project
Photo by Debbie Court

Derek Whiteley announced the official launch of the Derbyshire Mammal Atlas, described progress so far, and outlined future plans and needs. An impressive number of records have been collated to date with further intensive survey effort scheduled. Many of the records included in the database so far originated with Sorby NHS: Val Clinging, Sorby MG recorder, described their recording efforts beginning in the 1970s. Moving on to active conservation efforts, Rhodri Thomas, Manager of the Peak District National Park's Ecology Service, explained the new procedure adopted by the PDNPA to protect bat roosts in the National Park, and ensure they are considered during the planning process. Finally, Debbie Court, Derbyshire County Council's Biodiversity Project Officer, put everything into context, describing the place of mammals and their conservation in the context of the two local biodiversity action plans. This was a very successful and informative day and it is hoped to hold a similar symposium, soon, perhaps in 2008.

Henmore Otters

Steve Docker

The source of the Henmore Brook in Derbyshire is now the outfall pipe of Carsington reservoir. It then meanders some 10km (6 miles) or so through pasture farmland and the town of Ashbourne before eventually flowing into the River Dove just downstream of Church Mayfield.

Not good habitat for otters you might think but otters are known to visit certain locations along the brook. How can we be sure of this? By regular survey effort along the entire length of the Henmore and then piecing together a picture of otter movements from the data collected. In fact, the Henmore is home to at least three UK BAP (Biodiversity Action Plan) mammal species with brown hares and water voles as well as otters. This makes the Henmore Brook an important riparian (watercourse) habitat.

To my surprise, a website search located a report that mentioned the Henmore. It described the brook as having a "riffle and glide" topography, in other words a series of shallows interspersed with deep pools - a delightful description and good otter habitat!



Henmore Brook near Corley Bridge
Photo by Steve Docker

Most otters are nocturnal and very rarely seen. However, they mark their extensive home range with spraints (droppings), which are very distinctive. Systematic checking at set points along the brook for

the presence of otter spraints tells us that the otter is a regular visitor as far upstream as the town of Ashbourne, including the urban section. To the North East of the town, spraints are less frequently found which suggests that the otter is an occasional visitor here.



Otter in captivity
Photo by Steve Docker

The otter is a charismatic animal and an important "biological indicator" species, its presence suggests an intact food chain/web and a healthy riparian habitat. However, if the plethora of Ashbourne developments, already in progress and planned, in the vicinity of the Henmore brook do not make adequate provision for wildlife, the species could be under threat. Is it too much to ask that we leave space for our otters?

This article was first published in The Ashbourne News Telegraph, on 1st November 2006 (ed.).

Dates for the Diary:

Sat 16th June 2007 – Badger Day - A nationwide day of fund raising in support of the Badger Trust.

Sat 1st December 2007 – Mammal Symposium - at Chester Zoo, hosted by the Cheshire Mammal Group.

Molehills

Liz Lonsdale

Molehills are the outcome of the excavation of tunnels by moles using their strong forelimbs. The tunnels are dug up to a metre below ground, although this depends on the substrate and the height of the water table. It is in these tunnels that the moles collect their food items (primarily earthworms), as the worms work their way through the soil and drop into the tunnel. Moles patrol their tunnel systems to collect the prey, but also can detect the movement of prey in the tunnel using the vibrissae (hairs) around their face and forefeet, and very sensitive noses.

Very large mole hills or fortresses can be up to 60cm high and 2 to 3 metres across. They are built to house their nests (for both resting and breeding) in areas where the soil is thin or as a refuge when the ground is waterlogged. The fortress consists of a network of tunnels and chambers containing the nest and a store of prey items.

Molehills can be used quite satisfactorily to record the presence of moles. As they are familiar to all, this is one species where we can quite confidently encourage everyone to send in their records.

The photograph of a fortress was taken in Yorkshire.



Mole 'fortress' (on the right!)
Photo by Liz Lonsdale

The Mole

John Bland

Mole is a contraction of the name mouldiewarp which is related to the German maullwurf and means soil thrower. The meaning of mould as soil is largely lost now but does crop up in leaf mould and the mould board on a plough. In the Cumbrian dialect of my childhood a mole is a mowdie.

Thoughts of a Square Steward's "Assistant"

Liz Docker

Proving that it can be rewarding being a "Square Steward", we enjoyed a walk in Gratton Dale last November - an area we had never been to before.



Gratton Dale
Photo by Steve Docker

We had a delightful encounter with a pair of stonechats, and a kestrel worked its way along the valley ahead of us.

Oh, yes, there were a few mammal signs too - a dead wood mouse, molehills, badger snufflings and rabbit droppings (but unfortunately no mountain hare!).

Formby Revisited

Steve Lonsdale



Red Squirrel
Courtesy of Natural England

Some of you will remember the successful visit to Formby Point to see red squirrels, organised by Steve Docker in April 2005. Liz and I had a return visit in January this year, as part of a weekend in Maudsley, near Ormskirk.

We drove up on Thursday 18th January, amid the high winds which caused a number of fallen trees and closed roads. The Friday morning was less windy, but there was still a strong westerly coming off the sea. We spent the early part of the morning in the pinewoods to the north of Formby Point, where we had good sightings of a couple of squirrels, but not particularly close. We arrived at the National Trust reserve at around lunchtime. The reserve was closed to cars, and there were very few people about, and we soon realised that this was to our advantage. It was obvious that the squirrels had not been fed by anyone that morning, so they were particularly hungry, which meant that they were much more confiding.



Formby Red Squirrel
Photo by Steve Lonsdale

It did not take long for squirrels to come close, and we eventually had a number taking food from our hands (they appear particularly fond of shelled hazel nuts). The underlying message is to get there early, on a weekday, with some food.

The following day we visited Marshside, a new RSPB Reserve to the north, on the Ribble Estuary. The reserve is essentially a series of lagoons/wetlands on the landward side of the coast road, which at this point runs close to the shore.



Marshside RSPB reserve
Photo by Steve Lonsdale

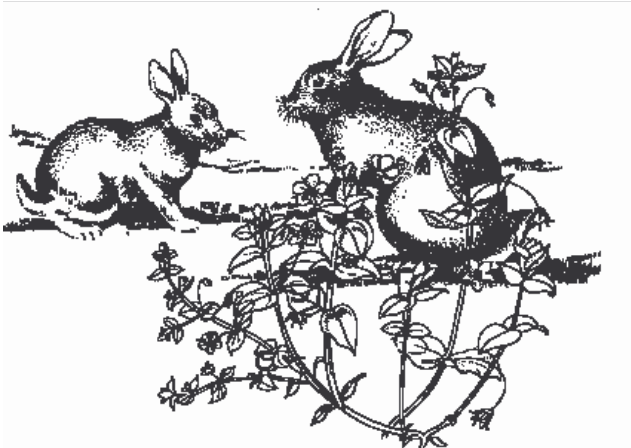
The best time to visit is just as the tide is coming in (particularly on a high tide when the wind is from the west) – the slope of the shore is very shallow, and the tide comes in quickly. At this time of year the sky is soon full of flocks of ducks, geese, and waders, and we were fortunate to get good views of kestrel and short-eared owl hunting among the flocks. There are two good hides, with excellent views across the lagoons. A high tide late in the day is best, as the sun is behind you as you look across the birds on the lagoons.

The rabbit, the lovable rogue that came to stay

Debbie Court

Like other mammals, rabbits make numerous appearances in children's literature and folklore. Who could forget Bugs Bunny, Beatrix Potter's Peter Rabbit, and the Easter Bunny? Saying 'rabbits' or 'white rabbits' on the first of the month is meant to bring good luck and so is stroking a rabbit's foot.

The rabbit is a medium sized mammal with body length up to 400mm long. The colour of a rabbit's coat varies, but it is usually grey with reddish streaks on the back, and tends to be paler underneath. Their hair is very thick and soft. Rabbits are keen to keep themselves dry as wet fur loses its warmth. They have big ears which are up to 70mm long but do not have black tips as the brown hare's do. They have a distinctive white fluffy tail and large black eyes. Between January and August rabbits can give birth every 5-6 weeks and can have up to 4-8 young per litter. The young rabbits are born blind, deaf and almost hairless; they can open their eyes after 10 days. Then they start to venture from the nest after about 25 days. After 4 months they are old enough to breed themselves!



Rabbits Courtesy of
Natural England

Rabbits have a large number of predators including foxes, cats, stoats, polecats, badgers, buzzards and weasels. In some areas farmers have to control rabbits to prevent severe damage to crops. Rabbits rely on their long ears to warn them of danger and rarely venture further than 200 metres from the safety of their burrows.

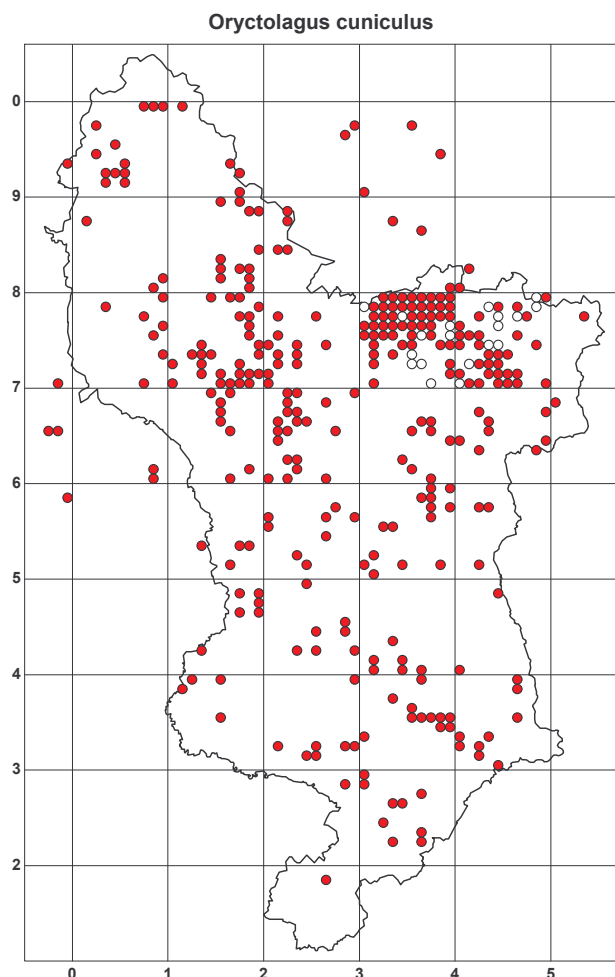
It is generally recognised that the rabbit (*Oryctolagus cuniculus*) was introduced to Britain by the Normans about 900 years ago. Then it was regarded as a luxury to have rabbits as they reproduced quickly and were a good source of fur and meat. Before the days of fridges and freezers they were considered a convenient size for a meal without too much wastage. They were kept in special walled enclosures called warrens, a term which today means a rabbit colony and its burrows. A 'Warrener' looked after the warren, fed the rabbits and protected them from predators. Eventually escapes were inevitable and rabbits became established on sandy soils and places where it was easy for the rabbits to dig and poor enough that no one wanted to grow crops on it. In the 1700s the Enclosure Acts provided ideal habitat for rabbits. The newly planted hedgerows provided opportunities for rabbits to create warrens adjacent to crops.

It was not until the eighteenth century that the rabbit was recognised as an agricultural pest. By the early 1950's the rabbit population in Britain was close to 100 million. Then about 40 million were killed every year for their fur and meat but the cost to agricultural crops was estimated to be £1 million a year. The South American *Myxoma* virus is carried by rabbit fleas and mosquitoes and specifically affects the *Oryctolagus* genus of rabbits. It was introduced to Australia in the 1950s in an attempt to control their rabbit populations. Swiss scientists studying the disease liberated some infected rabbits in Paris in 1952. It was first discovered in Britain in Kent in October 1953. The spread of myxomatosis across Britain was very rapid and wiped out almost 99% of the rabbit population. Today the virus is still present in the population but has become weaker and only affects 60% of the animals it infects. The decline of the rabbit had a major effect on grasslands which began to scrub up having had centuries of plentiful rabbit grazing.

Rabbits are very common and widely distributed across Britain and Ireland, but are absent from the Isle of Rum and the Scilly Isles. Middleton (1969¹) shows rabbits to be one of the most common mammals recording them from 120 1km grid squares. Clinging and Whiteley (1985)¹ record rabbits as common in the lowlands and the White Peak but are rarely found above 1600ft on the high gritstone moorlands. You might like to look up

the distribution map for the Sorby area 1970-1997 and 1980-2000 on the Sorby Natural History Website at www.sorby.org.uk.

Rabbit records from the DMG database are shown below: -



If you have any rabbit records for Derbyshire we would like them to add to the database for the Mammal Atlas.

Did you know?...

- A mother rabbit makes a special nursery nest out of grass and moss, and lines it with hairs plucked from her own chest. Normally her fur is firmly anchored but during breeding, it becomes loose and easy to pluck.
- Rabbits thump their back legs to warn other rabbits of danger.

- Rabbits are associated with bad luck on the Island of Portland in Dorset. The former penal colony got prisoners to extract stone from local quarries which were riddled with rabbit warrens. When an inexperienced prisoner picked the wrong stone it was likely to fall out and kill or injure someone. The cry of 'Rabbits' became the warning shouted to fellow workers to warn them of imminent danger. Even today it is frowned upon to say the word rabbit on the island and locals refer instead to "underground mutton" or just "furry things". Rumour has it that posters for the recent Wallace and Gromit film 'The curse of the Were-Rabbit' were banned on the island!

Further reading:

- Leach, M. (1989) *The Rabbit*. Shire, Aylesbury.
- McBride, A. (1988) *Rabbits and Hares*. Whittet Books, London.
- Thompson, H.V. & King, C.M. (1994) *The European Rabbit*. Oxford Science publications.

¹ Middleton, J. F. (1969) *Mammals of the Derby area*. Derby Junior Naturalists.

¹ Clinging, V. & Whiteley, D. (1985) *Mammals IN The Natural History of the Sheffield Area*. Sorby Natural History Society, Sheffield.

Rabbits and Hares

John Bland

Most references consider rabbit to be a diminutive form of the name Robert, in the same way as Robin, and to be applied like Robin to things that are pleasant and gentle. This would work well if at the time the name was being developed there was some famous chap called Robert who was pleasant and gentle. As it happens William the conqueror's eldest son was Robert, Duke of Normandy and reports of him may have been better than the facts of his family in England.

For the name of the rabbit's cousin the hare we have to delve back into Old High German and a word hasan which meant grey and was related to haze.

Badger Trust Annual Conference 2007

Irene Brierton

The 2007 Annual Conference of the Badger Trust takes place from **27th-29th July** at the Hayes Conference Centre at Swanwick near Alfreton in Derbyshire.

Each year's conference takes place in a different part of the country, hosted by that area's badger group. Last year's conference took place in South Wales, the previous year it was held in Somerset. This year the Mid Derbyshire Badger Group will be the hosts. We are presently busy arranging an interesting and informative programme of speakers.

DMG members may well be interested in coming along to hear speakers on a variety of topics surrounding these popular mustelids. The programme, still in draft form, constitutes 7 papers on Saturday and a further 4 on Sunday morning. It will contain a presentation from a leading badger consultancy, on badger exclusion methods and protocols. The RSPCA on details of their radio-tracking project with rehabilitated badger cubs in the west-country. An Investigative Support Officer from the new National Wildlife Crime Unit and a presentation on the rehabilitation of casualty badgers by Pauline Kidner of Secret World in Somerset. Lord Hattersley, who has written several articles in the National press in support of the badger and highlighting the scientific findings following the end of the Government's 'Randomised Badger Culling Trial', has agreed to give the closing presentation to conference on Sunday 29th July.

Dr Derek Yalden has kindly agreed to give his presentation on the status of the Mountain Hare population in the Peak District, as an interesting diversion from the primary focus of the conference. A subject delegates will undoubtedly find fascinating, 'our own local speciality'.

Details of how to obtain additional information are shown on the form included with this newsletter. The Mid Derbyshire Badger Group can be contacted on 07702 977282. If you are an enthusiastic young person between the ages of 18-30 with an interest in badgers and would be interested in attending the conference to further your knowledge there is a special scheme administered by the Badger Trust. **The Ed Goode Memorial Fund is set up to provide a free conference place to help a young person with a particular interest in badgers.** Application forms can be requested by sending an email to derbyshireconference@tiscali.co.uk

**A colour copy of this newsletter may be
downloaded from our website
www.derbyshiremammalgroup.com**

Useful Contacts

Mammal Society: Tel: 02073 502200
(MS) www.abdn.ac.uk/mammal

Mammals Trust UK: Tel: 02074 985262
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South Derbyshire: Tel: 07754 094177
Stephen Grimley info@southderbyshirebadgergroup.co.uk

Derbyshire Bat Conservation Group: c/o DWT

Sorby Mammal Group: mammals@sorby.org.uk

**Derbyshire Biological
Records Centre (DBRC):** Tel: 01332 716655
Nick Moyes nick.moyes@derby.gov.uk
www.dbrc.freeserve.co.uk

Derbyshire Wildlife Trust: Tel: 01773 881188
(DWT) enquires@derbyshirewt.co.uk
www.derbyshirewildlifetrust.org.uk

Water for Wildlife Officer & Tel: 01773 881188
Otter Project: Philip Precey pprecey@derbyshirewt.co.uk

Water Vole Recovery Project: Tel: 01457 864825
Helen Perkins hmparkins@yahoo.co.uk

Lowland Derbyshire LBAP: Tel: 01629 585611
Biodiversity Project Officer debbie.court@derbyshire.gov.uk
Debbie Court www.derbyshirebiodiversity.org.uk

Many thanks to all those who contributed to this issue of Derbyshire Mammal Group News.

Also, a special thanks to Liz Docker who helped with the layout and design, to Laura Berkeley, Debbie Court, Anna Evans, Steve & Liz Lonsdale, Ben Young, the Mammal Society and Natural England for their excellent photographs and illustrations and to AES Ltd for the use of their reprographic facilities.

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