

Logo
coming
soon!

www.hampshiredormousegroup.co.uk

HAMPSHIRE DORMOUSE GROUP

NEWSLETTER NO 1: AUGUST 2015

Welcome to the first edition the Hampshire Dormouse Group newsletter; which will be produced quarterly following committee meetings in order to keep all members up to date with news and events within the group.

Site news

We are continuing to monitor dormouse sites throughout the County with several new sites in the process of being set up. Other new sites are proving hard to progress, with some opposition from landowners. Please could those members monitoring sites send site updates to Alex Clayton at alexandreclayton@outlook.com so that we can keep track of what's happening across the County. It would also be useful to receive any outstanding data

If any members out there know of any potential new sites, please do let us know

from 2014, which we can then compare with 2015 at the end of the season, so please also send your data through.

We are also currently collating site specific data about each of our NDMP sites in Hampshire including a description of the site and dormouse population, site location and access details, as well as who to contact regarding box checks. These pages will be made accessible to members only within the members area of the website.

Risk assessments

The Hampshire Dormouse Group has Public Liability and Personal Accident insurance through The Conservation Volunteers, which enables the group to get a discount on tools for conservation work and covers our members in the event of an accident or injury. In order for a claim need to be made, it is a requirement that a risk assessment has been produced prior to undertaking any fieldwork. Therefore this is a reminder to all site monitors that a **written risk assessment must be produced before going out on site**. A template and example risk assessments will be sent out shortly that members can use.

TRAINING

Check our website training area to watch a new series of dormouse training videos put together by Peoples Trust for Endangered Species (PTES). One training video is going to be shared on the blog each month. The first in the series shows how to set up a nest box:

<http://youtu.be/niqJFYe3kTk>



COURSES

People's Trust for Endangered Species are running two 3-day courses on the Isle of Wight on 7th – 9th September and 6th – 8th October. The cost is £450 per person:

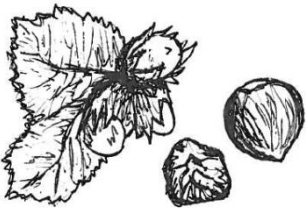
<http://ptes.org/events/category/training-courses/>

Upcoming events

Zionshill Copse Community Woodfair, Chandlers Ford, Saturday **5th September** – 10 am till 5pm

We are looking for helpers to help manage a stand and maybe make a pompom dormouse to two at this event. If you are even able to spare a short time please contact Charlotte Warwick at CWarwick@testvalley.gov.uk

We also have three special visitors arriving in August - Livia Haag, the sole dormouse representative from Switzerland, Birgit Rotter, the sole dormouse representative from Austria and Nora Wuttke from Germany. On **Tuesday August 18th** there will be a social evening for members of HDG at The Dove Inn in Micheldever to meet Livia, Brigit and Nora and to find out the current state of dormice and their conservation in their respective countries. Please email lan.white@ptes.org if you are able to join us.



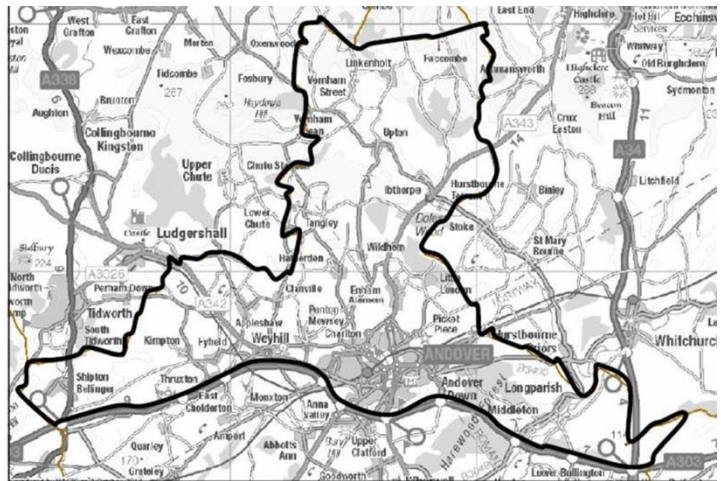
Nut hunts

If you're out and about you may have seen that hazelnuts are starting to fall. In the next few weeks, how about taking a bit of time to do a search for dormouse chewed nuts? It would be great to have some new records and expand our knowledge of dormouse distribution across the County.

Test Valley Dormouse Project

HDG are working in partnership with Test Valley Borough Council, Woodland Trust and Peoples Trust for Endangered Species on a project which will further our knowledge of dormice in the northern Test Valley area. The project will work alongside local land owners to assess habitat and carry out nut hunts to determine dormouse presence and suitability. The aim is then to work with land owners to adopt dormouse friendly management techniques and to improve linkages through hedgerow planting and restoration. Further details can be found at:

<http://hampshiredormousegroup.co.uk/test-valley-dormouse-project/>



HDG will be carrying out nut hunts in Test Valley throughout September and we need your help. If you would like to be involved or even just help to improve your ID skills please do let us know

Contact us

Email: hampshiredormice@hotmail.com Twitter: [@HantsDormice](https://twitter.com/HantsDormice)

Facebook: [hampshiredormousegroup](https://www.facebook.com/hampshiredormousegroup)

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