

Derbyshire Amphibian & Reptile Newsletter

Issue No 26. February 2018 This newsletter is produced for members of the Derbyshire Amphibian and Reptile Group and other interested persons on an occasional basis and includes news items, advice and information and results from toad crossing patrols. If you have any items that you wish to be included in future editions please e-mail them to the Secretary (address below)

DARG EVENTS FOR 2018

SPRING MEETING
Saturday 3rd March 2017
2.00pm to 4.30pm.

**Recent research projects on adders,
grass snakes and reptile survey**
Presentation by Kevin Palmer of
Reaseheath College



**This will be followed by the Derbyshire
ARG AGM.**

Location: Derbyshire Wildlife Trust's HQ
Sandy Hill, Main Street, Middleton, by
Wirksworth, DE4 4LRT.
Plenty of parking available at the offices

Kevin is a Senior Lecturer and Programme
Leader for the BSc (Hons) Wildlife Conser-
vation & Ecology at the college. He will talk
on the results of some of the recent re-
search such as:

- The effect of refugia material and subsequent thermal properties on grass snake occupancy
- The importance of microhabitat structure on adder basking site selection
- Predatory responses to rubber and plasticine model grass snakes

DERBYSHIRE AMPHIBIAN & REPTILE GROUP

We are an affiliated member of



Amphibian and Reptile Groups of the UK

Volunteers working for the conservation
of amphibians and reptiles

www.arguk.org

Registered charity
(number 1165504)

Derbyshire ARG

Chair - Christian Murray-Leslie

Vice Chair - Kelvin Lawrence

Secretary - Chris Monk

Treasurer - Jayne Thompson

Committee Members -

Beverley Bowman, Richard Fenn Griffin
Lisa Lawrence, Matt Liston, Iaian Stafford
and Trevor Taylor

Contact details

Group e-mail

derbyshirearg@gmail.com

Group website (temporary)

<http://groups.arguk.org/DARG/>

Follow us on Twitter



<https://twitter.com/DerbysARG>

Or on our Facebook page



facebook.com/DerbyshireARG/

DERBYSHIRE ARG COURSES

Reptile Survey Training Course

28th April 2018

Holloway near Cromford

Learn about surveying our widespread native reptile species - grass snake, adder, slow-worm and common lizard at this DARG event. Indoor session in the morning followed by visit to nearby reptile survey site that supports grass snake and slow-worm in the afternoon.



The course is based at the Florence Nightingale Memorial Hall, Holloway, Derbyshire DE4 5BD situated between Cromford and Crich. It will run from 10am to 4pm, tea/coffee & biscuits provided, bring your own lunch.

Costs (to cover venue hire) are DARG and Derbyshire Wildlife Trust members £5.00, non-members £10.00

To book a place contact us by email on derbyshirearg@gmail.com



Derbyshire ARG pond conservation task
Undertaken in January 2018 Photo- Zoe

GROUP ACTIVITIES in early spring usually March & April

Both the following depend on weather conditions, as to when they happen and their duration.

Adder emergence surveys in the Peak District National Park.

Please contact us if you would like to join our band of volunteers, carrying out annual surveys of known sites and investigating reported sightings.

Toads on Roads.

Help at one of the approximately 20 crossing sites across Derbyshire. Contact us to be put in touch with the local co-ordinators at the crossings which range from New Mills in the north to Overseal in the south.



Other planned spring & summer surveys

Join in our field survey visits for great crested newts are planned for April and May at locations in the White Peak and possibly other locations across Derbyshire.

These will be mainly evening torchlight newt surveys and possibly bottle trapping at some sites.

Reptile surveys will also be undertaken at our monitoring site at Hassop in the Peak District and at hopefully at another planned site in the south of Derbyshire near Ticknall.

Dates for these will be announced later and placed on our website and social media. Alternatively contact us by email on derbyshirearg@gmail.com

Derbyshire Toads on Roads crossing results for 2017

Site Name	Toads Res-cued	Toads dead on road	No of nights covered	Dates covered	Other amphibians	Other comments
CHAPEL-EN-LE FRITH Bowden	969	60				
BRETBY Repton Shrubs	1039	22	23	10.3.17 to 1.4.17	11 newts and 4 frogs	
BUXWORTH BASIN	381	62	29	21.2.17 to 31.3.17	8 frogs & 1 palmate newt rescued	
CHURCH WILNE Wilne Road	128	7	7	27.3.17 to 2.4.17	2 frogs	
CRICH, Dimple Road					Toad warning highway signs only	
FLASH DAM					Toad warning highway signs only	
FOREMARK	902	108	23	27.3.17 to 2.4.17	3 frogs, 1 newt	
FURNESS VALE	466	3	11	19.3.17 to 3.4.17		
GRANGEMILL	763	110	19	10.3.17 to 5.4.17	41 smooth newts & 2 frogs rescued, 8 SN DoR	Drains silted up so none trapped in gully pots
HILTON	460	104	18	21.2.17 to 31.3.17	1 frog rescued, 1 frog dead, 4 GCN & 4 smooth newts rescued	
LITTLE HAYFIELD						Toad warning highway signs only
MONYASH, Fere Mere	3378	185	25	10.3.17 to 5.4.17	21 frogs, 30 smooth newts & 17 GCN rescued, 1 GCN DoR	
OVERSEAL Shorth Heath	164	16	14	21.2.17 to 30.3.17	1 frog	
RADBOURNE	440	131	28	21.2.17 to 1.4.17	2 frogs	
SOUTH WING-FIELD Taylor's Mill					Rescued some toads and frogs	Toad warning highway signs only
STUBBING COURT	541	51	15	11.3.17 to 3.4.17	4 great crested newts rescued, 2 GCN dead	
WINGER-WORTH	916	62	20	9.3.17 to 4.4.17	10 frogs & 7 smooth newts saved, 1 F & 1 SN dead	
TOTALS for 2017	10547	921	Additional toad crossings were patrolled at Combs Reservoir, Holymoorside, Ridgeway, Watford Lodge and Whaley Bridge during the season but unfortunately figures are not to hand.			
<i>2016 Totals</i>	<i>8348</i>	<i>702</i>				