

National Moth Night

Saturday 11th June 2016

Sunset 11th June 2016 is at 21:17 hrs. (9:17 pm)

Trap switch-on estimated at around 8:15pm – 8:30pm.
Switch-off time to be decided on the night.

Safety Advice

The following information is issued on behalf of the **North Walsham & Dilham Canal Trust** to assist anyone who intends to visit the National Moth Night event on Saturday 11th June 2016.

Please note: This event is very weather-dependent and is therefore subject to last-minute cancellation.

Venue: The planned trap site is at **Pigney's Wood** by kind permission of **North Norfolk Community Woodland Trust**, and will be close to the canal. This location may change according to weather and other site conditions on the night.

The trap site will be marked off with red and white tape. Please remain within the taped-off area. This is to ensure that visitors are kept away from water-filled ditches and dykes, some of which may be hidden by vegetation.

Car Parking: Pigney's Wood Car Park, Hall Lane, Knapton, Grid Reference TG297322, will be available on the night. However, there is only very limited space for cars. Please consider car-sharing if at all possible.

IMPORTANT: DO NOT PARK ON HALL LANE. It is very narrow with blind bends.

Do not leave valuables in your car.

Sorry, there is NO access to the trap site for wheelchair users due to the nature of the ground.

Facilities: Please note there are **no toilets** or other facilities on site.

Dogs: No dogs are permitted at this event. Sorry!

Footwear: The trap site ground surface is uneven in places, and even in June, there is a possibility of the grass and ground becoming quite damp after dark. It is therefore suggested that sensible footwear; stout shoes or boots, are worn.

Clothing: Even though the event is in mid-June, the British weather can never be relied on to stay warm and dry all night. It is suggested that at least a light jacket or similar long-sleeved garment is worn. In addition, bearing in mind the varying types of habitat in the vicinity of the trap site, there is a strong probability that there will be many biting insects around, some of whom will also be attracted to the trap light – and therefore also to you!

Insect Repellent: This may seem a strange requirement, bearing in mind we are there to catch and study insects, but I strongly suggest you use a good quality insect repellent. Bites are almost inevitable anyway, but you may as well reduce the number if you can.

Trip Hazards: Apart from the previously mentioned uneven ground, vegetation and tree roots can all cause problems for people walking about woodland in the dark. Please take great care. Use your torch.

Visibility: The only light at the trap site will be a very bright Mercury Vapour lamp, which forms the light source for the trap itself. The paths to and from the car park and other pedestrian access points will be in darkness. Visitors will therefore need to bring a torch with them. Please note: No naked flames allowed in Pigney's Wood.

Event Specific Hazards: The trap light source is a 125 watt Mercury Vapour Bulb. This runs extremely hot and *very* bright. Please avoid getting too close to the bulb as contact with it can cause serious burns. There is also a slight risk of the bulb exploding, although I have never experienced this in many years of using them. *You approach the trap closely at your own risk!* I will be on hand to remove moths into suitable containers for viewing, so there will be no need for anyone to lean over the trap.

Do not look directly at the Mercury Vapour Bulb; the light is of a specific wavelength and contains a high degree of Ultra-violet light. This can result in permanent damage to the eyes. It is strongly advised that you shield your eyes with your hand when anywhere near the trap.

The lamp is powered by a petrol-fuelled generator. The fuel is therefore a fire hazard.

The generator exhaust becomes very hot in operation.

The generator is connected to the trap lamp via various cables and electrical connectors. Please be aware of these when walking around as they could cause you to trip.

We hope you have an enjoyable night.

Perry Hampson
Wildlife Officer
North Walsham & Dilham Canal Trust.