



# Wyre Forest Study Group

## Glow-worms at Pound Green Common

SUE HALL & ROSEMARY WINNALL

Sue Hall and Dennis Brooks continued to monitor the numbers of glowing female Glow-worms in their garden on Pound Green common during June and July of 2008, making their counts, as usual, at around 11pm each evening.

After the severe flooding of 2007 there were concerns about whether the Glow-worms would appear in 2008. In addition there was another dilemma. Work was required on the driveway after so much had been washed away in the floods. After some consideration it was decided to lay the extra limestone chippings in May before the Glow-worms appeared.

Sue notes: "The first Glow-worm appeared on schedule on the upper drive on 9th June after a very hot day. To our surprise a male was seen with the female on that first evening. Numbers gradually began to increase during that first week and we were pleased to find that there were still Glow-worms present after the severe flooding

in 2007! Numbers rose to 11 shining on 24th June. The highest recorded this year was 13 on the 26th June after a week of dry weather and 5 days with sunshine. All the Glow-worms that we saw up until 25th June appeared exclusively on the driveway that we had repaired with new chippings. It was good to realise that this was still the favourite site!"

Sue and Dennis arranged another evening event for Study Group members and friends on 27th June 2008 when we found 9 glowing at 11pm. Numbers were down this year, which was not surprising after the adverse weather of last year. It will be interesting to see if we get better conditions in the summer of 2009 and how long it takes for the Glow-worm population to recover its numbers. Many thanks are due to Sue and Dennis for their interest in this elusive beetle and for their careful monitoring. We look forward to hearing more in 2009!

<u>Year</u>	<u>First Sighting</u>	<u>Last Sighting</u>	<u>Date of max. Count</u>	<u>Max. No. Seen</u>
2002	18-Jun	21-Jul	29-Jun	13
2003	9-Jun	19-Jul	25-Jun	44
2004	8-Jun	4-Aug	25-Jun	37
2005	8-Jun	5-Aug	23-Jun	42
2006	6-Jun	25-Jul	24-Jun	37
2007	13-Jun	19-Jul	28-Jun	25
2008	9-Jun	14-Jul	26-Jun	13

