



NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY OF PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

P.O. BOX 2346, CHARLOTTETOWN C1A 8C1

MEETINGS are held on the first Tuesday of the month (except June, July, August and September) at 8:00 p.m. at the Farm Centre on University Avenue, Charlottetown. Members and non-members are welcome.

MEMBERSHIP is open to anyone interested in the natural history of Prince Edward Island. Membership is available at any meeting or by contacting Margaret Mallett, 53 Fitzroy St., Charlottetown, P.E.I. C1A 1R4 (phone 894-9595). Annual rates are as follows: regular - \$4; student - \$2; family - \$5. Renewals are due in early January.

1988 EXECUTIVE: President.....Susan Stephenson, Winsloe 368-2789
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.....Ruth Richman, Baldwin Road 838-2678

NEWSLETTERS are published bi-monthly. Articles, notes, reports, drawings, etc. are welcomed from members and non-members. If you have seen anything unusual, please share it with us. It is important to have your observations recorded so that others may learn from them. "Today's notations become tomorrow's history". All contributions should be sent to:

Gary Schneider,
RR#6,
Cardigan, P.E.I. COA 1G0
Phone: 838-2678

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The Natural History Society of P.E.I. is a member organization of the Canadian Nature Federation. The Society is a registered, non-profit organization. Editors of other newsletters are welcome to reprint articles from the Island Naturalist (except when copyrighted) but acknowledgement would be appreciated.

This month's cover

It is odd to look out the windows and see snow on the ground and near white-out conditions, when three weeks ago I saw marsh marigolds (*Caltha palustris*) pushing their leaves out of a small stream's edge. Properly known as cowslips, they grow in wet areas and are a sure sign of spring. The glossy heart- or kidney-shaped leaves are topped by shiny yellow flowers, which resemble buttercups more than marigolds. The leaves can be used as potherbs, but need several short boilings with changes of water between. They should not be eaten raw.