

**CLEVELAND NATURALISTS'
FIELD CLUB**



RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Volume 7 Part 1

Spring 1999

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THE OFFICERS & COMMITTEE 1999-2000

President, Mrs Pam Law 'Brinby', Hutton Lowcross, Guisborough.

Secretary, Mr Eric Gendle, 13, Mayfield Road, Nunthorpe.

Membership Secretary, Mrs Jean McClean, 28 Pendle Crescent, Billingham.

Programme Secretaries, Mr Vincent Jones, 'Hillways', Ingleby Greenhow.
Mr Neil Baker

Treasurer, Mr John Blackburn, 6 Bylands Grove, Fairfield, Stockton-on-Tees.

The immediate past-president, Mr Norman Thompson.

Ordinary members: Mr Colin Chatto, Mr Ian Lawrence, Mr Alick Hunter.

HONORARY MEMBERS

Mrs Jessie Graham, Mrs Joan Williams, Mr Ian Lawrence, Mr Maurice Ward, Mr Maurice Hallam

CONSULTANT MEMBERS

The following members will be pleased to assist in the identification of specimens.

Flowering Plants	Bryophytes	Birds	Lepidoptera	
Ian Lawrence	John Blackburn	Maurice Hallam	Neville Harwood (and General Entomology)	Malcolm Birtle (and Geology), Eric Gendle

Representatives

I.C. Lawrence (TVWT)	J.Blackburn (YNU)	M.Birtle (NNU)
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Membership Details

The Club seeks to promote an interest in all branches of Natural History and to assist members in finding out about the living things that they see in the countryside around them. The present membership includes those who have particular interests in birds, insects, slugs and snails, lichens, fungi, flowering plants and mosses and liverworts. Members with interests in other fields would be very welcome.

In spring and summer there are evening, half-day and whole-day visits to investigate the natural history of a particular area. During the winter months there is a series of monthly meetings that are held at the Leeds University Centre, Harrow Road, Middlesbrough. A meeting usually takes the form of a lecture given by a club member or visiting speaker. The annual subscription is £5.

Any person interested in joining the Cleveland Naturalists Field Club should send their subscription to the Membership Secretary. Potential members are welcome to our field meetings listed at the back of this issue.

Annual subscriptions are due on the 1st January each year.

(Adult £5.00. Students under 18 yrs. £1.00)

Members are entitled to attend meetings of:

Yorkshire Naturalists' Union	Northern Naturalists' Union
Tees Valley Wildlife Trust	The Ramblers' Association.

The Club is affiliated to these organizations.

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Editorial

This is the ninth issue of the new Proceedings and as there are four parts to each volume this is also the first issue in a new volume. Many thanks to all contributors, but in particular to Tony for contributing such an important paper on the molluscs of Cleveland.

Acknowledgements to Contributors

Many thanks to all the contributors that include Tony Wardhaugh (Molluscs and other invertebrates) Pat Wood (Botany), Malcolm Birtle (Proceedings preparation, Moths), Ian Lawrence (Botany), Darroll Fryer (Proceedings preparation, Botany), Maurice Hallam (Ornithology, Entomology and Botany), Vince Jones (Botany), Eric Gendle (Drawings), Norman Thompson (Botany), Alick Hunter, Joan Bradbury, Norma Pagdin, Maurice Ward, Colin Chatto, Pam Law, Neil Baker, Andrew Astbury (field reports). Many people contribute to botanical records including Ian Lawrence, Vince Jones, Darroll Fryer, Pat Wood, Norman Thompson, John Blackburn, Pam Law, and Maurice Ward. Apologies in advance to anyone overlooked in these acknowledgements.

News

Some Notable Birds for Cleveland

The following observations were amongst the numerous interesting records of migrants and rarities listed in the Teesmouth Bird Club and Durham Bird Club reports for 1998. Reports of the following species seem to be increasing in frequency. Up to thirteen Spoonbills have recently visited Coatham and North Tees. A significant number of Avocet were recorded around North Tees. Red Kites and Rough Legged Buzzards have been seen at intervals in Sleddale and Westerdale. A Buzzard has been seen regularly at Crookfoot Reservoir. Marsh Harriers are also being seen more frequently around the North Tees area.

Some Interesting Butterfly Reports

In the Spring 1998 edition of the Teesmouth Bird Club Newsletter Graham Megson reported seeing Purple Hairstreak at the Northern end of Crookfoot Reservoir amongst Hawthorn. He also notes sites for White Letter Hairstreak at Crimdon Dene and Wynyard. In the same issue Martin Blick reported Dark Green Fritillary at the Fox Covert, Marske.

The Gatekeeper has been reported from a site in Co. Durham and close to Hawnbly near Helmsley.

Humming Bird Hawk Moth

A Humming Bird Hawk Moth was seen in the summer of 1998 on the Crooksbar Estate, Norton.

The Grey Partridge becoming Scarce?

It was reported in the Sunday Telegraph (14th Feb, 1999) that the Game Conservancy has estimated that there are no more than 130,000 Grey Partridges in Britain. The population is also estimated to be decreasing by 10% per year. 'Partridge numbers have fallen to a critical survival level'. Perhaps this is a bird which should now always be considered a 'Highlight' of future Club outings and reported in the Proceedings accordingly?

Porpoises at Hartlepool

A school of Porpoise (at least three individuals) were watched for an hour or more from the road between the headland at Hartlepool and the Magnesite Works in the second week of December 1998.

Bearded Seal

An Arctic Bearded Seal has been seen regularly at the Fish Dock at Hartlepool during early February 1999.

Heslop-Harrison Memorial Lecture

The lecture will be hosted by the Cleveland Naturalists' at 2.00 pm on November 13th, 1999 in Stockton Library.

Web Sites

There are a couple of interesting web sites members may be interested in which hold details of access to the countryside.

The Country Landowners Association have set up an on-line register of sites where negotiated access is available. This is particularly interesting as these are places which have no public access normally.

<http://www.cla.org.uk/>

The Ministry of Agriculture Fisheries and Food have provided details of 'conservation walks'. These are in areas managed under agri-environmental schemes. This also includes areas not open to the public until recently.

<http://www.countrywalks.org.uk/>

We can probably expect to see more of these previously restricted areas opened up in the coming years due to economic and social pressures on landowning interests.

These sites might be of particular interest to field programme secretaries looking for new territories to explore.

Malcolm Birtle

Highlights of Field Meetings 1998

Saturday 18th April, Saltburn Woods, Ian Lawrence.

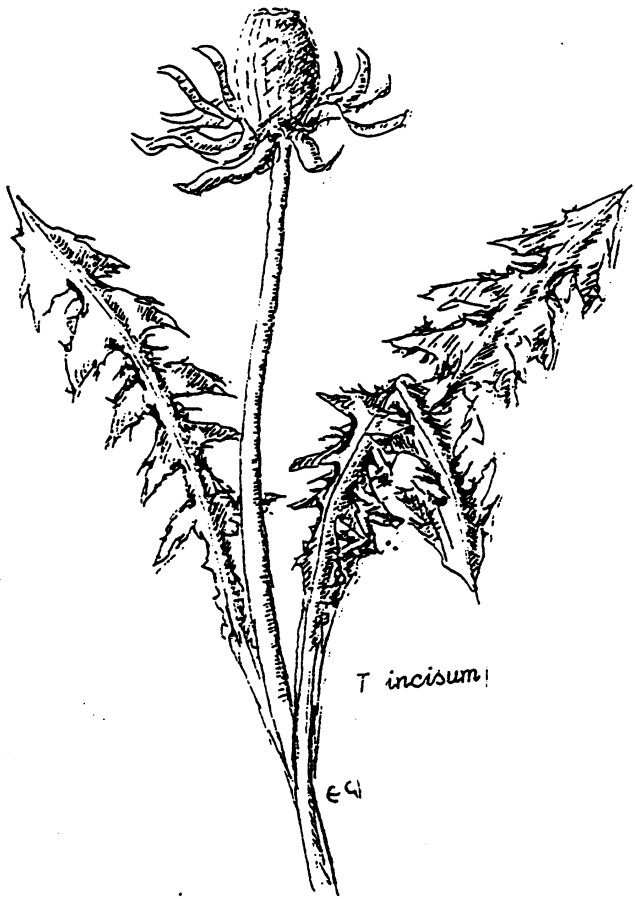
Considerable time was spent in considering violets. In particular Common Dog-violet (*Viola riviniana*), Early Dog-violet (*V. reichenbachiana*), and their hybrid (*V. x bavarica*) were found. Also the stands of Few-flowered Garlick (*Allium paradoxum*) were in fine flower. Several common microspecies of dandelion were found but pleasing rare species were *Taraxacum laticordatum* and *T. tumentilobum*, the latter a new vice-county record; the identification confirmed by A.J. Richards.

The following birds were noted-Chiff-chaff, Coal Tit, Great Tit, Blue Tit, Chaffinch, Nuthatch, Song Thrush, Wren, Long-tailed Tit, Dipper, Greenfinch, Grey Wagtail and Blackcap. The Hairy Snail (*Trichia hispida*), and Strawberry Snail (*Trichia striolata*) were also recorded. A good specimen of Dryads Saddle (*Polyporus squamosus*) was also seen.

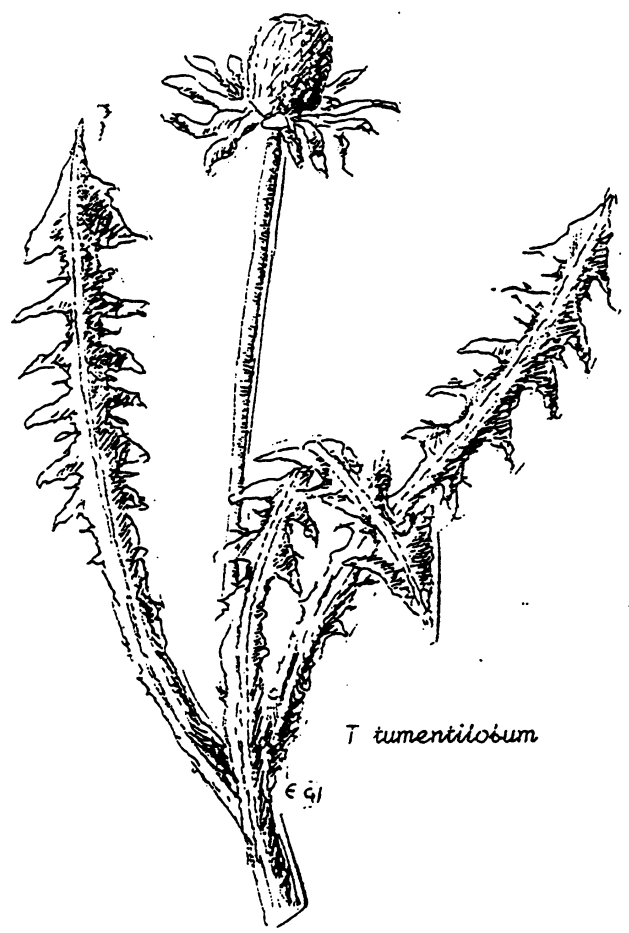
Sunday 26th April, Kirkbymoorside Area, led by Marion Atkinson.

The invasive New Zealand Pigmyweed (*Crassula helmsii*), was found in a pond near the village. On a wall at Gillamoor were Spreading Meadow-grass (*Poa humilis*), and Rue-leaved Saxifrage (*Saxifraga tridactylites*). False oxlip (*Primula x polyantha*) and Creeping Comfrey (*Symphytum grandiflorum*) were found in woodland. Short grassland near Kirkbymoorside was studied for dandelions. The most interesting finds were *Taraxacum inopinatum* and *T. incisum*; the identification confirmed by A.J. Richards. Small Tortoiseshell (*Aglais urticae*), Small White (*Pieris rapae*) and a Peacock (*Inachis io*) were seen in flight. Some unidentified newts were seen in the large pond near the castle site. Willow warblers were heard calling. The weather provided a brief exciting interlude as the party was caught in a thunder storm with torrential rain.

An interesting mix of birds was studied in a ploughed field east of the track to Gillamoor near Cockpit Hall. This field contained Yellowhammer, Reed Bunting, Hedge Sparrow, Wheatear, Willow Warbler with the odd Lapwing. One of the first Swallows of the year was seen at Gillamoor.



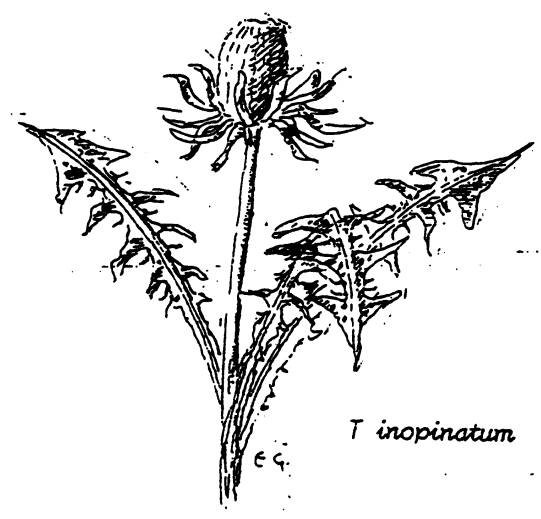
T incisum!



T tumentilobum



T laticordatum



T inopinatum

Wednesday 13th May, Castle Eden Walkway and Embleton led by Malcolm Birtle.

The most interesting botanical find was Field Pepperwort (*Lepidium campestre*) on the old railway near Embleton. The landscape was dominated by intensively farmed land but a small patch of diverse, calcicole grassland was found between South Swainston and Embleton. A pupa was taken from this grassland from which an unidentified ichneumon wasp emerged on the 24th May. Willow Warblers were calling. Hedge Sparrow, Swallow, Skylark, Wood Pigeon, and Whitethroat were also seen. A very large apple tree was found growing in a field hedge on the track to Embleton. Close to this was a specimen of Spurge Laurel (*Daphne laureola*). The following were recorded from a small wood near the start of the walk (NZ408286). This was a plantation of larch, Scots pine and cherry.

Cochlicopa lubrica
Arion ater agg.
Arion subfuscus
Arion circumscriptus
Arion distinctus
Aegopinella nitidula
Oxychilus alliarius
Deroceras reticulatum

In addition, an area of apparently calcareous grassland near Embleton (NZ419298) was searched for about 30 minutes. Surprisingly, this yielded just two species: *Cepaea nemoralis* and *Vitrina pellucida*. Very many slugs *Arion ater* and *A. subfuscus* were active along the edges of arable fields on this dull, cool, damp evening. All the species recorded are widespread and common in the local area. Other invertebrates recorded (all common species):

Millipedes:

Cylindroiulus punctatus
Tachypodoiulus niger

Centipede:

Lithobius forficatus

Woodlice:

Philoscia muscorum
Porcellio scaber

Ladybird:

Propylea 14-punctata

Sunday 17th May, Upper Teesdale, High Force, led by Neil Baker

On a very pleasing Summer's day the club enjoyed a walk from Bowlees to the High Force Hotel along farm tracks. After a stop for lunch we crossed over the newly replaced footbridge and came back along the South bank of the Tees. On the way out there were birds to be seen, with fine aerial gymnastics from lapwings. A pair of Yellow Wagtails were noted around farm buildings West of Bowlees. On the return there were fine displays of Mountain Pansy (*Viola lutea*) on view.

Wednesday 20th May, The Stray between Redcar and Marske, led by Pat Wood.

It was pleasing to find Bur Parsley (*Anthriscus caucalis*), a rare plant in our area, and the grass Lesser Soft-brome (*Bromus x pseudothominei*). A blue plant of the borage family was found and with some reservations was thought to be Garden Anchusa (*Anchusa azurea*). In fact the identification was subsequently confirmed.

Saturday, 30th, May, Nettle Dale and Ashberry, led by Jack Marshall.

We met in Old Byland for this well attended meeting. We spotted Dusky Cranesbill (*Geranium phaeum*) and Small-flowered Cranesbill (*Geranium pusillum*) before walking down Low Gill where we found Toothwort (*Lathraea squamaria*) growing on Hazel, and Hybrid Avens (*Geum x intermedia*). In Ashberry Wood we saw Common Gromwell (*Lithospermum officinale*), Dewberry (*Rubus caesius*) and Marsh Lousewort (*Pedicularis palustris*). In the Yorkshire WLT reserve, Ashberry Pasture, there were excellent displays of Globe-flower (*Trollius europaeus*), Bird's-eye Primrose (*Primula farinosa*) and Butterwort (*Pinguicula palustris*) together with Black Bog-rush (*Schoenus nigricans*), Twayblade (*Listera ovina*), Common Spotted-orchid (*Dactylorhiza fuchsii*) and Early Marsh-orchid (*Dactylorhiza incarnata*)

Wednesday 3rd June, Clay Bank, led by Andrew Astbury.

After a few very wet days eight stalwarts met at Clay Bank for a walk along some very wet paths in the Hasty Bank area. Nothing very striking to report, botanically speaking but at least the rain did stop and there were some good distant views!

Wednesday 10th June, British Steel Ecology Park, led by Ian Reynolds.

This was an excellent opportunity to visit this area, not usually open to the public. It is a largely derelict industrial site, managed by British Steel to protect some of the wild plants which have colonised the area. There was plenty to be seen including Purple Milk-vetch (*Astragalus danicus*), Nodding Thistle (*Carduus nutans*), Restharrow (*Ononis repens*), Hemlock (*Conium maculatum*), Tall Melilot (*Melilotus altissimus*). Grasses seen included Fern-grass (*Catapodium rigidum*), Sea Fern-grass (*C. marinum*), and Rat's-tail Fescue (*Vulpia myuros*). Rushes included Hard Rush (*Juncus inflexus*) and Compact Rush (*J. conglomeratus*) and we even saw some hawkweeds, not yet in flower! A Hare was spotted running and the Red and Black Frog hopper (*Cercopis vulnerata*) was also seen. There were many specimens of Brown Lipped Banded Snail (*Cepaea nemoralis*) and Garden Snail (*Helix aspersa*.) with the Copse Snail (*Arianta arbustorum*) and Strawberry Snail (*Trichia striolata*). Blue Fleabane (*Erigeron acer*) and Clary (*Salvia horminoides*) were also noted. Heron, Shelduck, Kestrel, Swallow, and Swift flew overhead. Grey Partridge were also seen. The common pyralid moth Brown Grey (*Scoparia ambigua*) was also seen. We are grateful to Colin Chatto for arranging the meeting.

Sunday 14th June, Grassington, led by Pam Law.

Due to heavy rain overnight only six members came on this meeting but it was enjoyed by those who came, in quite reasonable conditions. We left Grassington village on the Dales Way, crossing an interesting limestone pavement before descending through Grass Wood to the River Wharfe, which we followed back to Linton Falls and Grassington village. There was plenty to be seen in this limestone area including Lily of the Valley (*Convallaria majalis*), Rock-rose (*Helianthemum nummularium*), Wood Cranesbill (*Geranium sylvaticum*), Rue-leaved Saxifrage (*Saxifraga tridactylites*), Saw-wort (*Serratula tinctoria*)

and a good specimen of Buckthorn (*Rhamnus cathartica*). Grasses seen included Sheep's Fescue (*Festuca ovina* ssp. *ovina* and *hirtula*), Red Fescue (*Festuca rubra* ssp. *rubra* and *commutata*) and Wood Melick (*Melica nutans*).

Wednesday 17th June, Ingleby Incline area, led by Vincent Jones.

Heath Groundsel (*Senecio sylvatica*) was flourishing well in felled forestry areas. In wetter areas we found Creeping Forget-me-not (*Myosotis secunda*), Common Water-starwort (*Callitriche stagnalis*) in flower and fine plants of Lemon-scented Fern (*Oreopteris limbosperma*) and Bladder-sedge (*Carex vesicaria*). The latter has its headquarters in the North York Moors in the Ingleby Greenhow area but it was pleasing to find the plant in a new site. On the way back along Bank Foot lane some members stopped to examine a stand of Meadow Fescue (*Festuca pratensis*). A few House Martins were seen near cottages with Swallows, Pied Wagtail, Curlew, Mistle Thrush, Yellowhammer, Linnet and Greenfinch. The Common Carpet (*Epirrhoe alternata*) was beaten from nettles and Small Copper (*Lycaena phlaeas*), and Large White (*Pieris brassicae*) were seen along the old railway in addition to the Black and Red Frog hopper (*Cercopis vulnerata*) and Two Spot Ladybird (*Adalia bipunctata*). Brown Silver Lines (*Petrophora chlorosata*) was found amongst bracken on the incline and Bordered White (*Bupalis piniaria*), Clouded Border (*Lomaspilis marginata*), Gold Swift (*Hepialus hecta*), and Brimstone (*Opisthograptis luteolata*) in the conifer plantation.

Wednesday 24th June, Seal Sands area, led by Angela Cooper.

This was an evening mainly to examine the fine orchid plants. In particular, Common Spotted-orchid (*Dactylorhiza fuchsii*), Northern Marsh-orchid (*D. purpurella*) and their hybrid (*D. x venusta*) were in excellent flower.

Common/Arctic Terns were flying overhead carrying fish. Hares were seen sitting unconcerned in mown short grassland. Brown Lipped Banded Snail (*Capaea nemoralis*) and Garden Snail (*Helix aspersa*) were found amongst the longer grass. The pyralids *Crambus lathoniellus*, Hook Marked Conch (*Agapeta hamana*), Brown Grey (*Scoparia ambigualis*), and *Agriphila tristella* were active as were Emerald Dragonflies (*Lestes sponsa*). A specimen of Latticed Heath (*Semiothisa clathrata*) was examined and another specimen of the mysterious moth that was seen at the meeting in 1997 (see previous Proceedings).

Sunday 28th June, Waitby Greenriggs and Smardale, led by Eric Gendle.

We met in Brough Sowerby to drive to Waitby Greenriggs, a small reserve managed by Cumbria WLT, a very interesting site between two disused railways with several different habitat types. The larger Smardale reserve is also managed by Cumbria WLT. During the day a wonderful array of flowers was seen including no less than eight species of orchid: Marsh Helleborine (*Epipactis palustris*), Frog Orchid (*Coeloglossum viride*), Fragrant Orchid (*Gymnadenia conopsea* ssp. *conopsea* and *densiflora*), Lesser and Greater Butterfly-orchids (*Platanthera bifolia* and *P. chlorantha*). Several hawkweeds were identified by Vincent including *Hieracium ampliatum*, *H. grandidens*, *H. diaphanum* and *H. anglicum*. Other interesting plants included Grass Vetchling (*Lathyrus nissolia*), at Brough Sowerby, Globe-flower (*Trollius europaeus*), Herb Paris (*Paris quadrifolia*) and Common Wintergreen (*Pyrola minor*). A sub-species of Common Spotted Orchid (*Dactylorhiza fuchsii*) was noted which was dark purple on the top surfaces of the petals i.e. the dark spots cover all of the petal-no pale pink to be seen. Interestingly, we failed to find a Lesser Butterfly/Fragrant

Orchid (*Gymnadenia conopsea* x *Platanthera bifolia*) hybrid-which was found the next day by a Eric Gendle's brother who was searching for the best fragrant orchids to photograph.

The following lepidoptera were noted at Greenriggs- Ringlet (*Aphantopus hyperantus*), Painted Lady (*Cynthia cardui*), Common Blue (*Polyommatus icarus*), Large (*Ochlodes venata*) and Small Skipper (*Thymelicus sylvestris*) were all active in the hot sunshine. In Smardale we saw Dark Green Fritillary (*Argynnis aglaja*), Small Heath (*Coenonympha pamphilus*), *Agriphila tristella*, Common Blue (*Polyommatus icarus*), Large Skipper (*Ochlodes venata*) and then it rained.....and rained.....and rained.....

Wednesday 1st July, The Hart/Haswell Walkway, led by Russell McAndrew.

Many different flowering plants were seen. Perhaps the most interesting were Des Etang's St. John's-wort (*Hypericum x desetangsii*) and Plough-man's-spikenard (*Inula conyza*).

Wednesday 8th July, Carter Moor, led by Rob Scaife.

Since our last visit an Ecology Centre has been set up here and Rob has supervised the production of several new ponds. Unfortunately it was a rather wet evening but we saw plenty of Wild Parsnip (*Pastinaca sativa*), also Trailing Tormentil (*Potentilla anglica*), Wild Basil (*Clinopodium vulgare*) and roses, Hairy Dog-rose (*Rosa caesia ssp caesia*) and the hybrid of *R. caesia* and Dog-rose (*R. canina*), *R x dumalis*.

Four notable lepidoptera were found on this outing. Firstly, the Inlaid Grass Veneer (*Crambus pascuella*) which is described by Dunn and Parrack as 'scarcely and thinly distributed with us [i.e. Co. Durham], as it apparently always has been, being confined to damp meadows and marshy places'. Only six sites in Northumberland and Durham were identified by Dunn and Parrack. Secondly, *Ebulia crocealis* which Dunn and Parrack report as unrecorded in this century in Northumberland and Durham. CNFC have found it at Aislaby nearby on previous outings (see previous Proceedings). Thirdly, *Cochylis roseana* which was not regarded as occurring in Northumberland and Durham by Dunn and Parrack. Sutton and Beaumont describe it as 'Local and restricted to the south of the county [i.e. Yorkshire]'. Records in Yorkshire are from Spurn and Thorne Moors. The specimen was taken from Teasel at Carter Moor and this is the host plant record at Spurn and Thorne. Fourthly, a possible *Microstega pandalis* which has only a single record from Berwick in 1898 for Northumberland and Durham and is yet to be confirmed for Yorkshire. This record requires a re-capture and confirmation as the importance of this species was not known at the time of the outing. Other lepidoptera seen were Cinnabar (*Tyria jacobaeae*), Shaded Broad Bar (*Scotopteryx chenopodiata*), Latticed Heath (*Semiothisa clathrata*), and Hook Marked Conch (*Agapeta hamana*).

A male Emerald Dragonfly (*Lestes sponsa*) was also noted.

Wednesday 15th July , South Gare, led by Ian Lawrence.

The original plan had been to follow the Black Path from the Trunk Road but the path was blocked so we repeated a familiar walk at South Gare concentrating particularly on the saltmarsh area which was mainly dry on this occasion. Plants seen included Sea Hard-grass (*Parapholis strigosa*), Sea Purslane (*Atriplex portulacoides*), Reflexed Saltmarsh-grass (*Puccinellia distans*), Foxtail Barley (*Hordeum jubatum*) and the seaside form of Curled Dock (*Rumex crispus ssp. littoreus*). A few colourful garden escapes seemed well established, for example Elephant's-ears (*Bergenia crassifolia*) and Snapdragon (*Antirrhinum majus*).

Yellowshell (*Camptogramma bilineata*), Meadow Brown (*Maniola jurtina*), Small Heath (*Coenonympha pamphilus*), Large White (*Pieris brassicae*), *Agriphila tristella*, *Agapeta zoegana*, and the Cinnabar (*Tyria jacobaeae*), were seen.

Saturday 18th July, Bowes, led by Colin Chatto.

From Bowes we followed an interesting route involving part of the Pennine Way, south of the River Greta, leading to God's Bridge and thence across the moor to Sleightholme Beck, on to Cardwell Bridge and then back by our outward route. Near Bowes we saw Rue-leaved Saxifrage (*Saxifraga tridactylites*) on walls and two large bracket fungi in the wood below the church. There were plenty of low-flying swallows over the meadows and some Long-horn and Highland cattle in the fields. Upstream of God's Bridge the river bed was dry and the prevailing plant in the river bed was Good King Henry (*Chenopodium bonus-henricus*). Near Sleightholme Beck we found Fen Bedstraw (*Galium uliginosum*) and Bristle Club-rush (*Isolepis setacea*).

Sunday 2nd August, Upper Teesdale, Widdybank, led by Norma Pagdin.

In wet areas by the river were Yellow Saxifrage (*Saxifraga aizoides*), Eyebright (*Euphrasia scotica*), Broad-leaved Cottongrass (*Eriphorum latifolium*), Northern Bedstraw (*Galium boreale*), Alpine Rush (*Juncus alpinoarticulatus*), Flat-sedge (*Blysmus compressus*), Few-flowered Spike-rush (*Eleocharis quinquefolia*) and the rare horsetails, Shady Horsetail (*Equisetum pratense*) and Variegated Horsetail (*Equisetum variegatum*). Other areas yielded Field Gentian (*Gentianella campestris*) and the montane, northern subspecies of tormentil (*Potentilla erecta* ssp. *strictissima*). Boulder scree by the path along Falcon Clints exhibited Broad-leaved Buckler-fern (*Dryopteris dilatata*), Northern Buckler-fern (*D. expansa*) and their hybrid *D. x ambroseae*; the latter had been confirmed by the Natural History Museum. Mountain Male-fern (*D. oreades*) was also plentiful in this area. The area is rich in hawkweed species, amongst these, *Hieracium lissolepium* and *H. placherophylloides* were in good flower; identification confirmed by D.J. McCosh.

Saturday 8th August, Kirkdale, YNU meeting organised by John Blackburn.

Several CNFC members attended the meeting from St. Gregory's Minster, most joining the botanical section led by Don Grant. We explored the Hodge Beck area where we saw Milky Bellflower (*Campanula lactiflora*), Elecampagne (*Inula helenium*) and Whorled Mint (*Mentha x verticillata*). We found Wood Barley (*Hordelymus europaeus*) in the woods, one of the indicators of primary woodland, together with Bearded Couch (*Elymus caninus*), Hairy Brome (*Bromopsis ramosa*) and Giant Fescue (*Festuca gigantea*). Don showed us Dewberry (*Rubus caesius*) and *R. echinatoides*, *R. vestites* and *R. pallidus*. We also noted Golden Rod (*Solidago virgaurea*) and Marjoram (*Origanum vulgare*).

The Rounded Snail (*Discus rotundatus*), Garlic Snail (*Oxychilus alliarius*), and the Strawberry Snail (*Trichia striolata*) were noted. The fungus *Hymenoscyphus fructiginus* was seen on hazel nuts. *Crambus perllella*, Meadow Brown (*Maniola jurtina*), and abundant Small Tortoiseshell (*Aglais urticae*) were also seen.

Sunday 16th August, Murton Grange area, led by Norman Thompson.

Hairy Lady's-mantle (*Alchemilla filicaulis* ssp. *vestita*), Eyebright (*Euphrasia nemorosa*), Wild Basil (*Clinopodium vulgare*), Wild Marjoram (*Origanum vulgare*), Hoary Plantain (*Plantago media*) and Fragrant Agrimony (*Agrimonia procera*) were found in calcareous

grassland. A fine stand of the hawkweed, *Hieracium trichocaulon* was seen along the forestry track. A Knopper Gall was found .

On a dry stone wall at Peak Scar Top (SE 536882):

Pyramidula rupestris

Clausilia bidentata.

On vegetation nearby:

Lauria cylindracea

Arianta arbustorum

Peak Scar Wood (SE5288):

Arion ater agg.

Arion distinctus

Vitrea crystallina

Aegopinella pura (both brown and white shelled forms)

Oxychilus cellarius

Ashfordia granulata

Rock outcrop at the edge of Peak Scar Top (approx. SE529885)

Ena obscura

Ruin near Noddle End

Lauria cylindracea

Ena obscura

Discus rotundatus

Oxychilus cellarius

Oxychilus alliarius

Clausilia bidentata

Balea perversa

Woodlice at the same site:

Oniscus asellus

Porcellio scaber

Porcellio spinicornis

Caydale, by footbridge through a marshy area (SE531869), mainly meadowsweet and yellow flag:

Succinea putris

Vallonia pulchella

Zenobiella subrufescens

Pisidium personatum

Pisidium casertanum

A number of interesting finds were made during the day. *Pyramidula rupestris* , the Rock Snail, is scarce in vice-county 62. As its name suggests, it occurs typically on calcareous screes and dry stone walls. *Ashfordia granulata* was found in Peak Scar Wood which is a coniferous plantation with some beech. This is surprising because in the Cleveland area to the north it has been found almost exclusively in damp patches of old deciduous woodland. *Ena obscura* and *Balea perversa* were interesting finds. Both seem to have lost ground in the non-calcareous areas of Cleveland to the north this century (see article elsewhere in this issue). The Caydale area was visited by the Field Club on 5th June 1994 when 30 terrestrial and one freshwater species were recorded (CNFC Proceedings 6 22-29). Five species were added to this list, as indicated above. *Succinea putris* (identification confirmed by Mr F. Naggs,

Natural History Museum, London) is reliably separable from the externally very similar *Oxyloma pfeifferi* only on anatomical details. Consequently there are few reliable records for this species in the local area. *Zenobiella subrufescens* has been found only in damp parts of ancient semi-natural woodland further north in Cleveland. Nearby Murton and Yowlass Woods are however considered to be ancient (North Yorkshire Inventory of Ancient Woodland Part II, Carter 1987, English Nature, Peterborough). *Vallonia pulchella*, a small marshland snail, is scarce in Yorkshire.

Sunday 6th September, Rosecroft Woods, led by Pam Law.

We met in Loftus for a circular walk through Rosecroft and Loftus Woods. In an overgrown garden in Loftus we had the opportunity to study several Willow-herbs: Broad-leaved Willow-herb (*Epilobium montanum*), American Willow-herb (*E. ciliatum*), Short-fruited Willow-herb (*E. obscurum*) and several possible hybrids from these. In the woods we saw many ferns, including Soft Shield-fern (*Polystichum setiferum*), Broad Buckler-fern (*Dryopteris dilatata*), Male-fern (*D. filix-mas*) and Scaly Male-fern (*D. affinis* ssp. *borreri*). There was a good specimen of Sessile Oak (*Quercus petraea*) showing its sessile acorns, also Wood Barley (*Hordelymus europaeus*) showing the primary nature of the woodland.

Derelict land near the east end of Hancock's Wood (NZ722180):

Cochlicopa lubrica
Arion ater agg.
Arion subfuscus
Oxychilus cellarius
Oxychilus alliarius
Deroceras reticulatum
Deroceas caruanae
Trichia striolata
Helix aspersa

Hancock's Wood:

Cochlicopa lubrica
Lauria cylindracea
Discus rotundatus
Arion ater agg.
Arion circumscriptus
Arion distinctus
Tandonia budapestensis
Limax marginatus
Clausilia bidentata
Ashfordia granulata
Trichia striolata

Rosecroft Wood:

Ancylus fluviatilis
Carychium tridentatum
Cochlicopa lubrica
Columella edentula
Lauria cylindracea
Acanthinula aculeata

Spermodea lamellata
Discus rotundatus
Arion ater agg.
Arion distinctus
Vitrina pellucida
Vitrea crystallina
Aegopinella nitidula
Oxychilus alliarius
Limax maximus
Limax marginatus
Deroceras laeve
Deroceras caruanae
Euconulus fulvus
Clausilia bidentata
Ashfordia granulata
Trichia striolata

The most interesting find was *Spermodea lamellata* in Rosecroft Wood, a species strongly associated with ancient semi-natural woodland in Cleveland. *Ashfordia granulata*, found in both woods, is virtually endemic to Britain and is listed in 'Biodiversity Challenge'.

Sunday 26th September, Wass area, led by Eric Gendle.

A field with several uncommon arable weeds was the botanical highlight. The most interesting were Small Nettle (*Urtica urens*), Scented Mayweed (*Matricaria recutita*), the relict Two-rowed Barley (*Hordeum distichum*) and a grass rare in the north of Britain (*Alopercurus myosuroides*). Elsewhere a marshy area yielded Short-fruited Willowherb (*Epilobium obscurum*) and Water-pepper (*Persicaria hydropiper*).

Sunday 11th October, Pickering, led by Alick Hunter.

We met in Pickering for a pleasant end of season woodland walk via Howle Dale, Scalla Bridge and Newbridge. A few plants were noted including Wood Small-reed (*Calamagrostis epigejos*), Sticky Groundsel (*Senecio viscosus*) and several roses with hips: Dog Rose (*Rosa canina*), Field Rose (*R. arvensis*), Glaucous Dog-rose (*R. caesia* ssp. *glauca*) and the hybrid *R. x dumalis*. One keen-eyed member spotted a kingfisher!

List of the Mollusca of the Cleveland District

by A.A. Wardhaugh

At the close of the 19th century, an article with the above title appeared in the Cleveland Naturalists' Field Club Record of Proceedings written by the Reverend John Hawell, vicar of Ingleby Greenhow (Hawell 1899). After an interval of a hundred years, it seemed fitting to attempt a reassessment of the status and distribution of molluscs in Cleveland in order to summarise current knowledge at the end of another century and to compare this with the information provided by Hawell and other 19th century malacologists.

John Hawell served as both President of the Field Club and Editor of the Proceedings (Cowley-Fowler 1905), his writing indicating that he had a clear and enthusiastic vision of the role which both of these had to play. Of the Field Club, he wrote, " an important part of [its] work may well be to work out the Natural History of the ... district, and to record in some permanent form the observations regarding its fauna and flora. These records will have great value, and in making a study of them we shall find that some organisms have become, in the process of time, extinct within the district, and shall learn valuable lessons in our endeavour to trace the causes which have ministered to their extinction. We may also be able to note, as time goes on, the gradual extinction of other species, and the introduction and spread of new organisms. The interest attaching to the permanent record of observations by the Field Club will increase rather than diminish as years go on, and that record becomes more complete. " . Arguably, these sentiments are just as relevant today as they were a hundred years ago.

In addition, Hawell produced a clear, historically based definition of Cleveland. This does not coincide with the recently abolished administrative county which existed from 1974 to 1996 but is based on a series of parishes as they existed in Hawell's time. "It includes the following 33 old parishes:- Acklam (including the three townships of Acklam, Linthorpe and Middlesbrough), Appleton, Arncliffe, Ayton, Carlton, Crathorne, Danby, Easington, Egton, Faceby, Guisborough, Hilton, Hinderwell, Ingleby, Kildale, Kirby, Kirkleatham, Kirklevington, Loftus, Lythe, Marske, Marton, Newton, Ormesby, Rudby, Seamer, Skelton, Stainton, Stokesley, Upleatham, Whorlton, Wilton, Yarm." (Hawell 1895).

In the present article, Hawell's definition of Cleveland is adopted. However, to set the data in a more useful context, some comments on the status and distribution of species in other parts of vice-county 62 (north-east Yorkshire) and occasionally in the rest of Yorkshire and county Durham, have been included.

Hawell was not alone in his interest in the Mollusca of Cleveland in the 19th century, nor was he the first. Watson (1854) produced an account of the land snails of Airy Holme Wood near Great Ayton, of particular value because this area suffered extensive damage due to mineral extraction shortly afterwards (Ashford 1879). Subsequently, Watson was co-author of a small text entitled 'A Descriptive Manual of British Land and Freshwater Shells' (Dixon & Watson 1858) which contains a few records for the Cleveland area. Another book containing records of molluscs is that of Ferguson (1860) on the Natural History of the Redcar district. Other malacologists of the period who published records for Cleveland include Charles Ashford (1879) and Baker Hudson (see articles listed in Reference section). In addition, excursions to the Cleveland area were made by the Yorkshire Naturalists' Union (YNU) in the period leading up to Hawell's publication of 1899. Published records of molluscs found on these visits include those for Skelton beck valley (anon. 1887) and Kildale

(Roebuck 1890). The shell collections of John Hawell and Baker Hudson are stored currently at the Dorman Museum in Middlesbrough and these provide useful information on the status and distribution of molluscs in the Cleveland area in the late 19th century. At the turn of the century many records for the Cleveland area were summarised in the now classic but unfinished 'Monograph of the Land and Freshwater Mollusca of the British Isles' (Taylor 1894 - 1921).

In the time following Hawell's publication occasional visits by the YNU to the Cleveland area have continued right up to the present and relevant publications are referred to in the species summaries below. During the period 1925-8 Bernard Lucas, a member of the Darlington and Teesdale Naturalists' Field Club, made an extensive collection of land and freshwater shells, principally from the Darlington and Cleveland areas. More recently, visits by the Yorkshire Conchological Society have taken place to Mulgrave Woods in 1971, Coatham Marsh, Airy Holme Wood and Kildale in 1972 and Kilton Woods in 1990.

From 1982, an attempt has been made to compile comprehensive lists of terrestrial mollusc species for a number of woodlands in the area (Wardhaugh 1996, 1997) with records made during CNFC excursions appearing in the Record of Proceedings for the years 1993 to 1999. Consequently, the following account deals with land snails and slugs only and there remains the opportunity for much work on the current status and distribution of freshwater and marine molluscs in the area.

North-east Yorkshire has a rich and varied terrestrial molluscan fauna, with some species present at the southern limit of their range e.g. *Spermodea lamellata* and others at their northern most e.g. *Pomatias elegans* and *Oxychilus helveticus* (Kerney 1976). Of about 120 British species, Kerney & Cameron (1979) list 29 as declining nationally, at least twelve of these having been recorded in Cleveland at some time. Reasons for these changes are not obvious but habitat loss and atmospheric pollution may well have been significant causes. Recently, Norris (1998) has produced a Red Data list for Yorkshire land and freshwater Mollusca. To an extent, changes in the status and distribution of terrestrial molluscs in Cleveland are difficult to assess due to the paucity of historic data. Undoubtedly, some species have lost ground, e.g. *Helicella itala* which once occurred on Coatham sand dunes (Ferguson 1860) where it is almost certainly no longer present. The nearest colony is at the North Gare but in the absence of quantitative data it is not possible to know whether this population is stable, increasing or declining. Two other species which appear to have declined significantly this century in Cleveland are *Ena obscura* and *Balea perversa* (see below for details).

In contrast, it appears that populations of some nationally scarce species have remained stable in Cleveland this century e.g. the snails *Leiostyla anglica*, *Spermodea lamellata*, *Zenobiella subrufescens* and *Ashfordia granulata*. The first three of these species are associated with ancient semi-natural woodland (Kerney & Stubbs 1980, Wardhaugh 1996, 1997) of which there are several in Cleveland and all four species are not uncommon in suitable habitats locally.

Several introductions into Britain have occurred during the 20th century, including the slugs *Tandonia budapestensis* in 1930, *Deroceras caruanae* in 1931 and *Boetgerilla pallens* in 1972 (Phillips & Watson 1930, Quick 1960, Colville, Lloyd-Evans & Norris 1974). All three are now present in Cleveland, the first two being common synanthropic species.

Since the 19th century there have been several taxonomic revisions which are indicated in the relevant places below. Mostly these have involved the realisation that

previously recognised species are in reality aggregates of two or three species. However the taxonomic status even of some very common molluscs remains poorly understood, for example the brightly coloured varieties of the normally black slug *Arion ater*. Some of the sibling species established during the 20th century as a result of taxonomic splitting are very similar to one another in appearance and somewhat variable (e.g. *Cochlicopa lubrica* and *lubricella*). This has resulted in a situation where it is sometimes difficult to ascribe a specific name to some specimens. Perhaps molecular genetic studies could help solve some of these problems in the future and further taxonomic revisions seem not unlikely.

The notes which follow indicate that even a basic knowledge of the status and distribution of terrestrial molluscs in Cleveland is far from complete. Aims for the future might be to improve on this, possibly to collect quantitative data and to carry out autecological studies on some of the nationally scarce species which have strongholds in this area. Such information would be invaluable in helping to gain a proper understanding of species requirements and hence further their conservation. Scope for future work is therefore considerable.

SPECIES NOTES

All records are those of the author unless otherwise acknowledged, with specific dates indicating the most recent occasion on which a species was recorded at a particular site. For the more common species, the information provided is a summary of detailed records collected from 1980 to 1998.

Where scientific names used by Hawell (1899) differ from those in current use, the former are provided in brackets to aid comparison.

[D] = range declining nationally, [I] = range increasing nationally (Kerney & Cameron 1979). [R] = Red data species (Norris 1998).

***Pomatias elegans* [D][R]**

Habitat: loose, very calcareous soils.

Unknown in Cleveland. Scarce and at the northern limit of its known range at two sites elsewhere in north east Yorkshire: Ashberry Hill (SE 566855) 1.5.1993 and Forge Valley (SE9886) 6.5.1990. It has been suggested that the factor limiting northerly distribution of this species is climatic, Kerney (1972) stating that "the main area of its distribution in Europe is rather closely bounded by the January isotherm for approximately 2°C".

***Acicula fusca* (*Acicula lineata*) [D]**

Habitat: associated with old woodland (Kerney & Stubbs 1980). Moist sites.

One known site in Cleveland: Airy Holme Wood (NZ5711) 10.9.1995. First published record, Watson (1854).

Seven known sites elsewhere in VC 62:

Beast Cliff, near Ravenscar (TA001993) 31.8.1994. First published record, Moore (1911).

Duncombe Park, near Helmsley (SE614835) 12.4.1997 D.Lindley.

Jugger Howe (SE948983) 19.7.1997 (Lindley & Wardhaugh 1998).

Forge Valley (SE9886) 26.9.1980, B. Colville and SE9887 on 16.10.1996, D. Lindley.

Raygate Slack (SE 8091) 17.5.1996, D. Lindley.

Seivedale (SE853887) 18.9.1996, D.Lindley.

Stonecliffe Wood, near Thirsk (SE476858) 30.4.1972 B.Colville.

Carychium minimum

Habitat: wetland species.

Locally common in suitable habitats.

Carychium tridentatum

Habitat: variety of damp habitats.

Common and widespread in Cleveland.

Not recognised as a separate species from *C.minimum* in the 19th century.

***Succinea oblonga* [D] [R]**

Habitat: wetland.

Nationally very scarce. One pre-1950 record, Scarborough area (Kerney 1976) where the site has been lost (Norris 1998).

Succinea putris

Habitat: wetland.

Currently thought to be reliably separable from *Oxyloma pfeifferi* (see below) only by anatomical details. Consequently there are few certain records for VC62 (Kerney 1976) and the reliability of many 19th century records is uncertain.

Cleveland:

Recently located in Kilton Wood (NZ7071) 29.10.1998.

Ashford (1879) recorded this species from "Redcar battery and Coatham marshes.....small and rather thick". Also there are shells in the Baker Hudson collection labelled "*Succinea putris*, Coatham Marsh, 1884". Hawell (1899) records *S.putris* as occurring at Kildale and Great Ayton. Specimens have been collected from Coatham Marsh and Kildale recently, with identification to be confirmed.

Elsewhere in VC62:

Hagg Wood Marsh near Levisham (SE8389) 27.8.1998

In marshland near Murton Wood, Caydale (SE531869) 16.8.1998

These two records and that for Kilton Wood noted above were confirmed by Mr F.

Naggs, Natural History Museum, London.

***Oxyloma pfeifferi* (*Succinea elegans*)**

Habitat: wetland and margins of ponds and streams. Occasionally in other damp sites.

Probably fairly common in suitable habitat in Cleveland but see comments on *Succinea putris* above.

***Azeca goodalli* (*Azeca tridens*)**

Habitat: Damp sites in woodland, beneath timber and in moss.

Scarce and apparently nowhere common in Cleveland. Five recent records:

Airy Holme Wood (NZ57 11) 17.5.1997

Kilton Wood (NZ7017) 6.9.1998

Rifts Wood (NZ6620) 13.9.1997

Saltburn Gill (NZ6720) 25.10. 1994

Tockett's Mill (NZ 6218) 15.8.1992

Cochlicopa lubrica

Habitat: a variety of moderately moist habitats.
Common and widespread in Cleveland.

Cochlicopa lubricella

Habitat: drier sites than *C.lubrica* eg grassland.
Widespread and possibly quite common. Described as a separate species from *C.lubrica* by Quick (1954) however the two are very similar in appearance and currently the taxonomic status of the whole genus in Europe is in doubt (see Wardhaugh 1996 for references). Due to the close similarity of these two species it is probable that *C.lubricella* has been under-recorded in Cleveland to date.

Pyramidula rupestris

Habitat: limestone screes and dry stone walls.
Unknown in Cleveland. Scarce elsewhere in VC62 (Kerney 1976) where recent records include
Hawnby Hill (SE5390) 3.6.1988
near Murton Grange (SE5388) 16.8.1998

Columella aspera

Recognised as a separate species from *Columella edentula* (see below) by Paul (1975).
However, some specimens are difficult to ascribe to either species.
Habitat: on herbage e.g. pendulous sedge (*Carex pendula*) or in fairly dry leaf litter e.g. oak (*Quercus sp.*) and greater woodrush (*Luzula sylvatica*).
Cleveland:
Dunsdale Wood (NZ 6018) 15.10.1989
Kildale Wood (NZ6009) 5.9.1998
Kilton Wood (NZ7017) 29.10.1998 (an extensive population in dry oak/woodrush leaf litter)
Mulgrave Woods (NZ8411) 23.6.1991
Rifts Wood (NZ6620) 13.9.1997
Whitecliff Wood (NZ7118) 28.5.1997

Columella edentula (Vertigo edentula)

Habitat: moist leaf litter in old deciduous woodlands. Sometimes on herbage e.g. pendulous sedge or yellow flag (*Iris pseudacorus*)
Cleveland: quite common. Sixteen known sites.

***Vertigo pusilla* [D] [R]**

Habitat: old dry stone walls with ivy and overhanging shrubs or trees.
Two known sites in Cleveland:
Delve (NZ792046) 27.8.1998. First recorded here by B. Colville, 21.9.1975 (Norris 1977).
near Egton Bridge (NZ798049) 27.8.1998.
Ashford (1879) records this species as being found "near Guisborough, very scarce" by Rev. W.C.Hey (see also Hey 1878).
Near old Hall at Ayton, near Scarborough (Hargreaves 1890).

Near castle at Ayton, near Scarborough, 1923 (Hargreaves 1953).

***Vertigo antivertigo* [D]**

Habitat: wetland species.

Only one recent record for Cleveland: Kildale 7.10.1972, found by A. Norris (Dearing 1972). Not found in Kildale Wood during recent visits by the present author. Not listed by Hawell (1899).

Elsewhere in VC 62:

Hagg Wood Marsh (SE8389) 6.10.1989

Riccaldale (SE 626884) 20.5.1995

Recorded from a few other 10 km squares in VC 62 (Kerney 1976).

***Vertigo substriata* [D]**

Habitat, marshy grassland and wet sites in old woodland, e.g. in moss, on pendulous sedge and yellow flag. Associated with ancient semi-natural woodland, at least locally (Kerney & Stubbs 1980, Wardhaugh 1997).

Recent Cleveland records:

Avens Wood (NZ7013) 3.9.1985

Kildale Wood (NZ6009) 11.10.1997

Mulgrave Woods, near Whitby 8.5.1971 A.Norris.

Wilton Wood (NZ5919) 30.10.1994

Nineteenth century records for Cleveland:

Airy Holme Wood near Great Ayton (Watson 1854). Not found here during recent visits by the present author.

"Guisborough Woods; not rare" recorded by Rev. W.C. Hey (Ashford 1879).

"Great Ayton quarries" (B. R. Lucas, in Hawell 1899)

There are two shells in the Baker Hudson collection labelled "*Vertigo antivertigo*, Skelton Woods 1883" but these are in fact *Vertigo substriata*.

Recent records elsewhere in VC62:

Forge Valley (SE9887) 21.8.1986

Hagg Wood Marsh (SE8389) 10.6.1989

Jugger Howe (SE948983) 19.7.1997 (Lindley & Wardhaugh 1998)

Ramsdale (NZ 9203) 6.5.1989

Vertigo pygmaea

Habitat: wet grassland on rushes and sedges.

One recent record for Cleveland:

Airy Holme Wood near Great Ayton (Watson 1854). Refound on a Yorkshire Conchological Society visit 7.10.1972 by A.Norris (Dearing 1972). Not found here during recent visits by the present author.

Other 19th century records for Cleveland:

"Ingleby Greenhow" and "Saltburn" (Hawell 1899)

Wilton Wood (Ashford 1879). Again, not found here during recent visits by the present author.

Recent records elsewhere in VC 62:

Ellerburn Banks (SE8584) 21.5.1994

Jugger Howe (SE948983) 19.7.1997 (Lindley & Wardhaugh 1998)
Riccaldale (SE626884) 20.5.1995

***Vertigo alpestris* [D] [R]**

Habitat: sheltered dry stone walls.

Distribution in Britain restricted very largely to the Lake District and Pennines. Unknown in Cleveland but located recently on a dry stone wall near Helmsley (SE 595836) 22.10.1997. This is the first and only record for this species in VC 62.

***Vertigo geyeri* [D] [R]**

Habitat: marshy areas associated with Bog Rush (*Schoenus nigricans*). Unknown in Cleveland and nationally very scarce being known at present from only about 20 sites in the whole of Britain (Colville 1998).

Found recently at two localities in VC62:

Ellerburn Banks National Nature Reserve (SE8584) 21.5.1994 (Lindley 1995)

Jugger Howe (SE948983) 19.7.1997 (Lindley & Wardhaugh 1998)

***Abida secale* [D] [R]**

No recent records for VC 62 (Kerney 1976) but there are specimens in Leicester Museum labelled "Helmsley (H. Teetham coll., 1890)" (M.P. Kerney pers.comm.).

***Pupilla muscorum* (*Pupa muscorum*) [D]**

Habitat: dry, open calcareous grassland and sand dunes.

Cleveland:

Marske dunes (NZ6522) 14.7.1985

Walls of Mount Grace Priory in 1962 (Morehouse 1963).

Hawell (1899) lists this species as present at Redcar, Saltburn and Staithes. The B. Lucas collection contains over 60 specimens labelled "Redcar 26.9.1925". Hence this species may have declined locally this century but this requires further investigation.

Recent records elsewhere in VC 62:

Ashberry Hill (SE564856) 1.5.1993

Beast Cliff top (TA0098) 20.8.1987

Caydale (SE5386) 5.6.1994

Silpho, disused quarry (SE 9591) 19.8.1987

Nearby in VC66 (Durham): North Gare breakwater and dunes (NZ5328) 31.7.1994

near Seal Sands (NZ5125) 24.7.1996

***Leiostyla anglica* (*Pupa anglica*)[D]**

Habitat: associated with damp areas in ancient semi-natural woodland but also in open marshy sites.

Recorded from ten localities in Cleveland and 19 in VC 62 in total by the present author. The east Cleveland woodlands seem to be something of a stronghold for this species which has a predominantly westerly distribution in Britain.

***Lauria cylindracea* (*Pupa cylindracea*)**

Habitat: varied. Woodland, grassland, dry stone walls. Widespread and common in Cleveland.

Vallonia costata (Helix pulchella var. costata)

Habitat: dry calcareous places eg short turf grassland and dry stone walls.

No recent records for Cleveland. Hawell (1899) lists this species as present in Saltburn and Redcar. Also there is one shell in the J. Hawell collection, labelled "Saltburn 2.4.1883".

Elsewhere in VC62:

Ashberry Hill (SE564856) 1.5.1993

Duncombe Park (SE607829) 12.4.1997

See also Kerney (1976) for other 10 km square records.

Vallonia pulchella (Helix pulchella) see next species.

No recent Cleveland records for *V. pulchella sensu stricto*

One for elsewhere in VC62: in marshland near Murton Wood, Caydale (SE531869)

16.8.1998

Vallonia excentrica Not recognised as distinct from *V. pulchella* in the 19th century. See above.

Habitat: dry, calcareous places.

Cleveland:

Coatham Marsh Reserve (NZ5824) 8.2.1992

Nineteenth century record: two shells in the J. Hawell collection, "Saltburn, 2.4.1883".

Elsewhere in VC62:

Ashberry Hill (SE564856) 1.5.1993

Ashberry Pasture Reserve (SE567853) 1.5.1993

Duncombe Park (SE609823) 12.4.1997

Silpho, disused quarry (SE9591) 28.7.1987

Nearby in VC66:

near Seal Sands (NZ5125) 22.7.94

Acanthinula aculeata (Helix aculeata)

Habitat: moderately moist areas in woodland leaf litter.

Cleveland: not uncommon but never found in dense populations.

Spermodea lamellata (Helix lamellata) [D]

Habitat: a strong association with ancient semi-natural woodland, locally at least (Kerney & Stubbs 1980, Wardhaugh 1997). Most often in deep, moist beech/oak leaf litter.

Cleveland:

Avens and Gerrick Woods, near Moorsholm, June 1983 (Norris 1984)

Dunsdale Wood (NZ6018) 15.10.1989

Kildale Wood (NZ6009) 28.2.1998

Kilton Wood (NZ7017) 29.10.1998

Mulgrave Woods (NZ8411) 31.12.1997

Rifts Wood (NZ6620) 13.9.1997

Rosecroft Wood (NZ7117) 6.9.1998

Saltburn Gill (NZ7620) 14.10.1984
Tockett's Mill (NZ6218) 15.8.1992
Whitecliff Wood (NZ7118) 28.5.1997
Wilton Wood (NZ5919) 8.9.1998

Ena obscura (Buliminus obscurus)

Habitat: woodland, often on tree trunks when damp, scree, dry stone walls.

Cleveland: Hummersea Scar (NZ7219) one specimen on 24.7.1983. Not refound here after searching on 6.9.1998.

Kildale Wood (NZ5909) one specimen on 5.9.1998 (and one very old empty shell on 28.2.1998).

Mulgrave Woods (NZ8411) 11.10.1998

Elsewhere in VC62: eight other known sites all to the south in calcareous areas.

Hawell (1899) Lists *E. obscura* as present at Ingleby Greenhow (original reference, Roebuck 1890) Kildale, Kilton (original reference, Hudson 1889), Mount Grace, Mulgrave, Saltburn and Staithes. Other 19th century records include Airy Holme Wood (Ashford 1879) and specimens in the Baker Hudson collection labelled "Great Ayton 1882"). Bearing in mind these 19th century records it is notable that *E. obscura* has not been found during recent visits to, for example, Airy Holme Wood, Kilton Wood, Newton Wood, Saltburn Gill or Rifts Wood. Hence the available information suggests that this species may have declined in Cleveland during this century.

Punctum pygmaeum (Helix pygmaea)

Widespread and common in moderately moist habitats but easily overlooked due to its small size.

Discus rotundatus (Helix rotunda)

Widespread and very common

Arion ater agg.

Widespread and very common, the black form in more natural habitats and other colour forms much more strongly synanthropic.

Arion subfuscus

Widespread and common.

Arion circumscriptus

This and the next two species not recognised as distinct in the 19th century and referred to by Hawell (1899) as *Arion fasciatus*.

Widespread and very common.

Arion silvaticus

Habitat: Most often encountered in woodland.

Occasional.

Arion fasciatus

Common. Synanthropic.

Arion distinctus The *Arion hortensis* aggregate was reclassified as three species, *A. hortensis*, *A. distinctus* and *A. owenii* by Davies (1979). Of these, only *A. distinctus* has been recorded in Cleveland, where it is widespread and very common. Surprisingly, Hawell (1899) does not refer to this species group at all.

Arion intermedius

Common and widespread. Not referred to by Hawell (1899).

Vitrina pellucida

Widespread and very common from woodland to dune slacks, maturing in autumn and winter.

***Vitrea crystallina* (*Hyalinia crystallina*)**

Widespread and very common.

Vitrea contracta

Not recognised as distinct from the above species in the 19th century.

Habitat: drier places than *Vitrea crystallina*, typically beneath rocks and stones.

Widespread and common.

***Nesovitrea hammonis* (*Hyalinia radiatula*)**

Widespread and common.

***Aegopinella pura* (*Hyalinia pura*)**

Widespread and common.

***Aegopinella nitidula* (*Hyalinia nitidula*)**

Widespread and common. Synanthropic.

***Oxychilus draparnaudi* [I]**

Habitat: dune slacks and grassland.

Coatham Dunes (NZ5825) 7.7.1991

Coatham Marsh (NZ5824) 8.2.1992

Not listed by Hawell (1899). Not common in VC62 (Kerney 1976).

***Oxychilus cellarius* (*Hyalinia cellaria*)**

Widespread and very common.

***Oxychilus alliarius* (*Hyalinia alliaria*)**

Widespread and very common.

***Oxychilus helveticus* (*Hyalinia glabra*)**

Scarce in VC62 and at the northern edge of its range in Britain (Kerney 1976).

Cleveland: Marton West Beck (NZ 518143) 4.8.1993

Nearby in VC66 (Durham):Wolviston (NZ454259) in an old pile of building rubble in a

hedgerow 13.4.1994.

Hawell (1899) records this species as found in "Wilton" by B.R. Lucas but it has not been found in Wilton Wood at least, during recent visits. There are shells in the Baker Hudson collection labelled "near Stainton, 4.8.1886".

Zonitoides excavatus (Hyalinia excavata)

Habitat: ground litter, under logs and bark in non-calcareous woodland sites.

Cleveland: Kildale Wood (NZ6009) 1.6.1996

Hawell (1899) records it as present at Kildale and Ingleby Greenhow, both in 1893.

Recorded at Arncliffe Wood, Egton (Fysher, 1925).

Elsewhere in VC62:

Ramsdale (NZ926035) 6.5.1989

Newtondale (SE8394) 5.5.1994

Scar Wood, Jugger Howe (SE9497) 19.7.1997 (Lindley & Wardhaugh 1998)

Zonitoides nitidus

Habitat: wetland areas.

Cleveland: no recent records but see Kerney (1976).

Hawell (1899) records it from Ingleby Greenhow.

Milax gagates (Amalia gagates)

Habitat: synanthropic.

No recent records but see Kerney (1976).

Nineteenth century record: Hudson (1886b) Middlesbrough, "kitchen gardens which are the remains of the old Tea Gardens".

Milax sowerbyi (Amalia sowerbyi)

Habitat: synanthropic.

Coatham Marsh 7.10.1972 (Dearing 1972). Also see Kerney (1976).

Hawell (1899): Middlesbrough.

***Tandonia budapestensis* [I]**

Widespread, common and synanthropic in Cleveland. An introduced species first recorded in Britain by Phillips & Watson (1930).

***Boetgerilla pallens* [I]**

An introduced species with the first British record being in 1972 (Colville, Lloyd-Evans & Norris 1974).

Cleveland : Kilton Wood (NZ7017) 1.9.90

Cliff Ridge disused quarry (NZ573117) 14.6.1995

Whitecliff Wood (NZ7118) 19.5.1996

Limax maximus

Widespread and quite common.

***Limax cinereoniger* [D]**

Habitat: associated with ancient semi-natural woodland at least locally (Kerney & Stubbs 1980, Wardhaugh 1997). Scarce.

Cleveland:

Avens and Gerrick Woods, near Moorsholm, June 1983 (Norris 1984)

Easington Wood, near Scaling Dam, 17.5.1981 (Lloyd-Evans 1982)

Kildale Wood (NZ6009) 7.6.1998

Kilton Wood (NZ7017) 19.9.1998

Newton Wood (NZ5712) 17.5.1998

Wilton Wood (NZ5919) 21.7.1994

near Wilton Castle (NZ5819) 10.8.1995

Elsewhere in VC62: Ashberry Pasture Reserve (SE5685) 1.5.1993

Hayburn Wyke (TA0096) 26.9.1992

Limax flavus

Habitat: synanthropic.

Cleveland: yard to rear of Aske Road, Middlesbrough (NZ4919) 1978.

Nearby in VC66 (Durham): grounds of Teesside High School (NZ4214) 4.5.1993

Not listed by Hawell (1899).

***Limax tenellus* [D] [R]**

Habitat: associated with ancient semi-natural woodland (Kerney & Stubbs 1980).

This species has been found at only two sites in VC62:

Dovedale Griff, Dalby Forest (SE870910) 16.8.1988. First recorded here earlier in 1988 by A. Norris.

East Arncliffe Wood (NZ792046) 28.9.1992 B. Colville and J. Nelson.

Limax marginatus

Habitat: damp woodland, often ascending tree trunks. Dry stone walls.

Quite common in Cleveland.

***Deroceras laeve* (*Agriolimax laevis*)**

Habitat: marshy areas including stream banks in woodland and open places.

Common in suitable habitat.

***Deroceras reticulatum* (*Agriolimax agrestis*)**

Widespread and very common.

Deroceras caruanae

Habitat: synanthropic but found in a wide variety of habitats. Common. This is an introduced species, first recorded in Britain in 1930 (Quick 1960).

Euconulus alderi

Not recognised as a separate species from *E. fulvus* in the 19th century (see below).

Habitat: marshy places including stream sides.

Fairly common in suitable habitat in Cleveland.

Euconulus fulvus (Hyalinia fulva)

Common and widespread in a variety of moderately moist habitats.

Cecilioides acicula

Habitat: subterranean in calcareous areas. Sometimes, empty shells can be found on molehills or in flood debris by streams and rivers.

No recent Cleveland records.

Elsewhere in VC62: near Lastingham in 1969 (Dearing 1970). See also Kerney (1976).

Dixon & Watson (1854), quoted in Hawell (1899), recorded it once as abundant in flood debris on the River Tees near Middlesbrough.

Cochlodina laminata (Clausilia laminata)

Habitat: some association with old woodland in the local area (Wardhaugh 1997)

Fairly common, with 15 known sites in Cleveland.

Not found recently in Newton or Airy Holme Woods but Ashford (1879) lists it as occurring "round Roseberry but not common" hence it may have been lost from this area.

Clausilia bidentata (Clausilia perversa)

Habitat: woodland, hedgerows and dry stone walls.

Common and widespread in Cleveland.

Clausilia dubia

Never recorded in VC 62 but occurs in the Pennines and nearby at a few places on the Durham coast e.g. Hawthorn Dene (NZ440460) 25.5.1998. See also Kerney (1976) and Lowe

Balea perversa [D]

Habitat: dry stone walls. This species is said to occur on trunks of trees (Kerney & Cameron 1979) but it has never been found in such a place in VC62 by the present author. It has declined nationally, possibly due to atmospheric pollution (Holyoak 1978). A tentative suggestion is that such pollution may have destroyed tree trunk lichens upon which *Balea perversa* may feed. This is however very speculative.

Watson (1854) recorded this species in Airy Holme Wood and Hawell (1899) lists it as occurring in Ingleby Arncliffe, Ingleby Greenhow (here being specimens in the Baker Hudson collection labelled "1884, near Ingleby Greenhow"), Kildale and Wilton Wood. Extensive searching by the present author in Airy Holme, Kildale and Wilton Woods has failed to reveal it, nor has it been found anywhere else in Cleveland during recent survey work. The subjective impression is that it has disappeared from the non-calcareous northern parts of VC62 but that it has persisted on dry stone walls in calcareous areas in the south.

Recent VC62 records: Duncombe Park (SE6182) 12.4.1997

Hutton-le-Hole (SE7089) 3.4.1986

Noddle End near Murton Grange (SE5288) 16.8.1998

Raincliffe Wood (SE9988) 24.8.1989

Sinnington (SE7486) 21.9.1996

Testacella scutulum

No recent Cleveland records. Occurs at Valley Gardens, Scarborough (Norris 1987).
Not listed by Hawell (1899).

Candidula intersecta (Helix caperata)

Habitat: dunes and dry calcareous grassland.
Common at suitable coastal localities.

Candidula gigaxii

Unknown in Cleveland but present at a few sites elsewhere in north east Yorkshire and Durham (Kerney 1976 and Lowe 1989).

Cernuella virgata (Helix virgata)

Habitat: dunes and dry calcareous grassland.
Common at suitable coastal localities.

***Helicella itala* [D][R]**

Habitat: dunes and dry calcareous grassland.
No recent records for Cleveland.

Ferguson (1860) describes this species as present on "sandhills in front of Coatham, not so plentiful as formerly". There are shells in the Baker Hudson collection labelled "Coatham, 1887" and others at the Dorman museum from the same place dated 1890. *Helicella itala* not been found during numerous visits to Coatham dunes in recent years. The nearest known colony is on the tops of the dunes just south of the North Gare in VC66 (NZ537276) where live specimens were last found on 31.7.1994. Only a few empty shells were found here on 12.3 1995 and 25.5.1998.

There are a few other records for this species elsewhere in VC62 (Kerney 1976).

Monacha cantiana (Helix cantiana)

Habitat: grassland, notably roadside verges and river banks.

At the northern limit of its British distribution in this area, *M. cantiana* is expanding its range nationally but was already present in Cleveland in the 19th century. Hawell (1899) noted it "on the railway batter at Ingleby Greenhow" and quotes T.A. Lofthouse as finding it at Great Ayton "a field's distance from the railway".

Recent Cleveland records: Brewsdale (NZ4610) 19.5.1993

near the railway line at Great Ayton (NZ572113) 28.8.1993 (possibly the same site as that described by Hawell, see above).

Lazenby (NZ568203) 29.10.1995

Leven Bridge (NZ445123) 29.9.1988

Weary Valley (NZ456095) 9.3.1991

Also nearby in VC 66 (Durham): banks of the Tees, Egglecliffe (NZ429141) 25.1.1994

Ashfordia granulata (Helix granulata)

Habitat: damp areas, mostly in old woodland, sometimes ascending vegetation. Virtually

endemic to Britain (Kerney & Cameron 1979).
Eleven known sites in Cleveland.
Hawell (1899) listed it as present at eight localities.

Zenobiella subrufescens (Helix fusca) [D]

Habitat: strongly associated with ancient semi-natural woodland at least locally (Kerney & Stubbs 1980, Wardhaugh 1997). Can be found ascending vegetation. Matures in autumn and winter and can be overlooked at other times of year.
Recorded recently at ten sites in Cleveland.
Hawell (1899) recorded it at seven localities.

Trichia striolata (Helix rufescens) [I]

Habitat: gardens, roadside verges, hedgerows, woodland and other places, mostly near human habitation.
Widespread and common at the present time. Hawell (1899) provides just one record: "about a mile from Mount Grace on the Middlesbrough side", suggesting an expansion in range locally, in line with the national trend this century.

Trichia plebia

Unknown in Cleveland and scarce in VC62 where it is at the northern limit of its range (Kerney 1976)

Trichia hispida (Helix hispida)

Habitat: varied, damp to fairly dry sites.
Widespread and common.

Arianta arbustorum (Helix arbustorum)

Habitat: chiefly deciduous woodland.
Quite common and widespread.

Helicigona lapicida [D]

No recent records for Cleveland. Not listed by Hawell (1899).
Elsewhere in VC62: Cropton Banks Wood, near Appleton-le-Moors, one empty shell, 25.5.1985 (Norris 1986).
There are a few 19th century records for elsewhere in VC62 (Kerney 1976).
Nearest known locality for live animals: Jervaulx Abbey in VC65 (SE1785) 15.7.1998 (there are shells in the B.R. Lucas collection from here dated 17.5.1926).

Cepaea nemoralis (Helix nemoralis)

Habitat: varied, including deciduous woodland, grassland and dunes.
Widespread and common.

Cepaea hortensis (Helix hortensis)

Habitat: more restricted than *C. nemoralis* to some extent occurring in more moist habitats e.g. river and streamside vegetation and clay cliffs along the coast.

Quite common in suitable habitat.

There is some evidence to suggest that this species has expanded its range locally. Ashford (1879) comments that it is unknown in the area. Hudson (1884) wrote "I have not found *hortensis* nearer to the sea than about seven miles" and he regarded it as uncommon in Cleveland (Hudson 1886a). See also anon. (1887) where just five known records are provided for the area. Records in Taylor (1894-1921) for VC62 are all southerly.

Helix aspersa

Habitat: gardens and similar places, being strongly synanthropic. Also sand dunes and coastal grassland.

Widespread and common (Wardhaugh 1994).

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Cowslips

By Norman Thompson

"Where the bee sucks, there suck I. In a cowslip's bell I lie" Shakespeare

A flower of clayey meadows and pastures, but also on chalk.

Like the primrose there are two forms, pin-eyed and thrum-eyed, and the flowers are therefore termed dimorphic, the two forms being borne on separate plants.

Charles Darwin pointed out the significance of this variation, which is to ensure cross-pollination by insects.

The cowslip is one of the food plants of the Duke of Burgundy fritillary.

Richard Mabey writes in his flora:-

"The cowslip's cultural history suggests a flower that was once as abundant and accessible as the buttercup and there was a dramatic decline in the 1950's to 1980's"

I remember, when I was a small boy before the War, picking cowslips in the fields bordering Green Lane, Acklam, when it was a green lane, but do not remember seeing any great quantity.

One reason for it's comeback in recent years is that the seed has been included when Council's have re-seeded road verges.

I decided this year to have a look round the Hemsley area to see how the plant was faring.

- There are four large patches on the roadside between Sour Leys Farm and Oscar Park, including Ox-lips and a red variety.
- Descending the bank into Helmsley, there are two large patches on the left.
- Cow House Bank road before Carlton village. Quarry on the left being used as a dump for manure. Lots of plants on the grassy banks. Nothing more on this road.
- Quite a few small clumps on the left of road before Pockley Village but nothing further on.
- Road to aluminium sculpture. Quite a lot on the right hand verge near Middle Baxton Farm. Nothing further on.
- Just a scattering in Ashberry Pasture. Quite a lot in Top Pasture, but widely distributed with no large patches.
- Patch at Stonegrave Village.
- Patches before and after Slingsby Village.
- By far the best show of cowslips is at Rievaulx Terrace. If you visit about mid-May, the whole edge of the Terrace, from the Ionic to the Tuscan temple is one sheet of cowslips. It is certainly a sight to see. The National Trust manage the grass cutting so that the flowers are able to set seed.

It would appear therefore, that cowslips only survive in the area, in any quantity, on road verges where the grass cutters do not reach, or on ungrazed pastures.

Gravel Hole

By Malcolm Birtle

Gravel Hole nature reserve is an old sand and gravel quarry in Norton (Map ref. NZ447231). It is a very small reserve covering about an acre. It is nevertheless very interesting as it contains grassland more typical of the magnesian limestone escarpment. In the early 1980's the reserve had a very active management team who collected many records from the site. These records have never been published. They are published here now to provide a basis for assessing any changes that have taken place in the last 17-20 years. Land adjacent to the site is now been offered for sale for residential housing which will radically change the surroundings if the development goes ahead, Perhaps it is time for a re-survey of the site ? Over the last twenty years the site has been actively managed and ignored at different times. It has been and is currently looked after by the Tees Valley Wildlife Trust (ex. Cleveland Wildlife Trust, ex. Cleveland Nature Conservation Trust).

Plants

Creeping Cinquefoil	<i>Potentilla reptans</i>	Fleabane	<i>Erigeron sp.</i>
Silverweed	<i>Potentilla anserina</i>	Blue Fleabane	<i>Erigeron acer</i>
Wild Rose	<i>Rosa sp.</i>	Sow Thistle	<i>Sonchus arvensis</i>
Tufted Vetch	<i>Vicia cracca</i>	Coltsfoot	<i>Tussilago farafara</i>
Meadow Pea	<i>Lathyrus pratensis</i>	Mouse-ear	<i>Hieracium</i>
		Hawkweed	<i>pilosella</i>
Kidney Vetch	<i>Anthyllis vulneraria</i>	Lesser Hawkbit	<i>Leontodon</i>
			<i>taraxacoides</i>
Birds Foot Trefoil	<i>Lotus corniculatus</i>	Groundsel	<i>Senecio vulgaris</i>
Hop Trefoil	<i>Trifolium campestre</i>	Fairy Flax	<i>Linum catharticum</i>
Black Medick	<i>Medicago lupulina</i>	Toadflax	<i>Linaria vulgaris</i>
Zigzag Clover	<i>Trifolium medium</i>	Forget-me-not	<i>Myosotis sp.</i>
Red Clover	<i>Trifolium pratense</i>	Yellow Rattle	<i>Rhinanthus minor</i>
White Clover	<i>Trifolium repens</i>	Red Poppy	<i>Papaver rhoeas</i>
Stinging Nettle	<i>Urtica dioica</i>	Selfheal	<i>Prunella vulgaris</i>
Meadow Buttercup	<i>Ranunculus acris</i>	White Dead	<i>Lamium album</i>
		Nettle	
Goldilocks	<i>Ranunculus</i>	Blue Eyed Grass	<i>Sisyrinchium</i>
	<i>auricomus</i>		<i>bermudiana</i>
White Champion	<i>Silene alba</i>	Soft Rush	<i>Juncus effusum</i>
Cowslip	<i>Primula versis</i>	Toad Rush	<i>Juncus bufonius</i>
Ribwort Plantain	<i>Plantago lanceolata</i>	Jointed Rush	<i>Juncus articulatus</i>
Goosegrass	<i>Galium aparine</i>	Glaucous Sedge	<i>Carex flacca</i>
Slender Centaury	<i>Centarium</i>	Common Sedge	<i>Carex nigra</i>
	<i>tenuiflorum</i>		
Lesser Centaury	<i>Centarium</i>	Common Spotted	<i>Gymnoidernia</i>
	<i>pulchellum</i>	Orchid	<i>conopsea</i>
Rosebay Willowherb	<i>Epilobium</i>	Fragrant Orchid	<i>Dactylorchis</i>
	<i>angustifoilium</i>		<i>fuchsii</i>
Crosswort	<i>Cruciata laevipes</i>	Weld	<i>Reseda lureola</i>
Cow Parsley	<i>Anthriscus sylvestris</i>	Burdock	<i>Arctium sp.</i>
Hemlock	<i>Conium maculatum</i>	Field Horsetail	<i>Equisetum arvense</i>
Wild Carrot	<i>Dalkus carota</i>	Meadow	<i>Geranium</i>
		Cranesbill	<i>pratense</i>
Mugwort	<i>Artemesia vulgaris</i>	Cocksfoot	<i>Dactylis glomerata</i>
Germander Speedwell	<i>Veronica chamaedrys</i>	Yorkshire Fog	<i>Holcus lanatus</i>
Common Ragwort	<i>Senecio jacobaea</i>	Quaking Grass	<i>Briza media</i>
Common Catsear	<i>Hypochoeris radicata</i>	Wavy Hair Grass	<i>Deschampsia</i>
			<i>flexuosa</i>
Greater Knapweed	<i>Centaurea scabiosa</i>	Black Bent	<i>Agrostis gigantea</i>
Common Knapweed	<i>Centaurea nigra</i>	Fescue	<i>Festuca sp.</i>
Creeping Thistle	<i>Cirsium arvense</i>	Woundwort	<i>Stachys sp.</i>
Spear Thistle	<i>Cirsium vulgare</i>	Great Burnet	<i>Sanguisorba</i>
			<i>officinalis</i>
Gorse	<i>Ulex europaeus</i>	Elderberry	<i>Sambucus nigra</i>
Sycamore	<i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>	Whitebeam	<i>Sorbus aria</i>

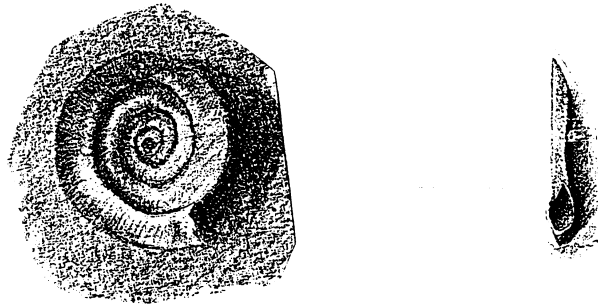
Hawthorn

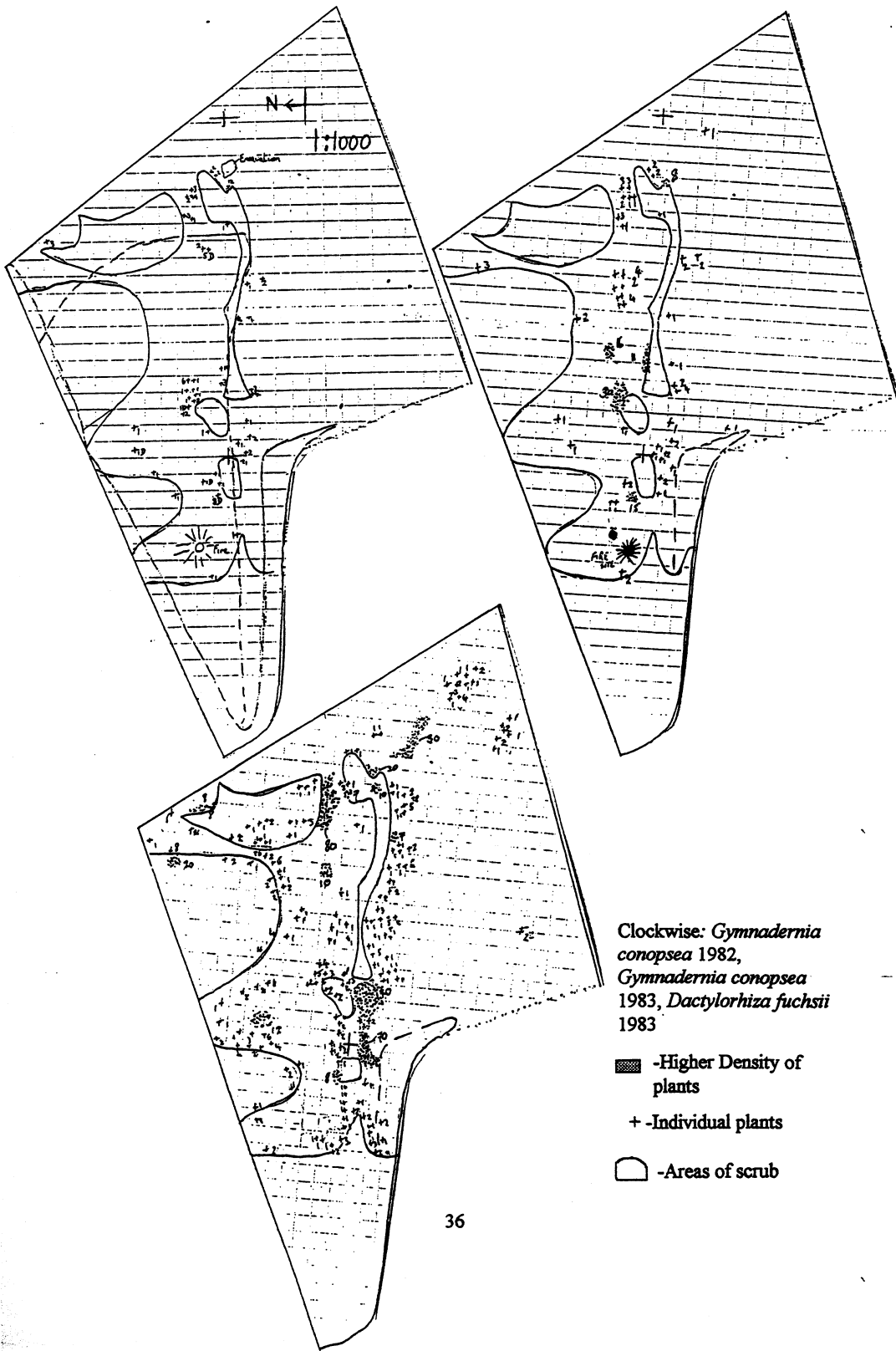
Cratagus monegina

Alder

Alnus sp.

Spotted Orchids and Fragrant Orchids were surveyed in detail. The following are the sketch maps from these surveys.





Clockwise: *Gymnadernia conopsea* 1982,
Gymnadernia conopsea 1983, *Dactylorhiza fuchsii* 1983

- Higher Density of plants
- + -Individual plants
- Areas of scrub

Molluscs - by Tony Wardhaugh

This species list is based on visits on 2/6/1983 and 30/6/1983. Nomenclature is based on 'A Field Guide to Land Snails of Britain and North West Europe', by M.P. Kerney and R.A.D. Cameron (Collins, 1979)

Carychium tridentatum
Cochlicopa lubrica
Acanthinula aculeata
Discus rotundatus
Arion ater
Arion circumscriptus
Vitrea crystallina
Aegopinella pura
Aegopinella nitidula
Oxychilus cellarius (single empty shell)
Oxychilus alliarius
Deroceras reticulatum
Trichia hispida
Candidula intersecta
Cepaea nemoralis
Helix aspersa (empty shells)

All the above are widespread and common in Britain.

Butterflies and Moths

Small Copper	<i>Lycaena phlaeas</i>
Common Blue	<i>Polyommatus icarus</i>
Wall	<i>Lasiommata megera</i>
Dingy Skipper	<i>Erynnis tages</i>
Large Skipper	<i>Ochlodes venata</i>
Small Skipper	<i>Thymelicus sylvestris</i>
Large White	<i>Pieris brassicae</i>
Small White	<i>Pieris rapae</i>
Small Tortoiseshell	<i>Aglais urticae</i>
	<i>Ancylis badiana</i>

Mammals

Fox
Common Shrew
Rabbit
Bank Vole
Weasel

Hare

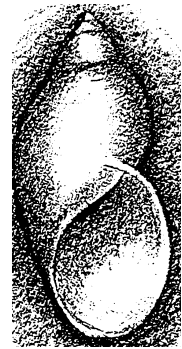
Amphibian

Toad

Birds

Blackbird
Song Thrush
Mistle Thrush
Redwing
Fieldfare

Wren
Linnet
Goldfinch
Dunnock
Yellowhammer
Willow Warbler
Whitethroat
Partridge
Kestrel
Skylark
Magpie
Greenfinch
Short-eared Owl



Soil Structure

Two small trenches were dug in June 1983 to investigate the soil in the reserve. One trench was in the central flat part of the reserve and the other was on the bank sloping towards the railway. The soils were markedly different. The bank seems to be composed of coarse gravel with a small amount of sand. This 'soil' had little structure below the vegetation. However, the soil in the flat part of the reserve was found to be wholly composed of sand which exhibited some very fine structures.

The trench in the flat part of the reserve was 100 cms deep and the sand was waterlogged at the bottom. Going upwards from the waterlogged sand were the following layers

Sand with charcoal in discontinuous layers of clay	25.2 cms
Two thin layers of charcoal	1 cm
Yellow/brown sand	25 cms
Brown sandy clay with much charcoal with highly convolute structures **	18 cms

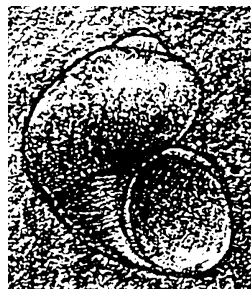
Sand Graded from brown at the bottom to yellow at the top. Roots penetrated this layer

Remainder of section to surface was humus and rotting vegetation.

The sandy clay layer marked ** above contained structures which have been interpreted as Convolute Laminations. These have been described by Dzulynski and Smith. The structures look like folds and ridges in the clay/sand layers. They are cross-sections of ridges and troughs in the sand/clay layers. These have been produced after the sand and clay was laid down in a moving body of water. The water moving above the sand/clay contained vortices which exerted a pulling force on the sand/clay producing the structures. The clay/sand mix would behave in a plastic fashion. The forces in the vortices would be enough to deform the sand/clay layers but not sufficient to rupture them and destroy any structures which had formed. So, it is likely that these structures were formed by water flowing across the sand/clay not long after it had been deposited. The direction of the ridges and troughs indicate that the water was flowing either east to west, or west to east.

References

Dzulynski S., Smith A.J., '*Convolute Lamination; It's origin, preservation and directional Significance*', Journal of Sedimentary Petrology, 1963, **33** pp.616-27



The Millenium project-Atlas 2000

By Pat Wood

The Botanical Society of the British Isles and the Biological Research Centre are bringing out for the Millenium an Atlas 2000. This is a major new project to produce an updated atlas of the vascular plants of Britain and Ireland. A previous atlas was brought out in 1962. The aim of the new project is to bring together the many plant records made since the publication of the last atlas.

Since the atlas of 1962 many changes in our environment have taken place, particularly in land use and changing agricultural practices. By comparing the results from both these atlases it will be possible to see how our flora has changed.

A number of the Cleveland Naturalists' Field Club members are also members of the BSBI and over the past few years have been collecting plant records for the new atlas.

Three local floras have been published since 1962 which cover areas of Cleveland:
'The Flora and Vegetation of County Durham' by Gordon Graham
'A Guide to the Wild Flowers of Cleveland' by Ian Lawrence
'Wild Plants and their Habitats on the North York Moors' by Nan Sykes

In 1987 the Nature Conservancy Council (English Nature) and Cleveland County Council sponsored Phase 1 surveys of Cleveland, the aim being to build up a database of land usage in the county. From this a Cleveland Wildlife Strategy Plan was drawn up. This was then followed by Phase 2 surveys which included detailed studies of many of the sites of importance highlighted in the original survey, so that countryside management plans could be drawn up to protect these areas.

These floras and the surveys listed above have greatly increased our knowledge of our local flora, but over the years much valuable information has also been collected by organisations such as the Cleveland Wildlife Trust (Tees Valley Wildlife Trust), the Yorkshire Naturalists' Union and also from the work of local botanists.

For the purpose of recording plants for Flora 2000 Great Britain and Ireland are divided into 153 Vice Counties. In charge of each one is a Vice County recorder who is responsible for the collection and verification of all plant records in the area. The records collected by BSBI members of the Cleveland Naturalists' Field Club have now been put on computer and sent to the Vice County recorder. Many of these have been collected during club outings and from individual club members. Most of the recording should be completed by June 1999.

Any members who feel they may have additional records that could be added to the lists or who would like to help with the surveys should not hesitate to contact Ian Lawrence. For this atlas the organisers are particularly interested in the distribution of trees and would be pleased to have any local records.

Molluscs from Billingham Beck

By Malcolm Birtle

During September 1998 Billingham Beck, and part of Thorpe Beck were dredged by the Environment Agency during flood prevention work. This is done at regular intervals (every few years) and has been going on for some time. Heslop-Harrison wrote in 1918 '*Owing to the vital importance of keeping the beck constantly cleared to secure a steady flow in such a low lying district it is periodically cleaned out*'. The material removed from the bottom and margins of the becks was initially dumped on the side and later removed from the site.

Amongst this material were large numbers of molluscs. Specimens were taken from this material and have been identified. Many of the species were present in enormous numbers. All the species, with the exception of the River Limpets seemed to be uniformly distributed along the length of beck sampled. The Limpets were found north of the railway. A list of molluscs was published in the Reverend John Brewster's 'The Parochial History and Antiquities of Stockton-upon-Tees' published in 1829. The list was compiled by John Hogg who later published 'The Natural History of the Vicinity of Stockton' in 1827. (Hogg also covered birds, plants, fish, insects, marine invertebrates, fungi, algae, and geology). The list contains twenty species. The locality information varies widely in detail; from identifying a specific ditch for one species to very vague descriptions of a large area for others. However, many of the records on the list clearly refer to Billingham Beck Valley. The following description of species found after dredging took place is compared with Hogg's list. Hogg used both Draparnaud's and Linnaen names which have changed. The main names which Hogg used are in brackets. The references listed below were used to determine their current names.

Acroloxus lacustris (*Patella oblonga*) River Limpets

Ancylus fluviatilis (*Patella lacustris*)

The river limpets do not seem to have been regarded as particularly common by Hogg as he identifies a specific mill race for *fluviatilis*. In this collection few specimens of *fluviatilis* were found and only one specimen of *lacustris*.

Bithynia tentaculata (*Cyclostoma impurum*, Common Bithynia

Helix tentaculata)

Described by Hogg as abundant and was found as frequently as *V. piscinalis* here.

Valvata piscinalis Common Valve Snail

Described as common by Hogg and seems to remain so.

Potamopyrgus jenkinsi Jenkin's Spire Snail

This was not mentioned on Hogg's list. It was found to be as abundant as *V. piscinalis* in this collection.

Lymnaea stagnalis Great Pond Snail

L. peregra Wandering Snail

L. auricularia Ear Pond Snail
None of these *Lymnaea* were listed by Hogg. *Stagnalis* and *peregra* were found abundantly. *Auricularia* was less common.

Anodonta anatina Duck Mussel
Hogg reported Duck Mussel to be abundant in all water courses. Many specimens were found in this study.

Planorbis vortex (Helix vortex) Common Whirl Snail/Whirlpool Ram's-horn Snail
Both Hogg and I found this species to be exceedingly common

Planorbarius corneus Great Ram's-Horn Snail
Planorbis carinata
Odd specimens of these two species were found in this collection. They are not mentioned by Hogg.

Pisidium sp. Pea Mussels
Representatives of these species were abundant in the recently dredged material

Some terrestrial snails were also noted amongst the dredged material.

Capaea nemoralis Brown Lipped Banded Snail
Helix aspersa Garden Snail
Cochlicopa lubrica/lubricella Slippery Snail

Hogg lists the following species which were not found during these dredging operations. This may be because the dredging was carried out on the main water-course and some of the following species prefer ditches, ponds and rivulets.

Theodoxus fluviatilis (Nerita fluviatilis) River Nerite
Planorbis contortus (Helix concorta) Thick River Cheese Snail/Twisted Ram's Horn Snail
Segmentina complanata (Planorbis marginatus, Helix complanata) Marginated Whirl Snail/Flat Ram's Horn Snail
Lymnaea palustris (Limneus palustris, Helix palustris) Marsh Snail
Lymnaea truncatula (Limneus minutus?, Helix limosa) Mud Snail/Dwarf Pond Snail
Physa fontalis (Physa fontinalis, Bulla fontinalis) Fountain Dipper/Bladder Snail
Aplexa hypnorum (Physa hypnorum, Bulla hypnorum) Moss Dipper/Moss Bladder Snail

Succinea putris (*Succinea amphiba*, *Helix succinea*) Amber Snail

(*Tellina rivulis*, *Tellina amnica*) River Tellen

(*Cyclas cornea*, *Tellina cornea*) Horny Tellen

(*Cyclas lacustris*, *Tellina lacustris*)

Reported by Hogg to be "...found in a pond half a mile to the North East of Portrack"

Unio pictorum (*Mya pictorum*) Painter's Muscle

Postscript: At the time of publishing these Proceedings (March, 1999) Billingham Beck Valley is more heavily flooded than it has been for years after days of persistent rain.

References

Brewster John, '*The Parochial History and Antiquities of Stockton-upon-Tees*', 1829, Facsimile Reprint Patrick and Shotton, 1971

Ellis R.A., '*British Snails*', Oxford, 1926

Gray J.E., after Turton W., '*Manual of Land and Fresh-water Snails of the British Isles*', Longmans, 1857

Heslop-Harrison J.W., '*A Survey of the Lower Tees Marshes and of the Reclaimed Areas adjoining them*', Trans. Nat. Hist. Soc. of North. and Durham, **5**, pp.89-154, 1918

Janus H., '*Molluscs*', Burke, 1965



Field Meetings 1999

Full details of the walks and their starting-points are given below. If you require further details about a walk or in the event of inclement weather and possible cancellation please contact the leader of the walk. Please carry suitable refreshment with you! This will be necessary for the walks that start on a morning and it may well be appropriate to take tea on an afternoon walk.

Presidents message to members and potential members

I hope that you will find outings to your taste from this varied programme. Any suggestions for future outings are always welcomed by the committee. It is hoped that members will share transport, where possible, to ease any parking-problems and be prepared to offer lifts to members without cars.

I should like to welcome any prospective members to join some of the outings. I am sure that you will find our members friendly and helpful. I have found the field-trips a splendid way of learning more about the natural history of the area.

by Pam Law (President)

Saturday 17th April 11.00am Eric Gendle ☎ 01642 281235

GR SE 899827 **Cockchafer Wood, North of Ebberston**. Cars are parked in the village of Ebberston. The walk will be about five miles in length Cockchafer wood is a YNT reserve.

Sunday 25th April 11.00 am Alick Hunter ☎ 01751 417630

GR SE 677858 **Kirkdale Woods**. Meet near St. Gregory's Minster. Arrangements have been made for us to park in the field near the Minster.

Wednesday 12th May 7.00 pm Darroll Fryer ☎ 01287 635778

GR NZ 615149 **Guisborough Woods (East)**. Meet at the Rectory Lane car park, adjacent to the Health Centre.

Saturday 15th May 10.30 am John Blackburn ☎ 01642 583815

GR NZ 981016 **Ravenscar** area. Meet at the bottom of the road. This is a YNU VC 62 meeting

Wednesday 19th May 7.00 pm Vincent Jones ☎ 01642 722814

GR NZ 465113 **Hilton** area. Park in Hilton village. The walk will, in the main, be different from recent walks in this area.

Wednesday 26th May 7.00 pm Malcolm Birtle ☎ 01642 558055

GR NZ 377237 **Stillington** area. Park in Stillington next to the old school and church (almost the first buildings in the town if coming from Thorpe Thewles). The walking is very easy. If time and weather allow we may make a brief visit to Sun Wood at Whitton.

Sunday 30th May 2.00 pm Judy Dinwiddie ☎ 01845 537340

GR SE 424928 **Cotcliffe Woods**. Meet at the roadside verge north of Borrowby. Some parts of the walk may be steep. It may be wise to bring tea.

Wednesday 2nd June 7.00 pm Pamela Law ☎ 01287 636976

GR NZ 745181 **Easington** area. Meet at Easington church. Park in Easington village where convenient.

Wednesday 9th June 7.00 pm Joan Bradbury and Norma Pagdin ☎ 01429 268416

GR NZ 424375 **Castle Eden Dene**. Meet in the car park in the village near the Castle Eden Inn.

Saturday 12th June 11.00 am Jack Marshall ☎ 01642 315356

GR NZ 846131 **Lythe and Mulgrave Woods**. Meet in the car park at Lythe village opposite the Red Lion Inn. The walk will be easy and about six miles in length.

Sunday 20th June 11.00 am Pamela Law ☎ 01287 636976

GR NU 080425 **Holy Island**. Turn off the A1 at West Mains and meet on the road leading to the causeway near the coast. The tides will allow us to cross to the island between 11.30 am and 7.30 pm.

Wednesday 23rd June 7.00 pm Jack Marshall ☎ 01642 315365

GR NZ 668216 **Saltburn Woods and Valley Gardens**. meet in Saltburn at the car park near the old boating lake.

Wednesday 30th June 7.00 pm Malcolm Birtle ☎ 01642 558055

GR NZ 479255. **Cowpen Marsh** area. Meet in the Cowpen Bewley car park adjacent to the Seal Sands road. *Do not go to Cowpen Bewley village*- use the Wolviston to Seal Sands road.

Sunday 4th July 11.00 am Eric Gendle ☎ 01642 281235

GR SE 664791 **Nunnington** area. meet in the open area at the south west corner of Nunnington. The walk will be on easy terrain and about six miles in length.

Wednesday 7th July 7.00 pm Ian Lawrence ☎ 01642 281 380

GR NZ 679182 **Brotton/ North Skelton** area. Take the farm road immediately east of the railway bridge at North Skelton and park on the grass verge. (We may be able to park in the stack yards of East Pastures). A circular walk to study the flora and fauna of the disused railway tracks and spoil heaps of the old Lumpsey Mines.

Wednesday 14th July 7.00 pm Ian Lawrence ☎ 01642 281380

GR NZ 443076 **Crathorne** area. Meet near the church in Crathorne village.

Sunday 18th July 11.00 am Joan Bradbury and Norma Pagdin ☎ 01429 268416

GR SE 067885 **Wensleydale**. Meet in the long lay-by just East of West Witton village. The walk will be on easy terrain and about six miles in length.

Wednesday 21st July 7.00 pm Neil Baker ☎ 01325 361547

GR NZ 477020 **Swainby** area. Park in the village and meet at the bridge in the centre of Swainby.

Sunday 1st August 11.00 am Andy Astbury ☎ 01642 823114

GR NZ 594111 Meet at **Gribdale Gate** car park. The walk will involve some climbing and will be about seven miles in length.

Saturday 14th August 11.00 am Darroll Fryer ☎ 01287 635778

GR NZ 717084 **Little Fryup Dale**. Meet in the Moors Centre car park, Danby. A circular walk of about six miles.

Sunday 22nd August 11.00 am Norman Thompson ☎ 01642 316204

GR 611839 **Ashdale**. Park in Helmsley and meet at the Feversham Arms near the church corner. An easy walk, about six miles long.

Saturday 4th September 11.00 am Colin Chatto ☎ 01642 599616

GR SE 969906 **Hackness** area. Park in the centre of Hackness village. The walk will be about five miles in length and the terrain will not be difficult.

Saturday 25th September 11.00 am Neil Baker ☎ 01325 361547

GR SE 037993 **Swaledale**. Park in Reeth village and meet outside the Black Bull Inn.

Saturday 23rd October 11.00 am Alf Rout ☎ 01642 818045

GR NZ 784055 **Glaisdale** area. Meet at Beggars Bridge, Glaisdale. The walk will include some climbing and will be about seven miles in length.

Meetings of the Northern Naturalists' Union

Further details are available from Malcolm Birtle (01642 558055)

Meetings of the Yorkshire Naturalists' Union

Further details are available from John Blackburn (01642 583815)

