

# **CLEVELAND NATURALISTS'**

## **FIELD CLUB**



# **RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS**

**Volume 8 Part 4**

**Spring 2006**

## THE OFFICERS & COMMITTEE 2006-2007

President. Vic Fairbrother, 8 Whitby Avenue, Guisborough.  
Secretary. Eric Gendle, 13 Mayfield Road, Nunthorpe.  
Treasurer. Colin Chatto, 32 Blue Bell Grove, Acklam.  
Membership Secretary. Jean McLean, 28 Pendle Crescent, Billingham.  
Programme Secretaries. Vincent Jones, 'Hillways', Ingleby Greenhow.  
Neil Baker, 10 Smithfield Road, Darlington.

The immediate past president. Dorothy Thompson.

Ordinary members. Ian Lawrence, Alick Hunter, Maurice Hallam, David Barlow.

### Honorary Members

Mrs Jessie Graham, Mrs Joan Williams, Mr Ian Lawrence, 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	Malcolm Birtle (and Geology), Eric Gendle

### Representatives

I. C. Lawrence (TVWT)	J. Blackburn (YNU)
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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 as set out in this leaflet. During the winter months there is a series of monthly meetings held in the Hydroponicum Lecture Hall at Natures World, Ladgate Lane, Acklam, Middlesbrough. We have been at this venue for three winter sessions now and it has proved to be an ideal meeting place, which satisfies all our needs. 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

Tees Valley Wildlife Trust

The Ramblers' Association.

The Club is affiliated to these organisations.

## **President's Address: 2006.**

I am very pleased to be able to present this report on another very interesting and rewarding year in the life of the Cleveland Naturalist's Field Club as it continues to explore the natural history of Cleveland and the surrounding countryside. A programme of twenty-four field trips in 2005 provided a wide variety of records and experiences and these are summarised in the Annual Record of Proceedings.

We visited Kirkdale, Levisham, Ellerburn Banks, Littlebeck and Sutton Bank on the North York Moors and Wensleydale, Baldersdale and Swaledale in the Yorkshire Dales. We met in Kildale for our first evening walk of the season and other local evening walks explored Flatts Lane, Scaling Dam, and Coatham Marsh and there was a full day walk from Hart. Mid-week excursions on the North York Moors included Ashberry Pastures, Hutton le hole and Blakey Moor and there were also excursions to Wheldrake Ings and to the Howardian Hills. We also joined the Yorkshire Naturalist's Union for the annual VC 62 meeting, which this year was held at Sandsend.

The fungus foray from Battersby led by Tom Kirby was very successful and led to a follow-up trip for those unable to attend. It is hoped that the interest generated will lead to the continuation of further surveys and increased recording of our local fungi.

A new venture was the indoor summer meeting arranged specially for club members to have a private viewing of the Margaret Stovin Herbarium exhibition at the Dorman museum. This initiative arose from the very successful Elgee Memorial lecture last year and it is hoped that the interest aroused by these meetings will lead to further meetings and workshops at the museum.

Attendances at the winter indoor programme have been encouraging and the Hydroponicum seems to have many advantages as our new base. Two botanical presentations, on Cumbria's Orchids and on Saxifrages and their Habitats were the results of thoughtful and detailed studies, whilst the delights of natural history in far away places were beautifully displayed in the talks on NW Australia, Arctic Canada and Plant Hunting in the Himalayas. The video evening, the social evening and members' night are all regular features in our winter programme and were much appreciated. Members' night featured items on East Anglia, mammal surveys, hybrid willow herbs, red kites, bird and flower paintings and fungi photographs. Presentations on Dragonflies and on Moths and Butterflies will complete an excellent varied programme.

In response to a request from the Wildflower Ark, the Club was pleased to provide written support for an application to the Heritage Lottery Fund in respect of the proposed study of ancient hedgerows in the borough of Stockton on Tees. Following the successful completion of the survey by the Wildflower Ark and a team of volunteers, the Club arranged an additional field trip to explore a 2.5 mile hedgerow walk near Longnewton which is described in a leaflet published by the Wildflower Ark to publicise the findings of the survey. It is hoped that we can provide support for a similar survey to be undertaken in Redcar and Cleveland in 2006 and discussions are also under way for the club to contribute to a booklet of wildflower walks in the Lower Tees Valley.

The club also organised two other extra field trips, which had to be arranged at short notice in view of their special nature. The first was to study Snowdrops in Eston cemetery and the second to observe wintering seabirds and waders at Hartlepool Headland.

Our club could not exist without you the members and many of you also volunteer to lead walks or give lectures. The club certainly could not function without the commitment and enthusiasm of the small team of volunteers who give their time to do the work necessary to ensure the smooth running of the club.

Eric Gendle, Secretary; Colin Chatto, Treasurer; Vincent Jones & Neil Baker, Programme Secretaries; Jean McLean, Membership Secretary; David Barlow, Website Manager; Malcolm Birtle, Editor of Record of Proceedings; committee members Maurice Hallam, Alick Hunter, and Ian Lawrence and Dorothy Thompson, Past President who has continued to host our committee meetings in her own inimitable style. I would like to thank them all for their support during the past year, my role as President is so much easier because of their quiet unassuming efficiency and I would ask you to show your appreciation of all their efforts on our behalf.

Vic. Fairbrother.

### **An Extra Summer Meeting.**

Following the very successful Elgee Memorial Lecture that was organised by the Club at the Dorman Museum on 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2004, the President and the Secretary had a meeting with the curator Ken Sedman, in order to explore the potential for closer cooperation between the Cleveland Naturalists' Field Club and the Dorman Museum.

In the early history of our Club there was indeed some very close cooperation. The museum was one of a number of venues for club meetings and curators and senior staff at the museum were officers of the club from time to time. A number of past presidents and club members also donated natural history collections to the museum.

It is interesting to read in the early Proceedings of the Cleveland Naturalists' Field Club that the following were listed as Advantages of Membership between 1907 and 1927:

“THE LIBRARY which consists of works on Science, Natural History and Archaeology is placed (on loan) in a case in the Dorman Museum and is accessible to members on application to the curator. Donations of works on the above subjects, especially those relating to Cleveland, are at all times acceptable.”

“HAWELL BEQUEST. Under the will of the late Rev. J. Hawell, M.A., F.G.S., (former President of CNFC), members have special use of the library of geological, conchological and other works, as well as access to the large and valuable collections of Mollusca and Fossils bequeathed by him for the benefit of the Cleveland Naturalists' Field Club and the Dorman Museum. These may be inspected at any time by members at the Museum, on application to the curator or his assistant.”

There have of course been many changes during the last century but it does now seem opportune to consider creating some new links with the museum and its extensive natural history collections.

As an initial new venture Cleveland Naturalists' Field Club members were invited to a private viewing of the new Margaret Stovin Exhibition at the Museum at 7 p.m. on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> June 2005.

Margaret Stovin was born into a wealthy family in south Yorkshire. Her father, James Stovin of Whitgift, inherited substantial wealth from his Quaker mother, and extensive property in Lincolnshire and west Yorkshire from a paternal uncle. She was also related directly, and indirectly, to many other landed families and so had ready access to many of the prominent people of the time.

Margaret appears to have started collecting herbarium specimens around 1788 since this is the earliest dated specimen in her collection. She amassed some 20 volumes of mounted British plants and 8 volumes of exotic plants many of which were cultivated as garden plants, a total of nearly 3000 sheets.

During her lifetime she became a noted botanist and corresponded and exchanged specimens with some of the most important and influential people in the world of plants. This network of botanists, nurserymen and landowners supplied many of the specimens in her collection.

Her collection of exotic plants was particularly unusual for the period (spanning 1799-1844) and provides an important historical insight into the development of cultivated garden plants in this country. On her death the herbarium passed to her niece Frances who had married James White (Worsley) Pennyman. Lieutenant Colonel J.B.Pennyman of Ormesby Hall, Middlesbrough, gave the herbarium to the Dorman Museum in 1922.

Members responded well to the opportunity for a private viewing and the excellent display of superb reproductions of selected specimens were greatly admired.

Ken Sedman, the curator had also arranged for members to examine a wide selection of specimens from the herbaria held by the museum.

In view of this positive response it is hoped that this meeting will also provide the first of what could be a series of opportunities to view, and perhaps work on, some of the various natural history collections which are maintained by the museum but which are not normally on public display.

Vic. Fairbrother.

## Highlights of 2005 Field Meetings

### **Monday March 7<sup>th</sup>, leader Vincent Jones, Eston Cemetery**

It was pleasing to note, since the club's previous visit in 2002, that there were several clumps of *Galanthus woronowii* (Green Snowdrop). The colonies of *Crocus tommasinianus* (Early crocus), *C. vernus* (Spring Crocus) and their hybrid were flourishing. However, there was a considerable reduction in the number of essentially yellow-flowering crocus. Almost all of these were restricted to grave planting and now showed little evidence of naturalising. Apologies for the error in the report of the 2002 meeting; *C. angustifolius* should replace *C. chrysanthus* in the hybrid referred to in the last sentence.

### **Saturday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 10.30am, Fountains Abbey, leader Colin Chatto**

*Viola reichenbachiana* (Early Dog-violet), *Lathraea squamaria* (Toothwort), *Chrysosplenium alternifolium* (Alternate-leaved Golden-saxifrage) and *Lamium galeobdolon* ssp *montanum* (Yellow Archangel) were found in wooded areas. *Saxifraga tridactylites* (Rue-leaved Saxifrage) and *Erysimum cheiri* (Wallflower) were flowering on the abbey walls. It was pleasing to see a good colony of the rarely seen female plant of *Petasites hybridus* (Butterbur) by a stream side.

### **Wednesday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 10.30am, Ashberry Farm, leaders Maurice Hallam and Vincent Jones**

*Symphytum orientale* (White Comfrey), *Helleborus viridis* (Green Hellebore) and *Daphne laureola* (Spurge Laurel) were admired near Ashberry Farm. A marsh near Tylas Farm yielded *Valeriana dioica* (Marsh Valerian), *Viola palustris* ssp *palustris* (Marsh Violet) and the dandelion *Taraxacum faeorense*. A roadside bank near the farm was a delight with *Primula vulgaris* (Primrose) and *Viola riviniana* (Dog-violet) in superb flower. *Taraxacum dilatatum* (confirmed by A.J.Richards), a new vice-county record, was found in marshy area near Caydale Mill. Plants of *Actaea spicata* (Baneberry), not yet in flower, were visited in woodland edge. *Trollius europaeus* (Globe Flower) and *Primula farinosa* (Bird's-eye Primrose) were just coming into flower in Ashberry pasture.

### **Sunday, May 8<sup>th</sup>, 10.30am, Wensleydale, leaders Joan Bradbury and Norma Pagdin**

Before the main walk the roadside Ballowfields Nature Reserve west of Carperby was visited. *Minuartia verna* (Spring Sandwort), *Armeria maritima* (Thrift), *Sesleria caerulea* (Blue Moor-grass) and *Viola lutea* (Mountain Pansy), in its typical yellow form of the Yorkshire Dales, were all in good flower. *Geranium lucidum* (Shining Crane's-bill) and *Claytonia sibirica* (Pink Purslane) were spotted at Hardraw, whilst *Cryptogramma crispa* (Parsley Fern) was thriving on rocky slopes above Simonstone.

**Wednesday, 11<sup>th</sup> May, 6:30 pm, Kildale Woods, leader Alan Bunn**

A group of ten met at Kildale Woods for a walk, which lasted just over 2 hours. The group were rewarded with over 40 flower species which included six ferns (Lady, Male, Broad buckler, Hard shield, Hart's-tongue, and Bracken) and three sedges (Lesser pond, Greater tussock and Pendulous). These plus several, Spring flowers made this evening's field trip very pleasant.

**Sunday, 22<sup>nd</sup> May, 10:30 am, Fadmoor, leader Vic Fairbrother**

A delightful walk from the Minster through Kirkdale Woods along the east bank of the Hodge Beck to Hold Caldren eventually led us through the meadows below Brockhill Hagg to the climb up through Mellbank Wood and along the lane towards Sleightholme Dale Lodge. Here we turned south through the woods to cross the beck at the weir and then climb steeply up Dixon Scar for the return to the Minster high above the west bank of Hodge Beck.

At the ford we compared *Alchemilla xanthochlora* and *Alchemilla filicaulis* ssp *vestita* whilst close by was *Claytonia sibirica* (Pink Purslane) and *Barbarea vulgaris* (Winter-cress). The woodland approach to Hold Caldren revealed *Lamium galeobdolon* ssp (Yellow Archangel), *Moehringia trinervia* (Three-nerved Sandwort), *Lathraea squamaria* (Toothwort), *Carpinus betulus* (Hornbeam), *Orchis mascula* (Early Purple Orchid), *Geum x intermedium* (Hybrid Geum) and *Hieracium oistophyllum* (a Hawkweed).

Under the bridge at Hold Caldren *Cardamine amara* (Large Bitter-cress) was noted. The damp meadow beyond featured *Rhinanthus minor* (Yellow Rattle), *Mentha aquatica* (Watermint), *Carex nigra* (Common Sedge), *Carex flacca* (Glaucous Sedge), *Myosotis discolor* (Changing Forget-me-not), *Ranunculus bulbosus* (Bulbous Buttercup), and *Veronica beccabunga* (Brooklime).

The climb through Mellbank wood revealed *Rubus saxatilis* (Stone Bramble), *Hieracium pellucidum* (a Hawkweed), *Aquilegia vulgaris* (Columbine), *Convallaria majalis* (Lily of the Valley) and *Euonymus europaeus* (Spindle).

On the path from Sleightholme Dale Lodge we paused to observe the active Heronry across the valley. We also enjoyed the singing of Willow Warbler, Chiff Chaff and Blackcap but the ornithological highlight of the day was a very confiding pair of nesting Pied Flycatchers. There was not as much warm sunshine as we had hoped but we did see *Anthocharis cardamines* (Orange Tip), *Pieris napi* (Green-veined White), *Pieris rapae* (Small White), *Inachis io* (Peacock) and *Lycaena phlaeas* (Small Copper) butterflies.

A pervading memory of the day were the huge carpets of colour in the woods with *Hyacinthoides non-scriptus* (Bluebell); *Allium ursinum* (Ramsons); and *Silene dioica* (Red Campion) in great profusion.

**Wednesday, 25<sup>th</sup> May, 10:30 am, Wheldrake Ings, leader Peter Waterton**

**Wednesday, 1<sup>st</sup> June, 6:30 pm, Flatts Lane, leader Jack Marshall**

Following a very wet day a small group proceeded on a gloomy, damp, but rainless evening walk around Flatts Lane Country Park. *Onobrychis viciifolia*

(Sainfoin), *Ranunculus sceleratus* (Celery-leaved Buttercup) and the garden escape *Geranium macrorrhizum* (Rock Crane's-bill) were found.

**Saturday, 11<sup>th</sup> June, 10:30 am, Baldersdale, leader Bill and Anne Pritchard**

We were lucky to be able to enjoy the hay meadows, for which Baldersdale is renowned, at their best. Plants admired included *Myosotis discolor* (Changing Forget-me-not), *Geranium sylvaticum* (Wood Crane's-bill), *Rhinanthus minor* (Yellow-rattle), both ssp *minor* and ssp *stenophyllus*, *Persicaria bistorta* (Common Bistort), *Trollius europaeus* (Globe Flower) and *Helictotrichon pubescens* (Downy Oat-grass). We examined lady's-mantles; *Alchemilla glabra*, *A. xanthochlora* were common and one plant of *A. acutiloba* was found.

**Wednesday, 15<sup>th</sup> June, 6:30 pm, Scaling Dam, leader David Barlow**

Quite a few specimens of *Cassida viridis* (Green Tortoise Beetle) were found along the lane at the western end of the reservoir. *Potentilla palustris* (Marsh Cinquefoil), *Valeriana dioica* (Marsh Valerian), and *Pinguicula vulgaris* (Butterwort) were in flower.

**Saturday, 18<sup>th</sup> June, 10:30 am, Sandsend, leader John Blackburn**

Details from this meeting will appear in YNU publications in due course.

**Sunday, 26<sup>th</sup> June, 10:30 am, Muker, leader Neil Baker**

*Saxifraga hypnoides* (Mossy Saxifrage), *Cochlearia pyrenaica* (Pyrenean Scurvygrass) and *Danthonia decumbens* (Heath-grass) were in good flower. Several hawkweeds were found. These included *Hieracium vulgatum*, both *forma vulgatum* and *forma sejunctum*, *H. pellucidum*, *H. cravoniense* and *H. ampliatum*. The botanical highlight was three extensive, more or less pure, patches of *Equisetum x dycei* = *E. fluviatile* x *E. palustre* (a hybrid horsetail).

**Sunday, 3<sup>rd</sup> July, 10:30 am, Levisham, leader Eric Gendle**

*Hypericum humifusum* (Trailing St John's-wort) was spotted on moorland. It was pleasing to find *Picris hieracioides* (Hawkweed Oxtongue), a plant very rare in the northern half of Britain, in abundance on Levisham Brow. Plants in association included *Carduus nutans* (Musk Thistle) and *Verbascum thapsus* (Great Mullein).

**Wednesday, 6<sup>th</sup> July, 6:30 pm, Egglescliffe, leader Ian Lawrence**

**Sunday, 10<sup>th</sup> July, 10:30 am, Ripon Parks, leader Judy Dinwiddie**

Twelve members visited this MOD reserve on the banks of the river Ure. The party first drove to the nearby YWT reserve to see the *Orobancha reiculata* (Yorkshire Broomrape). Not in the profusion of the year before, partly because they were hidden in the tall grass but some good specimens were seen. Back at Ripon Parks the party explored part of this large and varied reserve. Mostly scrub woodland, lakes and marsh. Among the plants seen were *Oenanthe fistulosa* (Tubular Water-Dropwort), *Serratula tinctoria* (Sawwort), *Catabrosa aquatica* (Water Whorlgrass) and *Carex eleata* (Tufted Sedge). The bryophytes that were recorded were not unusual. Six species of Odonata included *Calopteryx splendens* (Banded Damoiselle). Among seven butterfly species



was *Parage aegena* (Speckled Wood). *Elophila nymphaeata* (Brown China Mark), and *Timendra comae* (Bloodvein) were of note among the moths. Later a small group had a quick look at High Batts a mile or so upstream of the river Ure. A remarkably different area.

**Wednesday, 13<sup>th</sup> July, 10:30 am, Hutton-le-Hole, leader Colin Chatto**

*Campanula latifolia* (Giant Bellflower) and *Cynoglossum officinale* (Hound's-tongue) were flowering well in woodland borders. *Bromus secalinus* (Rye Brome), a grass becoming increasingly common in the southern area of the North York Moors, was found in two adjacent arable field edges. A hybrid rose, *Rosa x irregularis* = *R. arvensis* x *R. canina* was in the hedge near by. Limestone grassland plants included *Cirsium eriophorum* (Woolly Thistle), *Inula conyzae* (Ploughman's- spikenard) and *Pimpinella saxifraga* (Burnet-saxifrage). It was pleasing to note that car park 'improvements' near the southern end of the village had not quite destroyed the colony of *Stachys x ambigua*=*S. sylvatica* x *S. palustre* (a hybrid woundwort).

*Cynthia cardui* (Painted Lady), *Coenonympha pamphilus* (Small Heath), *Aphantopus hyperantus* (Ringlelet), *Maniola jurtina* (Meadow Brown), *Aglais urticae* (Small Tortoiseshell), *Polygonia c-album* (Comma), *Vanessa atalanta* (Red Admiral), *Epirrhoe alternata* (Common Carpet), *Odezia atrata* (Chimney Sweep) were on the wing.

**Wednesday, 20<sup>th</sup> July, 6:30 pm, Coatham Marsh, leader Andrew Ferguson**

*Verbascum densiflorum* (Dense-flowered Mullein) was in good flower in its well-known site. Grassy waste areas yielded about 20 dead spikes of a broomrape, which will require further study at flowering time. *Nuphar lutea* (Yellow Water-lily) and *Nymphoides peltata* (Fringed Water-lily), growing in one of the ponds, were compared and admired. The hawkweed *Hieracium argillaceum* was found in wasteland near by.

Lepidoptera noted were-*Coenonympha pamphilus* (Small Heath), *Aphantopus hyperantus* (Ringlelet), *Maniola jurtina* (Meadow Brown), *Tyria jacobaeae* (Cinnabar), *Scotopteryx chenopodiata* (Shaded Broad Bar) and *Inachis io* (Peacock) larvae. Some areas that were clearly lime rich held large numbers of the molluscs *Ceruella virgata* (Striped Snail), *Candidula intersecta* (Wrinkled Snail), and *Helix aspersa*. (Garden Snail). There were large numbers of House and Sand Martins over the lakes on which juvenile Tufted Ducks were seen.

**Sunday, 31<sup>st</sup> July, 10:30 am, Hart, leader Vincent Jones**

The botanically rich part of the meeting was along the disused Hart-Haswell railway. Calcareous grassland by the track yielded *Centaurea scabiosa* (Greater Knapweed), *Inula coyzae* (Ploughman's-spikenard), *Silaum silaus* (Pepper-saxifrage) and *Lithospermum officinale* (Common Gromwell); the latter in fruit. Where a narrow strip of woodland bordered the old railway over 100 plants of *Epipactis helleborine* (Broad-leaved Helleborine) were found. Also in this area were several plants of *Hieracium trichocaulon*. Other hawkweeds seen were *H. eboracense*, *H. sabaudum* and *H. argillaceum*.

On the field tracks between Hart and Hartlepool Goldfinches and Yellowhammers were much in evidence. Whitethroat was also seen. On the

old railway *Scotopteryx chenopodiata* (Shaded Broad Bar), *Hypana proboscidalis* (Snout), *Pieris napi* (Green Veined White), *Epirrhoe alternata* (Common Carpet), *Olethreutes lacunana* (Indefinite Marble), *Aphantopus hyperantus* (Ringlet), *Pararge aegeria* (Speckled Wood), *Ancylis badiana* (Lund's Roller), *Maniola jurtina* (Meadow Brown), *Camptogramma bilineata* (Yellowshell), *Pieris rapae* (Small White), *Pleuroptya ruralis* (Mother of Pearl) and *Semiothisa clathrata* (Latticed Heath) were seen. *Colias croceus* (Clouded Yellow) and *Satyrrium w-album* (White Letter Hairstreak) had been seen the previous week. Two Roe deer ran across a field near Nesbitt Hall where a *Vanessa atalanta* (Red Admiral) flew past.

### **Wednesday August 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2:00 pm leader Martin Allen, Nature's World**

It was a pleasure to be taken round Nature's World by an expert. Martin's knowledge and enthusiasm made for an enjoyable afternoon. Wild plants were not forgotten. The area immediately south of the hydroponicum sported several species of willowherb, specially unweeded by Martin. It was particularly pleasing to see an abundance of *Epilobium tetragonum* (Square-stalked willowherb), a willowherb rare in northern Britain. Two hybrids, subsequently confirmed by G. D. Kitchener, found at this site were *E.x mentiens*=*E.tetragonum* x *E.ciliatum* and *E.xbrevipilum*= *E.tetragon* x *E.hirsutum*, both rare in Britain.

### **Wednesday, 10th August, 10:30 am, Gilling East, leader Eric Gendle**

*Anemone x hybrida* (Japanese Anemone) had seeded in pavement cracks. There was a good colony of a spotted-leaved hawkweed, probably *Hieracium scotostictum*, though this has yet to be confirmed, growing on the boundary wall of the model railway site. *Mentha arvensis* (Corn Mint), *Calamagrostis epigejos* (Wood Small-reed), *Galium uliginosus* (Fen Bedstraw) and a rayed form of *Centaurea nigra* (Common Knapweed) were spotted by forestry rides.

### **Sunday, 21st August, 10:30 am, Ellerburn Bank, leader Alick Hunter**

This meeting took place on a very hot, sunny day and we were indebted to Peter Waterton who made the following observations. There was a good display of *Gentianella amarella* (Autumn Gentian) on the reserve and *Bryonia dioica* (White Bryony) was noted near the village. Odonata noted at a pond in Sandale were *Lestes sponsa* (Emerald Damselfly), *Enallagma cyathigerum* (Common Blue Damselfly), *Aeshna juncea* (Common Hawker), *Aeshna cyanea* (Southern Hawker), *Aeshna grandis* (Brown Hawker), *Sympetrum striolatum* (Common Darter), and *Sympetrum sanguineum* (Ruddy Darter). *A. grandis* and *S. sanguineum* are not common in N. Yorkshire. Butterflies seen at Ellerburn Banks nature reserve- *Pieris brassicae* (Large White), *Pieris rapae* (Small White), *Pieris napi* (Green Veined White), *Lycaena phlaeas* (Small Copper), *Aricia agestis* (Brown Argus), *Polyommatus icarus* (Common Blue), *Cynthia cardui* (Painted Lady), *Aglais urticae* (Small Tortoiseshell), *Inachis io* (Peacock), *Polygonia c-album* (Comma), *Lasiommata megera* (Wall), *Maniola jurtina* (Meadow Brown), and three *Gonepteryx rhamni* (Brimstone) on the path down to the reserve. *Quercusia quercus* (Purple Hairstreak) was seen at Pexton Bank.

**Wednesday, 7th September, 1:00 pm, Lion Inn, Blakey Ridge, leader Colin Chatto**

*Sagina nodosa* (Knotted Pearlwort) and *Aira caryophyllea* (Silver Hair-grass) were spotted on the old railway track. Both *Rosa mollis* (Soft Downy-rose) and *R.sherardii* (Sherard's Downy-rose) were in hedges in Farndale. In a waste area by a farm there were several plants of the hybrid willowherb *Epilobium x vicinum* = *E.obscurum* x *E.ciliatum*, growing with both parents. Short turf by the main Blakey Ridge road yielded many tiny plants of the eyebright *Euphrasia confusa* and *Gentianella amarella* ssp *amarella*.

**Saturday, 24th September, 10:30 am, Battersby, leader Tom Kirby**

**Saturday, 1st October, 10:30 am, Black Brow, leader Alf Rout**

**Saturday, 22nd October, 10:30 am, Sutton Bank, leader Andy Astbury**

### **Cassop and Rowley**

The Field Club will probably have meetings at Cassop and Rowley in County Durham during 2006. The following is intended to be some background information to the two sites to add some interest to the excursions.

#### **Cassop**

Cassop is on the edge of the Magnesian Limestone escarpment looking down on the Upper Coal Measure country around Bowburn and Durham. The area between Cassop and Durham was for many years a hunting Forest for the Bishop of Durham. Coal mining, magnesian limestone quarrying and landfill have extensively modified the landscape. However, Cassop Vale is a National Nature Reserve due to the existence of limestone grassland, acid-loving flora on old coal spoilheaps, and significant wetland areas. The site has populations of *Aricia artaxerxes* ssp. *salmacis* (Durham Argus), and *Photedes captiuncula* (Least Minor). Between 1999 and 2002 the 'Five Villages Project' extended and promoted conservation and habitat restitution work. The five 'villages' are Bowburn, Cassop, Old Cassop, Tursdale, and Heugh Hall, making up the parish. A number of local nature reserves have been established in the area - Coxhoe Quarry Wood, Little Wood near Quarrington Hill, Crow Trees Colliery (Quarrington Hill), Kings Wood, Raisby Way and Trimdon Grange Quarry. The entrance to Cassop Vale is opposite the Post Office in Cassop. Cassop was named New Cassop and Cassop Colliery to distinguish it from Old Cassop, which is a village nearby that has medieval origins. Cassop was built in the nineteenth century to house miners.

The following are notable records from the Cassop area from Dunn and Parrack, Moths and Butterflies of Northumberland and Durham (note:- *Photedes captiuncula* (Least Minor) was recorded after D&P was published)-

***Scotopteryx bipunctaria* ssp. *cretata*** (Chalk Carpet)

*This species is firmly attached to chalk and magnesian limestone. Only rarely has it been found on Carboniferous limestone and never in recent times. Various points on the Durham coast from Marsden to Hartlepool have yielded specimens, but it has also been taken inland in some of the old magnesian limestone quarries, e.g. Bishop Middleham (J. W. H. Harrison, 1954), Cassop Vale (N.N.U. Field Meeting, 14 July 1956) and Wingate (Sheppard, 9 August 1978).*

***Tholera cespitis*** (Hedge Rustic)

*In recent times in Durham, TCD first took this insect in the Chester-le-Street trap on 28 August 1952, and has had it at intervals ever since. On 13 June 1954 the same author found larvae on Deschampsia on Wanister Bog, Waldrige Fell, from which six imagines were bred. More recently, D. A. Sheppard had it from Cassop Vale (a limestone habitat) on 7 September 1977 and F. Stubbs took it at Crook intermittently during 1965-77. In 1967 the Durham University trap took 53 specimens from 17 August onwards, and it was taken by the Bolam, Darlington trap on 19 August 1976. M. Mann took it at Sacriston in 1976 and 1979, and the Hamsterley Forest trap takes up to 20 specimens each year (1981-85).*

***Maniola jurtina*** (Meadow Brown)

*This species has always been common and evenly distributed throughout the two counties, except that it is slightly but noticeably thinner in the Border Forests of North Northumberland (where it is less well distributed than, for example, the Green-veined White). Robson had it in all his lists and so do we apart from the exception noted above. Wherever a little rough grass occurs, jurtina will be found. In Cassop Vale there is a race of abnormally large, brightly coloured butterflies approaching the Scottish form splendida White, 1872.*

**Collieries around Cassop**

EH-East Hetton or Kelloe This was a significant industrial enterprise that did not close till 1983. In 1894 there were 70 coke ovens and 1100 men and boys employed.

C-Cassop closed 1868

CV-Cassop Vale closed 1868

CM-Cassop Moor closed 1850's

A waggonway ran from Cassop Colliery to Cassop Moor.

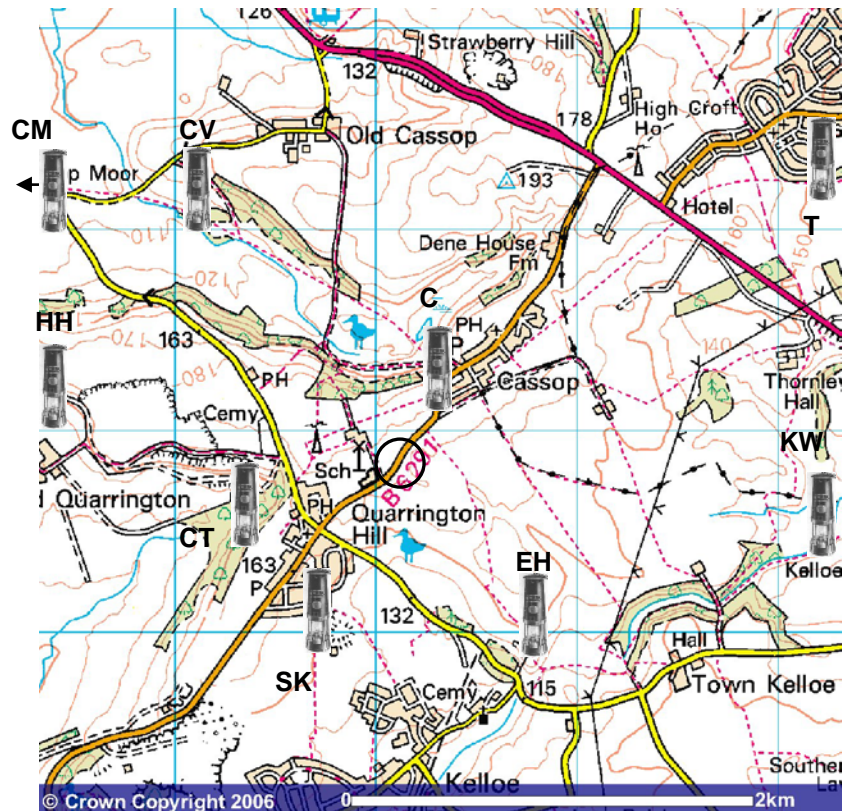
CT-Crow Trees closed pre-1894

SK-South Kelloe closed pre-1900

HH-Heugh Hall closed pre-1894

KW-Kelloe Winning closed 1983 (Pumping Station)

T-Thornley closed 1970



(Maps Reproduced from Ordnance Survey map data by permission of Ordnance Survey, © Crown copyright.)

Some interesting plants to look out for in the area (recorded in G. G. Graham's Durham Flora)

Moonwort	<i>Botrychium lunaria</i>
Adderstongue	<i>Opioglossum vulgatum</i>
Birds Nest Orchid	<i>Neottia nidus-avis</i>
Frog Orchid	<i>Coeloglossum viride</i>
Early Marsh Orchid	<i>Dactylorhiza incarnata incarnata</i>
Mountain Everlasting	<i>Antennaria dioica</i>
Hairy Violet	<i>Viola hirta</i>
Autumn Gentian	<i>Gentianella amarella</i>
Small Scabious	<i>Scabiosa columbaria</i>
Lesser Hawkbit	<i>Leontodon taraxacoides</i>
Blue Moor Grass	<i>Sesleria albicans</i>
Brittle Bladder Fern	<i>Cystopteris fragilis</i>
Thread Leaved Water Crowfoot	<i>Ranunculus trichophyllus</i>
Dewberry	<i>Rubus caesius</i>

## Rowley

Rowley lies in the country where the Lower Coal Measures meet the moorland Gritstone. There has been much quarrying and mining in the vicinity. Coal was exploited in western county Durham from earliest days, as the coal was



nearer the surface than in the east. Lead and iron ore was also extensively mined nearby and transported through the area. The main footpath, the Waskerley Way, follows the route of the closed Stanhope and Tyne Railway from Lydgetts Junction in Consett to Weather Hill Engine near Stanhope. The railway was opened in 1834 and Rowley station was built in 1867. The station was removed to Beamish Museum after closure. The railway had steep rope hauled inclines some of which were bypassed with the construction of Hownsgill Viaduct in 1858. This still remains, towering 150 feet above Knitsley and High House Woods. There is a mix of habitats including woodland, farmland, moorland and damp pasture.

### Mines around Rowley

H-Healeyfield (Ganister 1936 and Lead 1892)

HM- Healeyfield (Watergate) Smelt Mill 1913

V-Victoria (Coal) post 1925

S-Silvertongue (Lead) 1867



Waskerley, Smiddyshaw and Hisehope reservoirs are in the vicinity and all three have some restricted public access.

Some notable records from the Rowley and Waskerley area in Dunn and Parrack, Moths and Butterflies of Northumberland and Durham -

### ***Thera cognata*** (Chestnut Coloured Carpet)

*In Robson's time and up to about 1935 this species was regularly recorded as larvae on the juniper at Blackhall Rocks on the Durham coast, while Bolam also had a few scattered records for Northumberland. The juniper at the Blackhall site is now reduced to one small, almost moribund specimen which no longer produces records of larvae of the above species. The only*

recent record is of larvae on the juniper in the Waskerley area in the 1950's, by F. W. Gardner.

It has not been found on the Upper Teesdale junipers, in spite of diligent searches during recent years.

***Acronicta menyanthidis*** (Light Knot Grass)

This species is, and has been, widely distributed over the Fell Sandstone moorlands from the Coquet in the north to Muckle Moss in the south and Longhorsley in the east as far as Northumberland is concerned. Selby had it from Twizell last century, and there seems no reason why it should not still occur on the Belford Moors and around Kyloe/Shiellow and Ford Moss but there are no records from these sites despite frequent visits to vc 68 by B. & I. D. Wallace in the late 1960's and early 1970's. Bolam also recorded it from Whitfield in 1928, yet we have no other records from the Millstone Grit moorlands in the south of the county. This pattern is, in fact, quite akin to that of the Large Heath butterfly, except that the latter does not extend quite so far east.

In Durham it is again the high moorland areas to which the few records refer. J. P. Robson noted it as common on the moors in Teesdale in 1927 and H. C. Regnart took it on Muggleswick Common in 1930. After the wartime hiatus Professor K. Morton found it on the moors off Waskerley Beck above Tunstall Reservoir recently I. Findlay has collected it at Eggleston and High Force in Teesdale

***Dicallomera fascelina*** (Dark Tussock)

Robson, in commenting on Barren's note 'In England usually found near the coast' is at pains to point out that he has only one coastal record, and that is for Durham. Yet in MBGBI (9, 71) we find 'the coastal sandhills of Cheshire and Lancashire, Northumberland'.

At present the species is known to range widely over the Fell Sandstone moorlands, on Hexhamshire Common and Blanchland Moor in the south of Northumberland and on the same type of heathy habitats in Durham on Muggleswick Common, Whitehall Moss, Stanhope Common and Knitsley Fell, also appearing occasionally at light in the mid-Tyne valley, and in the Hamsterley Forest trap every year, the site being very near to Pikestone Fell.

Some interesting plants to look out for in the area (recorded in G. G. Graham's Durham Flora)

Adderstongue	<i>Opioglossum vulgatum</i>
Small Nettle	<i>Urtica urens</i>
Blinks	<i>Montia fontana</i>
Long Headed Poppy	<i>Papaver dubium</i>
Wild Pansy	<i>Viola tricolor</i>
Henbit Deadnettle	<i>Lamium amplexicaule</i>
Marsh Cudweed	<i>Filaginella uliginosa</i>
Large Bittercress	<i>Cardamine amara</i>
Brown Bent	<i>Agrostis vineale</i>
Hard Shield Fern	<i>Polystichum aculeatum</i>
Lemon Scented Fern	<i>Oreopteris limbosperma</i>
Clustered Dock	<i>Rumex conglomeratus</i>

*Epilobium hirsutum* x *E. obscurum* **restored to the British Flora**  
Vincent Jones

In the CNFC Proceedings Vol. 8, Part 2 VJ reported the finding of two plants of a hybrid willowherb on waste ground near Haverton Hill ponds, Co. Durham, V-c 66 in August 2003. One of these plants was brought into cultivation by VJ so enabling further research to be done. Further study in 2004 showed that it was clear, supporting initial field evidence, that one of the parents was *E. hirsutum*. The other parent was either *E. obscurum* or *E. tetragonum*. In the summer of 2004 it was impossible to tell taxonomically which of these taxa was the other parent as they would both bring very similar characters to the hybrid. Geographically the latter seemed to be unlikely as there was no *E. tetragonum* near the original site and there are very few reliable records for it in Co. Durham (pers. com. G.D. Kitchener). However, the possibility could not be eliminated. In the autumn of 2004 the hybrid produced the essential character, which would determine the true parentage. In the latter part of the year *E. obscurum* produces stolons and *E. tetragonum* does not. The stolons formed, both below and at the ground, were greenish-white and somewhat fleshy, bearing leaf clusters. These were intermediate between the below ground, white, thick and fleshy stolons of *E. hirsutum* and the above or below ground, green and thin stolons which bear distant pairs of leaves of *E. obscurum*. In the autumn of 2004 VJ sent herbarium sheets and living stolons to G.D. Kitchener, who grew on these stolons producing plants of his own. GDK was happy to confirm VJ's determination of the hybrid.

Although the two parents of the hybrid are very common plants, GDK reported (soon after the original find) that doubt had been cast on all (there were very few of them) historical records, so much so that the hybrid had been deleted from the British list. The herbarium material was exhibited at the BSBI Exhibition meeting in London in November 2005, including taxonomic details, the likelihood of confusion with *E. hirsutum* x *tetragonum* and a review of the history of the hybrid, explaining the serious doubt that was attached to previous claims of the discovery of the hybrid.

It is pleasing that this hybrid is restored to the British Flora.





## **Ancient Hedgerows of Stockton**

*Martin Allen, Wildflower Ark*

During 2005 the Wildflower Ark with the help of a team of volunteers carried out a study of ancient hedgerows (i.e. over 300 years old) in the borough of Stockton-on-Tees. The importance of hedgerows in the Lower Tees Valley has been recognised by the local Biodiversity Action Plan and this project was intended to help towards increasing our understanding of their heritage and biodiversity, and so contribute towards their conservation.

Research into historical documentation revealed that during medieval times the area had few hedgerows or trees, the landscape being very open. Each village had three or four huge arable fields surrounding it that were collectively farmed by all the villagers. There were also areas of rough grassland for grazing Oxen, the main beast of burden of the time.

As land ownership and farming practices changed, the huge medieval fields were split up into small fields, a process known as 'Enclosure'. Throughout the borough of Stockton-on-Tees this occurred during the Seventeenth Century and the majority of hedgerows in the area date from this time. The hedgerow plants needed would have been ordered from nurseries in much the same way as today, although there are some documents relating to other parts of England that suggest seedlings were gathered from local woods or common land.

During this study 505 hedgerows were surveyed, and of these 389 were considered ancient or partly ancient. Any hedgerows containing established shrubs of Field Maple, Hazel, Dogwood, or Guelder-rose were considered ancient. These four species are all poor colonisers of new hedges and so are almost exclusively found in ancient hedgerows. Ancient hedgerows could be distinguished from more recently planted ones within the Stockton area by having four or more shrub or tree species present throughout the hedge, generally Hawthorn, Blackthorn, Wild Rose (mostly Dog-rose), and Ash, but also with other species of which Elm (211 hedgerows) and Crab Apple (136) were among the most common. Bramble was found in most ancient hedgerows and a hedgebank (cam) or half hedgebank was present much of the time, as was a ditch. Most of the ancient hedgerows had been recently trimmed and 230 showed signs of being laid in the past. Sometimes there were recently planted sections within an ancient hedgerow where a pipeline had been buried or where hedges had been gapped up. The ancient hedgerows surveyed were evenly distributed throughout the borough with the exception of the far north where the old field system was changed as part of the creation of Wynyard Park, and in urban areas where hedgerows have been removed as part of the urban development. The survey did not cover all the ancient hedgerows in the borough.

In total the survey recorded 30 different species of native tree and shrub. A surprising amount of established shrubs of Field Maple were found (112 hedgerows) and also as a mature tree (35 hedgerows). These were

distributed fairly evenly throughout the borough with the exception of the far north and east. The number of hedgerows containing Holly (52), Dogwood (22) and Guelder-rose (11) were also much higher than expected. Honeysuckle, a climber most people frequently associate with hedgerows was only found in 35 hedgerows. Of the less common species, Spurge-laurel was found in 7 hedgerows, Wild Privet 7, and Spindle 3. Five hedgerows were recorded as having Field-rose, all in Longnewton Parish. Black Bryony was recorded in 10 hedgerows.

Where trees were present in the hedgerow, Ash was the most common (306 hedgerows), followed by Oak (63), Sycamore (60), and Elm (45). The Dutch Elm Disease epidemic in the recent past has evidently not killed off all the Elm in the area. The majority of Elm recorded was Wych Elm with only 20 hedgerows where English Elm was thought to be present.

Only two hedgerows surveyed had any woodland wildflowers growing at their base (both Dog's-mercury) unlike in other areas of the country. However, 7 hedgerows were situated next to wildflower-rich road verges with an interesting mix of mainly late-summer flowering species such as Betony, Saw-wort, Pepper saxifrage, and Common Knapweed. These plant communities give us a small glimpse of how the rough grassland for grazing oxen may have looked in medieval times.

We also found new sites for the arable weeds Corn Buttercup and Dwarf Spurge, a Hawthorn growing as a tree with a girth of 1.34m and a Crack Willow with a massive hollow trunk of 5.62m

The project also worked to increase awareness and understanding of ancient hedgerows locally. An exhibition was placed in libraries and museums in Stockton throughout the autumn of 2005. A leaflet was produced detailing a 2½ mile walk illustrating various aspects of the ancient and more modern hedgerows near Longnewton, including their previous management. The leaflet is available from libraries and countryside centres in Stockton.

This study was made possible through a grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund, with additional support from Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council and Tees Archaeology. Local farmers kindly gave permission for the hedgerows on their land to be surveyed. A copy of the survey report is available from our website [www.wildflowerark.org.uk](http://www.wildflowerark.org.uk)

We have once again been awarded a grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund, this time to survey the hedgerows in the Borough of Redcar and Cleveland. Anyone interested in helping out do please get in touch by giving us a ring on 01642 576611 or e-mail [wildflowerark@hotmail.com](mailto:wildflowerark@hotmail.com)

### **New Wild Flowers for the Cleveland List since the end of 2003**

In the Spring 2004 Record of Proceedings Pat Wood published details of the formation of an updated list to that published in 1994 Ian Lawrence's book "A Guide to the Wild Flowers of Cleveland" and recorded the additional species for 2003.

It would appear that the years 2004 and 2005 have not been good years for new species as I have not received any records since agreeing to keep the Cleveland list updates and publish them in the Proceedings. If there are any outstanding records for these two years please send them to me, Alan Bunn, at the address below asap so I can update the records and ensure they are published.

Alan Bunn, 16, Primrose Close, Guisborough TS14 8ED

For years 2006 etc. please send records by the end of December each year. Please include relevant information-

- Grid Reference
- Site Details
- Number of plants
- Associated species
- Native/introduced/casual

A sketch map of area where the species found would be useful.

Many thanks, hoping for several records.

Alan Bunn

### **Field Meetings 2006**

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 areas we visit.

**by the President**

**Saturday, 8<sup>th</sup> April, 10:30 am, leader Martin Allen ☎ 01642 576295**

GR NZ715187. Meet in the Loftus Leisure Centre car park, at the end of Deepdale Road. A walk of about 3 miles, involving some short steep paths, in **Whitecliff Wood and Clarkson's Wood.**

**Wednesday, 19<sup>th</sup> April, 10:30 am, leaders Joan Bradbury and Norma Pagdin ☎ 01429 268416**

GR NY947254. **Hudeshope Beck**. Meet in the car park in Middleton-in-Teesdale. A walk of about 7 miles involving some climbing. This will be a different area of Upper Teesdale from those previously visited by the CNFC.

**Wednesday, 3<sup>rd</sup> May, 10:30 am, leader Colin Chatto ☎ 01642 599616**

GR SD948910. Park on the main street in **Askrigg** and meet near the church. The walk of about 6 miles, which will involve some climbing, will be via waterfalls and Bainbridge.

**Sunday, 14<sup>th</sup> May, 11:00 am, leader Malcolm Birtle ☎ 01642 558055**

GR NZ339378. **Cassop Vale**. Meet outside the old school, on the B6291 Quarrington to Cassop road. An easy walk with a little climbing.

**Wednesday, 17<sup>th</sup> May, 6:30 pm, leader Ian Lawrence ☎ 01642 281380**

GR NZ593254. Meet in the north end of the **Majuba Road** car park in Redcar. Parking is free after 6:00 pm. An easy walk of about 2 miles along the nearby sand dunes.

**Sunday, 21<sup>st</sup> May, 10:30 am, leader Vic Fairbrother ☎ 01287 633744**

GR SE052574. Meet in the car park at **Barden Bridge**. A circular walk along the banks of the river Wharfe towards Bolton Abbey, mainly easy walking along good footpaths. The walk is about 5 miles, but there will be several opportunities to vary this.

**Wednesday, 24<sup>th</sup> May, 1:30 pm, leader Alan Bunn ☎ 01287 633404**

GR NZ556275. Meet opposite the fishermen's huts. We shall explore areas of the **South Gare** not usually visited by the CNFC.

**Wednesday, 31<sup>st</sup> May, 10:30 am, leader Vincent Jones ☎ 01642 722814**

GR NZ493361. **Hart Warren**. We have permission to park in the golf club house car park, but please park with consideration for golf club users. We shall study the natural history of this rich area and may, if members wish, walk south to the cemetery by the coast, called Spion Kop. This is a small nature reserve.

**Wednesday, 7<sup>th</sup> June, 6:30 pm, leader Jack Marshall ☎ 01642 315365**

GR NZ592062. Meet at **Bank Foot**. An easy walk, on the flat, of about 4 miles.

**Wednesday, 14<sup>th</sup> June, 6:30 pm, leader David Barlow ☎ 01287 634679**

GR NZ668216. **Saltburn cliffs**. Meet at the Ship Inn. There is plenty of parking available in the area. It will be necessary to climb to the top of the cliffs.

**Sunday, 18<sup>th</sup> June, 10:30 am, leader Neil Baker ☎ 01325 361547**

GR NY867298. Meet in the Hanging Shaw car park in Forest-in-Teesdale. We will take a circular walk over the top of **Cronkley Fell**, stopping to look at

the English Nature enclosures, and return by the banks of the river Tees. The walk will be about 8 miles and fairly strenuous, involving some climbing, but we will be taking it at a very relaxed pace.

**Wednesday, 28<sup>th</sup> June, 10:30 am, leader Judy Dinwiddie ☎ 01845 537340**  
GR SE492855. Meet in a lay-by on the road between Boltby and Thirlby. This will be a 'gentle stroll'. We hope to find *Lysimachia thyrsiflora* (Tufted Loosestrife) in flower at its locus classicus at **Lake Gormire**.

**Saturday, 1<sup>st</sup> July, 10:30 am, leader John Blackburn ☎ 01642 583815**  
GR TA007969. This is the YNU VC 62 meeting. Park at the **Hayburn Wyke** Hotel, probably in the paddock because of the pressure on the hotel car park at this time of year.

**Wednesday, 5<sup>th</sup> July, 10:30 am, leaders Peter and Ruth Waterton ☎ 01642 724270**  
GR SE761729. Turn right off the B1257 (Malton road) at **Swinton** into Swinton Lane. Park on the left side. An easy walk of about 5 miles, but there will be opportunities of extension into the wolds. The area is rich in limestone flora and butterflies. We hope to see *Potentilla argentea* (Hoary Cinquefoil) and *Orobanche elatior* (Knapweed Broomrape).

**Wednesday, 12<sup>th</sup> July, 6:30 pm, leader Ian Lawrence ☎ 01642 281380**  
GR NZ421132. Meet by the church at **Egglescliffe**. An easy evening walk.

**Sunday, 16<sup>th</sup> July, 10:30 am, leader Eric Gendle ☎ 01642 281235**  
GR NZ104005. **Orgate Valley**. Meet in Marske (in Swaledale) village. A walk of about 6 miles, involving a little climbing. There should be a chance to see buzzards (and maybe eagle owls?).

**Wednesday, 26<sup>th</sup> July, 6:30 pm, leader Andrew Ferguson ☎ 01642 311831**  
GR NZ463202. Meet in the B&Q car park just off Portrack Lane in Stockton-on-Tees. We will gently walk on the flat by the side of **Lustrum Beck** through a rarely visited area towards Big W and then on over to Holme House prison. This is largely uncharted territory which we will explore to see what we can find.

**Wednesday, 2<sup>nd</sup> August, 10:30 am, leader Eric Gendle ☎ 01642 281235**  
GR SE537897. **Thorodale**. Meet on the verge at Hawaby church. A walk of about 6 miles involving some climbing. There will be a mix of woodland, moorland and unimproved limestone grassland.

**Sunday, 13<sup>th</sup> August, 11:00 am, leader Malcolm Birtle ☎ 01642 558055**  
GR NZ087478. Meet in the old **Rowley** station car park (Waskerley Way). This is situated on the west side of the A68, between Tow Law and Castleside. An easy walk on the flat.

**Sunday, 20<sup>th</sup> August, 10:30 am, leader Alick Hunter ☎ 01751 477708**

GR SE725960. Meet in the car park at **Rosedale** Abbey, situated on the north side of the minor road running north east from the village. A walk of about 5 miles with some moderate climbing.

**Wednesday, 13<sup>th</sup> September, 12:00 pm, leader Colin Chatto ☎ 01642 599616**

GR NZ781185. Meet in the car park at **Staithes** before descending the hill into the village. We will walk along the shoreline to Skinningrove, where cars will be left to shuttle drivers back to Staithes (or some can walk back along the Cleveland Way). It is a walk of about 5 miles from Staithes to Skinningrove with some difficult sections over rocks.

**Saturday, 23<sup>rd</sup> September, 10:30 am, leader Alf Rout ☎ 01642 818045**

GR SE456972. Meet by the cross in **Osmotherley**. There should be ample parking in the vicinity. A walk of about 8 miles, involving about 800ft of climbing, though there will be options for shortening.

**Saturday, 7<sup>th</sup> October, 10:30 am, leader Tom Kirby ☎ 01642 722814 (Vincent Jones)**

GR NZ592062. **Ingleby Bank**. This is a fungus foray. Tom's corresponding meeting last year was hugely enjoyed! It is the same meeting place as Jack Marshall's June walk, but it will be a completely different walk which will involve some climbing.

**Wednesday, 18<sup>th</sup> October, 10:30 am, leaders Aubrey and Edith Colling ☎ 01609 882339**

GR NZ453003. **Arncliffe Wood**. Meet at Ingleby Arncliffe church. A walk of about 5 miles which will involve some climbing.

**Saturday, 4<sup>th</sup> November, 10:30 am, leader Andy Astbury ☎ 01642 823114**

GR SE468873. A circular walk of about 8.5 miles on fairly flat ground. Park tidily in **Kirby Knowle** village and meet outside the school.

#### **Dates For Winter Meetings 2006-2007**

Oct 16.    Nov 6, 20.    Dec 4, 18.    Jan 15, 29.    Feb 19.    Mar 5, 20.

#### **Meetings Of The Yorkshire Naturalists' Union**

Details are available from John Blackburn ☎ 01642 583815.

#### **Websites**

Members with access to the world wide web will find the following sites of interest.

<http://www.clevelandnats.org.uk> and <http://www.davebarlow.co.uk>  
and <http://www.thevasculum.com>.

These sites contain excellent links to many other sites with a natural history theme.

