

CLEVELAND NATURALISTS'

FIELD CLUB



RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Volume 10 Part 1

Spring 2011

MEETINGS OF THE YORKSHIRE NATURALISTS' UNION

Details are available from Eric Gendle ☎ 01642 281235.

THE OFFICERS & COMMITTEE 2011-2012

President.	Vic Fairbrother, 8 Whitby Avenue, Guisborough, TS14 7AP.
Secretary.	Eric Gendle, 13 Mayfield Road, Nunthorpe, TS7 0ED.
Treasurer.	Colin Chatto, 32 Blue Bell Grove, Acklam, TS5 7HQ.
Membership Secretary.	Jean McLean, 28 Pendle Crescent, Billingham, TS23 2RA.
Programme Secretary.	Neil Baker, 10 Smithfield Road, Darlington, DL1 4DD.

The immediate past president. Dorothy Thompson.

Ordinary members. Ian Lawrence, David Barlow, Paul Forster, Jo Scott.

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 meetings held in the Hydroponicum Lecture Hall at Natures World, Ladgate Lane, Acklam, Middlesbrough. If you have any difficulty getting to this venue, please speak to any committee member and we will see if we can arrange a lift for you. A meeting usually takes the form of a lecture given by a club member or visiting speaker. The annual subscription is £5.

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: 21st March 2011

I am pleased to be able to report on another fascinating four seasons of good companionship as the Cleveland Naturalists' Field Club has continued the long tradition of exploring the natural history of Cleveland and the surrounding countryside.

A programme of twenty-four field trips in 2010 provided a wide variety of records and experiences and the highlights will be described in more detail in the Annual Record of Proceedings and on the website.

Members enjoyed four evening events featuring the Botanic Centre at Nature's World, a walk along the Stray from Redcar to Marske and wetland visits to both Portrack and Bowesfield Marshes. There was also a late evening visit to Guisborough Woods for some nocturnal moth trapping. The success of this evening led to the addition of an extra late summer event when the club was given permission to meet in the private gardens of Mulgrave Castle for more moth trapping.

Local venues for full day visits included Saltburn shore for rock pool and marine life, Linthorpe Cemetery Nature Reserve and Saltburn Woods. Further afield Upper Teesdale exerted its usual attraction and we also travelled north for a rewarding day in Hamsterley Forest.

The Yorkshire Dales are always a popular destination and the walk from Muker to Keld provided a welcome return to Swaledale, followed later by a return visit to Snaizholmedale. The North York Moors have so much to offer and provided visits to Hutton Common, Cockerdale, Tranmire Bogs & Goathland Tarn, Roxby & Easington Moors, Sawdon, Duncombe Park, Kildale, Arncliffe Woods and Swainby.

Further south Nettle Dale & Wydale and Bempton Cliffs & Filey Dams both provided memorable field trips.

Paul Forster opened the winter indoor season with a look back at his personal *Natural History Highlights of 2010*.

Vincent Jones created a personal and delightful evocation of *The Beauty of Britain's Plants* including familiar favourites and some more reclusive treasures.

In *Rambles in Bulgaria* Ruth and Peter Waterton presented a match to remember with superb botanical shots coming from one side of the net and being met by splendid returns of birds, butterflies and dragonflies flashing from the other side. Every passing shot being countered with a winner from the other side.

The indoor programme was severely disrupted by the prolonged period of snow and freezing conditions which began at the end of November and continued throughout December resulting in two meetings being cancelled. It is hoped to reschedule the Chris Bielby lecture on *Whales and other Cetaceans around Britain* and the *social evening* will now take place after the AGM.

Normal service was resumed in the New Year when Geoff Myers gave a fascinating personal account of the *Pleasures of Nest Recording* emphasising how important this is in understanding fluctuations in bird populations.

In *Around the Eiger in 80 Days* the President gave an insight into the impact of this mountain on visitors to the Jungfrau region and the glories of the alpine flora at its base.

On Members Night Alan Bunn gave a fascinating account of the remarkable fungus course he attended at Kindrogan and using a delightful combination of music and pictures, Jo Scott gave us a brief glimpse of a year in her garden. The evening was

completed when by popular demand Norman Thompson shared more of his aural and visual gems from *Nature in Poetry*.

The indoor programme at Natures World will conclude with the intriguing *La Brenne to the Tarn* a presentation by Bill Hall.

Editor Malcolm Birtle has continued to liaise with David Barlow in order to make our Record of Proceedings primarily an on-line facility, and Eric Gendle has made more archive material available on the website and on CD. It is intended to make paper copies of new Records of Proceedings available and these may be pre-ordered for a small charge. The Club has also purchased a digital projector as so many presentations are now in this format. The slide projector will be available as required.

Many people have contributed to the success of the club in the past year including those members who have planned and led field trips and those who have given talks at indoor meetings. The smooth running of the club is ensured by the commitment and enthusiasm of the small team of volunteers who give their time to make all the necessary arrangements. These are Eric Gendle, Secretary who also makes available and operates the projector; Colin Chatto, Treasurer who also organises and prepares the meeting room; Vincent Jones & Neil Baker, Programme Secretaries; Jean McLean, Membership Secretary; David Barlow, Website Manager; Malcolm Birtle, Editor of Record of Proceedings; and committee members Ian Lawrence, Jo Scott and Paul Forster. Our Past President, Dorothy Thompson, 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 has been 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.

Highlights of 2010 Field Meetings

Saturday, 27th March, 10:30 am, leader Colin Chatto GR NZ668216 Saltburn Woods.

On a pleasant, dry day with some sunshine, six of us walked through Saltburn Woods along part of the Cleveland way to Marske Mill (ruin) and back through Saltburn Gill. Spring flowers seen included *Anemone nemorosa* (Wood Anemone), *Primula vulgaris* (Primrose), *Viola reichenbachiana* (Early Dog-violet), *Petasites fragrans* (Winter Heliotrope), *Petasites hybridus* (Butterbur), *Chrysosplenium oppositifolium* (Opposite-leaved Golden-saxifrage) and the rare alien *Trachysteman orientalis* (Abraham-Isaac- Jacob), long naturalized by the beck. *Inachis io* (Peacock) and *Aglaia urticae* (Small Tortoiseshell) were seen and *Sitta europea* (Nuthatch), *Phylloscopus collybita* (Chiffchaff) and *Regulus regulus* (Goldcrest) were singing.

There were a few fungi – *Trametes versicolor* (Turkeytail), *Daldinia concentrica* (Cramp Balls), *Hymenochaete rubiginosa* (Oak Curtain Crust), *Ganoderma australe* (Southern Bracket), *Auricularia auricula-judae* (Jelly Ear) and *bjerkandera adusta* (Smokey Bracket) were recorded by Aubrey and Edith Colling.

Sunday, 18th April, 10:30 am, Swaledale.

Sunday, 25th April, 10:30 am. Linthorpe Cemetery.

Wednesday, 5th May, 10:30 am, Nettle Dale and Wydale.

Wed 12th May. Eric Gendle, Snaizholmedale

We repeated the wet and windy walk from last year to see the *Sciurus vulgaris* (Red Squirrels) in Snaizholmedale. The walk was very successful. The members were entertained for a period of over 30 minutes by up to 12 Red squirrels scampering up and down the conifers and amongst the grassy tussocks. Photography was a challenge. The party then walked further up Snaizholmedale before returning via a different route.

Wednesday 19th May, 10.30 am. Leader Vic Fairbrother, GR SE707885 Hutton Common

It was a warm dry day with sunny periods when members met for a leisurely exploration of this fascinating area of calcareous grassland, scrub and steeply wooded valley.

Species typical of this calcareous site included *Carduus nutans* (Musk Thistle), *Cirsium eriophorum* (Woolly Thistle), *Carlina vulgaris* (Carlina Thistle), *Carex caryophylla* (Spring Sedge), *Inula conyzae* (Ploughman's Spikenard), *Helianthemum nummularium* (Common Rock-rose) and *Picris hieracioides* (Hawkweed Oxtongue).

Listera ovata (Common Twayblade) and *Orchis mascula* (Early- purple Orchid) were well represented along with *Platanthera chlorantha* (Greater Butterfly Orchid) although we were too early to see the latter in flower. The locally rare *Atropa belladonna* (Deadly Nightshade) was also an interesting find.

Veronicas present included: *Veronica montana* (Wood Speedwell), *Veronica arvensis* (Wall Speedwell), *Veronica serpyllifolia* (Thyme-leaved Speedwell), *Veronica filiformis* (Slender Speedwell) and *Veronica officinalis* (Heath Speedwell).

Calcareous loving *Viola hirta* (Hairy Violet) was present as well as *Viola riviniana* (Common Dog-violet) and *Viola reichenbachiana* (Early Dog-violet).

There were fewer Butterflies than expected but there were good numbers of *Pararge aegeria* (Speckled Wood) and *Pieris napi* (Green-veined White). A solitary moth *Scotopteryx chenopodiata* (Shaded Broad-bar) was noted.

A *Bombylius major* (Bee-fly) was observed nectaring on *Primula veris* (Cowslip) and it was sad to encounter a dead *Anguis fragilis* (Slowworm).

Finally the gourmets present were pleased to find a good collection of *Calocybe gambosa* (St. George's Mushrooms).

Saturday, 22nd May, 11.00am, Upper Teesdale.

Wednesday, 2nd June, 6:30 pm, Botanic Centre.

**Saturday, 5th June, 10:30 am, leader Paul Forster GR TA198739.
Bempton Cliffs.**





Turdus merula
Sylvia atricapilla
Buteo buteo
Fringilla coelebs
Corvus corone
Fulmarus glacialis
Morus bassanus
Uria aalge
Larus argentatus
Corvus monedula
Rissa tridactyla
Pica pica
Anthus pratensis
Fratercula arctica
Alca torda
Emberiza schoeniclus
Columba livia
Tadorna tadorna
Hirundo rustica
Apus apus
Alauda arvensis
Passer montanus
Sylvia communis
Phylloscopus trochilus
Columba palumbus
Emberiza citrinella

Pieris brassicae
Vanessa atalanta
Inachis io

Epirrhoe alternata

Blackbird
 Blackcap
 Buzzard
 Chaffinch
 Crow
 Fulmar
 Gannet
 Guillemot
 Herring Gull
 Jackdaw
 Kittiwake
 Magpie
 Meadow Pipit
 Puffin
 Razorbill
 Reed Bunting
 Rock/Dom Dove
 Shelduck
 Swallow
 Swift
 Skylark
 Tree Sparrow
 Whitethroat
 Willow Warbler
 Wood Pigeon
 Yellowhammer

Butterflies

Large White
 Red Admiral
 Peacock

Moths

Common Carpet

Odezia atrata
Petrophora chlorosata
Autographa gamma
Zygaena filipendulae

Chimney Sweeper
Brown Silver Lines
Silver Y
Six-spotted Burnet Larva in all stages of
pupation 30+

Filey Dams

Sturnus vulgaris
Pica pica
Anas crecca
Gallinula chloropus
Fulica atra
Aythya fuligula
Anas platyrhynchos
Tadorna tadorna
Larus marinus
Larus argentatus
Columba palumbus
Streptopelia decaocto
Phylloscopus trochilus
Sylvia atricapilla
Turdus merula
Corvus corone
Parus caeruleus
Phasianus colchicus

Starling
Magpie
Teal
Moorhen
Coot
Tufted Duck
Mallard
Shelduck
Black Backed Gull
Herring Gull
Wood Pigeon
Collard Dove
Willow Warbler
Blackcap
Blackbird
Carrion Crow
Blue Tit
Pheasant

Butterflies

Pieris napi

Green-veined White

**Saturday, 12th June, 10:30 am, contact Janetta Lambert GR SE853860.
Dalby Forest.**

Details will appear in the 'Naturalist' in due course.

**Saturday, 19th June, 10:30 am, leader Judy Dinwiddie GR SE517815.
Cockerdale.**

Fourteen members met at the top of Kilburn Bank. Passing the Glider club we turned down the lane towards Oldstead. On the way we stopped for a brief look at "Scotch Corner", the place written about in the recently published book, "The Plot" by Madeleine Bunting, daughter of the late owner. Our aim was to visit a private nature reserve recently acquired by the Stubbings. Much neglected, they are restoring this neglected pasture. They have had help from English Nature, mostly with the load of Exmoor ponies. The site is botanically interesting and the owners need help in the shape of a thorough botanical survey and future management advice. The owners, who walked up to meet us, emphasised that should club members be passing by in the future, we should wander round the reserve to see how the reserve is progressing.

The following plants were noted in the reserve.

Agrimonia eupatoria (Agrimony)

Stachys officinalis (*Betonica officinalis*) (Betony)
Briza media (Quaking-grass)
Dactylorhiza fuchsii (Common Spotted Orchid)
Veronica officinalis (Heath Speedwell)
Veronica serpyllifolia (Thyme-leaved Speedwell)
Myosotis scorpioides (Water Forget-me-not).
Sanicula europaea (Sanicle)
Triglochin palustris (Marsh Arrowgrass)
Valeriana dioica (Marsh Valerian)
Caltha palustris (Marsh Marigold)
Veronica beccabunga (Brooklime)

The group then spent some time looking in the hedgerow for *Helleborus foetidus* Stinking Hellebore, one of its few sites locally, before retracing our steps.

Wednesday, 30th June, 6:30 pm, leader Alan Bunn, GR NZ615247. The Stray.

A sea breeze greeted 10 members who attended this walk which was a leisurely stroll along the Stray starting at the Redcar end. Botanically we found a large patch of *Honckenya peploides* (Sea Sandwort), which was mostly in seed, although we were rewarded with some flowering patches. Other flowers seen on the beach/promenade interface were *Beta vulgaris ssp maritima* (Sea Beet), *Sonchus oleraceus* (Smooth Sowthistle), *Sonchus asper* (Prickly Sowthistle) and *Catapodium marinum* (Sea Fern-grass).

We were pleasantly surprised to find a large flock of *Passer domesticus* (House Sparrows) in bushes along the Stray and a close –up view of a hovering *Falco tinnunculus* (Kestrel). On the return walk from the Marske end we were able to observe the erosion which had occurred along this stretch of low cliff and towards the Redcar end we enjoyed watching the *Riparia riparia* (Sand Martins) which had created a nesting colony on a recently eroded cliff face.

Wednesday, 7th July, 6:30 pm, leader Neil Baker GR NZ462194. Portrack Marsh.

Saturday, 17th July, 10:30 am, leader Eric Gendle GR NZ073265. Hamsterley Forest.

Parking near Woodland village, a party explored the upper reaches of Hamsterley Forest on a pleasant summer day. Amongst the flowers seen were;

Rhinanthus minor (Yellow-rattle).
Achillea ptarmica (Sneezewort).
Listera ovata (Common Twayblade).
Lychnis flos-cuculi (Ragged-robin).
Malva moschata (Musk-mallow).
Dactylorhiza fuchsii (Common Spotted-orchid).
D.x venusta = *D.fuchsii* x *D. purpurella* (hybrid of Common Spotted-orchid with Northern Marsh-orchid).

Butterflies seen included *Aphantopus hyperantus* (Ringlet), *Lycaena phlaeas* (Small Copper) and *Maniola jurtina* (Meadow Brown).

Wednesday, 21st July, 6:30 pm, Bowesfield Nature Reserve.

Friday 30th July, 8.30pm leader Paul Forster GR NZ602135. Guisborough Woods.



0015	<i>Hepialus sylvina</i>	Orange Swift	8
0410	<i>Argyresthia brockeella</i>		1
0462	<i>Ypsolopha sequella</i>		1
0779	<i>Bryotropha affinis</i>		1
0873	<i>Blastobasis adustella</i>		20
0874	<i>Blastobasis lacticolella</i>		1
0937	<i>Agapeta hamana</i>		2
0969	<i>Pandemis corylana</i>	Chequered Fruit-tree Tortrix	1
1301	<i>Crambus lathoniellus</i>		10
1304	<i>Agriphila straminella</i>		9
1305	<i>Agriphila tristella</i>		2
1332	<i>Scoparia subfusca</i>		1
1344	<i>Eudonia mercurella</i>		6
1405	<i>Pleuroptya ruralis</i>	Mother of Pearl	4
1666	<i>Geometra papilionaria</i>	Large Emerald	1
1681	<i>Cyclophora linearia</i>	Clay Triple-lines	1
1702	<i>Idaea biselata</i>	Small Fan-footed Wave	1
1713	<i>Idaea aversata ab. remutata</i>	Riband Wave [non-banded form]	2
1738	<i>Epirrhoe alternata</i>	Common Carpet	1
1752	<i>Cosmorhoe ocellata</i>	Purple Bar	1
1756	<i>Eulithis populata</i>	Northern Spinach	1
1762	<i>Chloroclysta citrata</i>	Dark Marbled Carpet	1
1768	<i>Thera obeliscata</i>	Grey Pine Carpet	4
1777	<i>Hydriomena furcata</i>	July Highflyer	3

1803	<i>Perizoma alchemillata</i>	Small Rivulet	2
1837	<i>Eupithecia subfuscata</i>	Grey Pug	2
1873	<i>Venusia cambrica</i>	Welsh Wave	1
1893	<i>Macaria liturata</i>	Tawny-barred Angle	1
1906	<i>Opisthograptis luteolata</i>	Brimstone Moth	3
1931	<i>Biston betularia</i>	Peppered Moth	1
1941	<i>Alcis repandata</i>	Mottled Beauty	1
1955	<i>Cabera pusaria</i>	Common White Wave	2
2000	<i>Notodonta dromedarius</i>	Iron Prominent	2
2006	<i>Pheosia gnoma</i>	Lesser Swallow Prominent	2
2050	<i>Eilema lurideola</i>	Common Footman	6
2102	<i>Ochropleura plecta</i>	Flame Shoulder	1
2107	<i>Noctua pronuba</i>	Large Yellow Underwing	18
2110	<i>Noctua fimbriata</i>	Broad-bordered Yellow Underwing	1
2111	<i>Noctua janthe</i>	Lesser Broad-bordered Yellow Underwing	15
2131	<i>Xestia rhomboidea</i>	Square-spotted Clay	9
2176	<i>Cerapteryx graminis</i>	Antler Moth	1
2199	<i>Mythimna pallens</i>	Common Wainscot	2
2284x	<i>Acronicta tridens/psi</i>	Grey Dagger / Dark Dagger	1
2318	<i>Cosmia trapezina</i>	Dun-bar	3
2321	<i>Apamea monoglypha</i>	Dark Arches	7
2335	<i>Apamea scolopacina</i>	Slender Brindle	2
2337x	<i>Oligia strigilis agg.</i>	Marbled Minor agg.	4
2339	<i>Oligia latruncula</i>	Tawny Marbled Minor	1
2342	<i>Mesoligia literosa</i>	Rosy Minor	5
2343x	<i>Mesapamea secalis agg.</i>	Common Rustic agg.	1
2381	<i>Hoplodrina alsines</i>	Uncertain	4
2477	<i>Hypena proboscidalis</i>	Snout	3
2489	<i>Zanclognatha tarsipennalis</i>	Fan-foot	2

Saturday, 7th August, 10:30 am, leader Bill Hall GR SE802971. Tranmire Bogs and Goathland Tarn.

This joint meeting, with Yorkshire Dragonfly, was attended by 6 Cleveland Naturalists Field Club members, 4 Yorkshire Dragonfly Branch members and 1 joint member. It had an emphasis on finding and identifying dragonflies and damselflies.

Neither the forecast nor the morning weather looked promising with showers predicted and complete cloud cover at the start. We walked South from the meeting point at Wheeldale Bridge and then into Cropton Forest to two very beautiful ponds. From then on the weather started to improve with some warm sunshine and dragonflies started to appear. Keith Gittens from the YDB was able to net an *Coenagrion puella* (Azure Damselfly) to demonstrate the marks which distinguish it from the very similar *Enallagma cyathigerum* (Common Blue Damselfly) also present. Two other damselflies were found, *Lestes sponsa* (Emerald) and *Pyrrhosoma nymphula* (Large Red). Of the true dragonflies we had *Cordulegaster boltonii* (Golden-ringed), *Aeshna juncea* (Common Hawker), *Aeshna cyanea* (Southern Hawker), and *Aeshna grandis* (Brown Hawker), *Sympetrum striolatum* (Common Darter) and *Sympetrum danae* (Black Darter) and *Libellula quadrimaculata* (Four-spot Chaser). Of interest was a *Zootoca vivipara* (Common Lizard) lurking in the top

of the vegetation possibly hoping to catch one of the damselflies. With some reluctance we returned to our meeting place at Tranmire Bogs, where we hoped to see *Orthetrum coerulescens* (Keeled Skimmer). The weather had deteriorated a bit and nothing was flying though Keith managed to net one rather worn Keeled Skimmer and then, being in very good form, netted a Golden ringed flying down the stream. Lunch was taken sitting overlooking the stream in light rain but nevertheless with more Golden-ringed flying up and down in front of us.

The rain became heavy and continuous as we drove to Goathland Tarn, though our luck was in since it cleared as we arrived. Goathland Tarn provided more joy for the party, the outstanding feature being over 500 Emerald Damselflies. We also had a new species for the day, *Orthetrum cancellatum* (Black-tailed Skimmer). Other species seen were; Common Blue Damselfly, Common and Black Darter and a number of Common Hawkers, including a copulating pair of which the female was of the blue form.

Throughout the day there were also a number of butterflies, moths and caterpillars as follows:-

At the ponds; *Thymelicus sylvestris* (Small Skipper), *Aphantopus hyperantus* (Ringlet), *Polyommatus icarus* (Common Blue) and *Lycaena phlaeas* (Small Copper) butterflies and a *Elophila nymphaeata* (Brown China Mark) moth.

At Tranmire Bogs; *Autographa gamma* (Silver Y moth), *Anarta myrtili* (Beautiful Yellow Underwing) and *Macrothylacia rubi* (Fox moth) caterpillar.

At Goathland Tarn; *Lycaena phlaeas* (Small Copper) and *Coenonympha pamphilus* (Small Heath) butterflies, *Eulithis testata* (Chevron) moth (on the moor), *Macrothylacia rubi* (Fox moth) and *Melanchra pisi* (Broom moth) caterpillars.

The meeting turned out to be a very good one, particularly for dragonflies with 13 species seen, which is excellent by any standards.

Sunday, 22nd August, 10.30 am, leader Vic .Fairbrother.GR NZ756128 Roxby and Easington Moors.

Eighteen members assembled at the eastern end of Scaling Reservoir for a walk along the southern shore and a return over Easington High Moor and Roxby High Moor.

The mauve flowers of *Mentha aquatica* (Water Mint) were much in evidence and provided an interesting comparison with a specimen of *Mentha arvensis* (Corn Mint) growing nearby. Good patches of *Lythrum portula* (Water Purslane) were encountered along the shoreline along with *Gnaphalium uliginosum* (Marsh Cudweed) and *Littorella uniflora* (Shoreweed). At the water edge several strands of *Potamogeton perfoliatus* (Perfoliate Pondweed) were floating in the shallows, stems firmly clasped by the leaves.

Damp and marshy areas also revealed *Anagallis tenella* (Bog Pimpernel), *Hydrocotyle vulgaris* (Marsh Pennywort), *Potentilla palustris* (Marsh Cinquefoil), *Ranunculus flammula* (Lesser Spearwort) and *Achillea ptarmica* (Sneezewort).

Extensive carpets of *Calluna vulgaris* (Ling), intermixed with *Erica cinerea* (Bell Heather) and *Erica tetralix* (Cross-leaved Heath) showed the moor at its best on this glorious August day.

Many Butterflies were active and *Pieris brassicae* (Large White), *Aglais urticae* (Small Tortoiseshell), *Vanessa atalanta* (Red Admiral), *Inachis io* (Peacock), *Maniola jurtina* (Meadow Brown), *Coenonympha pamphilus* (Small Heath), *Lasiommata megera* (Wall Brown), *Lycaena phlaeas* (Small Copper), *Polyommatus*

icarus (Common Blue), and *Thymelicus sylvestris* (Small Skipper) added to our enjoyment.. *Autographa gamma* (Silver Y Moth) and caterpillars of *Pavonia pavonia* (Emperor Moth) and *Lasiocampa callunae* (Northern Eggar) were also noted.

Enallagma cyathigerum (Common Blue Damselfly) were present by the reservoir and *Lestes sponsa* (Emerald Damselfly) were observed in tandem by an isolated moorland pool.

Birds which attracted particular interest included *Picus viridis* (Green Woodpecker), *Muscicapa striata* (Spotted Flycatcher), *Gallinago gallinago* (Snipe) and *Circus aeruginosus* (Marsh Harrier).

The mycologists identified *Leccinum scabrum* (Brown Birch Bolete), *Lycoperdon perlatum* (Common Puffball), *Lycoperdon pretense* (Meadow Puffball), *Bovista nigrescens* (Brown Puffball), *Lactarius rufus* (Rufous Milkcap), *Stropharia semiglobata* (Dung Roundhead), *Entoloma chalybaeum* (Indigo Pinkgill), *Polyporus squamosus* (Dryad's Saddle), *Inocybe nappies* (Bulbous Fibrecap), *Hygrophoropsis auriantica* (False Chanterelle) and *Hebeloma leucosarx*.

Sunday, 5th September, 10:30 am, Kildale Woods.

Wednesday, 15th September, 10:30 am, Leader Colin Chatto GR SE 944849, Sawdon.

Seven members enjoyed a pleasant walk mainly through deciduous and then coniferous woodland in an area probably not visited before by the CNFC. As there had recently been much rain a number of fungi were in evidence and we were able to identify *Macrolepiota procera* (Parasol), and *Boletus edulis* (Cep or Penny Bun). At the beginning of the walk, alongside a stream, *Galeopsis tetrahit* (Common Hemp-nettle) was much in evidence. On the other side of the stream there was a part-fallen tree with large, long dark green leaves clustered in a few places. When we crossed the stream to have a closer look they turned out to be ash leaves but much larger and denser than usual. We assumed that this was the result of the tree being stressed after collapsing.

Among the birds which attracted particular attention were *Sitta europea* (Nuthatch), *Garrulus glandarius* (Jay), *Dendrocopus major* (Great Spotted Woodpecker), *Carduelis spinus* (Siskin) and *Buteo buteo* (Buzzard).

It was remarked that this area could be interesting earlier in the summer and as a venue for a fungus foray in the autumn.














Sunday 26th September 2010, Leader Jo Scott, Saltburn Shore

It was a very cold and windy morning for our venture to the rock pools on the shore at Saltburn. We were sheltered from the wind as we approached the headland at Hunt Cliff where we investigated a new rock fall to see if it had uncovered any fossils.

The rock formation that make up the cliffs here show a section through the Lower Lias which includes the Cleveland Ironstone and Redcar Mudstone Formations.

The flat rocks along the shore contained many different fossils:- ammonites, belemnites, brachiopods, worm tubes and fossilized wood.

We followed the fault line looking into the deeper pools and were amazed at the variety of life we found. We each collected specimens which we then tried to identify.

	Hunt Cliff and the shore line.		Paul Forster explains the geological sequence of the cliff face.
	Ammonite 10cm across.		Large Ammonite 30cm across.
	Belemnite		Piece of fossilized wood at least 180cm long.
	Searching for life in the rock pools		<i>Patina pellucida</i> (Blue Rayed Limpet)
	<i>Alcyonium digitatum</i> (Dead Man's Fingers.)		<i>Cirratulus cirratus</i>
	<i>Aplysia punctata</i> (Sea Hare)		<i>Lepidopleurus asellus</i> (Coat of Mail Chiton)
	<i>Asterias rubens</i> (Common Starfish)		<i>Eupagurus bernhardus</i> (Common Hermit Crab)

Other species found included: *Actinia equina* (Beadlet Anemone), *Ophiothrix fragilis* (Common Brittlestar), *Psammechinus miliaris* (Green Sea Urchin), *Carcinus maenas* (Common Shore Crab) the juveniles showed amazing patterns and colour variations, *Taurulus bubalis* (Long Spined Scorpion Fish). *Palaemon serratus* (Prawn). After lunch the bitter cold wind eventually forced us back to the cars and home.

Wednesday, 6th October, 10:30 am, Arncliffe Woods.

Wednesday, 20th October, 10:30 am, Duncombe Park.

Sunday, 7th November, 10:30 am, Swainby Circular.

Some noteworthy aquatic invertebrates recorded from the Tees Valley in 2010

Martin Hammond, 44 Stoneyhurst Avenue, Acklam, Middlesbrough TS5 4RE
martinhammondecology@googlemail.com

ARANEAE

Agyronectidae (water spiders)

Water Spider, *Argyroneta aquatica* (Clerck)

Found very locally at Lovell Hill Pools SSSI, 27/iv/10. As mentioned in the 2009 report, Water Spider appears to be very uncommon in north-east England. It has been known for some time from Lovell Hill Pools, being mentioned in the 1999 SSSI citation.

HEMIPTERA

Gerridae (pond skaters)

Gerris lateralis Schummel

Additional record: Lovell Hill Pools SSSI, 27/iv/10. The 1999 SSSI citation for Lovell Hill Pools mentions *G. lateralis* as one of the uncommon invertebrates occurring at this site, where it is still present in reasonable numbers. It is an infrequently-recorded pond-skater found amongst emergent vegetation in very shallow water. There are only two other known stations in the Tees Valley, at Hart Bog and Eston Moor.

Notonectidae (backswimmers)

Mottled Backswimmer, *Notonecta maculata* Fabricius

In the previous report, this predatory water bug was noted from ponds at Broken Scar Water Works at Darlington. A single specimen was also collected from a pond at Bran Sands Pumping Station at Teesport on 4/viii/10, suggesting that it is now established in the Tees Valley. It is one of several water bugs gradually spreading northwards. Its congener *N. viridis* is now fairly frequent on Teesside and has recently been recorded as far north as Chester-le-Street in County Durham.

COLEOPTERA

Dytiscidae (diving beetles)

Agabus melanarius Aubé

In his classic study of British water beetles, Balfour-Browne (1950) considered *A. melanarius* to be one of our rarest diving beetles. As a specialised inhabitant of cool, shaded pools, *A. melanarius* has benefited from 20th century conifer afforestation and the proliferation of wheel-rut pools created by mechanised forestry operations (Hammond, 2009). The forests of north-east Yorkshire are a national stronghold for this species, so its discovery at Kemplah Wood in Guisborough Forest (22/iii/10) was not unexpected. It was subsequently found in the same forest at Belman Bank on 21/vii/10.

Ilybius guttiger (Gyllenhal)

Additional records of this scarce species of richly-vegetated wetlands come from Belman Bank pond (Guisborough Forest) on 22/iii/10 and the TVWT education ponds at Woodhill Meadow (Margrove Park) on 21/vii/10. These records add to a cluster of sites associated with the Cleveland Ironstone to the east of Guisborough, the others being fen adjoining Margrove Ponds and pools at the Old Shale Tip at Margrove Park.

Dytiscus semisulcatus Mueller

Additional record: several larvae found at Lovell Hill Pools SSSI, 4/v/10. This great diving beetle is widespread nationally but very local both in north-east England and in Yorkshire. The only other known Tees Valley site is a coastal ditch near North Gare.

***Hydroporus ferrugineus* Stephens**

A small diving beetle associated with subterranean water (e.g. wells and caves) and places where groundwater emerges at the surface (springs, headwater trickles). One was collected from a very shallow wheel-rut pool irrigated by seeping water at Belman Bank (Guisborough Forest) on 23/ii/10.

Reference

Balfour-Browne, F. (1950). *British water beetles*. Volume 2. Ray Society: London.

Site locations (all in Vc 62, North-east Yorks)

Belman Bank NZ 625 146; Bran Sands Pumping Station (pond) NZ 565 237; Kemplah Wood NZ 608 140; Lovell Hill Ponds SSSI NZ 596 186; Woodhill Meadow ponds NZ 651 153.

Cypripedium calceolus The Lady's-slipper Orchid

Eric Gendle

The Lady's Slipper Orchid is an orchid whose dramatic appearance has contributed to its downfall, as it was collected to the point of extinction in the British Isles. Essentially a plant of limestone it was common around Wharfedale and around Ingleborough, but also on the north Lancashire limestone. It also flourished on the east of the Pennines on the Magnesian Limestone of the Castle Eden area but also the Corallian Limestone around Helmsley, particularly around Rievaulx.



Sadly it was collected to the point where in 1917 it was declared extinct in this country. However, in 1930 a single Wharfedale plant was discovered, which survives to the present day. It survived through a combination of secrecy and protection, though rarely flowering, not at all between 1943 and 1959.

Determined guardianship and hand pollination has allowed this single individual to flourish and in 1996 65 flowers were produced. How many separate flowers are involved is not known.

Since 1983 a plant propagation programme - growing seedlings in a suitable medium for subsequent planting out - has been in progress at Kew, with steadily increasing success. It is felt that in the first trials, which were not very successful, the seedlings were planted out at too young an age. Later attempts have been much more successful and plants have been established at a variety of suitable secluded sites, usually far away from public footpaths.

In an attempt to improve the genetic variability (the native stock all coming from a single individual) material from foreign from foreign plants has been incorporated into the breeding stock, which some purists may object to.

Success has been such that one site, Gaitbarrow NNR, now feels able to offer visits to the public to see their Lady's-slipper Orchids, on guided tours on specific dates.

For those who cannot attend, a visit to the public site at Silverdale is a rewarding experience. This plant is known to have been planted, maybe 100 years ago and from DNA testing is believed to be of European origin. Though it was vandalised in 2004 it seems to have recovered well. Nevertheless, as Paul Forster and I found out, the plant is quite spectacular, nestling in a north facing hollow in a sheltered position, a position which could have been chosen for its photographic potential. On a midweek visit, we had the site virtually to ourselves, a situation we would not have had on a public visit to Gaitbarrow. This is good news since our local Lady Slipper Orchid, also a planted import, seems to have disappeared from its secret location.



The information for this article has been taken from several sources including the Hardy Orchid Society Journal and Orchids of Britain and Ireland by Harrop and Harrop.

Eric Gendle

Traditional Orchards in the Lower Tees Valley

Helen Herring, Wildflower Ark

Traditional Orchards have been a feature of the English landscape for centuries. They are generally described as consisting of large fruit trees grown on vigorous rootstocks planted at low densities on permanent grassland. At one time most farms had an orchard to supply the household with a variety of fruits. Country manors and estates would also keep an extensive orchard and some areas of the country had large commercial orchards, making orchards a common sight within the landscape.

Traditional orchards often occupy the same piece of land for centuries and are managed without the use of chemicals making them hotspots for biodiversity. They contain a mosaic of different habitats including fruit trees (old and young), veteran trees, hedgerows, non fruit trees, grassland, ponds and various nectar sources. These provide food, shelter and potential breeding sites for many different species. What is also important is the range of ages of the fruit trees and the presence of old trees with cracked bark, cavities and holes in the tree trunk, standing deadwood and deadwood in the canopy.

Unfortunately, as with much wildlife habitat, traditional orchards are under threat across the whole of the UK. The area of orchard habitat across England has declined by more than 60% since the 1950's and the UK Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) now includes traditional orchards in its list of priority habitats.

Traditional commercial orchards were plentiful in the Lower Tees Valley during the 19th century with villages such as Egglescliffe, Norton and East Hartburn surrounded by fields of fruit trees. The fruit was produced to feed the growing urban population and was mostly sold in local shops and markets. These commercial orchards have now been lost, through the expanding urban populations need for more housing and also the changes in fruit growing in Britain, as more fruit was imported. The last orchard in Norton was destroyed in 1984, but until as recently as the 1960s apples were sold at a local shop from its orchards at the back. Remnants of some of these orchards can still be found in domestic gardens.

Traditional orchards were also important as part of the fruit and vegetable gardens of local manors and country houses. The Victorians were very keen fruit growers, and the display of fresh fruits on the dinner table was a measurement of a gentleman's wealth. Most large country houses had an orchard and this can be seen locally on old maps – Marton Hall, Ormesby Hall, Acklam Hall, Kirklevington Hall, all had large orchards. The orchards at Crathorne Hall, Upleatham Hall and Skelton Castle are still present, though many of their trees have been lost.

Most farms used to have their own orchard that provided the family with produce both for selling and for their own use. The farmer's wife would preserve the fruit by bottling it in syrup or making jams and chutneys. Many of these traditional, old farm orchards are still present in the Lower Tees Valley today and contain old varieties of apple and pear such as Beauty of Bath, Egremont Russet, Lord Derby, Newton Wonder, Keswick Codlin and the pear Hessle. These orchards have usually occupied the same site for over 150 years and are present on the first edition Ordnance Survey maps of the 1850s.

The Wildflower Ark co-ordinated a fifteen month project, 'Traditional Orchards in the Lower Tees Valley', funded through a grant from the National Lottery through the Heritage Lottery Fund. The project located and surveyed orchards still present today including identifying, where possible, the old varieties of fruit being grown. Information on 27 local sites has so far been sent for inclusion on the National

Inventory of Traditional Orchards being compiled by the Peoples Trust for Endangered Species on behalf of Natural England. The project has also provided a series of workshops, held in the community orchards at Nature's World, to help increase skills in orchard management and fruit tree care within the local community to aid the restoration and management of local orchards.

Any information on old orchards or fruit trees in the Lower Tees Valley would be most welcome. Please get in touch by phoning 01642 576611 or email wildflowerark@hotmail.com.

North-east Yorkshire (vice-county 62) Annual Botanical Report

V. Jones/ M. Yates

Recording has started for the 2010 - 2019 date class. In 2010 a total of 13,200 records were added to the vice-county MapMate database, giving a total of 246,000 records. A first draft, up to the end of 2009, of the Rare Plant Register has been completed. An important deficiency of this register is that a large proportion of records are assigned to tetrad only with no details. Rectifying these omissions is an essential goal. In the last four years scarce and rare taxa have been given six or eight figure grid references with site details and frequency. In 2010 where thorough searching has failed to relocate a previous record, the taxon was noted as probably being extinct at that site. This practice will continue. Since the recording, done mainly in the 1980's, of the North York Moors by Nan Sykes and her helpers it has become all too evident that there is a significant change in several previously rich habitats – marshes and pools have dried up, either as a result of climate change, drainage or encroaching coarse vegetation and scrub; herb-rich pastures and calcareous grassland are diminishing because of change of land use; limestone quarries are overgrown with rank weeds and scrub – all resulting in a loss of sites for scarce and rare plants.

Although priority in 2010 was given to visiting sites in the North York Moors and Teesside to update the Rare Plant Register other recording took place. Tetrad recording has continued in under-worked hectads. Time was spent in April and May on dandelions, in July and August on brambles and throughout the summer on hawkweeds. Seven dandelions new to the vice-county were discovered, including the nice *Celtica*, *Taraxacum fulgidum*, the rare alien *T. semiglobosum* and *T. scotiniforme*. *Rubus calvatus* was found in several sites in the sandy soils around Strensall and Sand Hutton; *R. halsteadensis* on a disused railway in Whitby, extending its northerly range and *R. arrheniiformis* in herb-rich, open woodland in Raygate Slack, near Newton-on-Rawcliffe, a significant extension of its northerly range. The vice-county has been well-recorded for hawkweeds, but a new one was found, *H. lortetiae*, on limestone rubble on a railway embankment near York.

It was pleasing to find new sites for two Threatened Plant Project species - *Gnaphalium sylvaticum* (Heath Cudweed) near Houlstyke and *Oenanthe fistulosa* (Tubular Water-dropwort) in a ditch in Rawcliffe Ings by the Ouse at York. The rarely recorded *Prunus malaheb* (St. Lucie Cherry), a new vice-county record, was in good flower in May in a hedgerow near Girsby. Perhaps the most important discovery was several plants of *Bromus arvensis* (Field Brome) on a bare verge in Marton, a grass, we understand, not recorded in the British Isles in recent years.

Urban botany is a source of pleasure, especially in the late summer and autumn. Among the most interesting casuals, all new to the vice-county, were *Impatiens sultanii* (Busy Lizzie) in Easingwold; *Melampodium montanum* in Helmsley (photographs on inside back cover of BSBI News 107); *Borago pygmaea* (Slender Borage) in Tholthorpe and *Linum grandiflorum* (Flowering Flax) in Strensall.

Thanks are due to E.J. Clement, A. Copping, D.J. McCosh, A. Newton and A.J. Richards for checking herbarium specimens.

V. Jones/ M. Yates Feb. 2011

Field Meetings 2011

Saturday, 26th March, 10:30 am, leader Colin Chatto ☎ 01642 599616

GR NZ428395. **Castle Eden Dene.** Meet near the church at Castle Eden. We will explore the dene as far as the Dene Mouth. A fairly easy walk of about 5 miles.

Sunday, 10th April, 10:30 am, leader Andy Astbury ☎ 01642 823114

GR NZ617201. **Errington Woods.** Meet in the car park at Errington Woods near New Marske. A fairly easy woodland walk of about 5 miles.

Wednesday, 20th April, 10:30 am, leader Neil Baker ☎ 01325 361547

GR NZ402243. **Wynyard Woodland Park** (formerly known as Castle Eden Walkway). Meet in the Thorpe Thewles Station House visitor centre car park. We will take an easy walk along the disused railway line and around some of the surrounding woodlands.

Saturday, 7th May, 11:00 am, leader Malcolm Birtle ☎ 01642 649938

GR NZ288409. **Shincliffe.** Park at Shincliffe Bridge or in Shincliffe village. Meet at the Rose Tree Inn. A walk of no more than 5 miles along field and woodland paths, with some mild inclines.

Friday, 13th May, 1:00 pm, leader Mark Stokeld ☎ 01325 361547 (Neil Baker)

GR NZ506231. **Saltholme Wildlife Reserve.** Meet in the visitor centre car park, which is free to RSPB members but with a small charge for each car otherwise. The entrance is just off the A178 Port Clarence to Seaton Carew road, about 1.5 miles north of Port Clarence. A gentle guided walk around this exciting new wildlife reserve. We will be shown the three bird hides and other interesting aspects of natural history on the site.

Wednesday, 18th May, 10:30 am, leader Vic Fairbrother ☎ 01287 633744

GR SE769861. **Beadale Wood.** Meet near the east end of Wrelton village for a short walk of 3-4 miles, allowing ample time to explore Beadale Wood and Valley.

Wednesday, 25th May, 10:30 am, leaders Peter and Ruth Waterton ☎ 01642 724270

GR SE278795. **Nosterfield Nature Reserve.** Meet in the reserve car park.

Saturday, 4th June, 10:30 am, leader Andrew Ferguson ☎ 01642 311831

GR NZ373375. **Wingate Quarry Nature Reserve.** Meet at the entrance to Wingate Quarry. We will begin our day exploring Wingate Quarry, a former magnesian limestone quarry now well appreciated by naturalists for the richness of its grassland, plants and butterflies. In the afternoon, we will move on to another similar site at nearby Bishop Middleham quarry (NZ332327), with the opportunity to compare the two sites.

Friday, 10th June, 8:30 pm, leader Paul Forster ☎ 01287 201794

GR NZ602135. **Guisborough Woods.** This special meeting (weather permitting) is for moth trapping in the Guisborough Woods car park area. Access is from Hutton village, through the gate into the woods marked private access (we have permission to enter). We will run both Actinic and MV traps. Other moth traps are welcome.

Wednesday, 15th June, 10:30 am, leader Eric Gendle ☎ 01642 281235

GR SE844900. **Lockton.** Meet in Lockton village. A walk from Lockton into Staindale, then by Staindale Beck as far as the Bridestones. A walk of mixed habitat, fields, woodland becksides and open moor. About 6 miles, with a little climbing at Staindale.

Sunday, 19th June, 10:30 am, leader Neil Baker ☎ 01325 361547

GR NY867298. **Cronkley Fell.** Meet in the Hanging Shaw car park. A circular walk over Cronkley Fell, looking at the English Nature enclosures, and returning by the banks of the river Tees. A walk of 7 miles involving some climbing, but we will take it steadily.

Wednesday, 22nd June, 6:30 pm, leader Alan Bunn ☎ 01642 724955

GR NZ668216. **Saltburn Gill.** Meet in the Cat Nab car park. A walk around Saltburn Gill and the surrounding area. There are some gentle inclines.

Wednesday, 29th June, 10:30 am, leader Paul Forster ☎ 01287 201794

GR NU107434. **Holy Island.** Park at the free car park in the dunes. We should see a good display of Northern Marsh Orchids, as well as birds and, hopefully, butterflies.

Wednesday, 6th July, 6:30 pm, leader Eric Gendle ☎ 01642 281235

GR NZ444227. **Gravel Hole Nature Reserve.** Park in Shearwater Lane, Norton. A short walk to explore Gravel Hole Nature Reserve.

Saturday, 9th July, 10:30 am, contact M Carroll ☎ 01751 476550

GR unknown. **Newtondale.** This is the YNU VC 62 meeting. There are no further details available at the time of going to print. Please phone the contact if you are interested.

Saturday, 16th July, 10:30 am, leader Eric Gendle ☎ 01642 281235

GR NZ985013. **Ravenscar.** Park at the end of Station Road (south from the Ravenhall Hotel). A walk along the cliff tops as far as Hayburn Wyke, returning along the old railway track. We hope to descend onto and explore Beast Cliff, but footpath erosion may prevent this diversion. Excluding Beast Cliff, a fairly level walk of about 8 miles.

Wednesday, 20th July, 6:30 pm, leader Andrew Ferguson ☎ 01642 311831

GR NZ463189. **Maze Park Nature Reserve.** Meet by the short lane on the south side of the river Tees, immediately east of the bridge over the barrage. An easy walk.

Sunday, 31st July, 11:00 am, leader Jo Scott ☎ 01642 897843

GR NZ810160. **Runswick Bay.** Meet by the café at the bottom of the hill. There is a small beach car park close by and a larger one opposite the Cliffmount Hotel in Bank Top Lane. Both are pay and display. A day (weather permitting) exploring the rock pools and fossils at Runswick Bay. Please bring a net and small bucket if you can.

Saturday, 6th August, 10:30 am, leader Paul Forster ☎ 01287 201794

GR SE564847. **Nettle Dale.** Park on the rough ground on the left hand side of the road between Rievaulx Bridge and Scawton, about half a mile after the bridge. A promising day for all naturalists, with expectations of butterflies, dragonflies, birds and flowers.

Saturday, 13th August, 10:30 am, leader Bill Hall ☎ 01642 823170 or 07753 663589

GR SE648611. **Strensall Common.** Meet at car park on Lords Moor Lane by the cattle grid. A walk with a focus on dragonflies.

Sunday, 21st August, 10:30 am, leaders Joan and Norma ☎ 01429 268416

GR SE479959. **Black Hambleton Moor.** Meet in the car park at Black Hambleton corner on the minor road from Osmotherley to Hawnby. This is a walk of about 6 miles and a climb of about 500 feet, and which circles the highest point of Black Hambleton Moor.

Wednesday, 24th August, 6:30 pm, leader Dave Barlow ☎ 01642 562625

GR NZ534273. **North Gare Sands.** Meet at the end of Zinc Works Road, Seaton Carew. We will look for terns and skuas in the river as well as coastal flora in the dunes.

Wednesday, 31st August, 10:30 am, leader Colin Chatto ☎ 01642 599616

GR NZ428395. **Castle Eden Dene.** Meet near the church at Castle Eden. A repeat walk. We will see how different are the flora and fauna in late summer compared to early spring.

Wednesday, 7th September, 11:00 am, leader Tom Kirby ☎ 01740 630179

GR NZ563106. **Cliff Ridge Wood.** Meet in the Tourist Information Centre car park at Great Ayton. A circular walk of about 4 miles which takes in meadows and unimproved grassland as well as ancient woodland. This is a fungus foray with some high ground.

Sunday, 18th September, 10:30 am, leader Neil Baker ☎ 01325 361547

GR NZ713201. **Cattersty Gill and Boulby Cliffs.** Meet in Skinningrove village car park. A walk of about 5 miles, some on the Cleveland Way, which will involve some climbing.

Wednesday, 5th October, 10:30 am, leader Aubrey Colling ☎ 01609 882339

GR SE529928. **Anya's Wood.** Meet by Hazel Heads information board in the large grass car park off the Hawnby (2 miles) to Osmotherley (6 miles) road. A short circular fungi walk in Ryedale.

Saturday, 15th October, 10:30 am, leader Andy Astbury ☎ 01642 823114
GR NZ607094. **Kildale.** Meet by the tea rooms in Kildale. A circular walk of 6 miles to Great Ayton Moor by Captain Cook's Monument, through both woodland and moorland.

If you require further details about a walk, or in case of bad weather and possible cancellation, please contact the leader of the walk. The Club also has a mobile phone carried by the walk leader on the day. Please bring 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.

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 our outings. I am sure that you will find our members both friendly and helpful. I have found the field trips an excellent way of learning more about the natural history of the areas we visit.

Vic Fairbrother (President)



MEETINGS OF THE YORKSHIRE NATURALISTS' UNION

Details are available from Eric Gendle ☎ 01642 281235.

DATES FOR WINTER MEETINGS 2011-2012

Mobile Phone

The walk leader on the day carries the Club's mobile phone (☎ **07826 787650**) that members may ring if necessary (to find the group if late arriving, for example).

Websites

Members with access to the world wide web will find the following sites of interest. These sites contain excellent links to many other sites with a natural history theme.

Natural History Societies

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

<http://www.davebarlow.co.uk>

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

<http://www.nhsn.ncl.ac.uk/>

<http://www.dtnfc.org/>

Natural History Journals

<http://www.the-vasculum.com>. <http://www.communicate.co.uk/ne/dtnfc>

Botany

<http://www.botanicalkeys.co.uk/northumbria/index.asp>

<http://www.ptyxis.com/>

Conservation Groups and projects

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

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

<http://www.durhambiodiversity.org.uk/index.html>

Ornithology

<http://www.teesmouthbc.com/>

<http://www.durhambirdclub.org/>

<http://www.aviabird.net/birding/index.htm>

National Parks and similar

<http://www.northumberland-national-park.org.uk/VisitorGuide/default.htm>

<http://www.northpennines.org.uk/index.cfm>

Local Authorities

<http://www.durham.gov.uk/durhamcc/usp.nsf/pws/Ncs+-+Nature+Conservation+Sites>

Lepidoptera

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

<http://www.vc66.co.uk/mothweb/main.htm>

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/northeastmoths>