

CLEVELAND NATURALISTS' FIELD CLUB



RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Volume 10 Part 2

Spring 2012

THE OFFICERS & COMMITTEE 2012-2013

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, Vincent Jones.

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 £8.

Members are entitled to attend meetings of three affiliated organisations:

Yorkshire Naturalists' Union.

Tees Valley Wildlife Trust.

Ramblers Association.

Details are available from Eric Gendle ☎ 01642 281235.

MEETINGS OF THE YORKSHIRE NATURALISTS' UNION

Details are available from Eric Gendle ☎ 01642 281235.

President's Address: 19th March 2012.

I am pleased to be able to report on another very rewarding year as the Cleveland Naturalists' Field Club has continued the long tradition of exploring the natural history of Cleveland and the surrounding countryside.

Twenty-seven field trips were organised in 2011 in order to provide a wide variety of records and experiences. The highlights will be described in more detail in the Annual Record of Proceedings and on the club website.

Members enjoyed three evening events featuring Saltburn Gill, Gravel Hole Nature Reserve, and North Gare. Local venues for full day visits included Cattersty Gill and Boulby Cliffs, Errington Woods and the RSPB Reserve at Saltholme whilst a day exploring rock pools and fossils produced many interesting finds at Runswick Bay.

The North York Moors area again featured strongly with visits to Beadale Wood, Lockton and Staindale, Kildale and the joint meeting with the YNU which was held in Newtondale.

Further afield Nosterfield and Holy Island provided memorable field trips as did a welcome joint meeting with members of the British Dragonflies Society on Strensall Common.

Following unusual disruption to the winter programme in 2010 further atrocious weather led to the cancellation of fieldtrips to Cronkley Fell, Ravenscar, Maze Park Nature Reserve and Nettle Dale during the summer.

Moth trapping provided very enjoyable late evening excursions to Guisborough Woods, Beadale Wood and the gardens of Mulgrave Castle.

As we neared the end of the summer programme some fruitful fungus forays produced many late treasures in Cliff Ridge Wood and the delightfully named Anya's Wood.

The winter season began in fine style with a talk on the history of Alum, Alchemy and Ammonites by Beth Andrews. Undeterred by a power cut Beth lightened the darkness with vivid word pictures of events which have left their mark on our local landscape.

Judy Dinwiddie shared more of her adventurous experiences in exploring some of the unique habitats of Fraser Island, or Great Sandy Island, off the east coast of Queensland.

Nearer to home Tony Smith talked of Growing the Dream, the Woodland Trust's role in the greening of Britain.

In a presentation postponed by the impact of the great freeze at the end of 2010, Chris Bielby expertly portrayed the delights of voyaging in search of whales and other cetaceans around Britain.

Joan Bradbury ably assisted by Norma Pagdin provided yet another delightful evening of brain teasers at the Christmas Social and this event was also marked by the presentation of a wildflower paperweight to mark the ninetieth birthday of former president Ian Lawrence.

The New Year began with a blaze of colour from the Flowers of the West Coast of South Africa presented by Eric Gendle.

In his enduring pursuit of his beloved saxifrages Norman Thompson revealed yet more of the many wonders of Spitzbergen.

Members' Night was once again a glowing testament to the many talents in the club. Jean McLean gave an inspired reading from *The Map that changed the World* and this was followed by the hauntingly beautiful audio visual presentation set to music by Jo Scott and which followed the natural history wonders along the River Tees from birth to the sea.

In yet another change of mood David Barlow demonstrated the wealth of information previously confined to books which can now be accessed in the field by mobile phones and other digital devices. Literally field guides to plants, butterflies, moths, dragonflies, birds, mammals, reptiles and amphibians all fitting into the palm of one hand.

The presentations concluded with a patient and revealing photographic study of Short-eared Owls hunting over a local reclaimed landfill site. This detailed study by Paul Forster included the seldom seen regurgitation of a pellet by a Short-eared Owl.

Superb paintings and photographs displayed by Peter Waterton and Paul Forster added a further dimension to a most enjoyable evening.

Given the growing concern at the decline of so many of our insects, and particularly bees it is most appropriate that the AGM will be followed by a talk on Bee Keeping by Dr. Edith Colling.

The indoor programme at Natures World will conclude with an insight into the world of the Land Snails of Britain presented by one of the club's most accomplished field naturalists, Tony Wardhaugh.

The website managed by David Barlow has continued to promote the club to a wider audience and the annual Record of Proceedings edited by Malcolm Birtle is now firmly established as an on-line facility via the website. Eric Gendle has made the complete archive of Proceedings available on CD and Jo Scott again prepared copy to enable printed versions of the latest Proceedings to be made available to members for a small charge.

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; Colin Chatto, Treasurer who also organises and prepares the meeting room; Neil Baker, Programme Secretary; Jean McLean, Membership Secretary; Malcolm Birtle, Editor of Record of Proceedings; and committee members David Barlow, who also manages our website, Vincent Jones, Ian Lawrence, Jo Scott and Paul Forster who also makes available and operates the digital projector. 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 2011 Field Meetings

Saturday, 26th March, 10:30 am, leader Colin Chatto GR NZ428395. Castle Eden Dene.

Twelve members met near the church and had an easy walk in pleasant weather to the Dene Mouth and back. We saw the white magnesian limestone exposures along the way, stopping for lunch at the Devil's Lapstone.

At the beginning of the walk there was a fine stand of Giant Butterbur (*Petasites japonicus*) in the churchyard, in full flower. Winter Heliotrope (*P. fragrans*) was also in evidence but past its best. The only other plants of note this early in the year were *Daphne laureola* (Spurge Laurel) and *Viola odorata* (Sweet Violet).

Of the fungi, *Sarcoscypha austriaca* (Scarlet Elf Cup) stood out because of its vivid colour and a *Pleurotus sp.* (Oyster Fungus) was seen on a tree. A *Mustela erminea* (Stoat) ran into a drainage pipe under our path and shortly ran out at the other end. A Springtail seen was later identified as *Tomocerus longicornis* (the largest UK species of collembola at 6mm) due to its habit of coiling up its long antennae. It apparently does this more readily when blown upon!

Sunday, 10th April, 10:30 am, leader Andy Astbury GR NZ617201. Errington Woods.

A quiet day for interesting records. *Sylvia atricapilla* (Blackcap) was noted along with *Bombylius major* (Beefly), *Aglais urticae* (Small Tortoiseshell) and *Inachis io* (Peacock).



Wednesday, 20th April, 10:30 am, leader Neil Baker GR NZ402243. Wynyard Woodland Park



Pararge aegeria (Speckled Wood) was on the wing, and *Primula vulgaris x veris* (False Oxlip) was noted.



Saturday, 7th May, 11.00 a.m., leader Malcolm Birtle GR NZ288409. Shincliffe.

On a hot and humid day the party left Shincliffe Bridge and made their way through Shincliffe Village towards Sunderland Bridge, on the south side of the river. There were a number of butterflies active including *Anthocharis cardamines* (Orange Tip), *Inachis io* (Peacock), *Lasiommata megera* (Wall) and a particularly small specimen of *Pieris napi* (Green-veined White). A distinctive bronze coloured unidentified Carabid beetle was found scuttling across the path. *Galium odoratum* (Woodruff) and (*Doronicum orientale*) Leopards Bane were in flower. There were *Bibio marci* (St Marks flies) everywhere. *Dendrocopos major* (Great Spotted Woodpecker) was heard calling.





Oenanthe aquatic (Fine-leaved Water-dropwort) was found at Butterby Oxbow.



From Sunderland Bridge the party walked over the site of the old Croxdale Pit towards Houghall where a *Locustella naevia* (Grasshopper Warbler) was calling loudly.

Friday, 13th May, 1.00 pm, leader Mark Stokeld (Neil Baker) GR NZ506231. Saltholme Wildlife Reserve.

This was an afternoon visit to the RSPB reserve on a windy, cloudy, warm day, which produced some very interesting observations. A male *Anas querquedula* (Garganey) was seen on water near Haverton Hole. A *Circus aeruginosus* (Marsh Harrier) was soaring backwards and forwards across the marsh towards Cowpen Bewley. At Saltholme Pool a male *Philomachus pugnax* (Ruff), *Charadrius dubius* (Little Ringed Plover) and *Motacilla flava* (Yellow Wagtail) were noted. The next stop was the pool next to the car park where *Anas strepera* (Gadwall) and *Tringa glareola* (Wood Sandpiper) presented themselves. This is an interesting list for an afternoon at a single site in an industrial conurbation. Perhaps the existence of species like these indicates that 'industrial conurbation' is a category that no longer describes this area?

A note: On the 15th May several *Celastrina argiolus* (Holly Blue) were noted on Ivy in a hedge behind Eggescliffe Church.

Malcolm Birtle

Wednesday, 18th May, 10:30 am, leader Vic Fairbrother GR SE769861. Beadale Wood.

Fourteen members met in Wrelton Village for an exploration of Beadale Wood on a dry but overcast and very windy day. The narrow steep sided valley provided welcome shelter from the wind and we were also fortunate that the owner of the wood had granted permission for members to wander from the public footpath to better investigate the interesting flora. Mrs Blyth is keen to foster the biodiversity of the wood and tree felling and thinning was in progress when we arrived, the latest phase of ongoing conservation work. Our enjoyment of the abundant limestone woodland flora was not inhibited and we found that the carpets of more common species sheltered blooms of more reclusive species including:



Convallaria majalis (Lily-of-the-Valley), *Polygonatum multiflorum* (Solomon's seal), *Paris quadrifolia* (Herb-Paris), *Platanthera chlorantha* (Greater Butterfly-orchid) as well as *Dactylorhiza fuchsii* (Common Spotted-orchid), *Orchis mascula* (Early-purple Orchid) and *Listera ovata* (Common Twayblade).

Recent coppicing was noticed and the site of much earlier charcoal burning was of particular interest.



Fungi records were limited to *Calocybe gambosa* (St. George's Mushroom), *Polyporus squamosus* (Dryad's Saddle), *Fomes fomentarius* (Hoof Fungus) and *Chlorociboria aeruginascens* (Green Elfcup).

Entomological interest included *Panorpa* sp. (Scorpion Fly), *Rhagonycha fulva* (Soldier Beetle), *Cassida viridis* (Tortoise Beetle), *Xylota lenta* (Hoverfly), and *Pyrochroa coccinea* (Cardinal

Beetle).

Leaving the wood we crossed an arable field to return to the village along a narrow lane with a verge and hedgerow full of interest including: *Rosa mollis* (Soft Downy-rose), *Rosa pimpinellifolia* (Burnet Rose), *Rubus caesius* (Dewberry), and naturalised *Ornithogalum umbellatum* (Star-of-Bethlehem).

The cool and cloudy weather restricted Lepidoptera records to *Vanessa atalanta* (Red Admiral), *Ochlodes venata* (Large Skipper) and *Xanthorhoe montanata montanata* (Silver-ground Carpet moth) but some active larvae added further interest: *Euthrix potatoria* (Drinker), *Euproctis similis* (Yellow-tail), and *Eriogaster lanestris* (Small Eggar). The Small Eggar is nationally scarce and much declined so it was a particular pleasure to see a typical large gregarious group of larvae.

It is intended to arrange another visit to Beadale Wood for moth trapping and in due course a further visit to view the results of the conservation work.

Wednesday, 25th May, 10:30 am, leaders Peter and Ruth Waterton GR SE278795. Nosterfield Nature Reserve.

Saturday, 4th June, 10:30 am, leader Andrew Ferguson GR NZ373375. Wingate Quarry Nature Reserve.

On a cool, breezy, overcast day we visited Wingate, Trimdon, and Bishop Middleham Quarries. At Wingate *Ranunculus sceleratus* (Celery-leaved Buttercup) at the edge of a pond was noticed. The quarry had all the expected species in flower. At Trimdon a fungus growing on a cut stump in hawthorn scrub attracted much interest. It was probably immature *Xylaria polymorpha* (Dead Man's Fingers).



Botrichium lunaria (Moonwort) was discovered at Bishop Middleham Quarry.



Butterflies were active including *Aricia artaxerxes* (Northern Brown Argus) and *Polyommatus icarus* (Common Blue). A flowering Spindle (*Euonymus europaeus*) was found in a hedge opposite the reserve entrance.

Friday 10th June, 9.30 p.m. leader Paul Forster GR NZ602135. Guisborough Woods.

Eight members attended a moth recording event in Guisborough Woods above Hutton village. Three MV bulbs were used as well as sugaring various trees.

Guisborough Forest is managed by Forest Enterprise and following the current major felling of existing conifers it will be restocked with a mixture of broadleaves, evergreen conifers, *Picea sitchensis* (Sitka Spruce), and *larix sp.* (Larch).

Code	Taxon	Vernacular	Authority	Individuals	Status
1021	<i>Cnephasia asseclana</i>	Flax Tortrix	([Denis & Schiffermüller], 1775)	1	
1063	<i>Celypha striana</i>		([Denis & Schiffermüller], 1775)	1	
1293	<i>Chrysoteuchia culmella</i>	Garden Grass-veneer	(Linnaeus, 1758)	2	Common
1344	<i>Eudonia mercurella</i>		(Linnaeus, 1758)	1	Common
1727	<i>Xanthorhoe montanata</i>	Silver-ground Carpet	([Denis & Schiffermüller], 1775)	8	Common
1764	<i>Chloroclysta truncata</i>	Common Marbled Carpet	(Hufnagel, 1767)	1	Common
1769	<i>Thera britannica</i>	Spruce Carpet	(Turner H J, 1925)	4	Common
1776	<i>Colostygia pectinataria</i>	Green Carpet	(Knoch, 1781)	3	Common
1837	<i>Eupithecia subfuscata</i>	Grey Pug	(Haworth, 1809)	2	Common
1856	<i>Eupithecia lariciata</i>	Larch Pug	(Freyer, 1842)	2	Common
1873	<i>Venusia cambrica</i>	Welsh Wave	Curtis, 1839	3	Local
1893	<i>Macaria liturata</i>	Tawny-barred Angle	(Clerck, 1759)	4	Common
1906	<i>Opisthocraptis luteolata</i>	Brimstone Moth	(Linnaeus, 1758)	2	Common
1919	<i>Selenia tetralunaria</i>	Purple Thorn	(Hufnagel, 1767)	1	Common
1941	<i>Alcis repandata</i>	Mottled Beauty	(Linnaeus, 1758)	4	Common
1947	<i>Ectropis bistortata</i>	Engrailed	(Goeze, 1781)	2	Common
1954	<i>Bupalus piniaria</i>	Bordered White	(Linnaeus, 1758)	1	Common
1955	<i>Cabera pusaria</i>	Common White Wave	(Linnaeus, 1758)	2	Common
2008	<i>Ptilodon capucina</i>	Coxcomb Prominent	(Linnaeus, 1758)	1	Common
2028	<i>Calliteara pudibunda</i>	Pale Tussock	(Linnaeus, 1758)	1	Common
2061	<i>Spilosoma luteum</i>	Buff Ermine	(Hufnagel, 1766)	1	Common
2089	<i>Agrotis exclamationis</i>	Heart and Dart	(Linnaeus, 1758)	25	Common
2102	<i>Ochroleura plecta</i>	Flame Shoulder	(Linnaeus, 1761)	2	Common
2150	<i>Polia nebulosa</i>	Grey Arches	(Hufnagel, 1766)	1	Common
2158	<i>Lacanobia thalassina</i>	Pale-shouldered Brocade	(Hufnagel, 1766)	1	Common
2278	<i>Acronicta megacephala</i>	Poplar Grey	([Denis & Schiffermüller], 1775)	1	Common
2302	<i>Rusina ferruginea</i>	Brown Rustic	(Esper, 1785)	2	Common
2326	<i>Apamea crenata</i>	Clouded-bordered Brindle	(Hufnagel, 1766)	4	Common

Wednesday, 15th June, 10:30 am, leader Eric Gendle GR SE844900. Lockton.

A party of 8 members enjoyed a walk from Lockton into Dalby forest then along the valley bottom to Dovedale. A diversion was made to the High Bridestones before



returning to Lockton through farm lanes, giving a circular walk. Amongst the interesting observations were a very early *Argynnis aglaja*, Dark Green Fritillary and two micro moths *Chrysoteuchia culmella* and *Agapeta zoegana*. Some orange deposits on Stinging nettles were later identified as *Puccinia urticata*, a rust fungus. Returning by the side of a barley field black deposits were seen on the

barley heads and were later identified as *Ustilago nigra*, a smut known to infect barley. The very dry weather had reduced the range of flowers, but *Lysimachia vulgaris* Yellow Loosestrife and *Pentaglottis sempervirens* Green Alkanet were noted along with *Listera ovata* Common Twayblade in the woodland. The usual range of woodland birds was heard.



Puccinia urticata.

Image by P.W.Forster

Sunday, 19th June, 10:30 am, leader Neil Baker GR NY867298. Cronkley Fell.

One member walked upstream from Hanging Shaw on the south side of the river. There was a cool, breeze, with 100% cloud, and some heavy showers. There was an *Athene noctua* (Little Owl) road kill at Hanging Shaws. In the meadows there was plenty of wader activity with birds calling loudly. *Alauda arvensis* (Skylarks) were very noticeable. Mountain Pansy was abundantly in flower. Opposite Widdey Bank Farm it was windy but *Hirundo rustica* (Swallows) still flew very low above the river. An *Oenanthe oenanthe* (Wheatear) perched on a stone wall. *Actitis hypoleucos* (Common Sandpipers) called all along the banks with the odd solitary *Haematopus ostralegus* (Oystercatcher) and *Numenius arquata* (Curlew).

Potentilla fruticosa (Shrubby Cinquefoil), *Geranium sylvaticum* (Wood Cranesbill) *Pinguicula vulgaris* (Butterwort) were in flower.

Wednesday, 22nd June, 6:30 pm, leader Alan Bunn GR NZ668216. Saltburn Gill.

Wednesday, 29th June, 10:30 am, leader Paul Forster GR NU107434. Holy Island.

Weather: Due westerly wind 2 gusting 3 to 4, Clear, sunny start to the morning later becoming overcast from the west with intermittent showers, moderate to cool.

The main purpose of the trip was to find the *Epipactis sancta* (Lindisfarne Helleborine), which was located in the dune slacks in the west of the island, see botanical notes.

Epipactis palustris (Marsh Helleborine) in good flower was locally common in the dune slacks; as were *Dactylorhiza incarnata* (Early Marsh-orchid) and *D. Purpurella* (Northern Marsh-orchid), but they had almost finished flowering. A few plants of *Epipactis sancta* (Lindisfarne Helleborine) were discovered. *Hydrocharis morsus-ranae* (Frogbit) was in a pond with *Samolus valerandi* (Brookweed) near by.

Pyrola rotundifolia ssp *rotundifolia* (Round-leaved Wintergreen) was flowering well in a protected area. In the dunes the white-flowered *Geutienella amarelle* ssp *septentrionale* (Autumn Gentian) was found.

Lepidoptera.

Aphantopus hyperantus (Ringleet)

Polyommatus icarus (Common Blue)

Argynnis aglaja (Dark Green Fritillary)

Coenonympha pamphilus (Small Heath)

Zygaena filipendulae (Six-spot Burnet)

Macroglossum stellatarum (Hummingbird Hawkmoth)

Tyria jacobaeae (Cinnabar)

Idaea dimidiata (Single-dotted Wave)

Eulithis testata (Chevron)

Camptogramma bilineata (Yellow Shell)

Tyria jacobaeae (Cinnabar) larva found on *Senecio jacobaea* (Ragwort) also *Arctia caja* (Garden Tiger) common .

I would like to thank Ruth Waterton for her assistance in providing the botanical notes.

Epipactis sancta (Lindisfarne Helleborine)



P.W.Forster

Wednesday, 6th July, 6:30 pm, leader Eric Gendle GR NZ444227. Gravel Hole Nature Reserve.

Saturday, 9th July, 10:30 am, contact M Carroll. Newtondale.

This was the YNU VC 62 meeting and a full report appears in the *Naturalist*, 136, 209-211.

Saturday, 16th July, 10:30 am, leader Eric Gendle GR NZ985013. Ravenscar.

Inclement weather necessitated the cancelling of this outing. As rain and gales were promised, and materialised, a cliff top walk did not seem appropriate. It will be rearranged for 2012

Wednesday, 20th July, 6:30 pm, leader Andrew Ferguson GR NZ463189. Maze Park Nature Reserve.

A small party met on a very wet evening and walked along the south bank downstream, across the Newport Bridge and back to the meeting place at the Barrage. The rain held off for the duration of the excursion. The banks of the river held a variety of plants consisting of a mixture of those typical of tidal river bank and lime-rich wasteland. These included *Conyza canadensis* (Canadian Fleabane), *Cichorium intybus* (Chicory), *Silene vulgaris* (Bladder Campion) and *Lactuca virosa* (Great Lettuce). *Scotopteryx chenopodiata* (Shaded Broad-bar) and *Chiasmia clathrata* (Latticed Heath) were braving the wet vegetation. *Sterna hirundo* (Common Terns) were very active and in one instance displaying slightly aggressive behaviour as if protecting nests or young. There were many fishing on the tidal side of the Barrage. A single *Halichoerus grypus* (Grey Seal) showed occasionally. A *Vulpes vulpes* (Red Fox) was watched, probably hunting rabbits around the slalom course.



29th July 2011 Newton Mulgrave Castle

Eight members attended the moth recording event at Newton Mulgrave Castle. Five MV bulbs were used, starting at 8pm and finishing at 12.30pm. The lights were placed in the garden and surrounding woodland which consists of a variety of broadleaved trees.

Code	Taxon	Vernacular	Authority	
658	<i>Carcina quercana</i>		(Fabricius, 1775)	2
873	<i>Blastobasis adustella</i>		Walsingham, 1894	10
970	<i>Pandemis cerasana</i>	Barred Fruit-tree Tortrix	(Hübner, 1786)	1
972	<i>Pandemis heparana</i>	Dark Fruit-tree Tortrix	([Denis & Schiffermüller], 1775)	1
994	<i>Clepsis consimilana</i>		(Hübner, 1817)	1
1021	<i>Cnephasia asseclana</i>	Flax Tortrix	([Denis & Schiffermüller], 1775)	1
1083	<i>Hedya nubiferana</i>	Marbled Orchard Tortrix	(Haworth, 1811)	1
1197	<i>Eucosma campoliliana</i>		([Denis & Schiffermüller], 1775)	1
1304	<i>Agriphila straminella</i>		([Denis & Schiffermüller], 1775)	5
1305	<i>Agriphila tristella</i>		([Denis & Schiffermüller], 1775)	10
1334	<i>Scoparia ambigualis</i>		(Treitschke, 1829)	1
1338	<i>Dipleurina lacustrata</i>		(Panzer, 1804)	1
1405	<i>Pleuroptya ruralis</i>	Mother of Pearl	(Scopoli, 1763)	1
1702	<i>Idaea biselata</i>	Small Fan-footed Wave	(Hufnagel, 1767)	1
1713	<i>Idaea aversata</i>	Riband Wave	(Linnaeus, 1758)	1
1713	<i>Idaea aversata ab. remutata</i>	Riband Wave [non-banded form]		1
1722	<i>Xanthorhoe designata</i>	Flame Carpet	(Hufnagel, 1767)	1
1777	<i>Hydriomena furcata</i>	July Highflyer	(Thunberg, 1784)	5
1802	<i>Perizoma affinitata</i>	Rivulet	(Stephens, 1831)	1
1860	<i>Pasiphila rectangulata</i>	Green Pug	(Linnaeus, 1758)	1
1906	<i>Opisthograptis luteolata</i>	Brimstone Moth	(Linnaeus, 1758)	6
1917	<i>Selenia dentaria</i>	Early Thorn	(Fabricius, 1775)	1
1922	<i>Ourapteryx sambucaria</i>	Swallow-tailed Moth	(Linnaeus, 1758)	1
1937	<i>Peribatodes rhomboidaria</i>	Willow Beauty	([Denis & Schiffermüller], 1775)	3
1941	<i>Alcis repandata</i>	Mottled Beauty	(Linnaeus, 1758)	1
2030	<i>Euproctis similis</i>	Yellow-tail	(Fuessly, 1775)	1
2050	<i>Eilema lurideola</i>	Common Footman	(Zincken, 1817)	4
2089	<i>Agrotis exclamationis</i>	Heart and Dart	(Linnaeus, 1758)	1
2107	<i>Noctua pronuba</i>	Large Yellow Underwing	Linnaeus, 1758	10
2111	<i>Noctua janthe</i>	Lesser Broad-bordered Yellow Underwing	Borkhausen, 1792	5
2128	<i>Xestia triangulum</i>	Double Square-spot	(Hufnagel, 1766)	1
2318	<i>Cosmia trapezina</i>	Dun-bar	(Linnaeus, 1758)	2
2321	<i>Apamea monoglypha</i>	Dark Arches	(Hufnagel, 1766)	5
2335	<i>Apamea scolopacina</i>	Slender Brindle	(Esper, 1788)	1
2339	<i>Oligia latruncula</i>	Tawny Marbled Minor	([Denis & Schiffermüller], 1775)	2
2381	<i>Hoplodrina alsines</i>	Uncertain	(Brahm, 1791)	1
2441	<i>Autographa gamma</i>	Silver Y	(Linnaeus, 1758)	1
2477	<i>Hypena proboscidalis</i>	Snout	(Linnaeus, 1758)	2
2489	<i>Zanclognatha tarsipennalis</i>	Fan-foot	(Treitschke, 1835)	1

Sunday, 31st July, 11.00 am, leader Jo Scott GR NZ810160. Runswick Bay.

On a very hot Sunday a good sized group of members met to study the rocks and rock pool life at Runswick.

There were good numbers of *Cancer pagurus* (Edible Crabs), *Carcinus maenas* (Shore Crabs) and *Macropipus puber* (Velvet Swimming Crabs) laid up in the pools waiting for the return of the tide.

In the deeper pools we found *Ophiocomina nigra* (Brittle Star), *Leander serratus* (Common Prawn), *Crangon vulgaris* (Common Shrimp), *Pholas dactylus* (Common Piddock), *Lanice conchilega* (Sand Mason), *Spirorbis borealis*, *Flustra foliacea* (Hornwrack), *Chiton sp.* and *Actinia equina* (Beadlet Anemone).

Lanice conchilega - Sand Mason

The sand mason is a polychaete worm that grows up to 30cms in length. All that is normally seen of it is a tubular structure made of mucous and closely fitting shell fragments and sand grains with a frayed end which protrudes above the sand by about 5cms. It uses its crown of white tentacles to filter feed. It is very common on sandy shores around the UK, both above and below low tide mark.

Pholas dactylus - Common Piddock

The piddock is a boring bivalve which burrows into soft rocks such as chalk and sandstone and even into waterlogged wood. It has phosphorescent properties and glows green-blue in the dark. They live their entire lives within their burrows. They have long, oval shells which are rough, chalky white in colour and often quite brittle when washed up on the beach.

There was an excellent variety of seaweeds clinging to the rocks. Samples of these were collected for later identification. They included: *Chondrus crispus* (Irish Moss), *Corallina officinalis* (Coral Weed), *Delesseria sanguinea*, *Halydris siliquosa* (Sea-oak), *Plocamium cartilagineum*, *Membranoptera alata* (Winged Weed), *Polysiphona sp.* (Carpetweed), *Ulva intestinalis* (Gutweed), *Ulva lactea* (Sea Lettuce), and *Ceramium sp.*

We looked amongst the fallen rocks at the foot of the cliffs and found *Dactylooceras commune* from the upper Lias, this is a common zonal Ammonite that lived in the Jurassic seas. The Coast from Redcar to Speeton is lower Jurassic, which is split into three beds the lower, middle and upper Lias. Runswick Bay is lower Jurassic, upper Lias. A sample of poor quality jet was found in a septarian nodule which had fallen from the jet seam in the cliff. Some of the rocks found at the base of the cliffs in cobble dumps were iron stone nodules from the Dogger seam.



Actinia equina
Beadlet Anemone



Ophiocomina nigra
Brittlestar



Pholas dactylus
Piddock



Lanice conchilega
Sand Mason



Spirorbis borealis



Flustra foliacea
Hornwreck



Chondrus crispus
Irish Moss



Ulva lactuca
Sea Lettuce



Corallina officinalis
Coral Weed



Ulva intestinalis
Gutweed



Ceramium sp.



Polysiphonia sp.
Carpet Weed

Saturday, 6th August, 10:30 am, leader Paul Forster GR SE564847. Nettle Dale.
Cancelled due to bad weather.

Saturday, 13th August, 10:30 am, leader Bill Hall GR SE648611. Strensall Common.

Cleveland Naturalists Field Club / Yorkshire Dragonfly Group Joint Field Meeting

This joint meeting was attended by 6 Cleveland Naturalists Field Club members, 3 Yorkshire Dragonfly Group members and 1 joint member. It had an emphasis on finding and identifying dragonflies and damselflies. Amid generally poor August weather this particular Saturday was very good with a mixture of sunshine and clouds but with no rain.

Keith Gittens from the YDG who has a very good knowledge of the habitats at Strensall Common was able to lead the group to a number of ponds with special dragonfly interest. Starting from the car park on Lords Moor Lane the first pond was in open woodland, surrounded by *Pinus sylvestris* (Scots Pine), *Betula pubescens* (Downy Birch) and *Rhododendron ponticum* (Rhododendron), here we found *Sympetrum striolatum* (Common Darter), *Sympetrum sanguineum*



(Ruddy Darter) and *Sympetrum danae* (Black Darters), at times on the same log; also *Enallagma cyathigerum* (Common Blue Damselfly), *Coenagrion puella* (Azure Damselfly), *Ischnura elegans* (Blue-tailed Damselfly) and *Lestes sponsa* (Emerald Damselflies). Moving on to a large shallow heathland pool out on the open common, (where we had lunch) we added *Libellula quadrimaculata* (Four-spotted Chaser). This pool was partially dried up and so not as good as normal. A newer pond in a more sheltered area produced the most dragonflies and here *Anax imperator* (Emperor Dragonfly), *Aeshna juncea* (Common Hawker) and *Pyrrhosoma nymphula* (Large



Red Damselfly) were added to the list. Access to some areas of the common are restricted due to live firing by the army, but on this day access was possible and a visit to Kidney Pond in the middle of the firing range produced *Coenagrion puella* (Azure Damselfly) and *Aeshna grandis* (Brown Hawker). This again was a woodland pool but one which had a much more diverse aquatic flora.

As well as the 12 species of dragonflies, the following were

observed: -

Birds; *Falco tinnunculus* (Kestrel), *Dendrocopos major* (Great Spotted Woodpecker), *Muscicapa striata* (Spotted Flycatcher), *Anthus trivialis* (Tree Pipit) heard, *Certhia familiaris* (Tree Creeper), *Parus ater* (Coal Tit), *Regulus regulus* (Goldcrest), *Carduelis carduelis* (Goldfinch), *Fringilla coelebs* (Chaffinch), *Carduelis cannabina* (Linnet).

Butterflies; *Vanessa atalanta* (Red Admiral), *Inachis io* (Peacock), *Pararge aegeria* (Speckled Wood), *Coenonympha pamphilus* (Small Heath), *Pyronia tithonus* (Gate Keeper), *Pieris brassicae* (Large White), *Pieris napi* (Green-veined White).

Moths; *Cerapteryx graminis* (Antler Moth), *Eulithis testata* (Chevron), *Idaea aversata* (Riband Wave), *Chrysoteuchia culmella*, *Agriphila straminella*.

Flowers; Marsh Gentian, Marsh Cinquefoil, Round-Leaved Sundew, Tubular Water Dropwort, Ling.

One member, being at the beginning of an interest in solitary bees and wasps, found a number of solitary wasps, possibly of four different species. Two of these have been identified as *Mellinus arvensis* and *Crossocerus quadrimaculatus*.

17th August Beadale woods near the east end of Wrelton Village SE769861

Six members met to run several MV lights in the wood during an extra field trip that originated from a visit on the 18th May when it was suggested that the recording of moths would be welcome. The owner of the wood is arranging a programme of conservation management and is keen to collect as much natural history data from the site as possible . The woodland is predominantly broadleaved with some conifers.

Mothing started at 8.30pm and stopped at 12 .15 am due to the low numbers of species flying . The evening started overcast, warm with a slight ESE breeze but later clearing , with temperatures falling .towards 12.15am. Three Mercury Vapour lights , plus one actinic light were used .The main highlight of the evening was a Pale Eggar which is locally common in the Pickering area .

It is planned to carry out other trapping sessions in the following year .

Code	Taxon	Vernacular	Quantity	Stage
1713	<i>Idaea aversata</i>	Riband Wave	2	Adult
1776	<i>Colostygia pectinataria</i>	Green Carpet	3	Adult
1738	<i>Epirrhoe alternata</i>	Common Carpet	6	Adult
1811	<i>Eupithecia tenuiata</i>	Slender Pug	3	Adult
1632	<i>Trichiura crataegi</i>	Pale Eggar	1	Adult
2111	<i>Noctua janthe</i>	Lesser Broad-bordered Yellow Underwing	1	Adult
2321	<i>Apamea monoglypha</i>	Dark Arches	3	Adult
2343x	<i>Mesapamea secalis</i> agg.	Common Rustic agg.	4	Adult
2341	<i>Mesoligia furuncula</i>	Cloaked Minor	4	Adult
2318	<i>Cosmia trapezina</i>	Dun-bar	1	Adult
1338	<i>Dipleurina lacustrata</i>		2	Adult
1405	<i>Pleuroptya ruralis</i>	Mother of Pearl	2	Adult
1304	<i>Agriphila straminella</i>		2	Adult
1016	<i>Cnephiasia longana</i>		1	Adult



Trichiura crataegi (Pale Eggar)



Sunday, 21st August, 10:30 am, leaders Joan and Norma GR SE479959. Black Hambleton Moor.

Wednesday, 24th August, 6:30 pm, leader Dave Barlow GR NZ534273. North Gare Sands.

Twelve CNFC members made it to the end of the Zinc Works road on what looked like a stormy evening. However, as it turned out it was a beautiful evening with the sun just in the right position to watch the birds in the river mouth. We started off in the small copse just by the dunes where there was a good selection of calcicoles (lime loving) plants such as *Blackstonia perfoliata* (Yellow-wort), *Centaureum erythraea* (Common Centaury), and the remnants of *Dactylorhiza purpurella* (Northern Marsh-orchid) now gone to seed. There were also a few Cinnabar moth caterpillars on the ragwort. A rather still *Coenonympha pamphilus* (Small Heath) butterfly which was a

very dark individual was looked at by most of the group. We then walked along the fence near the power station to look towards the river Tees. On the way there was a juvenile *Saxicola torquatus* (Stonechat) along the fence while in the river were a couple of singing *Halichoerus grypus* (Grey Seals). As well as these a number of birds were in evidence such as *Podiceps cristatus* (Great Crested Grebes), *Uria aalge* (Guillemots) and waders such as *Haematopus ostralegus* (Oystercatchers), *Tringa totanus* (Redshank), *Calidris alpina* (Dunlin), *Numenius arquata* (Curlew) and a *Numenius phaeopus* (Whimbrel) was also heard calling but could not be located. As we moved onto the rocks along the river bank more birds were visible

such as an *Oenanthe oenanthe* (Wheatear) which stayed just long enough for all the group to be able to see it through a telescope. The light was fading quickly now but as the sun was behind us it illuminated the birds on the river. More Guillemots were seen as were a few *Sterna hirundo* (Common Terns) and *Sterna sandvicensis* (Sandwich Terns) preparing to head south. As we returned to the car we were being watched by a fox which was sitting just inside the fence of the chemical plant a nice end to a pleasant walk.





Oenanthe oenanthe (Wheatear).





Coenonympha pamphilus (Small Heath)



Cakile maritima (Sea Rocket)



Salicornia sp. Glasswort, Samphire

Wednesday, 31st August, 10:30 am, leader Colin Chatto GR NZ428395. Castle Eden Dene.

This was going to be a repeat of the 26th March walk but instead of going east, we went west, via Gunner's Pool. Four members enjoyed a mainly cool, dull day but it stayed dry and there was some warm sunshine at lunchtime.

Starting off in the churchyard we saw the large leaves of *Petasites japonicus* (Giant Butterbur) which we had seen in flower in March. Other plants seen were *Dipsacus pilosus* (Small Teasel), *Erigeron acer* (Blue Fleabane) and the remains of *Epipactis helleborine* (Broad-leaved Helleborine). In the sunshine we saw two different species of Dragonfly but they were too quick for us to identify them. A number of *Pieris napi* (Green-veined White) butterflies showed a noticeable difference in size and wing pattern, the females being smaller with more dark marking on the top of the wing.

Birds heard, but not seen, were *Dendrocopos major* (Great Spotted Woodpecker), *Phylloscopus collybita* (Chiff Chaff), *Regulus regulus* (Goldcrest) and *Sitta europaea* (Nuthatch).

Wednesday, 7th September, 11.00 am, leader Tom Kirby GR NZ563106. Cliff Ridge Wood.

Sunday, 18th September, 10:30 am, leader Neil Baker GR NZ713201. Cattersty Gill and Boulby Cliffs.

Wednesday, 5th October, 10:30 am, leader Aubrey Colling GR SE529928. Anya's Wood.

After a spell of dry weather there were fewer fungi than had been observed here recently. First, a short visit to the conifer wood opposite Hazel Heads car park where a number of *Russula sardonia* (Primrose Brittlegill) were found, and many large ants' nests noted. In Anya's Wood we descended through a plantation of Larch, together with some Birch; *Suillus grevillei* (Larch Bolete) were the most numerous fungi. *Coprinellus micaceus* (Glistening Inkcap), *Hypholoma fasciculare* (Sulphur Tuft), *Pholiota squarrosa* (Shaggy Scalycap), *Russula ochroleuca* (Ochre Brittlegill) and *Russula claroflava* (Yellow Swamp Brittlegill) were also seen. In a small area of mixed woodland bordering Eskerdale Beck were *Gymnopilus junonius* (Spectacular Rustgill), *Phallus impudicus* (Stinkhorn), *Lenzites betulinus* (Birch Mazegill), *Piptoporus betulinus* (Birch Polypore) and *Armillaria mellea* (Honey Fungus), and in the adjacent grassland, *Hygrocybe pratensis* (Meadow Waxcap), *Hygrocybe virginia* (Snowy Waxcap), *Hygrocybe psittacina* (Parrot Waxcap), *Cystoderma amianthinum* (Earthy Powdercap), *Clavulinopsis fusiformis* (Golden Spindles), *Lycoperdon nigrescens* (Dusky Puffball) and *Macrolepiota rhacodes* (Shaggy Parasol).

We picnicked at the beck. Afterwards as we climbed out of the valley. Ruth Waterton found a single specimen of *Hypericum humifusum* (Trailing St. John's-wort). In mixed woodland beyond, *Piptoporus betulinus* (Birch Polypore) was very striking together with *Laccaria laccata* (The Deceiver), *Leccinum scabrum* (Brown Birch Bolete), *Collybia butyracea* (Butter Cap), *Mycena galericulata* (Common Bonnet) and *Ascocoryne sarcoides* (Purple Jellydisc). Just beyond the wood a huge *Fomes fomentarius* (Hoof Fungus) was spotted.

The path returned via a footbridge and a field where dung was liberally sprinkled with *Coprobacia granulata*.

Saturday, 15th October, 10:30 am, leader Andy Astbury GR NZ607094. Kildale.

Some noteworthy aquatic invertebrates from the Tees Valley in 2011

Martin Hammond (martinhammondcoology@gmail.com)

Hemiptera (true bugs)

Corixidae (lesser water-boatman)

Sigara stagnalis (Leach)

A local brackish-water species recorded from two locations at RSPB Saltholme in October. Previous records are from Portrack Marsh NR, Seaton Common and Cowpen Marsh.

Naucoridae (saucer bugs)

Saucer Bug, *Ilyocoris cimicoides* (L.)

This large and distinctive predatory water bug has expanded its range northwards in recent years. It first appeared in Yorkshire around 1997 and apparently reached the Tees Valley in 2009, when a breeding population was found in one pond at Portrack Marsh NR. In October 2011, the species was found in large numbers in the Top Tank lagoon at RSPB Saltholme. Both adults and immatures were present. It is interesting that two severe winters have apparently failed to 'knock back' a species at the extreme northern edge of its range here.

Coleoptera (beetles)

Halipilidae (algivorous water beetles)

Halipilus apicalis Thomson

Listed as Nationally Scarce by Foster (2010), this algivorous water beetle is restricted to mildly brackish ponds and drains. In addition to the records given in previous reports, *H. apicalis* was recorded from three water bodies at RSPB Saltholme in 2011. Associated species included the Caspian Whirligig, *Gyrinus caspius* Ménétériés (Gyrinidae) and the small water beetle *Ochthebius marinus* (Paykull) (Hydraenidae).

Dytiscidae (diving beetles)

Agabus conspersus (Marsham)

Another Nationally Scarce water beetle of brackish pools, *A. conspersus* was found in four water bodies at Saltholme and is evidently well-established there.

Dytiscus circumflexus Fabricius

Once restricted to the coastal counties of southern and eastern England, this great diving beetle has expanded northwards and inland since the 1980s (Foster & Friday, 2011). I have found it as far north as Chester-le-Street in recent years but a single specimen from the Top Tank lagoon at Saltholme in October 2011 was only the second record for Teesside (the first coming from Norton Bottoms in 2006).

Dytiscus semisulcatus Müller

Although widespread nationally, this jet-black great diving beetle is scarce in north-east England. Adults were found at two locations at RSPB Saltholme in October 2011. The only other records known to me in the former County of Cleveland come from North Gare dunes and Lovell Hill Pools SSSI near Guisborough. Its larvae are specialist hunters of caddis larvae, which require clean water. *D. semisulcatus* is typically found in habitats such as heathland pools, grazing-marsh drains and fens.

Hydrophilidae (scavenger water beetles)

Helochares lividus (Forster)

This water beetle is widespread in the vegetated margins of clayey or silty ponds in the southern half of Britain but seems to be expanding northwards. It was recorded as new to Vc 66 from Darlington in 2009 (Hammond, 2010). In 2011, a single male specimen was collected from a pond at Ingleby Barwick on 18th May.

Curculionidae (weevils)

Tanysphyrus lemnae (Paykull)

This small weevil feeds on duckweeds (*Lemna* spp.) and is widespread, but there appear to be few records from the north of Vc62. It was collected from a pond at The Holmes, Ingleby Barwick on 18th May 2011 (det R. Marsh).

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Hammond, M. (2010). Recent records of noteworthy aquatic invertebrates from the Tees Valley. *Cleveland Naturalists' Field Club Record of Proceedings*, **9** (4): 23-28.

Locations:

The Holmes: NZ 447 160 (62); Ingleby Barwick (pond): NZ 444 135 (62); RSPB Saltholme: NZ 50 23 (66).

PRESENTATION TO IAN LAWRENCE ON HIS 90TH BIRTHDAY.

Ian was born in Middlesbrough and attended Middlesbrough High School and Pocklington Grammar School.

With the outbreak of the Second World War he joined the RAF and after initial training as a radio/wireless mechanic he was selected for special duties and sent to Bletchley Park the location of so much secret intelligence work. The original intention was that he should service the very complicated equipment there but because of his knowledge of German, he was transferred to Block F, where the decoding and translation of German messages was carried out. There he was introduced to the mysterious world of the legendary Enigma code.

Having studied three languages at Pocklington his intention before the war intervened had been to become either a foreign correspondent or a language teacher. At the end of the war he seized an opportunity and was accepted for teacher training and went to an emergency training college at Alsager, Cheshire where amongst other subjects he studied biology, which he soon found was to be his destiny. His tutor was a botanist who set all his students the task of making a collection of pressed plants. This was in 1948 when Ian said that there was little other threat to vegetation than student collectors and the toll already taken by ploughing for victory. As part of his studies he also carried out a study of the contrasting floras of Cheshire in the west and Teesmouth and the North York Moors in the east. This launched him on a life of botany although he did not know it then.

He became a teacher at Marton Grove Junior School (1949-82) where he was asked to specialize in what was then called nature study. So naturally he joined the Cleveland Naturalists' Field Club in 1949. He formed a Nature Club at his school and had the satisfaction of opening impressionable young minds to the joys of natural history. In the ensuing years he spent much time training youngsters in fieldwork, one or two of them winning prizes both locally and nationally. As some of you in the audience will have experienced he has also tutored a long running series of wild

flower classes and fieldtrips with great success and amassed a wealth of local botanical data.

In a delightful piece of serendipity Chris Bielby was our visiting speaker on 28th November when he gave an excellent talk on *Whales and other cetaceans around Britain*. This was Ian's birthday and he was unable to be present but Chris revealed that he had been a pupil of "Pop" Lawrence and a member of his Nature Club and as a result had been inspired to join his first local society - the Cleveland Naturalists' Field Club at the age of 14.

Ian took early retirement in 1982 and this provided the opportunity to work towards his ambition to produce a comprehensive local flora and in 1994 his *Guide to the Wild Flowers of Cleveland* was published. In this he generously acknowledged the support received from former pupils, his adult students and members of the Field Club.

Soon after joining CNFC, at the suggestion of Kit Rob he joined the Yorkshire Naturalists' Union and for 25 years he was Divisional Secretary for VC 62 and in 1987-88 he achieved the honour of becoming President of the Yorkshire Naturalists' Union.

He has of course been a regular member of our committee and was President of Cleveland Naturalists' Field Club from 1965-67, again from 1979-81 including the privilege of serving in our Centenary year and yet again in 1992.

Like me many of you will have shared Ian's company on club field trips or his class expeditions and experienced his boundless enthusiasm for his subject. He has infinite patience and is a born teacher of botany. He has that remarkable ability to bring his subject alive. Ornithologists talk of the jizz of birds, that indefinable something which enables you to identify birds when neither colour or any of the key identification features can be discerned. It may be the tilt of the head, the posture, or something in the way it flies. Ian I am told is the supreme master at the jizz of plants.

He also has an incredible memory for the location of plants seen and identified over many, many years. All this was encapsulated by Vincent Jones a botanist whose reputation now extends far beyond the boundaries of Cleveland. He tells me that when he first joined the Cleveland Naturalists' Field Club some 40 years ago he quickly realized that if he was to improve his botanical skills then it would be a good idea to stay close by Ian.

I think you know Ian that you are held in great affection within this Club, we are grateful for all that you have contributed to the organization of the Club, we have enormous respect for your botanical knowledge, great admiration for all that you have done over so many years to awaken and foster an interest in wild flowers and to help so many people who were keen to study and develop further their botanical skills.

I hope that your contribution to our knowledge of the local flora and the pleasure that the study has given you will be more than ample compensation for anything you may have missed as a foreign correspondent. Botany cannot have been too bad for you Ian as you attain the status of nonagenarian so it is my great pleasure to offer you congratulations from us all and to present you with this small token of appreciation from the members of the Cleveland Naturalists' Field Club.

Vic. Fairbrother,
President.

Report for 2011 from the winter fungus study group operating around Teesside in VC62

Alan Bunn

During the very wintry conditions of last year I enquired of local Teesside North Eastern Fungus Study Group (NEFSG) members as to whether they would be interested in participating in a weekly wintering fungus forays. All but two of these NEFSG members also belong to Cleveland Naturalists (see end of this note). All members contacted expressed an interest and so the NEFSET (North Eastern Fungus Study Extra Territorials (note Territorials NOT Terrestrials) – this was Tom Kirby's suggestion who believed this would allow us to foray more widely! Prior to our first foray I had followed-up a report, in Field



Photo. 1

Mycology 11(1) Feb 2010 p.23, that Alder was a host for *Encoelia furfuracea* (Spring Hazelcup), although less likely than Hazel. Visits to two sites for Alder at Pinchinthorpe, nr. Guisborough and Bassleton Wood at Thornaby in mid-January were both productive and fallen twigs with up to six *E. furfuracea* fruiting bodies on a one foot length were found on both sites (see photo 1). On a later NEFSET foray to Slacks Wood east of Great Ayton we found evidence for *E. furfuracea* on Hazel and observed the phenomenon of 'black glue' sticking overlapping branches together (see photo 2 by Paul Forster). Subsequently David Smith discovered a literature paper by Ainsworth and Rayner on the role of *Hymenochaete corrugata* (Glue Crust) in this process.



Photo.2.

Our first foray was to Clay Bank nr. Great Broughton and this produced 24 species including *Radulomyces confluens* (confirmed by Alan Legg (AL), group leader of the NEFSG and recognised expert identifier); *Trametes gibbosa* (Lumpy Bracket); *Lachnellula occidentalis* and *Chaetosphaerella phaestroma*.

Dundale Beck Wood on the Easby to Kildale road was our third foray (Slacks Wood, see above, was our second). Evidence for *Hymenochaete corrugata* on hazel was found with the characteristic 'black glue' joints. Also there was convincing visual evidence for *E. furfuracea* on Hazel in this wood. *Tremella mesenterica* (Yellow Brain) was found on Honeysuckle stems and several dry specimens were collected which unfortunately did not yield any spores.

Sandbeds Plantation nr. Kildale in mid-Feb. proved to be a very productive site (and very wet underfoot!). Highlights were a metre length of cut timber covered on one side with *Pleurotus ostreatus* (Oyster Mushroom); other notable records were *Cryptocoryneum condensatum* (only 5 historic records for VC62 on the BMS database) and *Schizophyllum commune* (Splitgill) (thanks to AL for identifying the latter two specimens).

Our final foray in February was to Errington Wood nr. New Marske. This portion of the wood has a good concentration of pine and for 2 ½ hours we enjoyed finding a good range of species, but did not progress more than 200 yards from the car park! *Lophormium pinastri* were found on the fallen pine



Photo. 3

needles (see photo 3) and two specimens of *Strobilurus tenacellus* (Pinecone Cap) were found amongst the pine litter. This site produced more unidentified species than any of the other sites visited.

We continued foraging each week throughout March and to mid-April. We had 15 forays, each session being two to two and a half hours in length. Over this period we recorded 343 individual specimens representing 82 different species. The members attending these forays found them enjoyable and worthwhile for the learning of identities of new species and creating site records for the Association of British Fungus Groups and British Mycology Society databases.

Additionally there is the buzz and some satisfaction when we find a rarely recorded species for VC62. An example of this was *Oncopodiella trigonella* collected and identified by David Smith (confirmed by AL). This species has not previously been recorded in the BMS database for VC62 and there are only 12 records for the whole of the UK in this database. In addition we have found other species which have 5 or less previous records for VC62.

Cleveland Naturalist members involved in these recording trips are Alan Bunn, Bill Hall, Aubrey and Edith Colling, Vic Fairbrother, Paul Forster and David Smith.

Botanical Recording in North-east Yorkshire (V.-c. 62) in 2011

There were three native new vice-county records :- *Gymnadenia borealis* (Heath Fragrant-orchid) in small quantity in damp moorland near Rudland (*G. conopsea sensu lato* had been previously reported from the site); the rarely recorded hybrid Sweet-grass, *Glyceria fluitans* x *G. declinata*, with both parents in a ditch near Danby and the hybrid rush, *Juncus diffusus* = *J. inflexus* (Hard Rush) x *J. effusus* (Soft Rush), on the edge of Terrington Carr where both parents were common.

Aliens naturalised in the wild, new to the vice-county, included a good colony of *Doronicum x excelsum* (Harpur Crewe's Leopard's-bane) well established on a rocky trackside bank behind the church at Gillamoor, a robust clump of *Allium moly* (Yellow Garlic) on the verge of the road over Harland Moor near Gillamoor and twelve self-sown plants of *Pritzelago alpina* on a stone wall by the Cleveland Way in Helmsley (may be a new British record).

Several casual self-sown garden-escapes new for the vice-county were found. In particular, in gutters and pavement cracks were *Rumex scutatus* (French Sorrel) in Kirbymoorside, *Achillea filipendulina* (Fern-leaf Yarrow) in Crossgates near Scarborough and *Lactuca sativa* (Garden Lettuce) in Stokesley. *Cosmos bipinnatus* (Mexican Aster) occurred on waste ground at Stainsacre near Whitby.

It was particularly pleasing to re-find in the vice-county *Fumaria purpurea* (Purple Ramping-fumitory) on waste ground at Scalby near Scarborough (first record since 1917) and *Fumaria vaillantii* (Few-flowered Fumitory) on dumped soil on a building plot in Crossgates near Scarborough (first record since 1897 and may well be from the same site). *Antennaria dioica* (Mountain Everlasting), only the second recent record, was discovered in some abundance on the dry short calcareous turf above Stoney Gill Hole near Hawnby. *Carex muricata* ssp. *pairae* (Prickly Sedge), always rare in the vice-county, was found in some quantity on a road verge near Danby (first record since 1978). *Centaureum pulchellum* (Lesser Centaury) not seen for a few years at its only known site in the vice-county at the South Gare, was discovered at a new site at the South Gare. It was pleasing to note that *Atriplex glabriuscula* (Babbington's Orache) has significantly extended its range and now is locally frequent at intervals between the South Gare and Saltburn.

Thanks are due to E. J. Clement, A. Copping and R.J. Murphy for checking specimens.

V. Jones

***Aisio flammeus* (Short-eared Owl) influxes 2011-2012
Carlin Howe Land fill site, Guisborough, Cleveland.**

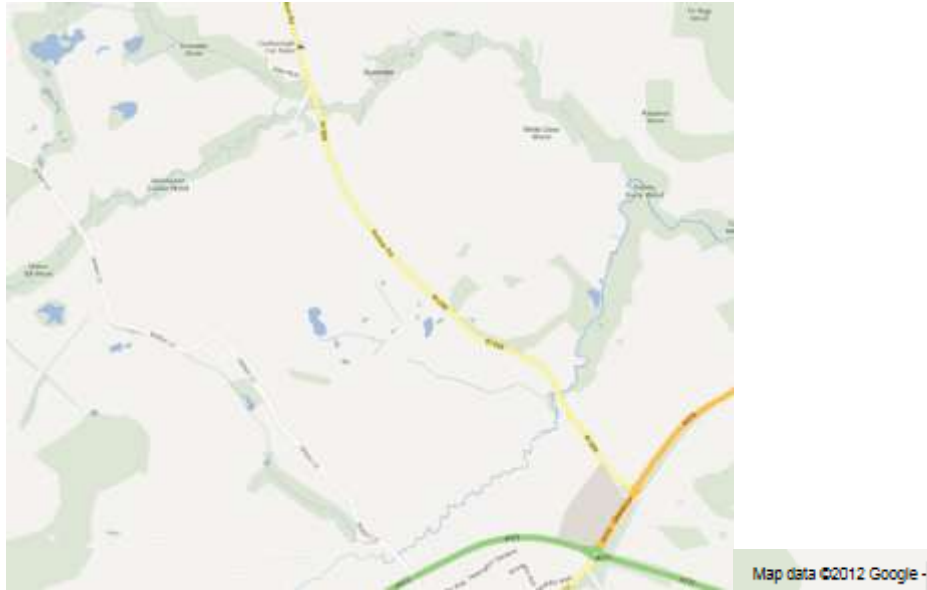
P.W. Forster



Carlin Howe landfill site is located at NGR NZ 609 108, approximately 2 Kilometres North of Guisborough and 1Km southeast of Dunsdale and is owned by Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council. The land is approximately 21.7 hectares consisting of impoverished grassland with *Crataegus monogyna* (Hawthorn) and *Rubus fruticosus agg* (Bramble) on the sites perimeter running parallel to the main road.

As you enter the site off the B1269 on the left hand side of the road SETA have a waste disposal facility. This area also has a healthy population of *Triturus cristatus* (Great Crested Newts), which is monitored by Mr G Jeffrey.

The landfill site is left off the B1269. The main pond is situated in the centre of map and indicates the reserve.



Looking NNW towards old farm buildings. A main feeding area for the *Aisio flammeus* (Short-eared owls).



In early October good numbers of *Aisio flammeus* (Short-eared Owl) arrived on the East coast with 50 in off the sea at Tichwell, Norfolk on the 13th. It is likely that many of these will be from Finland, Sweden and the Low Countries. (British wildlife December 2011, volume 23, Number 2, page 118).

Apparently news has filtered through that it has been a `Lemming year` on their Northern Breeding grounds, so it is possible that they have had a good breeding year. It may be also reasonable to suggest that a good number of the birds reaching the east coast would be young birds dispersing from the breeding ground.

The owls spread north along the coast from Norfolk certainly as far north as Prestwick Carr, a Nature reserve situated north of Newcastle Airport, where a reputed total of seventeen had been sited.

I and two other photographic colleagues visited the above site on 18th of December 2011 where we had ten feeding over rough grassland.

The owls arrived on the site in the middle of September with only two seen. By the Middle of October numbers increased to five, by November a maximum of nine were observed. Numbers fluctuated as the birds increased their feeding area. The last bird to be observed was on the 20th of March by Mr D.W. Wood.

Asio otus (Long eared owl) made an appearance with two-recorded December 2011 to January 2012.

The owls could be seen from the B1269 any time of the day.

I visited this area on several occasions in order to photograph them. Whilst I waited for that perfect shot it was interesting to observe feeding behaviour, in particular one owl regurgitating a pellet.



Feeding territories were set up with four owls in the reserve; this could be observed more readily during the late afternoon.

The owls would visit favourite posts to eat their prey and also to regurgitate pellets.

Aisio flammeus (Short-eared Owl) will eject a pellet for every 30-90 gr of food taken, on average two pellets are formed each day and these are often deposited at daytime roosts or even nest sites, (Owls Their natural and unnatural history, Sparks John, sp Soper, Tony. David&Charles: Newton Abbot page 72)

Owl with a Bank Vole *Clethrionomys glareolus*



I was fortunate to find and dissect four pellets, all the pellets contained remains of what I believe to be *Clethrionomys glareolus* (Bank Vole). This site seemed to have a good population as it accommodated feeding for at least four birds over a 10-week period. The owls towards the end of February 2012 started to disperse from the site and were observed around the surrounding area.

Contents from Four Pellets Owl Pellets



For me personally I have felt a very privileged to be able to observe such a large number of owls in a very small private site, to observe feeding behaviour at such a close proximity and to witness their aerial ability whilst hunting.

Acknowledgements:

I like to thank Derek Wood for continuing updates over the months and Graham Jeffrey for allowing me access to the site. All other individuals whom I have encountered whilst on the site who have shown such enthusiasm and respect for these birds.

References:

British wildlife December 2011, volume 23, Number 2, page 118 Balmert Dawn, Vickery Juliet.

Owls their natural and unnatural history, Sparks John, Soper, Tony. David&Charles: Newton Abbot page 72)

Field Meetings 2012

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 (07826 787650) that members may ring if necessary (to find the group if late arriving, for example). 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)

Wednesday, 11th April, 10:30 am, leader Colin Chatto ☎ 01642 599616

GR SE230775. **Hackfall Wood, Masham.** Meet at the car park about 2 miles south of Masham, half a mile north of Grewelthorpe. A walk of about 4.5 miles in this Woodland Trust property. There are some steep slopes and it can be muddy in places.

Sunday, 29th April, 10:30 am, leader Martin Allen ☎ 01642 576295

GR NZ689139. **Moorsholm.** Meet in Moorsholm village. A walk of about 5 miles, with a possible detour into Gerrick Wood SSSI. Some short steep climbs and muddy in parts.

Wednesday, 9th May, 2:00 pm, leaders Joan and Norma ☎ 01429 268416

GR NZ428385. **Castle Eden Dene.** Meet outside the church at Castle Eden. There is plenty of parking on the road.

Wednesday, 16th May, 10:30 am, leader Vic Fairbrother ☎ 01287 633744

GR NZ570127. **Roseberry Topping.** Meet in Newton under Roseberry car park. We will be met by Beth Andrews who will point out the main geological features during the walk, which will include a slow climb to the summit, descent to Cliff Rigg and all the delights of an oak wood in spring (the summit is recommended but optional).

Sunday, 20th May, 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, 23rd May, 6:30 pm, leader Andrew Ferguson ☎ 01642 311831
GR NZ463316. **The Howls and The Batts.** Meet at the reserve entrance. We will explore these small linked woodland nature reserves along the valley of Char Beck. Drive through Dalton Piercy from the A19 and take the first turning on the left. This is the access track for the reservoir. Park on the hard standing next to the gates.

Saturday, 26th May, 11:00 am, leader Malcolm Birtle ☎ 01642 649938
GR NZ264378. **Sunderland Bridge, Durham.** Park next to old Sunderland Bridge. Turn left from A167 onto B6300 to Brandon, then left to the old bridge. Field, woodland and riverside walking with moderate inclines.

Wednesday, 30th May, 6:30 pm, leader Ian Lawrence ☎ 07506 423245
GR NZ448167. **Black Bobbies Field, Thornaby.** Meet outside the Jolly Farmers on Thornaby Road. Black Bobbies Field is a compact local nature reserve by the river Tees. The site is pedestrian access only. There is a parking area just opposite the Jolly Farmers.

Wednesday, 6th June, 6:30 pm, leader Daphne Aplin ☎ 01642 884719
GR NZ479254. **Cowpen Bewley Woodland Park.** Meet in the visitor centre car park. A leisurely walk around this developing site, with an abundance of habitats and wildlife.

Friday, 8th June, 8:30 pm, leader Paul Forster ☎ 01287 201794
GR NZ844126. **Mulgrave Castle Walled Garden.** This meeting (weather permitting) is for moth trapping in the private Mulgrave Castle estate grounds, for which we have special permission. Park outside the greenhouse block at the top of the walled garden.

Wednesday, 13th June, 10:30 am, leader Vic Fairbrother ☎ 01287 633744
GR SE755889. **Cropton.** Meet near the village green in Cropton. We will explore leisurely a SSSI meadow during this farmland, woodland and riverside walk.

Wednesday, 20th June, 10:30 am, leader Jo Scott ☎ 01642 897843
GR NZ508250. **Greatham Creek and North Gare.** Meet in the Teesmouth NNR car park off the A178. An opportunity to view the seals beside the creek and a walk along to the estuary. Later we will move on to North Gare for the wild flowers behind the dunes.

Sunday, 24th June, 10:30 am, leader Andrew Ferguson ☎ 01642 311831
GR NZ722182. **Loftus Wood.** Park in Loftus and meet in the main street near the Golden Lion. An easy circular walk of 6 miles through woodland and open countryside.

Wednesday, 27th June, 6:30 pm, leader Eric Gendle ☎ 01642 281235
GR NZ534273. **North Gare.** Meet at the end of Zinc Works Road, Seaton Carew. We will explore the surrounding area, looking at Dactylorhiza and Fragrant orchids.

Saturday, 30th June, 10:30 am, leader Eric Gendle ☎ 01642 281235
GR SE514173. **Brockadale.** Meet in the reserve car park. Brockadale is a YNU reserve with a varied habitat; north and south facing limestone grassland, mixed

woodland, stream with wetland and limestone cliffs. To get there, take the B6474 Wentbridge road off the A1 south of the M62 interchange, then right at the junction signed Kirk Smeaton. then on to Little Smeaton and take the minor road to the car park.

Wednesday, 4th July, 6:30 pm, leader Dave Barlow ☎ 01642 562625

GR NZ395165. **Coatham Stob.** Meet in the car park off the road between Longnewton and Urlay Nook. A good site for birds owing to the mix of habitats, and for butterflies.

Saturday, 7th July, 10:30 am, leader leader Andy Astbury ☎ 01642 823114

GR SE665791. **Nunnington.** Meet outside the church. There is limited street parking in the village. Please park considerately. A gentle ramble of 7 miles, mostly on the flat.

Wednesday, 11th July, 10:30 am, leader Colin Chatto ☎ 01642 599616

GR SE705901. **Hutton-le-Hole.** Meet at the car park at the north of the village. A circular walk via Lastingham and Appleton-le-Moors totalling about 6 miles (which can be shortened) mainly using field edge paths.

Sunday, 15th July, 10:30 am, leader Vincent Jones ☎ 01642 722814

GR NZ557275. **South Gare.** Meet near the fishermen's huts. A **botanical** outing to enjoy the special plants of the area, many of which are rare in VC 62. The terrain is easy, the pace slow and we shall walk about 3 miles.

Wednesday, 18th July, 6:30 pm, leader Martin Allen ☎ 01642 576295

GR NZ413191. **Greenvale, Stockton.** Meet in the small car park next to the community centre off Limbrick Avenue. An open access area to explore, with easy walking on grass.

Saturday, 21st July, 10:00 am, contact Mick Carroll ☎ 01751 476550

GR unknown. **The Howls, The Ings and The Carrs.** 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.

Sunday, 22nd July, 10:30 am, leader Jo Scott ☎ 01642 897843

GR NZ668216. **Saltburn.** Meet in the Cat Nab car park. A day exploring the rock pools in a concentrated area. If you can, please bring a bucket and small net. We will meet with Dr Heather Sugden from the Big Sea Survey. Heather will describe the project for us and help us collate our findings, so the records can contribute to the survey results.

Sunday, 29th July, 10:30 am, leader Bill Hall ☎ 01642 823170 or 07753 663589

GR SE502872. **Boltby Forest.** Meet at the entrance to Boltby Forest Drive, where there is room to park for 5 or 6 cars. The walk is mainly on good paths. We will go round Boltby Reservoir and then on up to some newly created pools looking for dragonflies.

Wednesday, 1st August, 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, 15th August, 10:30 am, leaders Peter and Ruth Waterton

☎ 01642 724270

GR SE943889. **Wykeham Forest Raptor Viewpoint.** Meet in the car park for easy access to the Raptor Viewpoint, which gives fine views over Troutsdale for birdwatching. The site is high above a valley in an area that is regularly used by passing birds of prey. Leave the A170 at Wykeham for North Moor. Continue for about 4.5 miles until you reach a T junction, which is at Highwood Brow. The car park is close by.

Wednesday, 29th August, 6:00 pm, leader Tony Wardhaugh ☎ 01642 322935

GR NZ564107. **Airy Holme Wood.** Meet in the car park at Great Ayton. We will walk up to Airy Holme Wood, which is a rich site for land snails, both common and unusual. There is a limited amount of parking by the track off Dikes Lane up to Airy Holme Farm (NZ578113), suitable for late arrivals or anyone not wishing to walk far.

Saturday, 1st September, 10:30 am, leader Neil Baker ☎ 01325 361547

GR SE853937. **Levisham Moors and Bottoms.** Meet in the car park overlooking the Hole of Horcum. A walk of 7 miles with some climbing through excellent moorland.

Wednesday, 19th September, 2:00 pm, leader Ian Lawrence ☎ 07506 423245

GR NZ517166. **Stewart Park.** Meet in the car park. An easy stroll to enjoy the seasonal changes to the trees in this jewel in the crown of Middlesbrough's municipal parks.

Wednesday, 26th September, 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. This is a repeat of last year's walk but a few weeks earlier to try and see more varied fungi.

Sunday, 7th October, 10:30 am, leader Andy Astbury ☎ 01642 823114

GR NZ614158. **Guisborough Woods.** Meet in the Fountain Street West car park off Rectory Lane. We will walk up to and meander through Guisborough Woods looking for fungi and anything else we find of interest. There will be some climbing.

Wednesday, 24th October, 10:30 am, leader David Smith ☎ 01642 711233

GR SE468993. **Cod Beck Reservoir.** Meet in the car park. This is a field trip with an emphasis on lichens, but there will probably also be fungi and slime moulds to discover.

Saturday, 27th October, 10:30 am, leader Paul Forster ☎ 01287 201794

GR NZ572195. **Eston Woods.** Meet in the Lazenby Bank car park on the south side of the A174. This is a fungus foray with Tom Kirby. Any climbing will be done very slowly.

Details of **Yorkshire Naturalists' Union** meetings are available from Eric Gendle ☎
01642 281235.

DATES FOR CNFC WINTER INDOOR MEETINGS 2012-2013

Oct 15, 29. Nov 19, 26. Dec 17. Jan 21. Feb 18, 25. Mar 18, 25.

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.teemouthbc.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>