

# CLEVELAND NATURALISTS'

## FIELD CLUB



## RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Volume 12 Part 1

Spring 2019

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### Membership Details

The Club seeks to promote an interest in all branches of natural history and to assist members in finding out about the living things that they see in the countryside around them. The present membership includes those who have particular interests in birds, insects, slugs and snails, lichens, fungi, flowering plants, 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 Nunthorpe Institute, The Avenue, Nunthorpe, 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 talk given by a club member or visiting speaker. The annual subscription is £8.

Members are entitled to attend meetings of two affiliated organisations:  
Yorkshire Naturalists' Union.  
Tees Valley Wildlife Trust.

Details are available from Eric Gendle 01642 281235 and our web site  
<http://clevelandnats.org.uk/>

## **President's Address**

Many thanks to all the officers of the Club and all members that have contributed to activities and publications throughout the year.

We have had a complete and very interesting series of indoor meetings during the winter of 2018-19. The 2018 Summer Programme was as extensive as we have come to expect. We discovered a number of interesting species, explored new places and 'enjoyed' the 'Beast from the East' and an extended summer heat wave.

Joint meetings with other groups and societies were again a notable feature of our programme and I believe the Club benefits greatly through meeting people active in different areas and with specialist knowledge. We anticipate further joint meetings in 2019.

The Club and individual members have contributed to conservation projects including Capturing the Coast organised by a collaboration of academic and conservation bodies, projects organised by Tees Valley Wildlife Trust, the RSPB, the British Trust for Ornithology and the Cold Blooded and Spineless Project (North Pennines AONB). The Club also had an exhibition at the Tees Valley Nature Partnership Conference.

An issue of the Proceedings has been produced for 2018 and will appear on the web site in due course. Many thanks to all contributors and I would encourage members to contribute to the Proceedings and web site as they are now the primary public face of the Club. The Club regularly receives feedback and enquiries regarding the content of the Proceedings and web site.

I am standing down as President of the Club, and as Editor of the Proceedings, at the 2019 general meeting. I have been President for five years and it has been a privilege to represent the Club during this period. I have been editor since 1991 (28 years). I feel it is time for me to embrace my retirement to the full. The Natural History and publishing world are very different places now than then. In 1991 there was no World Wide Web, e-mail, or social media in widespread common use. Now anyone can publish anything, anywhere, anytime to a global audience at zero cost. Incidentally, there were no digital cameras either. Now we can expect to appear on surveillance video cameras literally anywhere we go. Wildlife appears on web cameras streamed to the global audience in real time. There was no routine DNA sequencing in 1991. Now it is commonly used to identify species and to explore the relationships between species. What future for traditional biological recording, taxonomy and the natural history endeavour as a whole I wonder? I wish my successors luck in the future.

It is very important to realise that the Club is the members and all the achievements of the Club are achievements of all the members. We can congratulate ourselves on another successful year and let us look forward to a stimulating and active 2019.

Malcolm Birtle

## **Acknowledgements and Note to Contributors**

The editor would like to thank all those who have contributed to the current issue of the Field Club Proceedings.

Contributions can include scientific articles, records, historical or biographical articles, poems, artwork, in fact anything which documents or celebrates natural history in Cleveland.

### **For electronic submissions please:**

- use either MS Word or Pages, including for any tables (please do not submit tabulated information as a spreadsheet).
- avoid using any paragraph formatting and line spacing other than single.
- send any images as separate .jpg files with the caption as a separate Word or Pages file. These are always most welcome.
- when naming species provide the vernacular name, where a widely used one exists, followed by the appropriate scientific name in italics and bracketed. If no vernacular name exists please provide just the scientific name in italics and unbracketed.
- Sent to [tonyandmoirawardhaugh1@virginmedia.com](mailto:tonyandmoirawardhaugh1@virginmedia.com)

### **Where electronic submission is not possible:**

Please post hand-written or typed articles to Dr A A Wardhaugh, 13 Captain Cook's Crescent, Marton, Middlesbrough TS7 8NN.

Contributions can be sent at any time of year, the deadline in any year being the same date as the Annual General Meeting.

## Highlights of 2018 Field Meetings

**Wednesday 18th April 1:30 pm. Saltburn Gill (GR NZ668216).**

**Leader, Tony Wardhaugh.**

We walked slowly as far as the boardwalk just to the north of the entrance to Darnbottle, the day being warm and sunny.

The following were seen in flower: Blackthorn (*Prunus spinosa*), Dog's Mercury (*Mercurialis perennis*), Opposite-leaved Golden Saxifrage (*Chrysosplenium oppositifolium*), Lesser Celandine (*Ranunculus ficaria*), Wood Anemone (*Anemone nemoralis*) and Early Dog-violet (*Viola reichenbachiana*). Bluebell (*Hyacinthoides non-scripta*) was just beginning to flower and Wild Arum (*Arum maculatum*) and Woodruff (*Galium odoratum*) were seen in leaf. Birds seen or heard included Chiffchaff (*Phylloscopus collybita*), Blackcap (*Sylvia atricapilla*), Dunnock (*Prunella modularis*), Blue Tit (*Cyanistes caeruleus*) and Great Tit (*Parus major*). A single hoot by a Tawny Owl (*Strix aluco*) was heard just after 4.00pm. Comma (*Polygonia c-album*) and Peacock (*Aglais io*) were in flight. Other invertebrates seen are listed separately in the table at the end of the Highlights section. Of note among these is *Monacha cantiana* (Kentish Snail) a species which seems to be spreading in the local area. It had not been recorded in Saltburn Gill previously; see Wardhaugh, A.A. (2017) The Mollusca of some ancient semi-natural woodlands in coastal N.E. Yorkshire. *Naturalist* **142**: 54-60 and online Appendix.

**Wednesday 2nd May 10.30am. Newton Wood (GR NZ570128).**

**Leader, Colin Chatto.**

**Sunday 6th May 10.15am. Transporter Bridge (GR NZ498211).**

**Leader, Neil Baker.**

As something a little bit different, our Club organised an outing to the Transporter Bridge, with the opportunity to access the top walkway to enjoy a bird's eye view of Teesside, including the nearby RSPB reserve at Saltholme.

It was a lovely sunny day with just a slight breeze.

Eleven of us visited the Transporter Bridge, which is now a popular visitor attraction in its own right, with its own excellent visitor centre very well staffed by experienced operators who can tell you anything you need to know about the bridge.

Unfortunately, our visit coincided with a bungee jump event day which attracted many more people than normal. None of our Club members wanted a go. This was just as well on a couple of counts. Firstly, it had not been considered as any part of our risk assessment and secondly, we were far from sure if it was covered under our insurance. Nobody was disappointed though, as all our members are far too sensible anyway for such shenanigans.

Also, the glass lift was out of order which meant that the only way of getting to the top was by means of the external steps on the structure. This put several members off as you needed to be very fit to get up there and have a good head for heights as well.

We were split into two groups because of our numbers. The first group were well rewarded by the sight of a Grey Seal (*Halichoerus grypus*) making its slow and languid way back from the Tees Barrage to the Tees Estuary, presumably with a full stomach. The seal was swim-

ming in a perfect line right down the very centre of the river and the combination of the height of our position and the excellent light meant that we were able to enjoy the effortless grace and elegance of its full body length as it moved through the water, far surpassing that of any man made competitor.

It was also interesting to see the meanders of the river from our vantage point and the stretches where its course had been straightened out.

We drove down to Teesaurus Park for lunch. The park itself was a bit of a disappointment. When it was first set up it looked as though it could be very good, with some significant wild flower seeding having taken place. Now, with council cutbacks, it seems to have an air of neglect about it. Something of a bit of an opportunity lost is the feeling that I had.

After lunch we walked along the riverside path to Newport Bridge and back again. This was quite a pleasant walk for the area, although its urban location meant that it was spoilt in parts and again it could be a much better asset for the people of Middlesbrough if cared for properly.

Botanically, there was plenty to be seen but nothing particularly out of the ordinary, with Periwinkle (*Vinca minor*) and Cuckoo Flower (*Cardamine pratensis*) being the most noticeable.

One sighting of particular interest was a sizeable colony of Sand Martins (*Riparia riparia*) that had taken up residence in a decaying section of concrete wall full of holes that formed part of the riverbank itself. It just goes to show how good these birds are at finding suitable sites for themselves with some unintentional assistance from humans when they first constructed the wall many years ago.

We also noted two Shelducks (*Tadorna tadorna*) that flew past.

The weather was particularly good for butterflies and although there were no great numbers, we did have sightings of Speckled Wood (*Pararge aegeria*), Small Tortoiseshell (*Aglais urticae*), Peacocks (*Aglais io*), Orange-tips (*Anthocharis cardamines*), Small Whites (*Pieris rapae*), Large Whites (*Pieris brassicae*) and Green-veined Whites (*Pieris napi*).

### **Sunday 13th May 10.30am. Hawaby Circular (GR SE537897).**

**Leader, Andy Astbury.**

There were seven of us on this walk which was held on a nice sunny day with some cloud but not a lot of wind.

It was a good area for wild flowers and the time of the year was right to enjoy them at their best.

We saw Bluebells (*Hyacinthoides non-scripta*), Garlic Mustard (*Alliaria petiolata*), Cuckoo Pint (*Arum maculatum*) in the churchyard, Golden Saxifrage (*Chrysosplenium* sp.), Ramsons (*Allium ursinum*), Lady's Mantle (*Alchemilla mollis*), Field Speedwell (*Veronica persica*), Violets (*Viola* sp.), Stitchwort (*Stellaria* sp.), Primrose (*Primula vulgaris*), Water Avens (*Geum rivale*), Lady's Smock (*Cardamine pratensis*), Lesser Celandine (*Ficaria verna*), Dog's Mercury (*Mercurialis perennis*), Wood-sorrel (*Oxalis acetosella*), Early Purple Orchids (*Orchis mascula*), Wood anemones (*Anemone nemorosa*), Cowslips (*Primula veris*), Wild Strawberry (*Fragaria vesca*) and Forget-me-nots (*Myosotis* sp.).

We came across several Oak trees (*Quercus* sp.) in good flower, lots of Bird Cherry (*Prunus padus*) also in full glorious flower and a magnificent ancient Crab Apple (*Malus sylvestris*).

There were a few bee flies about but not as many as we would like to have seen. These seem to be suffering a decline in their numbers like many other insects, which is concerning.

A Cuckoo (*Cuculus canorus*) was heard and there were Buzzards (*Buteo buteo*) to be seen. We also noted Pied Wagtails (*Motacilla alba yarrelli*), Swallows (*Hirundo rustica*) and Lapwings (*Vanellus vanellus*).

**Wednesday 16th May 1.30pm. Gravel Hole Nature Reserve (GRNZ444228).**

**Leaders, Maggie and Graeme Boyd.**

**Saturday 19th May 10.30am. Cod Beck Reservoir (GRSE468992).**

**Leader, Colin Chatto.**

**Wednesday 23rd May 10.30am. Crimdon Dene (GR NZ483372).**

**Leaders, Mark and Hazel Stokeld.**

The scarce millipede *Cylindroiulus londinensis* is known to occur in Crimdon Dene but the most recent record seems to be from 1985 (NBN Atlas website). On the day of our visit it was found in considerable numbers notably beneath stones in the dry bed of Crimdon Beck, initially at NZ4843.3673 and then upstream from here. *C. londinensis* is widespread but uncommon in Britain, being recorded most frequently from woodland and other habitats in south-east England. From 1980 to 2005 it was recorded from just 24 hectads in Britain [Lee, P. (2006) *Atlas of the Millipedes (Diplopoda) of Britain and Ireland*. Pensoft].

See Table at the end of the Highlights section for a list of other invertebrates recorded during the meeting.



*Cylindroiulus londinensis*

**Wednesday 30th May 6.30pm. Great Burdon Woodlands (GR NZ322152).**

**Leader, Malcolm Birtle.**

A small party met on the bridge over the A66 on a warm, wet, overcast evening with barely a breeze. There was some mist in the distance. Everything was quiet with little on the wing and

no bird song. A *Viburnum* was defoliated by the Viburnum Leaf Beetle (*Pyrrhalta viburni*). We walked along the old Stockton and Darlington Railway track bed towards Fighting Cocks. From Fighting Cocks we walked through the fields through South Burdon to return to the bridge over the A66. The highlight of the evening was a quartering Barn Owl (*Tyto alba*).

## Records

Taxon group	Latin Name	Common Name	Grid Reference
Insect - beetle (Coleoptera)	<i>Pyrrhalta viburni</i>	Viburnum Leaf Beetle	NZ322152
Insect (Hymenoptera)	<i>Bombus pascuorum</i>	Common Carder Bee	NZ322152
Bird	<i>Phylloscopus trochilus</i>	Willow Warbler	NZ322152
Bird	<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>	Chiffchaff	NZ322152
Bird	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>	Robin	NZ322152
Bird	<i>Tyto alba</i>	Barn Owl	NZ322152
Fungus	<i>Phragmidium mucronatum</i>	Rose Rust	NZ322152



*Phragmidium mucronatum* (Rose Rust)



**Saturday 2nd June 10.30am. Scalby Beck (GR TA010900).**

**Leader, Eric Gendle.**

A party of 11 members enjoyed a pleasant walk along the North Back Drain, an artificial cut taking water from the infant Derwent through Scalby. The weather forecast had threatened heavy downpours but only a light afternoon drizzle marred the day.

As the party walked from Scalby to the walk start some unusual plants were noted along a minor roadside stream namely Greater Cuckoo Flower (*Cardamine raphanifolia*) and Fringe Cups (*Tellima grandiflora*). In the churchyard Coralroot (*Cardamine bulbifera*), a plant of the Chilterns, was confirmed to be flourishing there.

The walk along the north bank of the cut in the sun produced a range of insects. Beautiful Demoiselle (*Calopteryx virgo*), both male and female, were seen and photographed along with Common Blue and Blue-tailed Damsel flies (*Enallagma cyathigerum* and *Ischnura elegans*). Swarms of Chimney Sweeper moths (*Odezia atrata*) emerged from the grass as the sun emerged, along with some Silver Ground Carpets (*Xanthorhoe montanata*) and a Nettle Tap micro moth (*Anthophila fabricana*). Small numbers of Orange Tips (*Anthocharis cardamines*), Green-veined Whites (*Pieris napi*), Red Admirals (*Vanessa atalanta*) and Speckled Woods (*Pararge aegeria*) were perched and a Gatekeeper (*Pyronia tithonus*) was observed in flight. A healthy colony of Yellow Pimpernel (*Lysimachia nemorum*) was noted. Black Bryony (*Dioscorea communis*) spiralled upward through the trees in several places. In view of the threatened weather, an early lunch was enjoyed on the bank side. Soon after the walkers set off, a light drizzle set in, hardly enough to cause any discomfort apart from overheating caused by the waterproofs. The group reached the turning point at Mowthorpe Bridge having seen Kestrel (*Falco tinnunculus*), Green Woodpecker (*Picus viridis*) and Reed Bunting (*Emberiza schoeniclus*) along with Mallards (*Anas platyrhynchos*) in the stream and a Heron (*Ardea cinerea*) stalking and then flying away and all the usual species of more common birds. The return walk along the south bank of the drain was not very interesting as the banks had been recently mowed.



Beautiful Demoiselle (*Calopteryx virgo*)

**Wednesday 6th June 10.30am Murton & Birk Bank Woods (GR SE535882).**

**Leaders, Peter & Ruth Waterton.**

After parking at Murton Grange the group went south towards Murton Wood. In fields before the wood Skylark (*Alauda arvensis*), Lapwing (*Vanellus vanellus*) and Curlew (*Numenius arquata*) were seen and heard. In the wood a good selection of spring migrants were encountered including Garden Warbler (*Sylvia borin*), Blackcap (*Sylvia atricapilla*), Willow Warbler (*Phylloscopus trochilus*), Chiffchaff (*Phylloscopus collybita*), Common Whitethroat (*Sylvia communis*), and Cuckoo (*Cuculus canorus*). Other birds encountered during the walk were, Yellowhammer (*Emberiza citrinella*), Common Buzzard (*Buteo buteo*) and Green Woodpecker (*Picus viridis*).

Lepidoptera found included the day flying moths Silver-Y (*Plusia gamma*), Chimney Sweeper (*Odezia atrata*), Silver Ground Carpet (*Xanthorhoe montanata*) plus Angle Shades (*Phlogophora meticulosa*), Large Yellow Underwing (*Noctua pronuba*) and the Tortrix moth *Apheia unitana*, a species very rarely recorded in Yorkshire.

Of the plants noted were typical limestone species, Common Rock Rose (*Helianthemum nummularium*) at the top of the bank. Heading down the track to Murton Wood one Columbine plant (*Aquilegia vulgaris*) was seen. Lower down in some damp areas Ragged Robin (*Silene flos-cuculi*) and several Common Spotted Orchids (*Dactylorhiza fuchsii*) were noted. Finally in Birk Bank woods Wood Sedge (*Carex sylvatica*) was common along the rides near to some Toothwort (*Lathraea squamaria*) which had gone over.

**Wednesday 13th June 10.30am. Lingdale Meadows (GR NZ672165).**

**Leader, Andrew Ferguson.**

Seven of us made the repeat visit to Lingdale Meadows this year. The council had beaten us to it last year and cut the meadows before we got there.

There were quite a few butterflies and day flying moths to be seen. Small Coppers (*Lycaena phlaeas*) were quite plentiful, as well as Small Skippers (*Thymelicus sylvestris*), Large Whites (*Pieris brassicae*), Speckled Woods (*Pieris brassicae*) and Common Blues (*Polyommatus icarus*). We also saw Chimney Sweeper moths (*Odezia atrata*), as well as Straw Dot (*Rivula sericealis*) and Blood Vein (*Timandra comae*) moths.

The meadows had masses of Meadow Buttercups (*Ranunculus acris*) which gave them plenty of colour. There was also Cuckoo Flower (*Cardamine pratensis*), Sheep's Sorrel (*Rumex acetosella*), Black Meddick (*Medicago lupulina*), Bird's-foot Trefoil (*Lotus corniculatus*) and Silverweed (*Argentina anserina*).

The edges of the meadow were well populated with Alder (*Alnus glutinosa*), Oak (*Quercus* sp. and Ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*), all of which were maturing nicely.

We crossed over the road to the meadow extension and there we found Yellow Rattle (*Rhinanthus minor*), Comfrey (*Symphytum officinale*) and Hop Trefoil (*Trifolium campestre*). By the water tank at the entrance we observed Tufted Vetch (*Vicia cracca*) and Ivy-leaved Toadflax (*Cymbalaria muralis*).

On the way back to the cars we noted Bristly Oxtongue (*Helminthotheca echioides*).

**Saturday 16th June 10.30am. Castle Eden (GRN Z423375).**

**Leader Malcolm Birtle.**

**Sunday 17th June 10.30am. Saltburn Rockpools (GR NZ668216).**

**Leader, Jo Scott.**

**Wednesday 20th June 10.30am. Billingham Beck Valley Country Park (GR NZ454228).**

**Leader, Daphne Aplin.**

Ten members met in the car park on a slightly windy, showery day with some sunny intervals. A pleasant walk among a wide range of flowering plants but, unfortunately, not much insect activity detected. Some of the things noted are listed below:-

<b>Taxon</b>	<b>Scientific Name</b>	<b>Vernacular Name (if any)</b>
Flowering Plants	<i>Hesperis matronalis</i>	Dame's Violet
	<i>Lapsana communis</i>	Nipplewort
	<i>Ophrys apifera</i>	Bee Orchid
	<i>Dactylorhiza fuchsii</i>	Common Spotted Orchid
	<i>Reseda luteola</i>	Weld
	<i>Linum catharticum</i>	Fairy Flax
	<i>Linaria vulgaris</i>	Common Toadflax
	<i>Lepidium draba</i>	Hoary Cress
	<i>Tanacetum vulgare</i>	Tansy
Mollusca	<i>Succinea putris</i>	Large Amber Snail
Odonata	<i>Ischnura elegans</i>	Blue-tailed Damselfly
Lepidoptera	<i>Aphantopus hyperantus</i>	Ringlet
	<i>Parage aegeria</i>	Speckled Wood
	<i>Aglais urticae</i>	Small Tortoiseshell
	<i>Xanthorhoe montanata</i>	Silver-ground Carpet
Heteroptera	<i>Acanthosoma haemorrhoidale</i>	Hawthorn Shieldbug instar
	<i>Grypocoris stysi</i>	
Birds	<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>	Chiffchaff
	<i>Sylvia communis</i>	Whitethroat
	<i>Delichon urbica</i>	House Martin

Taxon	Scientific Name	Vernacular Name (if any)
	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>	Moorhen and young

**Sunday 24th June 10.30am. High Batts, Ripon (GR SE289761).**

**Leader, Bill Hall.**

A caterpillar of the Yellow-tail moth (*Euproctis similis*) was found on Hogweed (*Heracleum sphondylium*) by the roadside hedgerow where the group met at the beginning of the day (SE289761).

Flowering plants seen on the reserve included Giant Bellflower (*Campanula latifolia*), Clustered Bellflower (*Campanula glomerata*), White Bryony (*Bryonia alba*), Pyramidal Orchid (*Anacamptis pyramidalis*), Rockrose (*Helianthemum nummularium*) and Burnet Rose (*Rosa pimpinellifolia*).

Also seen were Tree Sparrow (*Passer montanus*), Small Fanfoot (*Herminia grisealis*) and White-letter Hairstreak (*Satyrrium w-album*) two of which were in flight at the top of an Elm and one was feeding on Ground Elder (*Aegopodium podagaria*) by the bridge at SE3013.7648.



*Euproctis similis* (Yellow-tail caterpillar)



*Bryonia alba* (White Bryony)



*Campanula glomerata* (Clustered Bellflower)



*Herminia grisealis* (Small Fanfoot)





*Satyrium w-album* (White-letter Hairstreak)

See Table at the end of the Highlights section for a list of other invertebrates recorded during the meeting.

**Wednesday 27th June 6.30pm. Guisborough Walkway (GR NZ615161).**

**Leader, Eric Gendle.**

A small party walked through the local church grounds and by the ruined priory without finding much of interest. They then followed a path north which led to a west facing bankside which should have been interesting but the vegetation had been burnt off during the extremely hot weather. They walked up Butt Lane and onto the walkway. Little of note was seen, though a selection of garden throw-outs put on a fine display before the party returned to their cars.

**Wednesday 4th July 10.30am. Hannah's Meadow (GR NY929187).**

**Leaders, Mark and Hazel Stokeld.**

**Wednesday 11th July 10.30am. Rainton Meadows (GR NZ325486).**

**Leader, Jo Scott.**

Rainton Meadows is a relatively new reserve. It was created at Rye Hill Opencast coal mine in 1996 by UK Coal in partnership with Durham Wildlife Trust and the City of Sunderland. Follow the link to their web site. <https://durhamwt.com/reserves/rainton-meadows-nature-reserve/>. It is a mixture of wetlands, open water, meadows and woodland giving a wide variety of habitats.

It was a cloudy but dry day when 9 members enjoyed a look around the reserve.

Birds seen included Buzzard (*Buteo buteo*), Reed Bunting (*Emberiza schoeniclus*), Swallows (*Hirundo rustica*), House Martins (*Delichon urbicum*), Mute Swans (*Cygnus olor*), Jay (*Garrulus glandarius*) and a flock of Goldfinches (*Carduelis carduelis*).

Of the flowers, the most notable were Viper's Bugloss (*Echium vulgare*), Red Bartsia (*Odontites vernus*), Golden Rod (*Solidago virgaurea*), Tansy (*Tanacetum vulgare*) and Enchanter's Nightshade (*Circaea lutetiana*).

Common Darter (*Sympetrum striolatum*), Common Blue Damselfly (*Enallagma cyathigerum*) and Blue-tailed Damselfly (*Ischnura elegans*) were flying over the damp grassland and Common Blue Butterfly (*Polyommatus icarus*), Small Skipper (*Thymelicus sylvestris*), mating Meadow Browns (*Maniola jurtina*), and a Latticed Heath Moth (*Chiasmia clathrata*) were seen amongst the flowers.

Looking closely at the hedges revealed Robin's Pincushion (*Diplolepis rosae*), caused by a hymenopteran gall wasp, and Rose Rust (*Phragmidium tuberculatum*), caused by a parasitic fungus, on the wild roses also Coltsfoot Rust (*Puccinia poarum*) a fungal rust on the large coltsfoot leaves at the side of the path.



Meadow Brown  
Butterfly



Coltsfoot Rust

#### **Saturday 14th July 10.30am. Birch Wood, Bilsdale (GR SE569920).**

##### **Leader, Eric Gendle.**

A party of nine members assembled at the roadside parking spot and were greeted with the sight of a Buzzard and a pair of Red Kites (*Buteo buteo* and *Milvus milvus*) circling over the west side of Bilsdale. The party wandered slowly along the Right of Way footpath diverting regularly further into the wood, before finally reaching the wood end stile and returning to the suggested picnic spot. After lunch the party returned to the starting point to take another track which took them higher into the woodland and then north. A small party of Spotted Flycatchers (*Muscicapa striata*) entertained the party with their characteristic flight patterns. The party passed two old winding drums from the days when minor quarrying took place and continued on until the path faded where the YWT site officially ended. The party took a high level footpath to the south before dropping down finally to the original morning path and ambled slowly back to the cars.

An incomplete Species Listing included:

Common Spotted Orchids (*Dactylorhiza fuchsii*), Bluebells (*Hyacinthoides non-scripta*), Herb Robert (*Geranium robertianum*), Foxglove (*Digitalis purpurea*), Hedge Woundwort (*Stachys sylvatica*), Enchanter's Nightshade (*Circaea lutetiana*), Honeysuckle (*Lonicera periclymenum*), Yellow Pimpernel (*Lysimachia nemorum*), Bugle (*Ajuga reptans*), Wood-sorrel (*Oxalis acetosella*), Self-heal (*Prunella vulgaris*), Common Cow-wheat (*Melampyrum pratense*), Climbing Corydalis (*Corydalis claviculata*), Broad Buckler Fern (*Dryopteris*

*dilatata*), Male Fern (*Dryopteris filix-mas*) and Hard Fern (*Blechnum spicant*). Though not seen, Wild Daffodil (*Narcissus pseudonarcissus*) had been seen by the old machinery in early spring.

An unusual lichen, an indicator of ancient woodland, *Thelotrema lepidinum* was noted.

**Wednesday 18th July 6.30pm. Yarm Circular (GR NZ421132).**

**Leader, Neil Baker.**

This was a pleasant evening walk that eleven of us attended. It was a nice summer evening as far as the weather was concerned.

We set off from Egglescliffe and noted that the walnut tree (*Juglans* sp.) on the green was still in good condition, having been a feature for many years.

We saw plenty of Swifts (*Apus apus*) flying over the village on our way out and again over the Bluebell Inn at Yarm on our way back. On our way down to the river we also heard several renditions of the distinctive 'a little of bread and no cheese' call of Yellowhammers (*Emberiza citrinella*).

There were plenty of wild flowers to enjoy on the walk including Black Horehound (*Ballota nigra*), masses of Himalayan Balsam (*Impatiens glandulifera*) by the water edges, some Giant Hogweed (*Heracleum mantegazzianum*) that had defied attempts to eradicate it and several fine displays of Soapwort (*Saponaria officinalis*) that have been reliably found on this stretch of the Tees for many years.

We also saw a Roe Deer (*Capreolus capreolus*) making its way away from us through a farmer's crop field, although seemingly not perturbed by our presence.

There were plenty of hawthorn bushes to be seen which looked like once again they would have a good crop of berries for the birds to feed on in winter, although it looked like they could do with some rain to help them swell to a good size, it having been very dry so far this summer.

As we approached Yarm at the end of the walk, we came across some turkey oak (*Quercus cerris*) with ladybird larvae feeding on it.

**Sunday 29th July 10.30am. National Centre for Birds of Prey (GR SE603834).**

**Leader, Neil Baker.**

The weather was appalling and as a consequence only three of us, all in the same car, turned up for this outing.

It was raining heavily at the start of the day, although this slowly eased off as the day progressed. However, it was very windy all day which made it very difficult for the birds flying outdoors.

The first display was held indoors in the flying barn. All the audience was very wet, even more so than the birds. We watched a Harris Hawk, Burrowing Owl and Barn Owl go through their paces.



The second display was held outdoors in the small flying area close to the barn. It was still damp but gradually getting better. We watched a magnificent Great Grey Owl, another Burrowing Owl and a trainee Harris Hawk starting to learn his routine. By far the star of this show was the Burrowing Owl who seemed to be more in charge than its handler. He had clearly learned very quickly that if he shot through his drainpipe from one end to the other then he would be rewarded with food when he reappeared. It reminded me a bit of the non-stop cricket that we used to play at primary school. I think the owl won wings down.

The weather had brightened up considerably for the last show of the day and so this was held outdoors in the main display area. Again there were three different birds on display. One of these was Harley, the Eagle Owl, a favourite at NCBP as he is very vocal and well used to humans. The last showing was a cast of Yellow Kites who demonstrated their aerial skills by catching food on the wing that had been launched into the air by catapults.

All in all a thoroughly enjoyable day despite the weather. We will try again in 2019 and organise another trip when hopefully we will be luckier with the weather.

The one lesson that I came away with from NCBP is how focussed the birds are on their food and getting to it by taking the most direct flight path possible. It's very much up to you to get out of their way. The sight of people ducking and diving as a feathered missile locked on was quite amusing.

**Saturday 4th August 10.30am. Dinsdale and Middleton One Row (GRNZ351123).**

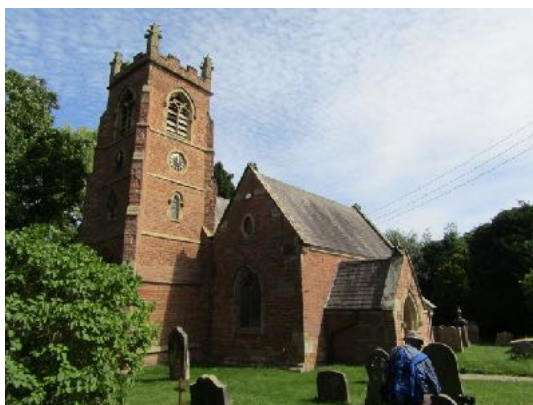
**Leader, Malcolm Birtle.**

This was a sunny, clear day with a Westerly breeze. It was eventually rather hot continuing the heat wave which had baked the countryside for weeks. We walked to Dinsdale church and bridge and back. Jays (*Garrulus glandarius*) were calling. We examined a large Walnut Tree (*Juglans regia*) in the church yard, and watched some large Brown Trout (*Salmo trutta*) from the bridge over the Tees. Banded Demoiselle (*Calopteryx splendens*) and Brown Hawker (*Aeshna grandis*) were on the wing along with a nice mix of butterflies, Kingfisher (*Alcedo atthis*) and Grey Heron (*Ardea cinerea*).

Walnut (*Juglans regia*)



## St Johns



## Brown Trout (*Salmo trutta*)



## Records

Taxon group	Latin Name	Common Name	Grid Reference
Flowering plant	<i>Juglans regia</i>	Walnut	NZ351123
Flowering plant	<i>Galium mollugo</i>	Hedge Bedstraw	NZ351123
Fungus	<i>Fuligo septica</i>	Dog Vomit Slime Mould	NZ351123
Insect - dragonfly (Odonata)	<i>Aeshna grandis</i>	Brown Hawker	NZ351123
Insect - dragonfly (Odonata)	<i>Calopteryx splendens</i>	Banded Demoiselle	NZ351123

Insect - moth	<i>Cameraria ohridella</i>	Horse Chestnut Leaf-miner	NZ351123
Insect - butterfly	<i>Polygonia c-album</i>	Comma	NZ351123
Insect - butterfly	<i>Pararge aegeria</i>	Speckled Wood	NZ351123
Insect - butterfly	<i>Aglais io</i>	Peacock	NZ351123
Insect - butterfly	<i>Pieris brassicae</i>	Large White	NZ351123
Insect - butterfly	<i>Maniola jurtina</i>	Meadow Brown	NZ351123
Insect - true bug (Hemiptera)	<i>Pentatoma rufipes</i>	Red-legged Shieldbug	NZ351123
Insect-hymenopteran	<i>Andricus quercuscalicis</i>	Knopper Gall (host: <i>Quercus</i> sp. ) Gall wasp	NZ351123
Insect - beetle (Coleoptera)	<i>Adalia bipunctata</i>	Two-spot Ladybird	NZ351123
Bony fish (Actinopterygii)	<i>Salmo trutta</i>	Brown Trout	NZ351123
Bird	<i>Alcedo atthis</i>	Kingfisher	NZ351123
Bird	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>	Grey Heron	NZ351123
Bird	<i>Garrulus glandarius</i>	Jay	NZ351123
Bird	<i>Dendrocopos major</i>	Great Spotted Woodpecker	NZ351123
Bird	<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>	Wren	NZ351123

**Wednesday 8th August 10.30am. Guisborough Woods (GR NZ643158).**

**Leader, Alan Simkins.**

**Sunday 12th August 10.30am. Coatham Stob (GR NZ398152).**

**Leader, Daphne Aplin.**

A very wet start to the morning meant that only four intrepid members met to explore this site. Fortunately the rain eased and it turned out to be a super day. Some of the most notable finds were:-

<b>Taxon</b>	<b>Scientific Name</b>	<b>Vernacular Name (if any)</b>	<b>Number</b>
Flowering Plants	<i>Populus trichocarpa</i>	Western Balsam	
	<i>Senecio erucifolius</i>	Hoary Ragwort	
	<i>Epipactis helleborine</i>	Broad-leaved Helleborine	
	<i>Picris echioides</i>	Prickly Ox-tongue	
	<i>Nymphoides peltata</i>	Yellow Fringed Water-lily	
Odonata	<i>Aeshna grandis</i>	Brown Hawker	1
Lepidoptera	<i>Vanessa cardui</i>	Painted Lady	1
	<i>Aglais urticae</i>	Small Tortoiseshell	2
	<i>Inachis io</i>	Peacock	2
	<i>Acronicta megacephala</i>	Poplar Grey Moth (larva, on Western Balsam)	
	<i>Grapholita compositella</i>	Triple-stripe Piercer (imago)	
	<i>Ancylis badiana</i>	Common Roller (imago)	
Heteroptera	<i>Nabis flavomarginatus</i>		4
	<i>Dicyphus epilobii</i>		4
	<i>Plagiognathus arbustorum</i>		3
Coleoptera	<i>Apion sp.</i>	(a tiny apricot-coloured weevil)	1



Poplar Grey Moth larva (*Acronicta megacephala*), on Western Balsam.

**Wednesday 15th August 12.00pm. Beachcombing at South Gare (GR NZ556276).  
Leader, Jo Scott.**

**Saturday 18th August 10.30am. Sutton Bank (GR SE515831)  
Leader, Tony Wardhaugh.**

This was the YNU VC62 meeting and a report will appear in the April 2019 issue of The Naturalist.

**Wednesday 22nd August 6.00pm. Stainton Wood (GR NZ480140).  
Leader, Malcolm Birtle.**

This was a cool cloudy evening threatening rain. The original plan was to walk from the church over the fields to the wood. Unfortunately, a housing estate had appeared in the fields. Consequently, the party walked along the roads to cross the busy B1380 to enter the wood. We did a circuit round the perimeter. It was noted that the Oaks were very clear of galls although Knopper Gall (*Andricus quercuscalicis*) and Spangle Gall (*Neuroterus quercusbaccarum*) were present. The young Ash trees seemed particularly badly affected by Ash Dieback (*Hymenoscyphus fraxineus*). The small bivalve mollusc *Musculium lacustre* was found in a damp depression surrounded by old willows (NZ4743.1457). This area presumably fills with water after wet weather.

## Records

Taxon group	Scientific Name	Common Name	Grid Reference
Insect (Hymenoptera)	<i>Andricus quercuscalicis</i>	Knopper Gall (host: <i>Quercus</i> ) Gall wasp	NZ480140
Fungus	<i>Taphrina alni</i>	Alder Tongue Gall (host: <i>Alnus</i> ) Fungus	NZ480140
Insect (Hymenoptera)	<i>Neuroterus quercusbaccarum</i>	Spangle Gall (host: <i>Quercus</i> ) Gall wasp	NZ480140
Insect - beetle (Coleoptera)	<i>Coccinella 7-punctata</i>	7-spot ladybird	NZ480140
Insect - beetle (Coleoptera)	<i>Harmonia axyridis</i>	Harlequin ladybird	NZ480140
Fungus	<i>Laetiporus sulphureus</i>	Chicken of the Woods	NZ480140
Fungus	<i>Hymenoscyphus fraxineus</i>	Ash Dieback	NZ480140
Bird	<i>Delichon urbicum</i>	House Martin	NZ480140
Bird	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	Swallow	NZ480140

See Table for a list of other invertebrates recorded during the meeting.

### **Sunday 2nd September 10.30am. Ashes Quarry and Stanhope Beck (GR NY997393).**

#### **Leader, Neil Baker.**

The weather was warm and there were occasional sunny intervals.

It was the Club's first visit to this site as far as I am aware.

As we entered the site we were told by a lady dog walker that there were no adders (*Vipera berus*) about today. She was obviously pleased but we were not since adders were something we were hoping to see, without getting too close of course, Weardale being renowned for having a healthy population of these snakes.

From the look of the quarry, we had left it too late in the year to see much in the way of wild flowers. Perhaps they had already been and gone for the most part, or it may be that perhaps the site has not been recolonised by nature to the hoped for extent yet.

However, we did see Knotted Pearlwort (*Sagina nodosa*), Autumn Gentian (*Gentianella amarella*), Violets (*Viola* sp.), Harebells (*Campanula rotundifolia*), Carlina Thistle (*Carlina acaulis*) and Great Mullein (*Verbascum thapsus*).

We spotted Common Darters (*Sympetrum striolatum*) and blue damselflies over the ponds and large goldfish in them, presumably releases once they outgrew their bowls at home.

There were also some butterflies about, although not numerous. These included Wall Browns (*Lasiommata megera*), Small Whites (*Pieris rapae*), Small Copper (*Lycaena phlaeas*), Common Blue (*Polyommatus icarus*) and Red Admirals (*Vanessa atalanta*).

There were also Kestrels (*Falco tinnunculus*) in the quarry with the steep sides looking ideal for hovering on the updrafts as well as potentially good nesting sites.

A few fungi were also present, including Field Mushrooms (*Agaricus campestris*) and Blackening Waxcaps (*Hygrocybe conica*).

A good day's outing but a site that may be better visited earlier in the year.

#### **Sunday 16th September 10.30am. Kepwick Circular (GR SE467908).**

**Leader Andy Astbury.**

We had a late summer walk to the Kepwick area, which turned out to be a bit longer than we anticipated as we missed a turn off on the way round.

We found Bog Stitchwort (*Stellaria alsine*), New Zealand Willowherb (*Epilobium brunnes-cens*), Autumn Gentians (*Gentianella amarella*), Knotted Pearlwort (*Sagina nodosa*), Wild Thyme (*Thymus serpyllum*), Red Bartsia (*Odontites vernus*) and Apple Mint (*Mentha suaveolens*).

There were butterflies to be seen including Red Admiral (*Vanessa atalanta*), Common Blues (*Polyommatus icarus*) and Speckled Wood (*Pararge aegeria*).

We also saw a pair of Kestrels (*Falco tinnunculus*).

We came across a group of eight burying beetles.

The highlight of the walk was a magnificent display of about 40 Fly Agarics (*Amanita muscaria*) in a small concentrated area as we made our way down from the top on a path through the woods.

#### **Sunday 13th October 10.30am. Newtondale (GR SE817913).**

**Leader, Alan Simkins.**

**Some Invertebrates Recorded During Field Meetings 2018**  
**AA Wardhaugh**

**Key:**

1 = Saltburn Gill	(NZ6720)	18.04.2018
2 = Crimdon Dene	(NZ4836)	23.05.2018
3 = Crimdon Dene	(NZ4837)	23.05.2018
4 = High Batts	(SE2976)	24.06.2018
5 = Stainton Wood	(NZ4714)	22.08.2018

<b>Taxon</b>	<b>Scientific Name</b>	<b>Vernacular name (if any)</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
Molluscs	<i>Aegopinella nitidula</i>	Smooth Snail	/			/	
	<i>Aegopinella pura</i>	Clear Glass Snail	/				
	<i>Arianta arbustorum</i>	Copse Snail	/	/		/	
	<i>Arion ater</i> agg.	Large Black Slug/Large Red Slug	/			/	/
	<i>Arion circumscriptus circumscriptus</i>	Spotted False-keeled Slug	/				
	<i>Arion distinctus</i>	Brown Soil Slug			/		
	<i>Arion fasciatus</i>	Rusty False-keeled Slug			/		
	<i>Arion intermedius</i>	Hedgehog Slug		/			
	<i>Arion subfuscus</i>	Dusky Slug	/			/	/
	<i>Ashfordia granulata</i>	Silky Snail	/				
	<i>Candidula intersecta</i>	Wrinkled Snail		/			
	<i>Cepaea hortensis</i>	White-lipped Snail	/				/
	<i>Cepaea nemoralis</i>	Brown-lipped Snail		/		/	
	<i>Cermuella virgata</i>	Striped Snail		/			
	<i>Clausilia bidentata</i>	Two-toothed Door Snail	/			/	/
	<i>Cochlicopa lubrica</i>	Slippery Moss Snail	/			/	
	<i>Cochlodina laminata</i>	Plaited Door Snail	/				
	<i>Cornu aspersum</i>	Common Snail		/		/	
	<i>Deroceras reticulatum</i>	Netted Field Slug			/		



<b>Taxon</b>	<b>Scientific Name</b>	<b>Vernacular name (if any)</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
	<i>Discus rotundatus</i>	Rounded Snail	/			/	
	<i>Limacus maculatus</i>	Green Cellar Slug		/			
	<i>Limnaea stagnalis</i>	Great Pond Snail				/	
	<i>Merdigera obscura</i>	Lesser Bulin				/	
	<i>Monacha cantiana</i>	Kentish Snail	/	/		/	
	<i>Musculium lacustre</i>	Lake Orb Mussel					/
	<i>Oxychilus alliarius</i>	Garlic Snail			/		/
	<i>Oxychilus cellarius</i>	Cellar Snail	/	/		/	
	<i>Oxyloma elegans</i>	Pfeiffer's Amber Snail		/			
	<i>Trochulus hispidus</i>	Hairy Snail		/			
	<i>Trochulus striolatus</i>	Strawberry Snail				/	
	<i>Vallonia excentrica</i>	Eccentric Grass Snail				/	
Millipedes	<i>Cylindroiulus londinensis</i>			/			
	<i>Cylindroiulus punctatus</i>	Blunt-tailed Snake Millipede			/		/
	<i>Glomeris marginata</i>	Pill Millipede	/			/	
	<i>Ommatoiulus sabulosus</i>	Striped Millipede		/			
	<i>Ophiulus pilosus</i>		/	/			
	<i>Polydesmus angustus</i>	Common Flat-backed Millipede	/	/		/	
	<i>Proteroiulus fuscus</i>	Snake Millipede	/				
	<i>Tachypodoiulus niger</i>	Black Snake Millipede	/				
Centipedes	<i>Lithobius forficatus</i>		/			/	/
Woodlice	<i>Armadillidium vulgare</i>	Common Pill Woodlouse		/			
	<i>Oniscus asellus</i>	Common Shiny Woodlouse	/			/	/

<b>Taxon</b>	<b>Scientific Name</b>	<b>Vernacular name (if any)</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
	<i>Philoscia muscorum</i>	Common Striped Woodlouse	/			/	/
	<i>Porcellio scaber</i>	Common Rough Woodlouse				/	
	<i>Trichconiscus pusillus</i>		/			/	
Beetles	<i>Coccinella septempunctata</i>	Seven-spot Ladybird					/
	<i>Harmonia axyridis</i>	Harlequin Ladybird				/	/
	<i>Abax parallelepipedus</i>			/			
	<i>Nebria brevicollis</i>			/			
	<i>Leistus fulvibarbis</i>				/		
	<i>Phyllobius pomaceus</i>	Green Nettle Weevil				/	
	<i>Pterostichus madidus</i>	Black Clock Beetle				/	
	<i>Pterostichus niger</i>					/	

## **The Moths of Birch Wood: Four Years of Trapping**

*Eric Gendle*

Birch Wood (GR SE570917) is a semi-ancient woodland in Bilsdale under the management of Yorkshire Wildlife Trust (YWT) It has a public footpath running through it but there is little sign of it being used except by myself. The woodland is situated on the east side of Bilsdale and is thus a west facing woodland extending up the valley side. The wood is a mix of typical native trees, mostly mature specimens with occasional small replanted areas. There are several isolated fallen mature trees in various states of decay. Towards the top of the bank-side are signs of small scale quarrying of sandstone in the past.

I had previously trapped in my garden, but felt I needed to extend my range. I was fortunate to be given a generator, thus freeing me of mains electricity. I had noted that Birch Wood was now managed by YWT who readily gave me permission to trap there. Though I had a generator, it was too heavy to carry more than a few yards, and even with a simple buggy, the un-walked upward sloping footpath restricted me to about 100m from the entrance.

For the next two years (2014 and 2015) I trapped in this way using an MV light suspended over a white sheet. I usually trapped for about 2 hours after sunset, attempting to identify and pot if necessary moths landing on the sheet. Moths sometimes came and went without landing, some could be identified in flight, others could not. Moths that came and went several times may have been the same moth so that numbers were always speculative.

This way of trapping became less attractive with the very late nights and also the unpleasant smell of petrol which pervaded the car. As described in the 2017 issue of Proceedings, the sight of an LED Moonlander trap persuaded me that that was the way to go. For 2016 and 2017 I constructed two traps that were used for the next two years. One has 9 Leds and sits on the ground and a smaller one is suspended from a convenient branch, having only 6 Leds. Having a second trap I was able to set them in different areas of the wood, hopefully in optimum areas under or near mature oak trees. The two chosen sites were used throughout the two years. Both traps operated in the same way with the Led lights in a fine fabric covered cage and seated over a small Skinner trap. Thus when the trap was inspected the following morning any moths on the fabric were inspected and identified (or photographed). Some, but usually only a few, inevitably flew as the trap was approached. The Skinner trap was then opened to check the contents. As a general observation there were about equal numbers of moths on the light fabric cage and in the trap.

The two different techniques produced somewhat differing results. Books on moths and their habits always comment on moths which fly soon after dusk compared with others which emerge later in the night. Years 2014 and 2015 inevitably produced moths which flew early in the night whereas the Led traps in 2016 and 2017 were attracting moths throughout the night and into the early morning. The listing of the moths highlights these differences. The moths were usually identified by myself but occasionally photographs were sent the VC 62 Moth Recorder Dr Robert Woods for identification or confirmation of my tentative identification.

\* Only trapped during 2014 and 2015.

% Only trapped during 2016 and 2017.

Others were trapped using both light systems.

The undoubted highlight was the trapping of a Black Arches, which was confirmed by Dr Wood. This was the first recorded trapping north of York

I have also listed the micro moths, which were only noted during 2016 & 2017 when they were photographed and the images sent to Dr Woods. They are therefore not included in the 4 year comparison and are coded ZZ..... to ensure that they are listed separately in a block.

BIRCH WOOD MOTHS TOTAL SORTED AND CODED
Autumnal Agg*
Barred Carpet %
Barred Straw*
Barred Umber
Black Arches*
Blair's Shoulder Knot %
Brimstone x 3
Brindled Beauty
Brindled Pug x 4
Broken Barred Carpet*
Brown Silver Lines*
Buff Arches %
Buff Ermine x 3
Buff Tip x 3 %
Burnished Brass f juncta %
Canary shouldered Thorn x 8
Chestnut x 6
Cloaked Minor %
Clouded Border x 3
Clouded Drab x 2 %
Clouded Magpie*
Clouded Silver*
Common Carpet
Common Footman
Common Lutestring f obscura*
Common Lutestring x 2
Common Marbled Carpet x 4
Common Quaker x 8

Common Rustic
Common Swift x 2
Common White Wave x 2
Copper Underwing*
Coxcomb Prominent x 3
Dark Arches
Dark Marbled Carpet x 3
December Moth x 35
Dotted Border x 5 %
Dotted Clay %
Double Square Spot*
Dunbar %
Dusky Brocade %
Early Grey x 3
Early Thorn x 4
Early Tooth Striped x 20
Emperor Moth %
Engrailed x 4 %
Feathered Thorn x 30
Flame Carpet*
Flame Shoulder
Gold Swift %
Green Arches*
Green Brindled Cresc f capucina %
Green Brindled Crescent x 2 %
Green Carpet x 3
Green Pug %
Green Silver Lines*
Grey Birch x 2 %
Hebrew Character x 7
Ingrailed Clay x 4 %
Iron Prominent %
July Highflyer x 4
Large Emerald x 6
Large Yellow Underwing x 3

Least Yellow Underwing x 2
Lesser BB Yellow Underwing
Lesser Common Rustic*
Lesser Swallow Prominent x 12
Lesser Yellow Underwing*
Light Emerald x 4
Lunar Marbled Brown*
Map Winged Swift f gallica*
Map winged Swift x 3
Marbled Minor*
March Moth x 5 %
Merveille du Jour*
Middle Barred Minor*
Mottled Beauty
Mottled Beauty x 3
Mottled Grey*
Mottled Umber x 30 %
Mouse x4 %
Northern Spinach
Oak Beauty x 2 %
Pale Brindled Beauty f nigra x4 %
Pale Brindled Beauty x 25 %
Pale Tussock x 15
Peach Blossom*
Pebble Hook Tip*
Pebble Prominent*
Peppered Moth
Phoenix %
Pine Carpet*
Pink Barred Sallow %
Plain Wave %
Poplar Hawk x 2 %
Purple Bar %
Purple Clay %
Purple Thorn x 2

Red-Green Carpet*
Riband Wave x 6
Rivulet*
Rufous Minor %
Sandy Carpet*
Satellite x 3
Scalloped Hazel x 3
Scalloped Hook Tip*
Scarce Prominent x 6
Scorched Carpet %
Scorched Wing x 2
September Thorn
Shaded Broad Bar*
Silver Ground Carpet
Silver Y*
Single Dotted Wave %
Slender Brindle
Small Angle Shades
Small Dotted Buff %
Small Engrailed %
Small Fan Footed Wave
Small Fanfoot*
Small Rivulet %
Small Rufous %
Small White Wave*
Small Yellow Wave*
Snout
Sprawler x 6 %
Spruce Carpet*
Square Spot Rustic*
Streak*
Streamer %
Swallow Prominent %
Tawny Speckled Pug*
Twin Spot Carpet x 2

Twin Spot Quaker*
Vapourer
Welsh Wave x 3 %
White Ermine x 2 %
White Spotted Pug*
White-pinion Spotted*
Willow Beauty x 2
Winter moth*
Yellow Barred Brindle
Yellow Horned Moth*
Yellow Lined Quaker*
ZZAcleris ferrugana
ZZAcleris hastiana
ZZAgonopterix arenella
ZZAgriphila selasella
ZZAgriphila straminella
ZZApotomis turbidana
ZZArgyresthia geodartella
ZZArgyresthia sorbiella
ZZBeemoth x 2 %
ZZCarina quercana*
ZZCnephasia sp
ZZDiurnea flagella
ZZEudonia angustea
ZZEudonia lacustrata
ZZEudonia mercurella*
ZZEudonia sp
ZZEudonia truncicolella
ZZMother of Pearl*
ZZScoparia ambigualis
ZZScoparia sp
ZZSpilonota ocellana
ZZYponomeuta evonymella*





**Black Arches**



**Green Arches**





**Green Silver Lines**



**Merville du Jour**

## Notes on Molluscs and Other Invertebrates of Birch Wood, Bilsdale.

*A A Wardhaugh*

Birch Wood (SE5691 and SE5791) is a Yorkshire Wildlife Trust reserve of about 14ha in area and is considered to be ancient semi-natural (Carter, 1987). The Field Club held meetings at the wood on 07.06.2017 and 14.07.2018 with the intention of providing the Yorkshire Wildlife Trust with records collected. Unfortunately I was not able to be present on either occasion and instead made four visits between 28.05.2017 and 08.12.2018 in order to search on site for molluscs and other invertebrates. In addition, several leaf litter samples were collected and hand-searched for smaller species. These samples were subsequently returned to the wood. Findings are listed in the accompanying Table.

Three species of snail found are of note:

1. *Spermodea lamellata* (status: Near Threatened) is confined to ancient semi-natural woodland in the British Isles, occurring very largely in the north and west. Its presence supports the view that Birch Wood is likely to be of ancient semi-natural status (Wardhaugh, 2011). Eight individuals were found on 28.05.2017 in a litter sample collected from a shallow ditch beside the footpath running southwards up through the wood (SE5695.9191). Also one individual was found in a litter sample from an area of Greater Woodrush (*Luzula sylvatica*) at SE5698.9196 on 06.10.2017



*Spermodea lamellata*,  
Birch Wood, 28.05.2017.  
Shell diameter about 2mm.

2. A single specimen of the minute snail *Vertigo substriata* was found in the first of the two litter samples described above. This species is also associated with ancient semi-natural woodland but it can occur in more open, undisturbed wetland sites. Its presence in leaf litter rather than on vegetation such as Yellow Flag (*Iris pseudacorus*), Pendulous Sedge (*Carex pendula*) or Opposite-leaved Golden Saxifrage (*Saxifraga oppositifolia*) by a spring or marshy stream-side in woodland is unusual. Shell height about 1.7 mm.



*Vertigo substriata*  
Shell height about 2mm.

3. *Zonitoides excavatus* was found on site in various places in the wood, beneath coarse woody debris and among Greater Woodrush (*Luzula sylvatica*). This is the only British snail which is a calcifuge.



*Zonitoides excavatus*,  
Birch Wood, 28.05.2017.  
Shell diameter about 6.0mm.



In addition, the snail *Oxychilus alliarius* was found in various places in the wood. It is a widespread and common species, normally with a brown shell. In Birch Wood a number of colourless-shelled individuals were seen, this being an unusual variant.



*Oxychilus alliarius*,  
Birch Wood, 06.10.2017.  
Shell diameter about 6.0mm.

The total of 21 mollusc species located in the wood is comparatively modest; several other well recorded ancient semi-natural woodlands in vice-county 62 are known to have over 40 species present (Wardhaugh, 2017). This is probably due in part to the apparently acidic nature of Birch Wood and its sloping aspect which renders the soil and leaf litter rather dry, at least periodically. This may well contribute to the apparent paucity of slugs; some very common species have not so far been found in the wood. However, additional visits may well yield more species of both slug and snail because populations can often be quite localised, even within an apparently uniform habitat, many species are small (some minute) and can occur at seemingly low densities. Nonetheless, the significance of the wood for molluscs should not be underestimated given the presence of the three species listed above.

All the other invertebrates listed in the accompanying Table were recorded on an incidental basis and most are widespread and common. One notable exception is the single centipede species noted so far, *Lithobius curtipes*, a male of which was found in the ditch described above. At a national level it is scarce, although it may well be under-recorded, and is considered to be an ancient woodland species (Barber and Keay, 1988).

Of the beetles recorded a single *Pterostichus oblongopunctatus* was found on 06.10.2017 beneath a fairly large log (SE569917). It is described by Luff (2007) as occurring in open woodlands and dry forest, local in Britain and usually scarce. It is apparently not common in vice-county 62 but there is a cluster of records for it in the general area around Birch Wood (R. Marsh, Yorkshire Coleoptera recorder, pers. comm.)



*Pterostichus oblongopunctatus*  
 Birch Wood, 06.10.2017.  
 Length about 11.0.mm.

As a footnote, a number of flowering plants appear to be associated with old woodlands in the local area (Wardhaugh, 1997 & 2016). Of these, Yellow Pimpernel (*Lysimachia nemorum*) and Greater Woodrush (*Luzula sylvatica*) occur in Birch Wood and Wood-Sorrel (*Oxalis acetosella*) is abundant. Interestingly, Wood Anemone (*Anemone nemorosa*) was not seen, this being possibly one of the best indicators of ancient semi-natural woodland status (Spencer, 1990). Neither Pendulous Sedge (*Carex pendula*) nor Woodruff (*Galium odoratum*) was found, the soils of Birch Wood perhaps being too acidic for these plants.

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**Table: Molluscs and other invertebrates, Birch Wood**

	<b>Scientific name</b>	<b>Vernacular name (if any)</b>
<b>Molluscs</b>	<i>Acanthinula aculeata</i>	Prickly Snail
	<i>Aegopinella nitidula</i>	Smooth Snail
	<i>Aegopinella pura</i>	Clear Glass Snail
	<i>Arion ater</i> agg.	Large Black Slug / Large Red Slug
	<i>Arion intermedius</i>	Hedgehog Slug
	<i>Carychium tridentatum</i>	Long-toothed Herald Snail
	<i>Columella aspera</i>	
	<i>Deroceras laeve</i>	Marsh Slug
	<i>Discus rotundatus</i>	Rounded Snail
	<i>Euconulus fulvus</i>	Tawny Snail
	<i>Lehmannia marginata</i>	Tree Slug
	<i>Nesovitrea hammonis</i>	Rayed Glass Snail
	<i>Oxychilus alliarius</i>	Garlic Snail
	<i>Oxychilus cellarius</i>	Cellar Snail
	<i>Punctum pygmaeum</i>	Dwarf Snail
	<i>Spermodea lamellata</i>	Plated Snail
	<i>Vertigo substriata</i>	Striated Whorl Snail
	<i>Vitrea contracta</i>	Milky Crystal Snail

	Scientific name	Vernacular name (if any)
	<i>Vitrea crystallina</i>	Crystal Snail
	<i>Vitrina pellucida</i>	Winter semi-slug
	<i>Zonitoides excavatus</i>	Hollowed Glass Snail
<b>Millipedes</b>	<i>Brachydesmus superus</i>	
	<i>Cylindroiulus punctatus</i>	Blunt-tailed Snake Millipede
	<i>Glomeris marginata</i>	Pill Millipede
	<i>Julus scandinavicus</i>	
	<i>Nanogona polydesmoides</i>	Eyed Flat-backed Millipede
	<i>Tachypodoiulus niger</i>	Black Snake Millipede
<b>Centipedes</b>	<i>Lithobius curtipes</i>	
<b>Woodlice</b>	<i>Oniscus asellus</i>	Common Shiny Woodlouse
	<i>Porcellio scaber</i>	Common Rough Woodlouse
	<i>Trichoniscus pusillus</i>	
<b>Harvestman</b>	<i>Nemastoma bimaculatum</i>	
<b>Pseudoscorpion</b>	<i>Neobisium carcinoides</i>	
<b>Beetles</b>	<i>Abax parallelepipedus</i>	
	<i>Anoplotrupes stercorosus</i>	
	<i>Athous haemorrhoidalis</i>	Red-brown Skipjack
	<i>Bradycellus verbasci</i>	



	<b>Scientific name</b>	<b>Vernacular name (if any)</b>
	<i>Carabus problematicus</i>	
	<i>Leistus terminatus</i>	
	<i>Pterostichus oblongopunctatus</i>	
	<i>Trechus obtusus</i>	

## **Confirmed Breeding of Humming-bird Hawk-moth *Macroglossum stellatarum* at Guisborough, Cleveland 2006.**

*P W Forster*

Early in the year my wife and I acquired a small allotment situated in the town of Guisborough. The allotment had been neglected and consisted of the following species of plants that you would expect to find on uncultivated ground, Nettle (*Urtica dioica*), Couch (*Elymus repens*), Shepherd's Purse (*Capsella bursa-pastoris*), Groundsel (*Senecio vulgaris*), Dandelion (*Taraxacum officinale*), Common Mouse-Ear (*Cerastium fontanum*), Common Cleavers (*Galium aparine*), Smooth Sow-Thistle (*Sonchus oleraceus*), Prickly Sow-Thistle (*S. asper*), Nipplewort (*Lapsana communis*) and Ribwort Plantain (*Plantago lanceolata*).

On the 29<sup>th</sup> of July my wife started to clear a small area near the front of the allotment. See photograph below.



In the process of clearing a rather entangled clump of Couch (*Elymus repens*), she came across two larvae, both pale green and leathery, these both pupated the following day, one had a final moult before pupating and the second pupated without moulting.



**Larval skin**



**Pupa**



**Imago**

On the 28<sup>th</sup> of August the first imago emerged, followed by the second on the 11<sup>th</sup> of September 2006.

According to reference works consulted the larvae feed on Hedge Bedstraw (*Gallium mollugo*), Lady's Bedstraw (*G. serum*), and Wild Madder (*Rubia peregrina*). However P.Q. Winter informs me that Common Cleavers (*Gallium aparine*) can also be a food plant, the latter being the only food plant occurring on the site.

### **Acknowledgements and Contacts**

I would like to thank Tony Ezard, Harry E Beaumont, and Philip Q Winter for advice in compilation of this article. I should also like to thank Wilf Peggs for the use of the allotment.

### **References**

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## Moth Records for Middleton Drive, Guisborough 2018

*P W Forster*

Trapping was carried out at Middleton Drive, Guisborough (NZ617153) for nine nights in 2018 using a mercury vapour light trap. No species new to the site were recorded in 2018.

Code	Taxon	Vernacular	Vice County	Quantity	Date
73.113	<i>Phlogophora meticulosa</i>	Angle Shades	62	1	01-Sep-18
28.01	<i>Hofmannophila pseudospretella</i>	Brown House-moth	62	1	01-Sep-18
49.039	<i>Epiphyas postvittana</i>	Light Brown Apple Moth	62	6	01-Sep-18
73.359	<i>Xestia c-nigrum</i>	Setaceous Hebrew Character	62	3	01-Sep-18
73.342	<i>Noctua pronuba</i>	Large Yellow Underwing	62	4	01-Sep-18
73.345	<i>Noctua comes</i>	Lesser Yellow Underwing	62	8	01-Sep-18
41.003	<i>Blastobasis lacticolella</i>	a moth	62	2	01-Sep-18
63.089	<i>Agriphila tristella</i>	a moth	62	1	01-Sep-18
73.022	<i>Plusia festucae</i>	Gold Spot	62	1	01-Sep-18
73.254	<i>Cerapteryx graminis</i>	Antler Moth	62	3	15-Jul-18
73.017	<i>Autographa jota</i>	Plain Golden Y	62	3	15-Jul-18
63.038	<i>Pleuroptya ruralis</i>	Mother of Pearl	62	1	15-Jul-18
70.226	<i>Opisthograptis luteolata</i>	Brimstone Moth	62	1	15-Jul-18
72.003	<i>Hypena proboscidalis</i>	Snout	62	2	15-Jul-18
72.002	<i>Rivula sericealis</i>	Straw Dot	62	1	15-Jul-18
63.08	<i>Chrysoteuchia culmella</i>	Garden Grass-veneer	62	10	15-Jul-18
	<i>Acronicta tridens/psi</i>	Dark Dagger / Grey Dagger	62	1	15-Jul-18
73.317	<i>Agrotis exclamationis</i>	Heart and Dart	62	1	15-Jul-18
73.015	<i>Autographa gamma</i>	Silver Y	62	3	15-Jul-18
70.008	<i>Idaea seriata</i>	Small Dusty Wave	62	1	15-Jul-18
63.067	<i>Eudonia lacustrata</i>	a moth	62	1	15-Jul-18
16.017	<i>Swammerdamia pyrella</i>	a moth	62	1	15-Jul-18
73.012	<i>Diachrysia chrysis</i>	Burnished Brass	62	1	15-Jul-18
	<i>Oligia strigilis agg.</i>	Marbled Minor agg.	62	1	15-Jul-18
70.252	<i>Biston betularia</i>	Peppered Moth	62	1	15-Jul-18
16.001	<i>Yponomeuta evonymella</i>	Bird-cherry Ermine	62	1	15-Jul-18
63.115	<i>Acentria ephemerella</i>	Water Veneer	62	1	15-Jul-18
70.141	<i>Gymnoscelis rufifasciata</i>	Double-striped Pug	62	2	15-Jul-18
49.004	<i>Ditula angustiorana</i>	Red-barred Tortrix	62	2	15-Jul-18

49.24	<i>Epinotia immundana</i>	a moth	62	1	15-Jul-18
73.162	<i>Apamea monoglypha</i>	Dark Arches	62	3	15-Jul-18
73.317	<i>Agrotis exclamationis</i>	Heart and Dart	62	1	13-Jul-18
70.258	<i>Peribatodes rhomboidaria</i>	Willow Beauty	62	1	13-Jul-18
	<i>Oligia strigilis</i> agg.	Marbled Minor agg.	62	1	13-Jul-18
73.162	<i>Apamea monoglypha</i>	Dark Arches	62	8	13-Jul-18
73.325	<i>Agrotis puta</i>	Shuttle-shaped Dart	62	2	06-Jul-18
73.114	<i>Euplexia lucipara</i>	Small Angle Shades	62	1	06-Jul-18
69.016	<i>Deilephila elpenor</i>	Elephant Hawk-moth	62	1	06-Jul-18
63.025	<i>Anania hortulata</i>	Small Magpie	62	1	06-Jul-18
70.097	<i>Dysstroma truncata</i>	Common Marbled Carpet	62	2	06-Jul-18
70.226	<i>Opisthagraptis luteolata</i>	Brimstone Moth	62	4	06-Jul-18
70.144	<i>Pasiphila rectangulata</i>	Green Pug	62	1	06-Jul-18
	<i>Oligia strigilis</i> agg.	Marbled Minor agg.	62	3	06-Jul-18
73.162	<i>Apamea monoglypha</i>	Dark Arches	62	2	06-Jul-18
73.033	<i>Diloba caeruleocephala</i>	Figure of Eight	62	1	06-Jul-18
70.243	<i>Ourapteryx sambucaria</i>	Swallow-tailed Moth	62	1	06-Jul-18
70.258	<i>Peribatodes rhomboidaria</i>	Willow Beauty	62	1	06-Jul-18
16.001	<i>Yponomeuta evonymella</i>	Bird-cherry Ermine	62	3	06-Jul-18
18.001	<i>Plutella maculipennis</i>	Diamond-back Moth	62	1	06-Jul-18
73.045	<i>Acronicta rumicis</i>	Knot Grass	62	1	06-Jul-18
49.338	<i>Cydia pomonella</i>	Codling Moth	62	1	06-Jul-18
49.156	<i>Hedya nubiferana</i>	Marbled Orchard Tortrix	62	1	06-Jul-18
63.08	<i>Chrysoteuchia culmella</i>	Garden Grass-veneer	62	3	06-Jul-18
63.067	<i>Eudonia lacustrata</i>	a moth	62	2	06-Jul-18
73.017	<i>Autographa jota</i>	Plain Golden Y	62	1	06-Jul-18
73.317	<i>Agrotis exclamationis</i>	Heart and Dart	62	1	06-Jul-18
70.091	<i>Eulithis populata</i>	Northern Spinach	62	1	06-Jul-18
73.176	<i>Oligia fasciuncula</i>	Middle-barred Minor	62	2	06-Jul-18
70.097	<i>Dysstroma truncata</i>	Common Marbled Carpet	62	6	25-Jun-18
70.016	<i>Idaea aversata</i> ab. <i>remutata</i>	Riband Wave [non-banded form]	62	1	25-Jun-18
70.258	<i>Peribatodes rhomboidaria</i>	Willow Beauty	62	3	25-Jun-18
70.226	<i>Opisthagraptis luteolata</i>	Brimstone Moth	62	1	25-Jun-18
69.003	<i>Laothoe populi</i>	Poplar Hawk-moth	62	1	25-Jun-18
73.015	<i>Autographa gamma</i>	Silver Y	62	1	25-Jun-18
72.045	<i>Eilema lurideola</i>	Common Footman	62	1	25-Jun-18

49.039	<i>Epiphyas postvittana</i>	Light Brown Apple Moth	62	2	25-Jun-18
73.342	<i>Noctua pronuba</i>	Large Yellow Underwing	62	1	25-Jun-18
	<i>Oligia strigilis</i> agg.	Marbled Minor agg.	62	2	25-Jun-18
63.093	<i>Agriphila straminella</i>	a moth	62	1	25-Jun-18
28.01	<i>Hofmannophila pseudospretella</i>	Brown House-moth	62	2	25-Jun-18
70.053	<i>Xanthorhoe designata</i>	Flame Carpet	62	1	25-Jun-18
72.003	<i>Hypena proboscidalis</i>	Snout	62	1	25-Jun-18
73.317	<i>Agrotis exclamationis</i>	Heart and Dart	62	3	25-Jun-18
49.028	<i>Syndemis musculana</i>	a moth	62	1	25-Jun-18
62.001	<i>Aphomia sociella</i>	Bee Moth	62	2	25-Jun-18
38.036	<i>Elachista humilis</i>	a moth	62	1	25-Jun-18
73.017	<i>Autographa jota</i>	Plain Golden Y	62	1	25-Jun-18
49.026	<i>Pandemis heparana</i>	Dark Fruit-tree Tortrix	62	1	25-Jun-18
70.19	<i>Eupithecia subfuscata</i>	Grey Pug	62	1	25-Jun-18
73.317	<i>Agrotis exclamationis</i>	Heart and Dart	62	1	01-Jun-18
58.013	<i>Gonepteryx rhamni</i>	Brimstone	62	2	01-Jun-18
18.001	<i>Plutella maculipennis</i>	Diamond-back Moth	62	2	01-Jun-18
69.016	<i>Deilephila elpenor</i>	Elephant Hawk-moth	62	1	01-Jun-18
70.054	<i>Xanthorhoe montanata</i> <i>montanata</i>	Silver-ground Carpet	62	1	01-Jun-18
73.158	<i>Apamea sordens</i>	Rustic Shoulder-knot	62	1	01-Jun-18
70.141	<i>Gymnoscelis rufifasciata</i>	Double-striped Pug	62	2	31-May-18
73.015	<i>Autographa gamma</i>	Silver Y	62	20	31-May-18
72.015	<i>Calliteara pudibunda</i>	Pale Tussock	62	1	31-May-18
73.264	<i>Lacanobia thalassina</i>	Pale-shouldered Brocade	62	1	31-May-18
70.132	<i>Perizoma affinitata</i>	Rivulet	62	1	31-May-18
62.001	<i>Aphomia sociella</i>	Bee Moth	62	1	31-May-18
70.252	<i>Biston betularia</i>	Peppered Moth	62	1	31-May-18
49.039	<i>Epiphyas postvittana</i>	Light Brown Apple Moth	62	20	31-May-18
18.001	<i>Plutella maculipennis</i>	Diamond-back Moth	62	10	31-May-18
70.079	<i>Thera britannica</i>	Spruce Carpet	62	1	31-May-18
70.097	<i>Dysstroma truncata</i>	Common Marbled Carpet	62	2	31-May-18
70.226	<i>Opisthograptis luteolata</i>	Brimstone Moth	62	1	31-May-18
73.015	<i>Autographa gamma</i>	Silver Y	62	35	28-May-18
49.039	<i>Epiphyas postvittana</i>	Light Brown Apple Moth	62	20	28-May-18
73.317	<i>Agrotis exclamationis</i>	Heart and Dart	62	1	28-May-18
44.001	<i>Alucita hexadactyla</i>	Twenty-plume Moth	62	1	08-Apr-18



73.069	<i>Xylocampa areola</i>	Early Grey	62	1	08-Apr-18
73.249	<i>Orthosia gothica</i>	Hebrew Character	62	1	08-Apr-18
73.244	<i>Orthosia cerasi</i>	Common Quaker	62	1	08-Apr-18

### Images



**Poplar Hawk (*laothoe populi*) in copulation, Redcar cemetery 02-07-2018**



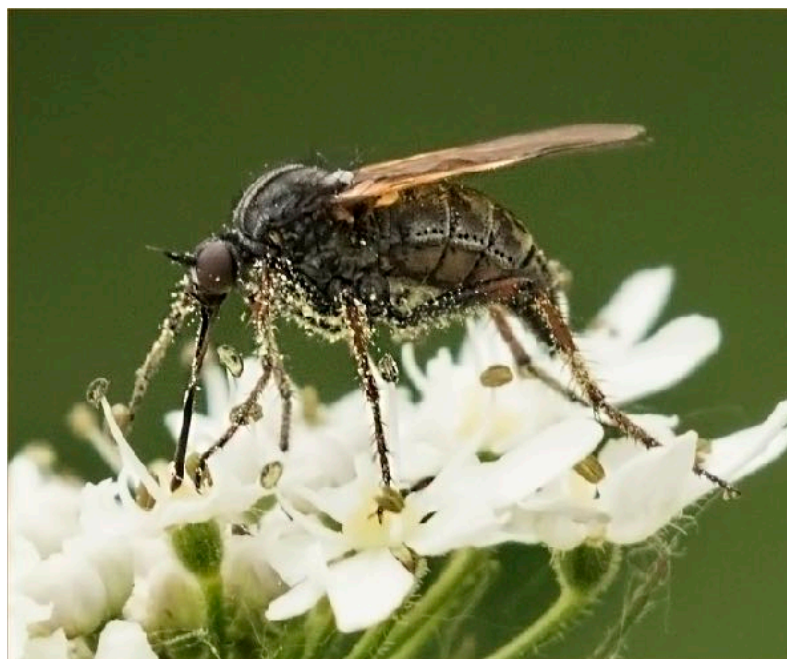
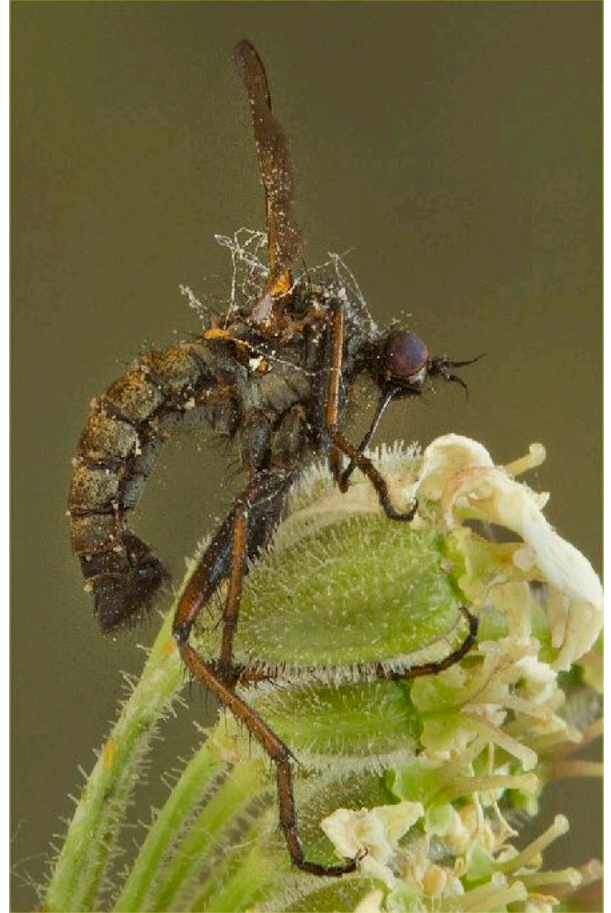
**Elephant Hawk (*Deilephila elpenor*), Guisborough 01-06-18**



**Two Images of Empid Flies:**  
***Empis tessellata* infected with *Entomophthora muscae***  
**Coatham Stob 04-06-2018**

*P W Forster*

The flies are infected with *Entomophthora muscae*. Prior to death the fungus altered the fly's behaviour so that it climbed to an exposed position on a shrub, thereby ensuring good spore dispersal. By contrast, if the fly had been infected with the fungal-life cycle stage that produced resting spores, it would have crawled down to the ground before dying, allowing the spores to remain dormant in the soil. The flies were situated on an umbellifer.

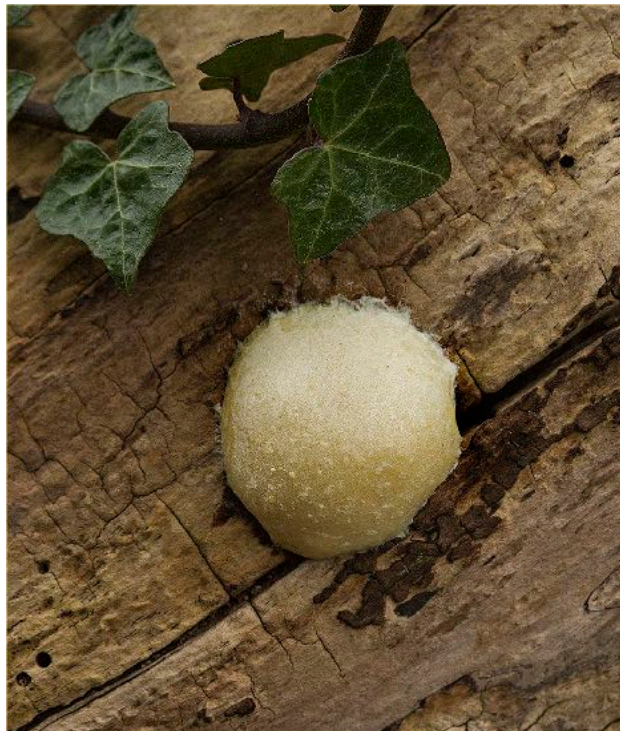


## Records and Images of Slime Moulds

*P W Forster*



*Reticularia lycopodon* 28-04-18 in its plasmodium stage. Three in total found on this day the largest at Slapwath being 25mm diameter. A second was found here with a diameter of 12mm.



A third, 19mm in diameter found at Guisborough Priory 28-04-18.

## Field Meetings 2019

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.

If you require further details about a walk, or in case of bad weather and possible cancellation, please contact the leader of the walk. 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 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.

Jo Scott (President)

### Unscheduled Adhoc Events

In addition to the scheduled walks included in this programme, our intention is to also have several ad hoc events which are best organised at short notice because they are highly dependent on suitable weather conditions and the availability of walk leaders. These include moth trapping with Paul Forster and mollusc searches with Tony Wardhaugh. If you are interested in events such as these, please let either Eric Gendle or Neil Baker have your contact details (an email address if possible) and we will ensure you are kept informed about them as and when they are arranged.

#### **Sunday, 14th April, 10:30 am, leader Colin Chatto ☎ 01642 599616**

GR NZ668216. **Saltburn Woods.** Meet in the pay and display Cat Nab car park at Saltburn. An easy walk of about 3 miles, which can be extended if desired.

#### **Wednesday, 17th April, 6:30 pm, leader Malcolm Birtle ☎ 01642 649938**

GR NZ492275. **Greatham.** Meet at the St. John the Baptist church. Park in the village. A walk of 2 miles on flat footpaths.

#### **Wednesday, 24th April, 11:00 am, leader Malcolm Birtle ☎ 01642 649938**

GR NZ176009. **Richmond.** Meet at the old station (now a café, shops and leisure centre). A walk of about 4 miles on footpaths, with some short climbs, to explore woodlands.

#### **Sunday, 28th April, 10:30 am, leader Colin Chatto ☎ 01642 599616**

GR NZ428385. **Castle Eden Dene.** Meet near the church at Castle Eden. There is roadside car parking nearby. We will explore the dene as far as the Dene Mouth. A fairly easy walk of about 5 miles, with the option of a 2.5 miles extension west to the A19 at the end.

#### **Wednesday, 1st May, 10:30 am, leader Andrew Ferguson ☎ 01642 311831**

GR SE985875. **Forge Valley and Raincliffe Woods, near Scarborough.** Meet in the Green Gate car park at the grid reference. A circular walk in the Forge Valley and Raincliffe Woods to enjoy the springtime woodland. The walk is about 6 miles with some gentle ascents and descents.

**Wednesday, 8th May, 10:30 am, leader Andy Astbury ☎ 01642 823114**

GR SE537897. **Hawnby Hill and Easterside.** Meet at Dalicar Bridge, Hawnby. A moderately strenuous circular walk of about 6 miles with some climbing but with some fine views. We will look for Duke of Burgundy butterflies at their main site at Hawnby.

**Wednesday, 15th May, 10:30 am, leaders Mark and Hazel Stokeld ☎ 01642 783819**

GR SE548789. **Byland Abbey.** Meet in the free car park. A circular walk of about 5 miles along the wooded hillside to Oldstead observatory and back along the valley.

**Saturday, 18th May, 10:30 am, contact Tony Wardhaugh ☎ 01642 322935**

GR SE652577. **Stockton Hermitage.** Meet at the rear of the Hermitage. This is the YNU VC 62 meeting. Please see the YNU website events page for further details.

**Saturday, 18th May, 10:30 am, leader Eric Gendle ☎ 01642 281235**

GR SE519905. **Thorodale Woodlands.** Meet at the grid reference, near Hawnby. This is where the tarred road turns right into Arden Hall. There is only room for maybe 4 cars, so car sharing is recommended. A walk through a private nature reserve, including a walk around Thorodale Lake.

**Wednesday, 22nd May, 10:30 am, leader Daphne Aplin ☎ 01642 884719**

GR NZ483363. **Hart to Haswell Walkway.** Meet at the Walkway entrance. There is road-side parking on the nearby Ocean Road. A pleasant and easy walk, mostly on the level.

**Sunday, 26th 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 for hopefully good showings of spring gentians and bird's eye primroses, and returning by the banks of the river Tees. A walk of 7 miles involving some climbing, but we will take it steadily.

**Saturday, 1st June, starts at 1:00 pm, contact Malcolm Birtle ☎ 01642 649938**

GR NZ661215. **Saltburn House.** Meet at Saltburn House on Marine Parade in Saltburn. A wildlife and music festival organised by the Cleveland Bat Group. The Cleveland Nats will host a stall at this event as part of a recruitment drive. Please come along and help with these efforts if you can. There will also be the opportunity to take a walk through the woods below Saltburn House. For more details, please ask any committee member or see the publicity being arranged by the Tees Valley Wildlife Trust.

**Wednesday, 5th June, 6:30 pm, leader Malcolm Birtle ☎ 01642 649938**

GR NZ419128. **Yarm Riverside South Bank.** Meet outside the town hall on the High Street. A flat amble of about 1 mile.

**Wednesday, 12th June, 10:30 am, leader Neil Baker ☎ 01325 361547**

GR SE603834. **National Centre for Birds of Prey in Duncombe Park.** Meet in the free NCBP car park in Duncombe Park. This is a repeat of our visit in 2018 which was

washed out owing to the appalling weather. There are three flying displays during the course of the day featuring different birds at each one, giving the opportunity for a very leisurely day. Some of us may like to also take a walk around the woods and parkland of the Duncombe Park National Nature Reserve. All the usual facilities are available onsite, including a café. An entrance fee applies with a wristband giving ready access to the NCBP for the full day.

**Saturday, 15th June, 10:30am, leader Jo Scott ☎ 01642 897843**

GR NZ371376. **Wingate Quarry.** Meet in the car park. Wingate Quarry is a local nature reserve in a disused quarry, with a variety of habitats, that has been designated as a SSSI. It is located just south of the village of Wheatley Hill.

**Wednesday, 19th June, 11:00 am, leader Malcolm Birtle ☎ 01642 649938**

GR NZ076368. **Wolsingham.** Meet at the station. Park at the station or in the town. A walk of about 5 miles on footpaths, with some stiff climbs, to explore woodlands and riverbank.

**Wednesday, 26th June, 6:30 pm, leader Neil Baker ☎ 01325 361547**

GR NZ462193. **Portrack Marsh.** Meet at the picnic tables on the Stockton side of the Tees Barrage. There is ample free car parking close by. We will take a short leisurely walk around the Portrack Marsh nature reserve.

**Wednesday, 3rd July, 10:30 am, leaders Mark and Hazel Stokeld ☎ 01642 783819**

GR SE129643. **Nidderdale.** Meet in the Toft Gate Lime Kiln free car park, which is about a mile east of Greenhow village. A walk of about 5.5 miles through this old lead mining area with a limestone quarry en route.

**Saturday, 13th July, 10:30 am, leader Eric Gendle ☎ 01642 281235**

GR SE519905. **Thorodale Woodlands.** See 18th May for details. This is our second visit this year and we will observe the differences that a change of season brings.

**Wednesday, 17th July, 10:30 am, leaders Peter & Ruth Waterton ☎ 01642 724270**

GR SE802971. **Tranmire Bogs.** Meet at Wheeldale Bridge on the Egton Bridge to Stape road. The first of two visits to this interesting area this summer where there is always lots of nature to enjoy.

**Sunday, 21st July, 10:30am, leader Jo Scott ☎ 01642 897843**

GR NZ713201. **Skinningrove.** Meet in the beach car park. The morning will be spent looking at flowers and butterflies in the meadows and after lunch we will explore the rock pools, so please come prepared with wellingtons, bucket and net if you can. This is a joint meeting with Whitby Nats.

**Wednesday, 24th July, 11:15 am, leader Alan Simkins ☎ 01642 477484**

GR NZ738193. **Loftus Alum Quarries.** Meet at Upton Farm. Park on the roadside nearby. We will explore the quarries, paying particular attention to the local geology. This is a joint meeting with the Tees Valley RIGS Group.



**Saturday, 27th July, starts at 10:00 am, contact Paul Bamber ☎ 01642 459629**

GR NZ551168. **Flatts Lane Country Park.** Meet in the car park. Paul Bamber, the Countryside Ranger, is organising a BioBlitz for the local community and he would appreciate any assistance with the event. Please contact Paul for further details on the landline number shown, or mobile 07717 423696 or by email on Paul.Bamber@redcar-cleveland.gov.uk.

**Sunday, 28th July, 10:30 am, leader Bill Hall ☎ 01904 330851 or 07753 663589**

GR SE802971. **Tranmire Bogs.** Meet at Wheeldale Bridge on the Egton Bridge to Stape road. This is a meeting with a focus on dragonflies held jointly with the Yorkshire Dragonfly Group.

**Wednesday, 14th August, 10:30 am, leader Daphne Aplin ☎ 01642 884719**

GR NZ396154. **Coatham Stob.** Meet in the car park just off the minor road between Longnewton and Uray Nook. An easy walk around this interesting site which is good for both butterflies and dragonflies.

**Wednesday, 21st August, 10:30 am, leader Andy Astbury ☎ 01642 823114**

GR SE490866. **Boltby and Thirlby Bank.** Meet at the humpbacked bridge in the centre of Boltby village, where there is roadside parking. A circular walk of about 5 miles over mostly easy field and woodland paths, but including a steep climb up Thirlby Bank.

**Sunday, 8th September, 10:30 am, leader Alan Simkins ☎ 01642 477484**

GR NZ530168. **Ormesby Hall.** Meet in the Ormesby Hall car park off Church Lane. This is a joint fungus foray with the North Eastern Fungus Study Group.

**Sunday, 15th September, 10:30am, leader Jo Scott ☎ 01642 897843**

GR NZ781185. **Staithes.** Meet in the Bank Top car park, where parking charges apply. This is a seashore event so please come suitably prepared. This is a joint meeting with Darlington Nats.

**Wednesday, 9th October, 10:30 am, leader Andrew Ferguson ☎ 01642 311831**

GR NZ711180. **Clarkson's Wood.** Meet in the small car park by the playing field in Liverton Mines. An early autumn walk of about 4 miles, involving some short steep paths.

#### **DATES FOR WINTER MEETINGS 2019 - 2020**

Sep 23. Oct 21, 28. Nov 18. Dec 16. Jan 20. Feb 17, 24. Mar 16, 30.