

CLEVELAND NATURALISTS'

FIELD CLUB



RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Volume 13 Part 2

Spring 2024

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THE OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE 2022-2023

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Vice-president	Jo Scott, Tethers End, Hartburn Village, Stockton, TS18 5DR
Secretary	Jo Scott, Tethers End, Hartburn Village, Stockton, TS18 5DR
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Programme Secretary	Neil Baker, 9 Glaisdale Court, Darlington, DL3 7AD
Immediate Past President	Jo Scott, Tethers End, Hartburn Village, Stockton, TS18 5DR
Ordinary Members	Daphne Aplin.

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 seashore life. New members with interests in any fields of natural history 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 Marton Community Centre, Cypress Road, Middlesbrough TS7 8PZ. 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 our website <http://clevelandnats.org.uk/>

President's Address 2023 -2024

Since writing last year's address the club has moved its Monday afternoon meetings to the Marton Community Centre, Cypress Road in Marton. The room is better suited to our needs as well as being more cost effective. I hope we can continue to remain there.

I have some sad news to report. Two long standing members passed away during the year. Colin Chatto was our treasurer for many years until he had to give up due to ill health. We have included his obituary as a separate item in these Proceedings. Peter Waterton passed away after a long battle with cancer. He was many talented as we observed from his paintings and photography; his obituary will appear in the next issue of the Proceedings. We will miss both of them.

During the summer the club attended a number of events the aim of which was to raise our profile with the general public and within the conservation scene. We attended a 'Nature Explorer Day' at the National Trust's Ormesby Hall on the 27th May where we had a stand illustrating/showing the work we do. We also attended the Tees Valley Nature Conference held at Darlington Hippodrome where again we manned a stand showing our work. I think we made some useful contacts. The club also viewed (a site visit) the upcoming work the Environment Agency will be doing at Greatham Creek in order to raise the sea wall and create new intertidal areas. We maintained our contacts with RSPB Saltholme.

We are now nearing the end of our winter programme which again has produced some interesting and informative talks. We kicked off with my talk on the Burren (which we had visited in 2013) followed by an informative talk given by Eric Gendle on aspects of Romania. We had hoped to have a talk by Marek Borkowski on eastern Poland where he runs 'Wildlife Poland'. Unfortunately because of a family illness it proved impossible so I filled in with a talk on local birding. Robert Woods of INCA followed in our usual November slot with a talk on 'The Moths and Butterflies of Teesside Industrial Estates' which was extremely informative and interesting. Jill Cunningham spoke in January on 'Beguiled by Galls' and Keith Gittens in February on 'Dragonflies in the UK and Climate Change' At our AGM in March Paul Forster will give us his natural history highlights and in April John Davies will talk on the Secret Life of an English Country Lane. All in all a good series of talks.

Our summer 2023 programme commenced in May with a walk from Sutton Bank to the White Horse. There were outings during the month to Preston Park, Saltburn Rock Pools and Helmsley. Neil Baker organised a visit to the Durham University Botanic Gardens. Finally we undertook a visit to Ashberry YWT Nature Reserve near Rievaulx Abbey. June consisted of visits to Billingham Beck, Stewart Park, Portrack Marsh and Blackhall Rocks. July included a return visit to Raisby Hill Grassland (an old Permian Limestone quarry). We also visited the reserve at Ripon Wetlands which everyone enjoyed. Gatekeeper and demoiselles were the highlights. A visit to Hardwick Park included a walk to Bishop Middleham. The final visit in July was to Skipwith Common NNR with the Yorkshire Dragonfly Society. In August we had a trip to Strensall Common and DWT Low Barns looking for fungi with the North East Fungus Study Group.

We now have 138 followers on our X (Twitter) account so we do reach a wider audience than just our talks and outings. The club has gained several new members this last year and I hope we can

increase the membership again this coming year. Finally I would like to thank the committee and officers and other willing helpers, especially Tony Wardhaugh (Proceedings) and Dave Barlow for the web site.

Mark Stokeld

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. These can be sent in at any time of year.

For the Spring issue in any year please send contributions by 1st March.

For electronic submissions please:

- use either MS Word or Pages, including for any tables (please do not submit tabulated information as a spreadsheet). Alternatively, send text in the body of an e-mail.
- 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.
- Send to 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.

Colin Chatto

Sadly, our past Treasurer, Colin Chatto died peacefully on 30th November 2023. He had been a member of the Club for many years, also serving on the Committee and as our Treasurer from 2000 until 2021 when ill health prevented him carrying on. Not only did he manage the club finances safely for many years he was also a very active club member and led many varied field trips, often twice a year.

Sites he returned to on several occasions were Castle Eden Dene and Saltburn Woods & Saltburn Gill. He also led repeat walks along Marton West Beck and these return visits enabled seasonal comparisons and changes over time to be noted. Rievaulx Abbey and Jervaulx Abbey were two notable starting points and Colin's field trips ranged widely across the Yorkshire Moors and Yorkshire Dales.

Some of his most memorable walks were along the Yorkshire coast featuring Staithes, Runswick Bay, Skinningrove, Ravenscar, Boggle Hole and Sandsend. On one memorable occasion his leisurely pace and interesting commentary meant that we had to quickly scramble over boulders on the shore for the last half mile of the walk as the tide came sweeping in.

His main interest in natural history was insects, mainly the hoverflies, although like many of us he also had a general interest in anything we found. He was a quiet man but was very generous with his knowledge and encouraged others to look more closely at the small things we saw. He also caused some amusement because of his habit of often arriving for field trips at the very last minute, just as we were about to set off.

A few club members who knew Colin best attended the celebration of his life held at the Riverside Stadium. He would try to avoid field meetings when the Boro were at home as he was usually involved in stewarding there. It was here that we met his son Gavin who has sent the following contribution to the overall picture of Colin.

“My dad (Colin) has always had an affinity with nature from a young age, which I think stems from having a lot of freedom as a child. He would explore the local area around Linthorpe and Acklam with his brother and friends, and often went out at night, unbeknownst to his parents, by leaving through his bedroom window. He also enjoyed travelling, usually just on a whim, and would often take the train to various places (again, unbeknownst to his parents), on one occasion to Huddersfield (or was it Hull?), where he bought a pet snake. His mother had no idea he was even keeping a snake until one time when he was at school, she was confronted by it on the stairs.

His free spirit and love for the outdoors again came to the fore when he found himself in the routine of a newlywed. He would often take himself off on his bicycle (unbeknownst to my mum - there's a theme here), on one occasion when I was just a newborn baby, riding to the Druid's Temple near Masham, and not returning until really rather late, my mum frantic with worry. This kind of thing continued right into retirement, when one day whilst away in the caravan on the south coast, he told my mum he was popping into the local village, but then

decided to take the train into London, have a guided tour of Buckingham Palace, and take a stroll around Hyde Park. You can imagine my mum's reaction!

It was great that he found the Cleveland Naturalists. No longer did he have to regale family members, work colleagues, and casual acquaintances with stories of the latest rare hoverfly he'd seen. It was great to meet you at the Riverside earlier this month to hear stories about how you shared that common interest, and enjoyed his talks and guided walks. It also made me chuckle when you said that his walks often had the added excitement of being caught by the tide, or taking far longer than planned - that's my Dad! But even as his Alzheimer's took hold, he could still enjoy the outdoors, fascinated by the changing seasons, bird song, and insects. That curiosity was still there.

Thanks to you all for understanding him and his ways, and for giving him that outlet for his love of nature. He truly found "his people" in the club. "

He will be fondly remembered and sadly missed by our members.



Presentation to Eric Gendle

On our Members' afternoon, 18th December 2023, Mark Stokeld presented Eric Gendle with a token gift to mark Eric's 30+ years as our Club Secretary!! Eric and his wife Maureen are two of the Group's stalwarts a very warm, friendly couple who make everyone feel most welcome. Over the years Eric has given us some lovely slide shows of family holidays which, along with articles in the Proceedings, show his great love and interest in the natural world as a whole which he is always willing to share. Bird watching, photography, fungi, butterflies - the list goes on but moths and Botany (particularly orchids) are a real passion.

The Proceedings have been much enriched by his fine line drawings and his many articles include explaining how exposure meters in cameras work, lots of records from moth trapping in his Nunthorpe garden and Birch Wood, Bilsdale plus instructions on how to actually build an LED moth trap! His "Latin" for Botanists, "Sort out those Speedwells" and his short Botanical "Rough Guides to....." make very interesting reading.

When Malcolm and Linda Birtle visited Frank Elgee's grave in Alton they saw that the headstone was in a very sorry state. Eric liaised with officers of East Hampshire District Council to oversee it's renovation.

We are very grateful and want to thank him very much for his time, effort and devotion to the Club.





Club members at Eric's presentation.



Some of the shell collection belonging to Jo Scott displayed on Members' afternoon

Highlights of 2023 Field Meetings

Wednesday 26th April 10:30 am. Sutton Bank (SE516831).

Leader, Tony Wardhaugh.

Eleven members met at the North York Moors National Park Centre at Sutton Bank and during the morning we walked along the footpath above Roulston Scar as far as the Kilburn White Horse returning by the same route. The following were recorded:

	Common Name	Scientific Name
In Flower	Bilberry	<i>Vaccinium myrtillus</i>
	Blackthorn	<i>Prunus spinosa</i>
	Common Dog Violet	<i>Viola riviniana</i>
	Daisy	<i>Bellis perennis</i>
	Dandelion	<i>Taraxacum sp.</i>
	Gorse	<i>Ulex europaeus</i>
	Red Campion	<i>Silene dioica</i>
	Red Dead-nettle	<i>Lamium purpureum</i>
	Wavy Bittercress	<i>Cardamine flexuosa</i>
	White Dead-nettle	<i>Lamium album</i>
	Wood Forget-me-not	<i>Myosotis sylvatica</i>
	Wood-sorrel	<i>Oxalis acetosella</i>
Birds	Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>
	Jackdaw	<i>Corvus monedula</i>
	Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>
	Robin	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>
	Skylark	<i>Alauda arvensis</i>
	Wren	<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>

In addition, a female Tawny Mining Bee (*Andrena fulva*) was noted; thanks to Daphne Aplin for this record.

Eight members stayed for the afternoon and we walked from the Centre to Scotch Corner via High Town Bank Road, along a track to Shaw's Gate then south to the chapel at Scotch Corner (SE526814) returning by the same route. The following were recorded:

	Common Name	Scientific name
In Flower	Barren Strawberry	<i>Potentilla sterilis</i>
	Common DogViolet	<i>Viola riviniana</i>
	Daisy	<i>Bellis perennis</i>
	Dandelion	<i>Taraxacum sp.</i>
	Dog's Mercury	<i>Mercurialis perennis</i>
	Gorse	<i>Ulex europaeus</i>
	Lesser Celandine	<i>Ficaria verna</i>
	Wood Forget-me-not	<i>Myosotis sylvatica</i>
	Wood-sorrel	<i>Oxalis acetosella</i>
Birds	Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>
	Chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>
	Chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>
	Linnet	<i>Linaria cannabina</i>
	Skylark	<i>Alauda arvensis</i>
	Willow Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus trochilus</i>
	Wood Pigeon	<i>Columba palumbus</i>

Five Red Deer (*Cervus elephus*) were present on High Town Bank Road and in the field immediately to the east (SE521820).

Several individuals of the very small snail *Pupilla umbilicata* (formerly *P. rupestris* then briefly *P. pusilla*) were found on the dry stone wall by High Town Bank Road at SE52148263. It is widespread in the Yorkshire Dales with a scattered outlying population known from Hawnby and Easterside Hills to the Helmsley area.

The chapel at Scotch Corner was built by John Bunting in the 1950s. He had been a student and later Master of Drawing at the nearby Ampleforth School. Too young to serve in the Second World War himself, he built the chapel as a memorial to others from the school who had lost their lives in the conflict. The chapel is normally kept locked but just as we were leaving, by complete chance, we met John Bunting's son who very kindly showed us the interior. A fascinating account of the construction of the chapel and its wider context in the area has been written by Madeleine Bunting, daughter of John: 'The Plot' (Granta Publications 2009).



Scotch Corner Chapel



Chiffchaff at Sutton Bank (Mark Stokeld)

Wednesday 3rd May 10.30 am. Preston Park (NZ428158).

Leader, Daphne Aplin.

Wednesday 10th May 10:30 am. Durham University Botanic Garden (NZ275410).

Leader, Neil Baker.

Twelve Club members came on the trip to see what the Durham University Botanic Garden had to offer.

The day started off sunny but unfortunately the weather deteriorated during the course of the day and clouded over with a few showers.

The extensive grounds of the Botanic Garden were pleasant to walk around with some good easy paths to follow and some interesting unusual plants and specimen trees to appreciate. There was also an excellent small café and gift shop on site, with very good facilities.

The presentation of information was a bit disappointing though and the place seemed to be showing signs of some neglect. With so many unusual botanical specimens available, many of which were unfamiliar to some of us, better labelling and information boards would have helped. In several instances the signs naming the plants and trees were broken and had not been repaired or replaced. Some descriptions for visitors wanting to know more about the plants would also have been useful.

Nevertheless, it was an interesting and enjoyable day, well worthy of the visit.

There was not a lot of insect activity to be seen, but here is a list of what was noted, with thanks to Daphne Aplin.

Lygaeid: *Peritrechus geniculatus* x 1 Adult

Lygaeid: *Kleidocerys resedae* (Birch Catkin Bugs) x 4 Adults & 6 Nymphs

Longhorn Moths - *Adela reaumurella* x 3

Nomada sp. Bees x 3

Alderfly sp. x 1

When the main event of the day was over, several of us walked over to the other side of the road into the adjacent Houghall Wood. These are native woodlands with a magnificent display of bluebells everywhere you looked. This turned out to be the highlight of the day!

Longhorn Moth
Adela reaumurella





Club members at Houghhall Wood.

**Sunday 21st May 10:30 am. Saltburn Rockpools (NZ668216).
Leader, Jo Scott.**



**Harbour Seal
(Mark Stokeld)**

Common Sea Urchin
Echinus esculentus
 (Mark Stokeld)



Wednesday 24th May 10:30 am. Helmsley, Beck Dale and Ash Dale (SE612838)

Leader, Andy Astbury.

Six Club members turned up for this walk on a nice but cool sunny day with just a slight breeze. Two members turned back after a short distance as it was clear it was going to be a very long walk with some considerable climbing to cross between the two dales. Four members did the full circuit and it did indeed turn out to be a very tiring day. Both dales were interesting in their own right and very different. They were both fairly long though and the botanical interest in each of them was much the same throughout their length, so plenty of walking effort needed to be put in to see lots of the same plants.

The following were noted in Beck Dale:

Cow Parsley
 Green Alkanet
 Cleavers
 Stitchwort
 Speedwell
 Spanish Bluebell
 Hogweed
 Deadly Nightshade
 Herb Bennet
 Crosswort
 Ramsons
 Bugle
 Bluebells
 Forget-me-not
 Water Avens

Speckled Wood
Green-veined White
Orange Tip

Willow Warbler
Chiffchaff

The following were noted in Ash Dale:

Wood Sorrel
Silverweed
Yellow Pimpernel
Cuckoo Flower
Lady's Mantle
St John's Wort
Comfrey
Spear Thistle
Dame's Violet
Ragged Robin

Brimstone
Small Tortoiseshell
Red Admiral
Orange Tip
Holly Blue

Buzzard being mobbed by several Crows
Chiffchaff

Daphne Aplin kindly supplied a list of the insects seen on the day:

Blomer's rivulet (*Discoloxia blomeri*) - Moth
Silver-ground carpet (*Xanthorhoe montanata*) - Moth
Liophloeus tessulatus - Weevil
Cercopis vulnerata - Cercopidae
Grypocorus stysi Nymph - Mirid
Leptopterna dolabrata Nymph - Mirid
Rhagio scolopaceus - Snipe Fly
Ants

At the end of a tiring day, the exit from Ash Dale still left us with a fair walk through Helmsley back to the car park, but we all made it, exhausted but happy.

Wednesday 31st May 10:30am. Ashberry YWT Nature Reserve (SE571844)

Leaders, Mark and Hazel Stokeld.

This little YWT reserve is one of the gems of the North Yorkshire Moors. It sits in a small valley carved by glacial melt waters that cut through the Jurassic rocks and thus creating a series of habitats. The upper slopes are unimproved calcareous grassland and woodland giving rise to a high diversity of flora. On the lower slopes the woodland contains species such as Treecreeper and Nuthatch. Wood Warbler has been recorded. Along the sides of the small 'chalk' streams we came across species such as Globeflower, Bird's-eye Primrose, Cuckoo Flower, Common Butterwort and

Marsh Lousewort. There were Early Marsh Orchids present by the calcareous flushes. Butterflies included Orange-tips and Green-veined Whites.

Later in the year Marsh Helleborine and Grass-of-Parnassus can be found. We also observed Mullein Moth caterpillars and Hairy Shieldbug. A really nice reserve and worth further visits.



Hairy Shieldbug
*(Dolycoris
baccarum)*

The weevil *Magdalis carbonaria* was found on the reserve (SE567847). It is a wood-boring species feeding on dead birch and has a scattered distribution across Britain, not often recorded. It has been found once previously on the reserve, by Roy Crossley on 14.06.1985.

Magdalis carbonaria



Later in the day we visited Newgate Bank. Here, two individuals of the carrion beetle *Phosphuga atrata* were found, one the more usual black colour (SE56528905) and one brown (SE56528905):



Wednesday 7th June 10:30 am. Billingham Beck Valley Country Park (NZ454228)
Leader, David Laing.

Wednesday 14th June 6:30 pm. Stewart Park (NZ517166)
Leader, Jo Scott.

Wednesday 21st June 6:30 pm. Portrack Marsh (NZ462193)
Leader, Neil Baker.

Nine Club Members enjoyed an evening walk around Portrack Marsh. Some of us shortened our usual long anticlockwise circular for a change by using the footpath to cut across the centre of the reserve, but this was mostly between reed beds with little else to be seen on that part of the route. Others retraced their steps back along the riverbank to the car park, which was our starting point.

Once again we saw a fine display of bee orchids at the start of our walk and it was pleasing to see them surviving and apparently thriving there. We counted a total of 32 flower spikes in a comparatively small area, most of them fairly close to the hedge line.

The following were noted during our walk:

Meadow Cranesbill
 Mayflower
 Pignut
 Weld
 Elderflower
 Goosegrass
 Knapweed
 Red Campion
 Teasel
 Giant Hogweed
 Marsh Thistle
 Meadow Vetchling
 Mugwort
 Rosebay Willowherb
 Kidney Vetch

 Red Admiral

 Magpies
 Sand Martins
 Kestrel

There was very little to be seen in the way of insects, which unfortunately seems to be all too common on our walks these days. However, here is a short list kindly supplied by Daphne Aplin:

Harlequin Ladybird larva (*Harmonia axyridis*).

2 Hoverflies - male *Sphaerophoria scripta* (photo below) and male *Eristalis arbustorum*.

In the reeds there were a few *Ischnodemus sabuleti* - European chinch bugs.

Just one Damselfly a Blue-tailed - *Ischnura elegans*.



Wednesday 28th June 10:30 am. Blackhall Rocks (NZ471387)

Leader, Jo Scott.

Blackhall Rocks is an area on the north east coast mainly of Magnesian Limestone grassland. We had a lovely day for a walk along the cliff top firstly south towards Crimdon Dene then retracing our steps back to the cars for lunch. In the afternoon we walked north towards the ponds near Blue House Gill. There was an impressive artwork of a large turtle on the beach.

A good list of species were recorded notably:

Moths	Blackneck Moth (<i>Lygephila pastinum</i>)
	Burnet Moth (<i>Zygaena filipendulae</i>)
	Latticed Heath (<i>Chiasmia clathrata</i>)
	Silver Y (<i>Autographa gamma</i>)
Plants	Agrimony (<i>Agrimonia eupatoria</i>)
	Common Spotted Orchid (<i>Dactylorhiza fuchsii</i>)
	Curled Dock (<i>Rumex crispus</i>)
	Fragrant orchid (<i>Gymnadenia conopsea</i>)
	Greater Spearwort (<i>Ranunculus lingua</i>)
	Hemp Agrimony (<i>Eupatorium cannabinum</i>)
	Lucerne (<i>Medicago sativa</i>)

	Northern Marsh Orchid (<i>Dactylorhiza purpurella</i>)
	Sea Bindweed (<i>Calystegia soldanella</i>)
	Sea plantain (<i>Plantago maritima</i>)
	Smooth Sowthistle (<i>Sonchus oleraceus</i>)
	Smooth Tare (<i>Vicia tetrasperma</i>)
Insects/Invertebrates	Kentish Snail (<i>Monacha cantiana</i>)
	Common Blue Damselfly (<i>Enallagma cyathigerum</i>)
	Nettle Ground Bug (<i>Heterogaster urticae</i>)
	7 Spot Ladybird (<i>Coccinella septempunctata</i>)
	10 spot Ladybird (<i>Adalia decempunctata</i>)
	Harlequin Ladybird (<i>Harmonia axyridis</i>)
	Pelucid Fly (<i>Volucella pellucens</i>)
Butterflies	Common Blue (<i>Polyommatus icarus</i>)
	Dark Green Fritillary (<i>Speyeria aglaja</i>)
	Meadow Brown (<i>Maniola jurtina</i>)
	Ringlet (<i>Aphantopus hyperantus</i>)
	Small Heath (<i>Coenonympha pamphilus</i>)
	Small Skipper (<i>Thymelicus sylvestris</i>)
Birds	A family of swallows (<i>Hirundo rustica</i>)
	Buzzard (<i>Buteo buteo</i>)
	Eider (<i>Somateria mollissima</i>)
	Linnet (<i>Linaria cannabina</i>)
	Meadow Pipit (<i>Anthus pratensis</i>)
	Stonechat (<i>Saxicola rubicola</i>)
	Whitethroat (<i>Sylvia communis</i>)





Blackneck Moth
Lygephila pastinum

Dark Green Fritillary
Speyeria aglaja



Swallows

Meadow Pipit



Fragrant Orchid



Little Tern



Ringed Plover

A flea beetle of the genus *Altica* was found (NZ46503929). These beetles cannot be identified reliably to species on external features alone, examination of the male genitalia being necessary for this. On appearance this individual keyed out as *A. carinthiaca* which is surprising as this species has a southerly distribution in England, being first recognised as a British species in 2000. Nonetheless its foodplant, Meadow Vetchling (*Lathyrus pratensis*), was abundant at Blackhall.



Altica sp.

Three soldier beetle species (Cantharidae) were seen; the Black-tipped Soldier Beetle (*Rhagonycha fulva*) was widespread and numerous. The others were one individual of the dark form of *Cantharis flavilabris* (NZ47163874) and a very dark *Cantharis rufa* (NZ471139010).

Cantharis rufa



Wednesday 5th July 11:00 am. Rosedale (SE722947)

Leader, Alan Simkins.

Saturday 8th July 10:30 am. Raisby Hill Grassland (NZ325350)

Leader, Daphne Aplin.

A beautiful morning but thunder storms were forecast. It was difficult to access the quarry so we stayed on the flat and had a pleasant meander to the other end of the site. Unfortunately we were a bit late to see the magnificent show of orchids that we have seen in previous years. We didn't see any dragonflies but we had noted that the stream appeared to have dried up. It started to rain just as we finished lunch and had to shelter under trees until it eased. It was so warm though that we had dried out before we got back to the cars!

Butterflies

Meadow Brown - *Maniola jurtina*

Ringlet - *Aphantopus hyperantus*

Small skipper - *Thymelicus sylvestris*

Common Blue - *Polyommatus icarus*

Small Heath - *Coenonympha pamphilus*

Beetles

Darkling Beetle - *Lagria hirta* x 2

7-spot Ladybird - *Coccinella septempunctata* x 5

Gall

Robin's Pincushion - Rose Bedeguar Gall - *Diplolepis rosae*



Flowers

Greater Knapweed - *Centaurea scabiosa*

St. John's-wort - *Hypericum perforatum*

Field Scabious - *Knautia arvensis*

Marsh Valerian - *Valeriana dioica*

Common Twayblade - *Neottia ovata*

Common Spotted Orchid - *Dactylorhiza fuchsii*

Rosebay Willowherb - *Chamaenerion angustifolium*

Meadowsweet - *Filipendula ulmaria*

Wednesday 12th July 10:30 am. Ripon Loop Nature Reserve (SE317737)

Leaders, Mark and Hazel Stokeld.

Banded Demoiselle
Calopteryx splendens



Small Skipper
Thymelicus
sylvestris

Gatekeeper
Pyronia tithonus



Holly Blue
Celastrina
argiolus

**Sunday 16th July 10:30 am. Hardwick Country Park, Sedgefield (NZ344287)
Leader, Jo Scott.**

Images taken by Mark Stokeld between the Country Park and Bishop Middleham (NZ32929):



Comma (*Polygonia c-album*)



Pale Tortoise Beetle (*Cassida flaveola*)

Sunday 23rd July 10:30 am. Brockadale (SE514173)**Leader, Eric Gendle.****Wednesday 26th July 10:30 am. Greatham Creek and North Gare (NZ507250)****Leader, Neil Baker.**

Ten Club members turned up for this walk, which was a repeat of the same excellent outing from last year. Unfortunately, this year we did not time the tide right. So, instead of seeing a regular procession of seals making their way up Greatham Creek, most of them had already arrived and hauled out onto the mud banks by the time we arrived. There was a substantial number of them too, which was good to see. We did manage to catch a few late stragglers though. Always entertaining to watch as they slowly drift past with their heads out of the water inquisitively observing those strange two legged creatures on the banks looking back at them.

It was a disappointing day for Grayling butterflies too, with only one seen. That was very lucky as a member had seen it land on a bit of old blast furnace slag where, unless you knew it was there, it was almost impossible to spot being so very well camouflaged against its backdrop.

With thanks to Daphne Aplin for notes of the insects she observed in the morning and the afternoon:

Carpark - *Eristalis tenax* male & *Sphaerophoria scripta* male. - Hoverflies

Closterotomus norwegicus - Mirid

Rhagonycha fulva - Longhorn Beetle

Haematopota pluvialis - Notch-horned Cleg

Zygaena filipendulae - Six-spot Burnet Moth

Adalia bipunctata pupae - Two-spot Ladybird (several)

Saturday 29th July 10:00 am. Skipwith Common NNR (SE644374)**Leader, Neil Baker.**

Seven Club members joined ten others from the Yorkshire Dragonfly Group and other societies on a walk led by Keith Gittens with a particular emphasis on dragonflies. This is now a regular annual feature in our summer programme which has proved to be a popular event.

The day started off fairly well with a bit of sun but unfortunately turned dull early on. It looked like it was going to be a disappointing day, but things brightened up again in the afternoon and it finished up as one of our best dragonfly days ever.

As well as dragonflies, we noted a few plants and fungi of interest:

Water Forget-me-not

Self Heal

Royal Fern, a particularly magnificent specimen with its own boarded walkway leading to it

Cotton Grass

Foxgloves

Pirri Pirri Bur, unfortunately there was a great deal of this highly invasive plant to be found

Parasol Fungi

Saint George's Fungi

Puffballs

Horseshoe Fungus

We were also fortunate to see several butterflies.

Meadow Brown

Common Blue

Gatekeepers, there were plenty of these about and it seems like a good year for them

Speckled Wood

Brimstone

And last but not least we were rewarded with good sightings of several different damselflies and dragonflies:

Common Emerald Damselfly

Common Blue-tailed Damselfly

Azure Damselfly

Emperor Dragonfly

Ruddy Darter

Black Darter

Common Darter

Southern Hawker

Migrant Hawker

One of the last ponds that we looked in before getting back to the cars was particularly noticeable for the number of Great Diving Beetles that were in it.

Here are Daphne Aplin's records of the insects she spotted:

Argyresthia goedartella - x2 on Silver Birch - Moths

Euproctis similis larva - Yellow-tail Moth

Harmonia axyridis - Harlequin Ladybird



Black Darter (*Sympetrum danae*)



Ruddy Darter
(Sympetrum sanguineum)



Migrant Hawker (*Aeschna mixta*)



Emerald Damselfly (*Lestes sponsa*)



St George's Mushroom (*Calocybe gambosa*)

Wednesday 2nd August 10:30 am. Kirk Dale (SE676856)**Lesder, Andy Astbury.**

Four Club members made their way to Saint Gregory's Minster on a very wet day. It was not a cold day, nor was it windy, but the rain was persistent. Four drowned rats made it safely back to the comfort of their cars after a slightly shortened walk.

It definitely turned into a day for a quick walk rather than spending time looking at things more closely and it was certainly too wet to take any notes. However, from memory, the following were seen:

Red Bartsia

Figwort

Burdock

Quite a few well drenched slimy fungi, well past any hope of easy identification

Just one Green-veined White looking very sorry for itself hanging on to a grass stem as well as it could.

Wednesday 9th August 10:30 am. Coatham Stob (NZ396154)**Leader, Andrew Ferguson.**

Eight Club members joined this walk on a nice summer's day.

We walked out from the car park on an anticlockwise circular route which turned out to be more lengthy than we remembered it. The walking was not easy either as the paths, such as they were, had not been trimmed recently and we were treading over uneven clumps of grass much of the way. Without actually getting totally lost, we were disoriented from time to time as we sought to cut back through the reserve to return to the cars. The monoculture alongside the woodland rides and the lack of many distinctive landmarks making it difficult to know exactly where you were at any one time. Everyone returned safely though.

One of the objectives of the day was to look at the artificial ponds that had been put in, to see if they were attracting much in the way of dragonflies. It was disappointing to note that most of these were now fenced off making access to the edges of the ponds difficult. Presumably this had been done with the best of intentions, perhaps to protect the habitats or prevent dogs getting in. However, it did mean that naturalists like ourselves were unfortunately prevented from easy close up examinations.

The day did not turn out to be particularly good for dragonflies, but it was better for butterflies.

We made the following observations on our walk:

Creeping Buttercup

Wayfaring Tree

Hazels, forming plenty of nuts

Red Bartsia

Hawthorns, bearing plenty of berries for winter feeding

Fleabane

Centauray

Water Mint

Alder Tongue
Robin's Pincushion
Knuckle Galls on Oaks
Bean Galls on Willow

Green-veined White
Peacock
Small Skipper
Large White
Meadow Browns
Small Heath
Small Tortoiseshell
Small Copper
Shaded Broad Bar Moth

Common Darter pair ovipositing
Brown Hawker
Common Hawker

Buzzards circling, two adults with two juveniles

Sunday 13th August 10:30 am. Strensall Common (SE648611)
Leaders, Mark and Hazel Stokeld.



Knopper Gall (*Andricus quercuscalicis*)

Wednesday 23rd August 10:30 am. Rainton Meadows (NZ326484)**Leader, Neil Baker.**

Nine Club members made the trip to Rainton Meadows, the headquarters of the Durham Wildlife Trust, but not a place that the Club often visits. It was a slightly cool day with no real breeze and cloudy with sunny intervals.

Some of the ponds on the site were getting a bit choked up with vegetation and could do with some more clear water exposing. However, there were volunteer working parties working industriously on the site cutting back some of the overgrown edges to the paths. Hopefully, when the growing season is over, they may then give some attention to the poorer ponds.

The following were noted during the course of our walk:

Water Mint

Self-heal

Wild Carrot (gone over)

Bird's Foot Trefoil

Yellow Rattle (well gone over)

Traveller's Joy

Golden Rod attracting the attention of lots of honey bees

Tansy

Michaelmas Daisies

Bindweed

Mugwort

Toadflax

Red Bartsia

Purple Loosestrife

Common Blue

Small Heath

Speckled Wood

Brown Hawker

Common Darter, singles and a mating pair

Red Admiral

Robin's Pincushion

Alder Tongue

Silk Button Galls on Oak

Artichoke Gall

Daphne Aplin's records of insects seen on the day:

Green Shieldbug Nymphs (various instars) - *Palomena prasina*

Hairy Shieldbug Adults - *Dolycoris baccarum*

Grey Damselbug Male - *Himacerus major*

Lygus species - Mirid Bugs - several on Wild Carrot

Eriothrix rufomaculata - Diptera

Seven-spot Ladybird x 2 - *Coccinella septempunctata*

Harlequin Ladybird - *Harmonia axyridis*

Sphaerophia sp. Female - Hoverfly

Eristalis pertinax Male - Hoverfly
Argyresthia goedartella - Micromoth

Individuals of the Dark-lipped and White-lipped Snails (*Cepaea nemoralis* and *C. hortensis*) were found living in the same area (NZ32414822). This is somewhat unusual.



Artichoke Gall (*Andricus fecundatrix*)

Sunday 17th September 10:30 am. Low Barns (NZ161315)
Leader, Alan Simkins.

Sunday 29th October 10:30 am. Lockwood Beck (NZ669141)
Leader, Jo Scott

This was the first of our winter ‘pop-up’ outings looking for fungi at Lockwood Beck. This is a good site for fungi with a lovely walk around the reservoir but it was an extremely wet morning when four members braved the weather. It was worth the soaking as we recorded 34 species including:-

Baeospora myosura (Conifer Conecap), *Lactarius deliciosus* (Saffron Milkcap), *Russula emetica* (The Sickener), *Amanita rubescens* (The Blusher), *Amanita muscaria* (Fly Agaric), *Boletus badius* (Bay Bolete), *Stereum hirsutum* (Hairy Curtaincrust), *Typhula* sp. (Pipeclub), *Calocera viscosa* (Yellow Stagshorn), *Leccium versipelle* (Orange Birch Bolete), *Clitocybe peronata* (Clouded Agaric), *Pholiota squarrosa* (Shaggy Pholiota).

It had faired up by lunch time so we sat at the picnic tables and enjoyed the view.



Amanita muscaria



Baeospora myosura



Typhula sp.



Russula emetica

Some Invertebrates Recorded During Field Meetings 2023

Tony Wardhaugh

Key:

1 = Sutton Bank area	(SE516831)	26.04.2023
2 = Ashberry Reserve	(SE571844)	31.05.2023
3 = Newgate Bank	(SE564889)	31.05.2023
4 = Portrack Marsh	(SE575851)	21.06.2023
5 = Blackhall Rocks	(NZ471387)	28.06.2023
6 = Rainton Meadows	(NZ326484)	23.08.2023

* = Further comments on these species can be found in the relevant field meeting report above.

Taxon	Scientific name	1	2	3	4	5	6
Molluscs	<i>Arianta arbustorum</i>	/		/			
	<i>Arion ater</i> agg.			/	/	/	/
	<i>Arion ater</i> seg.	/					
	<i>Cepaea hortensis</i>						/*
	<i>Cepaea nemoralis</i>					/	/*
	<i>Cornu aspersum</i>	/				/	/
	<i>Monacha cantina</i>	/				/	/
	<i>Oxyechilus cellarius</i>	/					
	<i>Pyramidula umbilicata</i>	/*					
	<i>Succinea putris</i>		/				/
	<i>Trochulus hispidus</i>						/
	<i>Trochulus striolatus</i>	/		/			/
Beetles	<i>Adalia bipunctata</i>					/	
	<i>Altica</i> sp.					/*	
	<i>Cantharis flavilabris</i>					/*	
	<i>Cantharis nigricans</i>			/		/	
	<i>Cantharis rufa</i>					/*	

	<i>Coccinella 7-punctata</i>					/	/
	<i>Harmonia axyridis</i>						/
	<i>Magdalis carbonaria</i>		/*				
	<i>Phospguga atrata</i>			/*			
	<i>Phyllobius glaucus</i>			/			
	<i>Pterostichus niger</i>	/					
	<i>Rhagonycha fulva</i>					/	
	<i>Silpha tristis</i>					/	
Millipedes	<i>Glomeris marginata</i>	/					
	<i>Ommatoiulus sabulosus</i>			/			

Mistletoe on Lime?

Daphne Aplin

It must have been late in 2021 on a visit to the dentist that I noticed a ring of green growth at the very top of a Lime tree which grows beside the bus stop on Norton Road, Norton, Stockton on Tees opposite the Territorial Army Centre. I haven't seen the early stages of Witches' Broom before so I thought that that might be what it was. On my second visit I noticed green leaves shooting up from this "ring" and decided that I didn't think it was that but planned to go back and watch it develop. Unfortunately, I completely forgot all about it for yet another six months! On my visit in March, 2023 I was surprised to see quite a healthy growth of something that looked rather like Mistletoe. I think I should have taken binoculars because it was just beyond the range of the zoom on my camera. I entered this sighting on iRecord and the NBN Record Cleaner comment "Co-ordinate is outside known 10km (all dates) range of *Viscum album*"



Being unsure whether Mistletoe is a plant or a gall I asked my friend Jill Cunningham of Darlington Naturalists' Field Club who kindly sent me the following:-

“British Plant Gall Society, definition of a gall – ‘A gall is an abnormal growth produced by a plant or other host under the influence of another organism. It involves enlargement and/or proliferation of host cells and provides both shelter and food or nutrients for the invading organism’.

So, Mistletoe *itself* isn't a gall – it *causes* a gall and is therefore classed as a galling species of semi-parasitic plant.

In British Plant Galls (M. Redfern, 2002) it is listed as found ‘north to Yorkshire’ and ‘usually on Apple, Lime, Hawthorn and Poplar’.



Reflections on a Disappearing Ash Wood 2023

Daphne Aplin

Cowpen Bewley Woodland Park can be found at the northern edge of Billingham on the side of the A1185 Seal Sands link road. The Grid Reference for the car park is NZ479254. It is a mixed woodland of approximately 74 acres with a lake, small ponds and meadows. There are a couple of small mounds which give panoramic views over Teesside. Behind the Visitor Centre (closed at present) there is a small Ash wood covering approximately one acre that I have been visiting fairly frequently over many years. Sadly it is just a shadow of its former self - one cause being the ravages of Ash dieback, a fungus called *Hymenoscyphus fraxineus*. It was a cold, damp day on 31st December, 2022 when I decided to have a look to see what, if anything, was about there invertebrate-wise. The first creature I spotted was a tiny, female Winter Moth (*Operophtera brumata*). Unfortunately it was at this moment that my camera battery decided to die. I didn't think I would be able to find the moth again if I left it too long so I potted it and, as I live nearby, took it home to take a photo and returned it within minutes! Although these female moths have rudimentary wings and are unable to fly, they can climb quite quickly.

As I was wandering round the Wood memories of things I had seen there kept popping into my mind and I decided it might be a good idea to record "A Year in the Life of.." so that is what this little journal will be - a little glimpse of this Wood over 2023 although it may just end up being a list of sightings!

New Year's Day started well with two harvestmen (*Oligolophus hanseni*) and a *Pentatoma rufipes* nymph. These are commonly known as Red-legged Shieldbugs or Forest Bugs and as they are the only Shieldbugs to overwinter as nymphs - I suspect I might see more so I will refer to them as Red-legged Shieldbugs in future.

I was delighted to come across a male Mottled Umber (*Erannis defoliaria*). I don't think there are many moths that have flightless females but this is another one of them so two in 24 hours can't be bad going!

Next was a lovely little 3mm black weevil *Oxystoma cracca* – the shape of the rostrum differentiates it from *Oxystoma subulatum*. Then, joy of joys, four adult Kidney-spot Ladybirds (*Chilocorus renipustulatus*). One on one Ash tree and three on an adjacent tree. They were tucked up for winter in grooves in the bark. These beetles are among my favourites. They look like large "full stops" from a distance but on closer inspection they resemble an upturned bowl, very round with a flattened edge. They are black with a bright red spot on each wing case (elytra). There has been a good colony here for a few years. One year nearly every tree held at least one adult and in some cases several - adding up to a few dozen individuals. As they feed on Scale Insects I suppose they will just disperse into the wider woodland should the Ash fail.

2nd January

My first adult Shieldbug of the year was a smart Hawthorn Shieldbug (*Acanthosoma haemorrhoidale*) and then I came across a 6mm male (*Lygus rugulipennis*). This is a Mirid bug which, along with Shieldbugs, belong to the Order Hemiptera. Although I am interested in any

creature – Hemiptera are my main focus of study. This Order is also known as True Bugs and I find the way they feed quite fascinating. These bugs have a needle-like projection (like a beak) that is called a rostrum through which they feed. This cannot be retracted so is held under the body when not in use.**

It was quite dark in the wood and if it hadn't moved I probably wouldn't have spotted a lovely little Spider (*Drapetisca socialis*). I could hear a Buzzard (*Buteo buteo*) calling overhead and a Rabbit scuttled through the undergrowth.

4th January

Not the best place to be on a windy day! Although it was sunny and very mild it was a very short visit! It wasn't a complete waste of time though because I did see a beautiful Beetbug a 3mm *Parapiesma quadratum* and a Winter Crane-fly.

7th January

A very wet but mild day. Pleasant between showers. A few Springtails (*Orchesella cincta*) were on the trees.

There used to be a bird feeding area in one corner of the wood where a bird ringer used to put up a mist net. I liked to watch him gently remove the captured birds and put them in a little bag. He would then check them over and, after weighing, place a ring on one of their legs. These rings are numbered and this is recorded before the bird is released. As I walked past one of the trees that used to hold one side of the net I spied two very damp adult Bronze Shieldbugs (*Troilus luridus*). I also remember sitting for ages on the bankside in the hope of getting a glimpse of one of the Weasels that frequently hunted around there.

8th January

A cold wind and threatening rain but I was out long enough to see a Soldier Beetle larva climbing one of the trees and also a lonesome fly which looked a bit unprepossessing at first but, on closer inspection, turned out to be a female *Calliphora* species – a rather striking “Blue bottle” type. Seeing scattered broken lumps of wood on the ground leads me to suspect someone else has been looking for beetles or other creatures!

15th January

There are a few ferns in the wood but only one Hart's-tongue Fern (*Asplenium scolopendrium*) that I am aware of but something odd seems to have happened to this one – the midrib has decided to divide into two on some of the leaves! Strange but very attractive.

21st January

A bitterly cold, frosty afternoon but a wintry sun made an appearance. First to be spotted was a 2mm bug, *Buchananiella continua* (Anthocoridae), dormant on one of the Ash trees and then a small brown Winter Crane-fly that I think is a *Trichocera* species probably *regelationis*? A couple of

dog walkers on the track adjacent to the wood disturbed a Great Spotted Woodpecker (*Dendrocopos major*) and it was shouting it's displeasure!

26th January

A cold, grey damp day didn't deter 3 Springtails (*Orchesella cincta*) from roaming round the trees. The day was suddenly brightened for me by the sight of a stunning 9mm Greater Thorn-tipped Longhorn Beetle (*Pogonocherus hispidulus*) which I don't think I would have noticed if it hadn't been for the white mark along its thorax which made it look a bit like a bird dropping. I have only seen this species once before and that was on a Beech tree in another part of the Park in December 2019. Another bright spot was a single Scarlet Elf Cup fungus a (*Sarcoscypha* sp.).

The silence was broken by the loud, harsh croaking call of a male Pheasant (*Phasianus colchicus*) and there was a distant response from another.

27th January

Another cold, damp day. There were a few globular Springtails running around the tree trunks today and one fly a *Phaonia tuguriorum* female. I was pleased to see another *Parapiesma quadratum* they really are stunning looking bugs. A couple of leafhoppers were showing - one of which was a female *Acericerus heydenii*. The "cronk" of a Heron (*Ardea cinerea*) made me look up just in time to see one flying overhead.

28th January

Not so cold today and a wintry sun between slight showers. A Kestrel (*Falco tinnunculus*) was keeping watch from the top of a tree at the entrance to the Wood. Apart from a bit of activity from globular springtails (*Dicyrtomina saundersi*) the only other insect on view was a very smart adult Hawthorn Shieldbug (*Acanthosoma haemorrhoidale*). An inquisitive Magpie (*Pica pica*) made an unexpected appearance but soon flew off.

I am really enjoying taking time to study this woodland. I can't say I am surprised that I have found so much as I haven't looked in such depth before so I didn't know what to expect but I know time commitments will preclude me from returning quite so often as the year progresses.

1st February

A cold, windy day so only a half hour look round. A tiny Red-legged Shieldbug nymph was the first insect to be seen. Then an adult *Anthocoris nemoralis* (Anthocoridae). There was a fly that I more than likely saw twice but unfortunately couldn't get near enough to get a close look at. Last of all a tiny 1.5mm beetle that is aptly named *Corticarina minuta*.

4th February

I had planned to look at the ferns today but I was distracted at first by a single fly on a tree trunk. I'm guessing that it might be the same one that I briefly glimpsed the other day. This one turned out to be a female *Phaonia tuguriorum*. In the ferns I was pleased to find two female *Monalocoris filicis*. These are tiny 2mm Bryocorini tribe Mirid Bugs, as well as another *Parapiesma quadratum*.

A 4mm springtail (*Pogonognathellus longicornis*) was jumping about as were three leafhopper nymphs that I think might be a species of *Euscelis*?

19th Feb.

Today's discoveries were a tiny Red-legged Shieldbug nymph and two beetles: A 10-spot Ladybird (*Adalia decempunctata*) and one of the Rove Beetles *Stenus impressus*.

17th March

A delightful warm, sunny day. The four hibernating Kidney-spot Ladybirds had left their sanctuary but I did see two of the species sunning themselves on neighbouring trees. A cute juvenile spider (*Segestria senoculata*) let me get near to it. In the leaf litter I saw a harvestman (*Nemastoma bimaculatum*) and a *Meligethes* sp. beetle.

On sunny days the dark orange/rusty coloured alga *Trentepohlia* looks vivid on the tree trunks.

1st April

A very damp, grey, afternoon but the Daffodils and the Primroses were a bright splash of colour among the Nettles. The strange light made the lichen on the trees show starkly. Today, on the two Ash trees that I saw the four hibernating Kidney-spot Ladybirds on New Year's Day, another one had joined them! They are certainly happy on these particular trees. Springtails again - three *Orchesella cincta* and one *Orchesella villosa*. Brown-lipped Banded Snails (*Cepaea nemoralis*) and a Large Yellow Underwing Moth caterpillar (*Noctua pronuba*) ended the day.

5th April

Yet more rain! Only 1 Birch Shieldbug (*Elasmotethus interstinctus*). One Kidney-spot Ladybird and a tachinid Fly possibly *Lypha dubia*? The leaves of a Holly bush held the larval mines of *Phytomyza ilicis* an agromyzid fly.

28th May

I went to the Wood after rain this afternoon. There was a lovely display of fungi on the remains of a tree stump at the entrance. It also proved to be a good one for beetles! A click Beetle (*Athous haemorrhoidalis*) as well as three Red-headed Cardinal Beetles (*Pyrochroa serraticornis*) and a mating pair of *Cantharis pellucida*. A Red and Black Froghopper *Cercopis vulnerata* was a bit of a surprise as I think I have only seen them in open grassland areas. I saw the empty shell of a parasitised aphid as well as an adult moth *Epiblema cirsiiana*.

26th June.

The only day I was free to visit and I was surprised how verdant the vegetation looked. I was delighted to see lots of Kidney-spot Ladybird larvae of all sizes on the Ash trees. A smart *Grypocoris stysi* (Mirid bug) was spotted climbing one of the trees. I found the pupa of the hoverfly *Meliscaeva auricollis* attached to a tree trunk and on another tree a female *Mesopsocus* species

(Barkfly) did its best to use its colouring to merge in with the bark. I don't think it is possible to tell which one it is though. A couple of moths *Celypha lacunana* and *Nemapogon cloacella* as well as a *Scathophaga* species (Dung Fly) were also noted. A psyllid (*Psyllopsis* cf. *fraxini*) made a sudden appearance. As I was leaving the Wood two lovely butterflies a Red Admiral (*Vanessa atalanta*) and a Speckled Wood (*Pararge aegeria*) fluttered around taking advantage of a shaft of sunlight.

24th July

A windy but cloudy day but DRY so far! I spent an hour in the wood today after a long absence. Quite a lot going on. A 14-spot Ladybird (*Propylea quattuordecimpunctata*) was ascending one of the Ash trees. I can't remember where I read it but I seem to remember that it is sometimes called the "Dormouse" Ladybird because it emerges later in the year than others. A Nematine species – a very handsome Yellow/orange Sawfly was also climbing a tree. It was great to come across a Spiked Shieldbug (*Picromerus bidens*) nymph at last as I haven't seen this bug anywhere in the Park for a few years! A Robin (*Erithacus rubecula*) flew down and watched me for a while. A smart brown-grey female *Phaonia errans* was sitting in a shaft of sunlight – this is one of the Muscidae – House Fly family. It was joined by a Picture-winged Woodlouse-fly (*Paykullia maculata*) which is a first sighting for me and I think might be a good record? Apart from a couple of caddis flies that I have no hope of identifying and two moths Bird-cherry Ermine (*Yponomeuta evonymella*) and *Eudonia mercurella*. I didn't see anything else.

6th August

Today started well with a pair of mating *Tricholauxania praeusta* – tiny 4mm orange flies and then it got steadily better!! I saw another *Paykullia maculata* which seemed rather docile. A tiny 3mm beetle turned out to be *Lissodema denticollis* which appears to be another good record? The next species of bug I came across I first recorded in July 2022 in this same Wood. Today, there were three adults scurrying round a tree trunk. These are tiny 2mm black insects that belong to the Anthocoridae family called *Temnostethus gracilis*. I remember when I first spotted one on an Ash tree I mistook it for a nymph because what I thought were the wing buds of a nymph turned out to be the fully grown wings of an adult. The British Bugs website states that *T. gracilis* are usually brachypterous (have reduced wings). According to the North East Environmental Records Information Centre (E.R.I.C.) there are only five other records of these bugs and they appear to be from Northumberland and they were in 2012 and 2019. Jim Flanagan, the joint National Recorder for Heteroptera says:- "Here, in Sorbyshire, it seems to be more commonly found now from beating hawthorns that support lichen-rich twigs and branches."

Two harvestmen one a male *Dicranopalpus ramosus* agg. and the other a female *Opilio canestrinii* were sitting motionless. I got my sweep net out and managed to catch some Mirid bugs – adult *Campyloneura virgula* and *Plagiognathus arbustorum* from vegetation and a nymph and adult *Liocoris tripustulatus* from Nettle. There was also a moth that I think might be *Argyresthia bonnetella*?

Friday, 18th August

Not the best of afternoons for my friend Ian Beddison to come to have a look at the Park as it was very grey and mizzly. Ian is a great harvestman ambassador and his enthusiasm for these little animals certainly rubs off! It was so dark in the wood that he needed to use his torch as some of

these creatures are so very tiny and hide in dead and decaying wood scattered on the woodland floor they are difficult to see. Nevertheless we found seven species starting with a juvenile *Lophopilio palpinalus*. The others were *Leiobunum rotundum*, *Mitopus morio*, *Oligolophus tridens*, *Opilio saxatilis*, *Dicranopalpus ramosus* agg. and *Nemastoma bimaculatum*. The latter two have already been recorded for the Park so we have been able to add another five to the list. Ian said that one of the highlights of his day was finding the very active *Opilio saxatilis* as it is one he rarely encounters. Ian took a wonderful photo of a pseudoscorpion (*Chthonius* cf. *ischnocheles*) walking across the back of a Damaeid mite neither appeared to be aware of the encounter! We found a smart Hawthorn Shieldbug and then we saw an adult *Temnostethus gracilis* running up a tree trunk. An adult Kidney-spot Ladybird was on one tree and on another was a cluster of their pupae as was a 22 spot Ladybird (*Psyllobora vigintiduopunctata*). Mating flies possibly *Pseudolyciella pallidiventris* agg.? More springtails *Orchesella cincta* and *Allacma fusca*. A Slug, the Red form of *Arion ater* agg. (Arionidae), was showing well.

23rd September

I noticed that the bark on some of the logs on the wood floor had been stripped off revealing some beautifully intricate patterns. I believe these are burrows made by Bark Beetles. A striking Garden Spider (*Araneus diadematus*) was motionless in the centre of her web waiting for her next victim. Two craneflies were flying about. One was a *Tipula* species one of the *T. oleracea/paludose* pair and the other was *Limonia nubeculosa* which has heavily patterned wings and three dark bands on its front legs. Three more Kidney-spot Ladybirds and two *Anthocoris nemorum* (Anthocoridae) were next. On one of the trees there was a Brown-lipped Snail (*Cepaea nemoralis*) and a *Temnostethus gracilis* adult. There was some pretty Oysterling type fungi on some twigs.

30th October

The first bug I encountered today was a female *Anthocoris confusus* (Anthocoridae) and then an *Orchesella cincta* again. There was about a dozen craneflies flying around as well as two flies, a *Phaonia subventa* and a *Muscina levida*. I saw the larva of a moth but unfortunately I don't know what it is and I don't want to take it home to rear it. Apart from three Kidney-spot Ladybirds and a Red-legged Shieldbug nymph the only other things of note were fungi. The Dog Stinkhorn *Mutinus cananus* and what I think is *Pholiota squarrosa* – Shaggy Scalycap?

12th November

I can hardly believe I have got to the penultimate month already! I heard, before I saw, a skein of geese flying overhead making for the coast. In fact it was a good day for birds as there were two Magpies (*Pica pica*) and a Jay (*Garrulus glandarius*) about. In the moss at the base of one of the Ash trees I saw five empty Kidney spot Ladybird pupal cases. A pretty black and orange picture wing fly (*Tephritis neesii*) was a surprise sighting as the host plant is Ox-eye Daisy (*Leucanthemum vulgare*) and there isn't any in the Wood. A *Muscina levida* and a female *Suillia bicolor* made up the Diptera count for the day. Two Mirid bugs a *Liocoris tripustulatus* and a female *Orthops campestris* came next and then a Birch Shieldbug. Two Seven-spot Ladybirds (*Coccinella septempunctata*) and one *Anthocoris nemorum* ended the day.

9th December

Not much about today. A Robin flitted around after me probably hoping I would disturb some titbits. On two separate Ash trees there were two species of Fungus Gnats – one was a 3mm *Sceptonia* and the other a 4mm *Sciarid*. There was also a 5mm female leafhopper that looks rather like *Acericerus vittifrons*. Last of all I saw a 7-spot Ladybird on a fungus.

16th December

Unfortunately this was to be the last time I was able to visit the Park this year but it was certainly worth turning out! Two Ladybirds - an Orange Ladybird (*Halysia sedecimguttata*) and then a Kidney-spot Ladybird came first and then I spied three harvestmen (*Oligolophus hanseni*) on separate trees. Next a Birch Catkin Bug (*Kleidocerys resedae*) and one fly, a *Pollenia* species. The highlight of the day though was coming across a female Winter Moth on a tree and then, on another, I saw a male moth. Sadly this moth hadn't been able to unfurl its wings properly so it isn't easily identifiable but I suspect, and Robert Woods agrees, it was probably a Mottled Umber. If so, I ended the year as it began!

It has been a fascinating year and a significant learning experience. All records went to E.R.I.C. North East who have been very helpful as usual. Very special thanks to Jim Flanagan for his valued help and support. Any mistakes are mine. I am indebted to the following people who have helped me with identifications and verifications:-

Arachnida:- I. Beddison. S. Indzhov.

Coleoptera:- M. Fowlie, Dr. M. Geiser, M. Telfer, C. Washington.

Collembola: S. Bevan.

Diptera:- K. Aattouch, I. Andrews, P. Beuk, L. Clemons, D. Hodgkiss, T. Irwin, R. Mitchell, C. Raper, S. Suttill.

Hemiptera:- Dr. J. Botting. A. Cann, J. Flanagan. B. Nelson. P. Pynnonen.

Hymenoptera:- I. Andrews.

Lepidoptera:- Dr. R. Woods.

** Further reading about Bugs and Cowpen Bewley Woodland Park:- “Bitten by Bugs” A Personal Encounter with the Hemiptera of Cowpen Bewley Woodland Park” Proceedings of Cleveland Naturalists’ Field Club 2017, VOLUME 11 Part 3 Spring 2017.

“Additions to the Hemiptera of Cowpen Bewley Woodland Park” Proceedings of Cleveland Naturalists’ Field Club VOLUME 11 Part 4 Spring 2018.

“Cowpen Bewley Woodland Park” Proceedings of Cleveland Naturalists’ Field Club VOLUME 12 Part 2 Spring 2020.

An alphabetical list of species recorded.

Arachnida

Spiders:- *Araneus diadematus*. *Drapetisca socialis*. *Segestria senoculata*.

Harvestmen:- *Dicranopalpus ramosus* agg. *Leiobunum rotundum*. *Lophopilio palpinalus*. *Mitopus morio*. *Nemastoma bimaculatum*. *Oligolophus hanseni*. *Oligolophus tridens*. *Opilio canestrinii*. *Opilio saxatilis*.

Pseudoscorpiones:- *Chthonius* cf. *ischnocheles*.

Coleoptera

Adalia decempunctata. *Athous haemorrhoidalis*. *Cantharis pellucida*. *Chilocorus renipustulatus*. *Coccinella septempunctata*. *Corticarina minuta*. *Halyzia sedecimguttata*. *Lissodema denticollis*. *Meligethes* sp. *Oxystoma craccae*. *Pogonocherus hispidulus*. *Propylea quattuordecimpunctata*. *Psyllobora vigintiduopunctata*. *Pyrochroa serraticornis*. *Stenus impressus*.

Collembolla

Allacma fusca. *Dicyrtomina saundersi*. *Orchesella cincta*. *Orchesella villosa*. *Pogonognathellus longicornis*.

Diptera

Calliphora sp. *Limonia nubeculosa*. *Lypha dubia*? *Muscina levida*. *Paykullia maculata*. *Phaonia errans*. *Phaonia subventa*. *Phaonia tuguriorum*. *Phytomyza ilicis* larval mines. *Pollenia* sp. *Pseudolyciella pallidiventris* agg.? *Scathophaga* sp. *Sceptonia* sp. *Sciarid* sp. *Suillia bicolor*. *Tephritis neesii*. *Tipula* species one of the oleracea/paludose pair. *Trichocera* species probably *regelationis*? *Tricholauxania praeusta*.

Gastropoda - *Cepaea nemoralis*. *Arion ater* agg.

Hemiptera

Acanthosoma haemorrhoidale. *Acericerus heydenii*. *Acericerus vittifrons*. *Anthocoris confusus*. *Anthocoris nemoralis*. *Anthocoris nemorum*. *Buchananiella continua*. *Campyloneura virgula*. *Cercopis vulnerata*. *Elasmotethus interstinctus*. *Grypocoris stysi*. *Kleidocerys resedae*. *Liocoris tripustulatus*. *Lygus rugulipennis*. *Monalocoris filicis*. *Orthops campestris*. *Parapiesma quadratum*. *Pentatoma rufipes*. *Picromerus bidens*. *Plagiognathus arbustorum*. *Psyllopsis* cf. *fraxini*. *Temnostethus gracilis*. *Troilus luridus*.

Hymenoptera - Nematine sp.

Lepidoptera

Moths:- *Argyresthia bonnetella?* *Celypha lacunana*. *Epiblema cirsiana*. *Erannis defoliaria*. *Eudonia mercurella*. *Nemapogon cloacella*. *Noctua pronuba*. *Operophtera brumata*. *Yponomeuta evonymella*.

Butterflies:- *Vanessa atalanta*. *Pararge aegeria*.



Pogonocherus hispidulus



Pseudoscorpion (*Chthonius cf. ischnocheles*)

Moth Records 2023

P W Forster

Moths recorded were all adults, caught using a mercury vapour light trap. The three sites where recording was carried out were:

1 Middleton Drive, Guisborough TS14 7BQ (NZ617153)

Newton Mulgrave Castle (NZ8412)

Tudor Croft, Guisborough TS14 8DL (NZ600155)

New species for the sites are highlighted in red.

Moths Recorded 2023				
P W Forster				
1 Middleton Drive Guisborough				
NZ617153 (VC62)				
Red = new records for the site				
Code	Scientific Name	Vernacular Name	No	Date
73.345	<i>Noctua comes</i>	Lesser Yellow Underwing	4	15-Sep-23
	<i>Amphipyra pyramidea</i> agg.	Copper Underwing agg.	1	15-Sep-23
70.061	<i>Epirrhoe alternata</i>	Common Carpet	1	15-Sep-23
73.064	<i>Amphipyra tragopoginis</i>	Mouse Moth	2	15-Sep-23
72.002	<i>Rivula sericealis</i>	Straw Dot	1	15-Sep-23
73.113	<i>Phlogophora meticulosa</i>	Angle Shades	2	15-Sep-23
73.359	<i>Xestia c-nigrum</i>	Seatitious hebrew Character	1	15-Sep-23
70.141	<i>Gymnoscelis rufifasciata</i>	Double-striped Pug	1	15-Sep-23
73.342	<i>Noctua pronuba</i>	Large Yellow Underwing	3	15-Sep-23
70.049	<i>Xanthorhoe fluctuata</i>	Garden Carpet	1	15-Sep-23
49.039	<i>Epiphyas postvittana</i>	Light Brown Apple Moth	1	15-Sep-23
	<i>Amphipyra pyramidea</i> agg.	Copper Underwing agg.	1	9-Sep-23
73.345	<i>Noctua comes</i>	Lesser Yellow Underwing	6	9-Sep-23
70.234	<i>Ennomos alniaria</i>	Canary-shouldered Thorn	1	9-Sep-23
70.235	<i>Ennomos fuscantaria</i>	Dusky Thorn	1	9-Sep-23
73.095	<i>Caradrina clavipalpis</i>	Pale Mottled Willow	1	9-Sep-23
73.342	<i>Noctua pronuba</i>	Large Yellow Underwing	8	9-Sep-23
70.049	<i>Xanthorhoe fluctuata</i>	Garden Carpet	1	9-Sep-23

73.345	<i>Noctua comes</i>	Lesser Yellow Underwing	10	7-Sep-23
	<i>Amphipyra pyramidea</i> agg.	Copper Underwing agg.	2	7-Sep-23
73.357	<i>Xestia xanthographa</i>	Square-spot Rustic	2	7-Sep-23
70.258	<i>Peribatodes rhomboidaria</i>	Willow Beauty	1	7-Sep-23
73.193	<i>Omphaloscelis lunosa</i>	Lunar Underwing	1	7-Sep-23
73.359	<i>Xestia c-nigrum</i>	Setaceous Hebrew Character	3	7-Sep-23
73.342	<i>Noctua pronuba</i>	Large Yellow Underwing	25	7-Sep-23
73.345	<i>Noctua comes</i>	Lesser Yellow Underwing	8	6-Sep-23
	<i>Amphipyra pyramidea</i> agg.	Copper Underwing agg.	3	6-Sep-23
70.1	<i>Colostyia pectinataria</i>	Green Carpet	1	6-Sep-23
72.002	<i>Rivula sericealis</i>	Straw Dot	2	6-Sep-23
73.342	<i>Noctua pronuba</i>	Large Yellow Underwing	10	6-Sep-23
73.193	<i>Omphaloscelis lunosa</i>	Lunar Underwing	1	6-Sep-23
49.039	<i>Epiphyas postvittana</i>	Light Brown Apple Moth	4	6-Sep-23
73.359	<i>Xestia c-nigrum</i>	Setaceous Hebrew Character	2	6-Sep-23
62.048	<i>Euzophera pinguis</i>	a moth	1	6-Sep-23
73.18	<i>Tiliacea aurago</i>	Barred Sallow	1	6-Sep-23
	<i>Acronicta tridens/psi</i>	Dark Dagger / Grey Dagger	1	6-Sep-23
73.107	<i>Mormo maura</i>	Old Lady	1	6-Sep-23
	<i>Amphipyra pyramidea</i> agg.	Copper Underwing agg.	2	4-Sep-23
73.345	<i>Noctua comes</i>	Lesser Yellow Underwing	12	4-Sep-23
70.061	<i>Epirrhoe alternata</i>	Common Carpet	2	4-Sep-23
70.235	<i>Ennomos fuscantaria</i>	Dusky Thorn	2	4-Sep-23
49.039	<i>Epiphyas postvittana</i>	Light Brown Apple Moth	1	4-Sep-23
73.342	<i>Noctua pronuba</i>	Large Yellow Underwing	10	4-Sep-23
70.049	<i>Xanthorhoe fluctuata</i>	Garden Carpet	1	4-Sep-23
73.061	NS	Anomalous	1	4-Sep-23
73.18	<i>Tiliacea aurago</i>	Barred Sallow	1	4-Sep-23
73.345	<i>Noctua comes</i>	Lesser Yellow Underwing	8	3-Sep-23
73.131	<i>Luperina testacea</i>	Flounced Rustic	1	3-Sep-23
	<i>Amphipyra pyramidea</i> agg.	Copper Underwing agg.	1	3-Sep-23
70.061	<i>Epirrhoe alternata</i>	Common Carpet	1	3-Sep-23
70.258	<i>Peribatodes rhomboidaria</i>	Willow Beauty	1	3-Sep-23
73.355	<i>Xestia castanea</i>	Neglected Rustic	1	3-Sep-23
73.348	<i>Noctua janthe</i>	Lesser Broad-bordered Yellow Underwing	8	3-Sep-23
73.342	<i>Noctua pronuba</i>	Large Yellow Underwing	10	3-Sep-23
70.049	<i>Xanthorhoe fluctuata</i>	Garden Carpet	1	3-Sep-23
49.039	<i>Epiphyas postvittana</i>	Light Brown Apple Moth	1	3-Sep-23
63.089	<i>Agriphila tristella</i>	a moth	3	3-Sep-23

	<i>Amphipyra pyramidea</i> agg.	Copper Underwing agg.	1	1-Sep-23
73.131	<i>Luperina testacea</i>	Flounced Rustic	1	1-Sep-23
70.234	<i>Ennomos alniaria</i>	Canary-shouldered Thorn	1	1-Sep-23
73.345	<i>Noctua comes</i>	Lesser Yellow Underwing	15	1-Sep-23
73.355	<i>Xestia castanea</i>	Neglected Rustic	1	1-Sep-23
70.097	<i>Dysstroma truncata</i>	Common Marbled Carpet	2	1-Sep-23
73.348	<i>Noctua janthe</i>	Lesser Broad-bordered Yellow Underwing	3	1-Sep-23
73.342	<i>Noctua pronuba</i>	Large Yellow Underwing	20	1-Sep-23
	<i>Mesapamea secalis</i> agg.	Common Rustic agg.	1	1-Sep-23
63.089	<i>Agriphila tristella</i>	a moth	1	1-Sep-23
73.345	<i>Noctua comes</i>	Lesser Yellow Underwing	9	27-Aug-23
	<i>Amphipyra pyramidea</i> agg.	Copper Underwing agg.	1	27-Aug-23
70.234	<i>Ennomos alniaria</i>	Canary-shouldered Thorn	2	27-Aug-23
73.348	<i>Noctua janthe</i>	Lesser Broad-bordered Yellow Underwing	10	27-Aug-23
73.342	<i>Noctua pronuba</i>	Large Yellow Underwing	20	27-Aug-23
73.345	<i>Noctua comes</i>	Lesser Yellow Underwing	20	24-Aug-23
73.131	<i>Luperina testacea</i>	Flounced Rustic	2	24-Aug-23
73.348	<i>Noctua janthe</i>	Lesser Broad-bordered Yellow Underwing	8	24-Aug-23
73.342	<i>Noctua pronuba</i>	Large Yellow Underwing	10	24-Aug-23
49.039	<i>Epiphyas postvittana</i>	Light Brown Apple Moth	2	24-Aug-23
73.162	<i>Apamea monoglypha</i>	Dark Arches	4	24-Aug-23
	<i>Mesapamea secalis</i> agg.	Common Rustic agg.	4	24-Aug-23
73.345	<i>Noctua comes</i>	Lesser Yellow Underwing	10	23-Aug-23
17.003	<i>Ypsolopha dentella</i>	Honeysuckle Moth	1	23-Aug-23
73.325	<i>Agrotis puta</i>	Shuttle-shaped Dart	1	23-Aug-23
73.348	<i>Noctua janthe</i>	Lesser Broad-bordered Yellow Underwing	4	23-Aug-23
73.342	<i>Noctua pronuba</i>	Large Yellow Underwing	3	23-Aug-23
63.089	<i>Agriphila tristella</i>	a moth	3	23-Aug-23
	<i>Mesapamea secalis</i> agg.	Common Rustic agg.	1	23-Aug-23
73.345	<i>Noctua comes</i>	Lesser Yellow Underwing	10	20-Aug-23
18.001	<i>Plutella xylostella</i>	Diamond-back Moth	1	20-Aug-23
73.348	<i>Noctua janthe</i>	Lesser Broad-bordered Yellow Underwing	2	20-Aug-23
73.342	<i>Noctua pronuba</i>	Large Yellow Underwing	6	20-Aug-23
63.033	<i>Udea lutealis</i>	a moth	1	20-Aug-23

73.219	<i>Atethmia centrigo</i>	Centre-barred Sallow	1	19-Aug-23
71.018	<i>Pheosia gnoma</i>	Lesser Swallow Prominent	3	19-Aug-23
73.131	<i>Luperina testacea</i>	Flounced Rustic	1	19-Aug-23
	<i>Amphipyra pyramidea</i> agg.	Copper Underwing agg.	1	19-Aug-23
70.016	<i>Idaea aversata</i> ab. <i>remutata</i>	Riband Wave [non-banded form]	4	19-Aug-23
70.061	<i>Epirrhoe alternata</i>	Common Carpet	1	19-Aug-23
63.074	<i>Eudonia mercurella</i>	a moth	1	19-Aug-23
70.258	<i>Peribatodes rhomboidaria</i>	Willow Beauty	3	19-Aug-23
73.084	<i>Bryophila domestica</i>	Marbled Beauty	1	19-Aug-23
73.348	<i>Noctua janthe</i>	Lesser Broad-bordered Yellow Underwing	16	19-Aug-23
73.325	<i>Agrotis puta</i>	Shuttle-shaped Dart	1	19-Aug-23
70.074	<i>Hydriomena furcata</i>	July Highflyer	1	19-Aug-23
49.039	<i>Epiphyas postvittana</i>	Light Brown Apple Moth	1	19-Aug-23
73.342	<i>Noctua pronuba</i>	Large Yellow Underwing	30	19-Aug-23
71.012	<i>Notodonta dromedarius</i>	Iron Prominent	1	19-Aug-23
73.162	<i>Apamea monoglypha</i>	Dark Arches	8	19-Aug-23
	<i>Acronicta tridens/psi</i>	Dark Dagger / Grey Dagger	1	19-Aug-23
70.183	<i>Eupithecia vulgata</i>	Common Pug	1	19-Aug-23
69.016	<i>Deilephila elpenor</i>	Elephant Hawk-moth	1	9-Aug-23
63.08	<i>Chrysoteuchia culmella</i>	Garden Grass-veneer	3	9-Aug-23
73.325	<i>Agrotis puta</i>	Shuttle-shaped Dart	1	9-Aug-23
28.01	<i>Hofmannophila pseudospretella</i>	Brown House-moth	2	9-Aug-23
73.342	<i>Noctua pronuba</i>	Large Yellow Underwing	8	9-Aug-23
73.162	<i>Apamea monoglypha</i>	Dark Arches	2	9-Aug-23
73.345	<i>Noctua comes</i>	Lesser Yellow Underwing	2	8-Aug-23
70.016	<i>Idaea aversata</i> ab. <i>remutata</i>	Riband Wave [non-banded form]	1	8-Aug-23
73.348	<i>Noctua janthe</i>	Lesser Broad-bordered Yellow Underwing	2	8-Aug-23
63.08	<i>Chrysoteuchia culmella</i>	Garden Grass-veneer	1	8-Aug-23
49.039	<i>Epiphyas postvittana</i>	Light Brown Apple Moth	1	8-Aug-23
73.342	<i>Noctua pronuba</i>	Large Yellow Underwing	10	8-Aug-23
73.162	<i>Apamea monoglypha</i>	Dark Arches	3	8-Aug-23
70.016	<i>Idaea aversata</i> ab. <i>remutata</i>	Riband Wave [non-banded form]	1	7-Aug-23
73.095	<i>Caradrina clavipalpis</i>	Pale Mottled Willow	1	7-Aug-23
73.325	<i>Agrotis puta</i>	Shuttle-shaped Dart	1	7-Aug-23
73.342	<i>Noctua pronuba</i>	Large Yellow Underwing	6	7-Aug-23
73.162	<i>Apamea monoglypha</i>	Dark Arches	2	7-Aug-23
	<i>Mesapamea secalis</i> agg.	Common Rustic agg.	2	7-Aug-23

73.345	<i>Noctua comes</i>	Lesser Yellow Underwing	3	3-Aug-23
	<i>Oligia strigilis</i> agg.	Marbled Minor agg.	2	3-Aug-23
72.044	<i>Eilema griseola</i>	Dingy Footman	1	3-Aug-23
49.166	<i>Celypha lacunana</i>	a moth	1	3-Aug-23
70.016	<i>Idaea aversata</i> ab. <i>remutata</i>	Riband Wave [non-banded form]	2	3-Aug-23
63.08	<i>Chrysoteuchia culmella</i>	Garden Grass-veneer	2	3-Aug-23
73.325	<i>Agrotis puta</i>	Shuttle-shaped Dart	1	3-Aug-23
28.01	<i>Hofmannophila pseudospretella</i>	Brown House-moth	1	3-Aug-23
73.342	<i>Noctua pronuba</i>	Large Yellow Underwing	8	3-Aug-23
70.226	<i>Opisthograptis luteolata</i>	Brimstone Moth	2	3-Aug-23
70.243	<i>Ourapteryx sambucaria</i>	Swallow-tailed Moth	1	3-Aug-23
	<i>Mesapamea secalis</i> agg.	Common Rustic agg.	6	3-Aug-23
73.162	<i>Apamea monoglypha</i>	Dark Arches	5	3-Aug-23
73.012	<i>Diachrysia chrysitis</i>	Burnished Brass	1	1-Aug-23
69.003	<i>Laothoe populi</i>	Poplar Hawk-moth	1	1-Aug-23
73.345	<i>Noctua comes</i>	Lesser Yellow Underwing	1	1-Aug-23
16.003	<i>Yponomeuta malinellus</i>	Apple Ermine	1	1-Aug-23
72.009	<i>Leucoma salicis</i>	White Satin	1	1-Aug-23
70.049	<i>Xanthorhoe fluctuata</i>	Garden Carpet	1	1-Aug-23
73.342	<i>Noctua pronuba</i>	Large Yellow Underwing	6	1-Aug-23
	<i>Mesapamea secalis</i> agg.	Common Rustic agg.	10	1-Aug-23
73.084	<i>Bryophila domestica</i>	Marbled Beauty	1	27-Jul-23
69.016	<i>Deilephila elpenor</i>	Elephant Hawk-moth	1	27-Jul-23
73.342	<i>Noctua pronuba</i>	Large Yellow Underwing	6	27-Jul-23
73.162	<i>Apamea monoglypha</i>	Dark Arches	1	27-Jul-23
70.089	<i>Eulithis prunata</i>	Phoenix	1	24-Jul-23
73.357	<i>Xestia xanthographa</i>	Square-spot Rustic	1	24-Jul-23
63.074	<i>Eudonia mercurella</i>	a moth	1	24-Jul-23
72.045	<i>Eilema lurideola</i>	Common Footman	2	24-Jul-23
63.08	<i>Chrysoteuchia culmella</i>	Garden Grass-veneer	3	24-Jul-23
73.342	<i>Noctua pronuba</i>	Large Yellow Underwing	4	24-Jul-23
73.162	<i>Apamea monoglypha</i>	Dark Arches	8	24-Jul-23
	<i>Mesapamea secalis</i> agg.	Common Rustic agg.	6	24-Jul-23
70.008	<i>Idaea seriata</i>	Small Dusty Wave	1	22-Jul-23
73.015	<i>Autographa gamma</i>	Silver Y	1	22-Jul-23
70.089	<i>Eulithis prunata</i>	Phoenix	1	22-Jul-23
63.054	<i>Cydalima perspectalis</i>	Box-tree Moth	1	22-Jul-23

73.084	<i>Bryophila domestica</i>	Marbled Beauty	1	22-Jul-23
	<i>Oligia strigilis</i> agg.	Marbled Minor agg.	2	22-Jul-23
63.074	<i>Eudonia mercurella</i>	a moth	1	22-Jul-23
73.317	<i>Agrotis exclamationis</i>	Heart and Dart	2	22-Jul-23
70.141	<i>Gymnoscelis rufifasciata</i>	Double-striped Pug	1	22-Jul-23
73.342	<i>Noctua pronuba</i>	Large Yellow Underwing	8	22-Jul-23
70.226	<i>Opisthograptis luteolata</i>	Brimstone Moth	1	22-Jul-23
41.002	<i>Blastobasis adustella</i>	a moth	1	22-Jul-23
	<i>Mesapamea secalis</i> agg.	Common Rustic agg.	4	22-Jul-23
73.162	<i>Apamea monoglypha</i>	Dark Arches	8	22-Jul-23
	<i>Oligia strigilis</i> agg.	Marbled Minor agg.	3	18-Jul-23
70.016	<i>Idaea aversata</i> ab. <i>remutata</i>	Riband Wave [non-banded form]	3	18-Jul-23
63.08	<i>Chrysoteuchia culmella</i>	Garden Grass-veneer	2	18-Jul-23
72.045	<i>Eilema lurideola</i>	Common Footman	1	18-Jul-23
70.226	<i>Opisthograptis luteolata</i>	Brimstone Moth	1	18-Jul-23
73.342	<i>Noctua pronuba</i>	Large Yellow Underwing	2	18-Jul-23
	<i>Mesapamea secalis</i> agg.	Common Rustic agg.	2	18-Jul-23
73.162	<i>Apamea monoglypha</i>	Dark Arches	4	18-Jul-23
73.338	<i>Lycophotia porphyrea</i>	True Lover's Knot	1	18-Jul-23
73.015	<i>Autographa gamma</i>	Silver Y	8	17-Jul-23
63.08	<i>Chrysoteuchia culmella</i>	Garden Grass-veneer	3	17-Jul-23
73.317	<i>Agrotis exclamationis</i>	Heart and Dart	4	17-Jul-23
49.039	<i>Epiphyas postvittana</i>	Light Brown Apple Moth	2	17-Jul-23
73.342	<i>Noctua pronuba</i>	Large Yellow Underwing	20	17-Jul-23
72.007	<i>Hypena crassalis</i>	Beautiful Snout	1	17-Jul-23
73.001	<i>Abrostola tripartita</i>	Spectacle	1	17-Jul-23
	<i>Mesapamea secalis</i> agg.	Common Rustic agg.	1	17-Jul-23
73.016	<i>Autographa pulchrina</i>	Beautiful Golden Y	1	17-Jul-23
73.162	<i>Apamea monoglypha</i>	Dark Arches	35	17-Jul-23
70.008	<i>Idaea seriata</i>	Small Dusty Wave	1	8-Jul-23
49.224	<i>Spilonota ocellana</i>	Bud Moth	1	8-Jul-23
73.015	<i>Autographa gamma</i>	Silver Y	1	8-Jul-23
49.156	<i>Hedya nubiferana</i>	Marbled Orchard Tortrix	1	8-Jul-23
49.338	<i>Cydia pomonella</i>	Codling Moth	3	8-Jul-23
49.062	<i>Acleris forsskaleana</i>	a moth	1	8-Jul-23
49.091	<i>Pseudargyrotoza conwagana</i>	a moth	1	8-Jul-23
70.258	<i>Peribatodes rhomboidaria</i>	Willow Beauty	1	8-Jul-23
70.016	<i>Idaea aversata</i> ab. <i>remutata</i>	Riband Wave [non-banded form]	2	8-Jul-23
	<i>Oligia strigilis</i> agg.	Marbled Minor agg.	14	8-Jul-23

49.294	<i>Notocelia uddmanniana</i>	Bramble Shoot Moth	1	8-Jul-23
69.016	<i>Deilephila elpenor</i>	Elephant Hawk-moth	1	8-Jul-23
73.317	<i>Agrotis exclamationis</i>	Heart and Dart	15	8-Jul-23
63.08	<i>Chrysoteuchia culmella</i>	Garden Grass-veneer	28	8-Jul-23
70.141	<i>Gymnoscelis rufifasciata</i>	Double-striped Pug	1	8-Jul-23
73.342	<i>Noctua pronuba</i>	Large Yellow Underwing	10	8-Jul-23
49.039	<i>Epiphyas postvittana</i>	Light Brown Apple Moth	1	8-Jul-23
70.085	<i>Cidaria fulvata</i>	Barred Yellow	1	8-Jul-23
18.001	<i>Plutella maculipennis</i>	Diamond-back Moth	1	8-Jul-23
	<i>Acronicta tridens/psi</i>	Dark Dagger / Grey Dagger	2	8-Jul-23
16.002	<i>Yponomeuta padella</i>	Orchard Ermine	1	8-Jul-23
63.038	<i>Pleuroptya ruralis</i>	Mother of Pearl	1	8-Jul-23
73.016	<i>Autographa pulchrina</i>	Beautiful Golden Y	1	8-Jul-23
69.01	<i>Macroglossum stellatarum</i>	Humming-bird Hawk-moth	1	8-Jul-23
70.243	<i>Ourapteryx sambucaria</i>	Swallow-tailed Moth	1	8-Jul-23
70.252	<i>Biston betularia</i>	Peppered Moth	2	8-Jul-23
73.338	<i>Lycophotia porphyrea</i>	True Lover's Knot	1	8-Jul-23
73.162	<i>Apamea monoglypha</i>	Dark Arches	10	8-Jul-23
	<i>Oligia strigilis</i> agg.	Marbled Minor agg.	1	7-Jul-23
73.317	<i>Agrotis exclamationis</i>	Heart and Dart	1	7-Jul-23
73.342	<i>Noctua pronuba</i>	Large Yellow Underwing	4	7-Jul-23
	<i>Mesapamea secalis</i> agg.	Common Rustic agg.	1	7-Jul-23
73.162	<i>Apamea monoglypha</i>	Dark Arches	4	7-Jul-23
69.003	<i>Laothoe populi</i>	Poplar Hawk-moth	1	4-Jul-23
70.008	<i>Idaea seriata</i>	Small Dusty Wave	1	4-Jul-23
73.317	<i>Agrotis exclamationis</i>	Heart and Dart	2	4-Jul-23
17.003	<i>Ypsolopha dentella</i>	Honeysuckle Moth	1	4-Jul-23
49.294	<i>Notocelia uddmanniana</i>	Bramble Shoot Moth	1	4-Jul-23
63.08	<i>Chrysoteuchia culmella</i>	Garden Grass-veneer	4	4-Jul-23
73.163	<i>Apamea lithoxylaea</i>	Light Arches	1	4-Jul-23
69.016	<i>Deilephila elpenor</i>	Elephant Hawk-moth	1	4-Jul-23
73.342	<i>Noctua pronuba</i>	Large Yellow Underwing	2	4-Jul-23
70.226	<i>Opisthograptis luteolata</i>	Brimstone Moth	1	4-Jul-23
73.096	<i>Hoplodrina octogenaria</i>	Uncertain	1	4-Jul-23
73.162	<i>Apamea monoglypha</i>	Dark Arches	3	4-Jul-23
73.317	<i>Agrotis exclamationis</i>	Heart and Dart	1	14-Jun-23
70.097	<i>Dysstroma truncata</i>	Common Marbled Carpet	1	14-Jun-23
49.039	<i>Epiphyas postvittana</i>	Light Brown Apple Moth	2	14-Jun-23
72.019	<i>Spilosoma lutea</i>	Buff Ermine	1	14-Jun-23
70.183	<i>Eupithecia vulgata</i>	Common Pug	1	14-Jun-23

70.258	<i>Peribatodes rhomboidaria</i>	Willow Beauty	2	13-Jun-23
	<i>Oligia strigilis</i> agg.	Marbled Minor agg.	1	13-Jun-23
65.002	<i>Watsonalla binaria</i>	Oak Hook-tip	1	13-Jun-23
73.317	<i>Agrotis exclamationis</i>	Heart and Dart	2	13-Jun-23
70.19	<i>Eupithecia subfuscata</i>	Grey Pug	3	13-Jun-23
72.015	<i>Calliteara pudibunda</i>	Pale Tussock	2	13-Jun-23
49.039	<i>Epiphyas postvittana</i>	Light Brown Apple Moth	4	13-Jun-23
70.176	<i>Eupithecia intricata</i>	Freyer's Pug	1	13-Jun-23
49.004	<i>Ditula angustiorana</i>	Red-barred Tortrix	1	13-Jun-23
70.222	<i>Petrophora chlorosata</i>	Brown Silver-line	2	13-Jun-23
49.338	<i>Cydia pomonella</i>	Codling Moth	1	11-Jun-23
70.053	<i>Xanthorhoe designata</i>	Flame Carpet	1	11-Jun-23
35.04	<i>Bryotropha terrella</i>	a moth	1	11-Jun-23
70.097	<i>Dysstroma truncata</i>	Common Marbled Carpet	3	11-Jun-23
73.325	<i>Agrotis puta</i>	Shuttle-shaped Dart	1	11-Jun-23
69.016	<i>Deilephila elpenor</i>	Elephant Hawk-moth	1	11-Jun-23
62.001	<i>Aphomia sociella</i>	Bee Moth	1	11-Jun-23
65.01	<i>Tethea ocularis</i>	Figure of Eighty	1	11-Jun-23
49.059	<i>Tortrix viridana</i>	Green Oak Tortrix	3	11-Jun-23
72.015	<i>Calliteara pudibunda</i>	Pale Tussock	1	11-Jun-23
49.039	<i>Epiphyas postvittana</i>	Light Brown Apple Moth	20	11-Jun-23
70.226	<i>Opisthograptis luteolata</i>	Brimstone Moth	10	11-Jun-23
73.342	<i>Noctua pronuba</i>	Large Yellow Underwing	1	11-Jun-23
73.174	<i>Oligia latruncula</i>	Tawny Marbled Minor	3	11-Jun-23
73.001	<i>Abrostola tripartita</i>	Spectacle	1	11-Jun-23
71.012	<i>Notodonta dromedarius</i>	Iron Prominent	1	11-Jun-23
63.025	<i>Anania hortulata</i>	Small Magpie	1	11-Jun-23
49.004	<i>Ditula angustiorana</i>	Red-barred Tortrix	1	11-Jun-23
73.046	<i>Subacronicta megacephala</i>	Poplar Grey	1	11-Jun-23
70.183	<i>Eupithecia vulgata</i>	Common Pug	2	11-Jun-23
70.222	<i>Petrophora chlorosata</i>	Brown Silver-line	1	11-Jun-23
71.017	<i>Pheosia tremula</i>	Swallow Prominent	1	5-Jun-23
69.001	<i>Mimas tiliae</i>	Lime Hawk-moth	1	5-Jun-23
49.039	<i>Epiphyas postvittana</i>	Light Brown Apple Moth	4	5-Jun-23
70.141	<i>Gymnoscelis rufifasciata</i>	Double-striped Pug	1	5-Jun-23
73.174	<i>Oligia latruncula</i>	Tawny Marbled Minor	1	5-Jun-23
70.283	<i>Campaea margaritaria</i>	Light Emerald	1	4-Jun-23
70.224	<i>Plagodis dolabraria</i>	Scorched Wing	2	4-Jun-23
70.097	<i>Dysstroma truncata</i>	Common Marbled Carpet	2	4-Jun-23
73.317	<i>Agrotis exclamationis</i>	Heart and Dart	1	4-Jun-23
49.039	<i>Epiphyas postvittana</i>	Light Brown Apple Moth	10	4-Jun-23
70.226	<i>Opisthograptis luteolata</i>	Brimstone Moth	5	4-Jun-23

70.183	<i>Eupithecia vulgata</i>	Common Pug	2	4-Jun-23
70.222	<i>Petrophora chlorosata</i>	Brown Silver-line	2	4-Jun-23
69.001	<i>Mimas tiliae</i>	Lime Hawk-moth	1	3-Jun-23
73.317	<i>Agrotis exclamationis</i>	Heart and Dart	1	3-Jun-23
73.267	<i>Lacanobia oleracea</i>	Bright-line Brown-eye	1	3-Jun-23
70.049	<i>Xanthorhoe fluctuata</i>	Garden Carpet	1	3-Jun-23
73.325	<i>Agrotis puta</i>	Shuttle-shaped Dart	2	31-May-23
49.039	<i>Epiphyas postvittana</i>	Light Brown Apple Moth	2	31-May-23
72.019	<i>Spilosoma lutea</i>	Buff Ermine	1	31-May-23
73.156	<i>Apamea crenata</i>	Clouded-bordered Brindle	1	23-May-23
62.001	<i>Aphomia sociella</i>	Bee Moth	1	23-May-23
70.097	<i>Dysstroma truncata</i>	Common Marbled Carpet	1	23-May-23
73.325	<i>Agrotis puta</i>	Shuttle-shaped Dart	3	23-May-23
70.226	<i>Opisthograptis luteolata</i>	Brimstone Moth	2	23-May-23
49.039	<i>Epiphyas postvittana</i>	Light Brown Apple Moth	3	23-May-23
70.183	<i>Eupithecia vulgata</i>	Common Pug	1	23-May-23
73.158	<i>Apamea sordens</i>	Rustic Shoulder-knot	1	21-May-23
73.317	<i>Agrotis exclamationis</i>	Heart and Dart	1	21-May-23
49.039	<i>Epiphyas postvittana</i>	Light Brown Apple Moth	4	21-May-23
70.079	<i>Thera britannica</i>	Spruce Carpet	1	21-May-23
70.053	<i>Xanthorhoe designata</i>	Flame Carpet	1	11-May-23
65.016	<i>Achlya flavicornis</i>	Yellow Horned	1	11-May-23
73.113	<i>Phlogophora meticulosa</i>	Angle Shades	1	11-May-23
70.141	<i>Gymnoscelis rufifasciata</i>	Double-striped Pug	1	11-May-23
72.015	<i>Calliteara pudibunda</i>	Pale Tussock	1	11-May-23
73.052	<i>Cucullia umbratica</i>	Shark	1	11-May-23
49.039	<i>Epiphyas postvittana</i>	Light Brown Apple Moth	3	7-May-23
49.039	<i>Epiphyas postvittana</i>	Light Brown Apple Moth	1	16-Apr-23
70.245	<i>Alsophila aescularia</i>	March Moth	1	19-Mar-23
73.249	<i>Orthosia gothica</i>	Hebrew Character	2	19-Mar-23
73.194	<i>Conistra vaccinii</i>	Chestnut	1	28-Jan-23

	Moths recorded 2023			
	P W Forster			
	Newton Mulgrave Castle			
	NZ8412 (VC62)			
Code	Scientific Name	Vernacular Name	No	Date
73.345	<i>Noctua comes</i>	Lesser Yellow Underwing	1	31-Aug-23
49.065	<i>Acleris comariana</i>	Strawberry Tortrix	1	31-Aug-23
63.089	<i>Agriphila tristella</i>	a moth	9	24-Aug-23
73.096	<i>Hoplocleris octogenaria</i>	Uncertain	6	24-Aug-23
70.079	<i>Thera britannica</i>	Spruce Carpet	1	24-Aug-23
73.342	<i>Noctua pronuba</i>	Large Yellow Underwing	38	24-Aug-23
73.097	<i>Hoplocleris blanda</i>	Rustic	5	24-Aug-23
49.039	<i>Epiphyas postvittana</i>	Light Brown Apple Moth	6	24-Aug-23
73.348	<i>Noctua janthe</i>	Lesser Broad-bordered Yellow Underwing	25	24-Aug-23
71.017	<i>Pheosia tremula</i>	Swallow Prominent	1	24-Aug-23
73.113	<i>Phlogophora meticulosa</i>	Angle Shades	1	24-Aug-23
73.359	<i>Xestia c-nigrum</i>	Setaceous Hebrew Character	2	24-Aug-23
70.258	<i>Peribatodes rhomboidaria</i>	Willow Beauty	1	24-Aug-23
73.064	<i>Amphipyra tragopoginis</i>	Mouse Moth	1	24-Aug-23
70.239	<i>Selenia tetralunaria</i>	Purple Thorn	1	24-Aug-23
73.063	<i>Amphipyra berbera svenssoni</i>	Svensson's Copper Underwing	1	24-Aug-23
49.066	<i>Acleris laterana</i>	a moth	1	24-Aug-23
73.131	<i>Luperina testacea</i>	Flounced Rustic	4	24-Aug-23
73.345	<i>Noctua comes</i>	Lesser Yellow Underwing	30	24-Aug-23
63.093	<i>Agriphila straminella</i>	a moth	2	10-Aug-23
73.353	<i>Xestia baja</i>	Dotted Clay	2	10-Aug-23
49.066	<i>Acleris laterana</i>	a moth	1	10-Aug-23
71.018	<i>Pheosia gnoma</i>	Lesser Swallow Prominent	1	10-Aug-23
72.044	<i>Eilema griseola</i>	Dingy Footman	1	10-Aug-23
70.016	<i>Idaea aversata ab. remutata</i>	Riband Wave [non-banded form]	2	10-Aug-23
73.317	<i>Agrotis exclamationis</i>	Heart and Dart	2	10-Aug-23
63.08	<i>Chrysoteuchia culmella</i>	Garden Grass-veneer	3	10-Aug-23
72.045	<i>Eilema lurideola</i>	Common Footman	3	10-Aug-23
73.348	<i>Noctua janthe</i>	Lesser Broad-bordered Yellow Underwing	10	10-Aug-23
71.013	<i>Notodonta ziczac</i>	Pebble Prominent	1	10-Aug-23
49.376	<i>Pammene aurita</i>	a moth	1	10-Aug-23
73.361	<i>Xestia triangulum</i>	Double Square-spot	1	10-Aug-23
73.095	<i>Caradrina clavipalpis</i>	Pale Mottled Willow	1	10-Aug-23

62.035	<i>Acrobasis advenella</i>	a moth	1	10-Aug-23
73.342	<i>Noctua pronuba</i>	Large Yellow Underwing	100	10-Aug-23
70.226	<i>Opisthograptis luteolata</i>	Brimstone Moth	1	10-Aug-23
41.002	<i>Blastobasis lignea</i>	a moth	10	10-Aug-23
73.162	<i>Apamea monoglypha</i>	Dark Arches	6	10-Aug-23
72.013	<i>Euproctis similis</i>	Yellow-tail	1	10-Aug-23
	<i>Mesapamea secalis</i> agg.	Common Rustic agg.	5	10-Aug-23
73.244	<i>Orthosia cerasi</i>	Common Quaker	8	29-Mar-23
70.157	<i>Eupithecia dodoneata</i>	Oak-tree Pug	1	29-Mar-23
73.069	<i>Xylocampa areola</i>	Early Grey	1	29-Mar-23
73.194	<i>Conistra vaccinii</i>	Chestnut	5	29-Mar-23
73.245	<i>Orthosia cruda</i>	Small Quaker	10	29-Mar-23
73.21	<i>Eupsilia transversa</i>	Satellite	1	29-Mar-23
29.001	<i>Diurnea fagella</i>	a moth	2	29-Mar-23
70.245	<i>Alsophila aescularia</i>	March Moth	1	29-Mar-23
73.249	<i>Orthosia gothica</i>	Hebrew Character	15	29-Mar-23
73.25	<i>Anorthoa munda</i>	Twin-spotted Quaker	1	29-Mar-23
70.251	<i>Biston strataria</i>	Oak Beauty	2	29-Mar-23
70.156	<i>Eupithecia abbreviata</i>	Brindled Pug	2	29-Mar-23
73.241	<i>Panolis flammea</i>	Pine Beauty	1	29-Mar-23

	Moths Recorded 2023			
	P W Forster			
	Tudor Croft, Guisborough TS14 8DL			
	NZ600155 (VC62)			
Code	Scientific Name	Vernacular Name	No	Date
3.002	<i>Korscheltellus lupulina</i>	Common Swift	1	4-Aug-23
73.216	<i>Cosmia trapezina</i>	Dun-bar	1	4-Aug-23
70.016	<i>Idaea aversata</i> ab. <i>remutata</i>	Riband Wave [non-banded form]	1	4-Aug-23
71.017	<i>Pheosia tremula</i>	Swallow Prominent	1	4-Aug-23
72.045	<i>Eilema lurideola</i>	Common Footman	1	4-Aug-23
63.08	<i>Chrysoteuchia culmella</i>	Garden Grass-veneer	1	4-Aug-23
70.226	<i>Opisthograptis luteolata</i>	Brimstone Moth	1	4-Aug-23
73.162	<i>Apamea monoglypha</i>	Dark Arches	1	4-Aug-23
	<i>Mesapamea secalis</i> agg.	Common Rustic agg.	1	4-Aug-23
71.02	<i>Pterostoma palpine</i>	Pale Prominent	1	4-Aug-23

Split Gill (*Schizophyllum commune*)*P W Forster*

Split Gill (*Schizophyllum commune*) was recorded at Tocketts Mill, Guisborough, Cleveland (NZ626180) on 09 -11-2023.

Tocketts Mill Country Park is a static caravan site situated on the outskirts of Guisborough off the A173. The site has a purpose built car park which is located to the right as you descend into the main static home area.



Broadleaved tree trunks have been placed around the perimeter of the car parking area as a preventative measure as a small beck runs alongside, veering to the right of the car park.



It was on one particular log that I noticed Split Gill, (*Schizophyllum commune*), it is only the third time I have ever encountered this fungus.

It is described as common in the SE of England, found on deciduous wood and, bizarrely, found on polythene-wrapped straw bales.

It is a distinctive bracket-like fungus whose gill edge splits and turns up when dry and closes up when rehydrated.





Underside showing characteristic gills



Split Gill, (*Schizophyllum commune*) on trunk 21-02-24

Records now in CATE2 show the following:

UK records: 666. VC 62: 9 records. VC 66: 4 records. VC 67: 3 records. VC 68: 1 record.

Ref: Collins Complete Guide to British Mushrooms & Toadstools. 2009.

Attack and Defence: Millipedes and Centipedes in the Cleveland Area

Part 2: Centipedes

Tony Wardhaugh

This article is based on a talk given at a CNFC meeting on 26th September 2022. Part 1, covering millipedes, appeared in the Spring 2023 issue of the Club's Proceedings.

What are Centipedes?

Like millipedes, centipedes are arthropods, having jointed legs and an exoskeleton. Although sometimes grouped together under the name myriapods, centipedes are very different from millipedes and the two are ranked as separate classes of arthropod. Centipedes form the class Chilopoda, 'kheilos' being Greek for 'lip', the name referring to the first pair of legs which have become highly modified to form a pair of pincer-like jaws. Centipedes are very much the attackers; all are carnivorous, using their large, powerful fangs to pierce and inject venom into their prey, a complete contrast to millipedes which are herbivorous.



Underside of the head of *Lithobius forficatus* showing the jaws

The venom is a mixture of many different proteins, some of which are nerve poisons and others enzymes that begin digestion of the prey. Some tropical centipedes can grow up to 30cm long and can inflict a painful bite but even the largest British centipede can barely pierce human skin.

Centipedes have a single pair of legs per segment, unlike millipedes which have two pairs per segment. Adult centipedes always have an odd number of pairs of legs - they can have 49 pairs or 51 but never 50, so there is no such thing as a centipede with 100 legs! In British species the number of legs varies from 15 to 101 pairs and this number can be a useful guide to identification. We have about 53 species; worldwide there are about 3,800 known.

Appearance and lifestyle

In Britain there are two main forms of centipede, what might be called the 'fast runners' which tend to be surface dwellers and the 'crawlers' which are soil-dwelling burrowers. The fast runners, make up the order Lithobiomorpha ('lithos' meaning 'stone'). These have 15 pairs of legs, whilst the crawlers (order Geophilomorpha meaning 'earth lovers') have anything from 35 to 101 pairs of legs.

Lithobids (the fast runners) *Lithobius forficatus* is an example of a fast runner:



Lithobids have long, very flexible antennae that are able to pick up airborne chemicals. The antennae can be bent round and run through the mouthparts where, it is presumed, there are taste receptors. Lithobids have eyes but these are relatively simple when compared with the eyes of many insects. Each eye is made up of from one to about 40 units, called ocelli, the number depending upon the species. These eyes probably respond only to light intensity and movement; they are not able to form a detailed image.



Lithobids have relatively rigid bodies. This results from the joints between the exoskeleton plates on the top and underneath of the body not coinciding, which makes the body much more stable for fast running.

Females of this group of centipedes typically lay 30 to 40 eggs, coating each with a mixture of mucus and soil particles. This mixture hardens and both protects the eggs and makes them very well disguised. The young are active and independent as soon as they hatch but have fewer segments and legs than adults. They add more of both at each moult as they grow, individuals living for as much as five or six years.

Geophilids (the crawlers) *Geophilus easoni* is an example of a geophilid:



These are typically soil dwellers, found occasionally under stones and logs and in the lower layers of leaf litter. They lack eyes and have comparatively much shorter antennae than the lithobids. Eyes would be of no real use and long antennae a hindrance to a subterranean animal. Geophilids have a relatively soft exoskeleton with an extra crossways joint in the plates around each segment, making them superficially double jointed i.e. each segment has a front half and a rear half. These two features are adaptations that make geophilids very flexible for moving through soil spaces. In fact they are so flexible that they can easily bend through 180 degrees and even coil up into a ball. In addition, if they get stuck they are well able to crawl backwards.

Their life-cycle differs in a number of ways from that of the lithobids. The female cares for her eggs, wrapping herself around and guarding them. Also she licks them periodically which helps to prevent fungal growth. The young hatch with the adult number of legs but these are initially short and stumpy and become fully developed only after a series of moults. The young are guarded by their mother until active and independent.

For our centipede fauna as a whole, details of the diet are not well known but it is likely to vary between species and includes mites, springtails, woodlice, some beetles, spiders and slugs. Similarly, predators are poorly known but probably include birds, shrews, toads, newts, ants and larger ground beetles. Their venomous fangs must be very useful in deterring some would-be predators but being long and thin may leave the hind end of the body vulnerable. The lithobids, on being attacked at the rear, will raise their hindmost pair of legs and secrete a fluid from pores in these; this behaviour has been seen to successfully repel ants. The geophilids have similar glands with pores on the middle of the underside of each segment. These may seem strangely positioned but when at rest in the soil they curl up into a ball with their underside facing outwards. If attacked by a predator such as a ground beetle the glands produce a secretion to repel it. Interestingly, this is a glue-like substance which entangles the mouthparts of the beetle, a very similar defence mechanism to that of the Pill Millipede *Glomeris marginata* (see part one of this article).

This tidy distinction between the two predominant and contrasting centipede types is something of a simplification. A third order, the Scolopendromorpha, has three British species and these are somewhat intermediate in appearance, having 21 pairs of legs. This group includes the world's largest centipede, *Scolopendra gigantea* from tropical America, which is 300mm (one foot) long and is known to prey on mice, toads and also bats, the last of which it is able to capture by hanging head down from the roof of a cave in which the bats roost. It then catches the bats as they fly past within striking distance. Our most common scolopendrid is *Cryptops hortensis*, no more than 30mm long, eyeless but active and superficially similar to a lithobid although not quite so long-legged and fast running.



Species recorded in Cleveland

The following is a list of species recorded in Cleveland between 1988 and 2023 inclusive although the large majority of records date from 2010 onwards. Species are listed in descending order of the number of one km squares in which each has been found. This number is given in brackets after the name of each species. Cleveland is defined as the area described by John Hawell (1895), comprising 33 parishes south of the Tees, bounded approximately by Yarm, Swainby and the Esk valley to just north of Whitby at Sandsend. However, for some species comments are included on records from adjacent areas of Yorkshire and County Durham.

These records do not paint a comprehensive picture of centipedes in the Cleveland area and represent simply what has been noted on a casual basis. There may be bias towards woodland habitats and away from synanthropic ones i.e. parks, gardens, cultivated land, brownfield sites and similar areas.. In addition, much of the recording has been of species found in leaf litter and beneath stones, sticks and small logs on the ground. This will have biased records towards lithobids (the fast runners) and away from geophilids (the crawlers) which tend to inhabit the soil layer. Comments on national distribution and habitat preferences rely on information on the British Myriapod and Isopod Group website <https://www.bmig.org.uk> and Barber (2022).

Descriptions of species are intended as a brief outline only, reliable identification often requiring examination of minor morphological features; for this see Barber (2008). Also, Eason (1964) remains a valuable source of general information on British centipedes.

1. *Lithobius forficatus* (25). Image above. The most frequently encountered species in Cleveland and also in Watsonian Yorkshire as recorded by Lee & Richardson (1988), see Table below. With a length of up to 30mm it is the only common large brown lithobid in the area and occurs in urban, suburban and rural habitats.

2. *Lithobius crassipes* (12). Chestnut brown and with a maximum length of 13.5mm this is a common small lithobid in rural habitats; all of the Cleveland records are from wooded sites. It is not easy to distinguish from *L. curtipes* see below. *L. crassipes* was also the second most frequently encountered centipede in Watsonian Yorkshire as recorded by Lee & Richardson (1988).



3. *Lithobius macilentus* (Formerly *L. aulacopus*) (8). Also chestnut brown on colour and of maximum length 14mm this species is superficially similar to the one above. All Cleveland records are from woodland.

4. *Geophilus flavus* (Formerly *Necrophloeophagus longicornis*) (7). A geophilid of maximum length 45mm with 49 to 57 pairs of legs, bright yellow with the head end darker. Nationally common in a variety of urban and rural habitats.

5. *Stigmatogaster subterraneus* (6). Up to 70mm in length with 77 to 83 pairs of legs, yellow to pale brown with the head end darker. Often found in synanthropic habitats, two of the Cleveland records are from gardens, one from a churchyard and three from woodland. Nationally common.



6. *Lithobius microps* (Formerly *L. duboscqui*) (6). At a maximum length of 9.5mm this is the smallest common lithobid in Britain, so named because each eye is made up of just 3 (rarely 4) ocelli - a distinguishing feature. Said to be very much an animal of synanthropic sites but also woodland in the south, four of these records are from woodland and one from a garden.



7. *Strigamia acuminata* (5). A geophilid red in colour with 37 to 41 pairs of legs. Occurring in woodland this was formerly considered to be a species with a southerly distribution in England but in addition to these five Cleveland records it has been found in another five 1km squares in NE Yorkshire and also at Castle Eden Dene in three 1km squares, the latter being a new vice-county record at the time (Wardhaugh 2016). These records are chiefly from beech and oak leaf litter samples from ancient semi-natural woodland.



For the following five species there is just a single Cleveland record:

8. *Lithobius borealis* (Formerly *L. lapidicola*). A western species characteristic of moorland. *L. borealis* is perhaps genuinely rare in Cleveland, Lee & Richardson (1988) ranking it as 18th of 22 species recorded in Yorkshire.

One individual found by Moira Wardhaugh at Coatham Marsh (NZ5824) 24.09.1988 in grassland. Identification confirmed by D.T. Richardson.

9. *Lithobius calcaratus*. Described as a rural species of dry grassland and moorland, sometimes in coastal areas.

Cattersty dunes, Skinningrove (NZ710204) 18.09.2013 under willow (*Salix* sp.) in leaf litter and grass on sand dunes.



10. *Geophilus truncorum* (Formerly *Brachygeophilus truncorum*). Described as a widespread and common species in woodland leaf litter, under bark, in grassland and moorland. It was the 5th most common centipede recorded by Lee & Richardson (1988). Why it has been encountered only once in Cleveland is therefore surprising.

Cross Wood, Flatts Lane area, Normanby (NZ543169) beneath a log in mixed woodland (n.b. Cross Wood lies along the south side of the A174 Parkway. It was previously bounded to the south by long-abandoned farmland but at the time of writing this area is being converted into a large housing estate).



11. *Lithobius curtipes*. Not common, with scattered records from across England and Wales, often from ancient semi-natural woodland. It is closely similar to the much more common *L. crassipes* (see above).

Mill Bank Wood, Kildale (NZ599098) 01.09.1996 in beech and oak litter, identification confirmed by D.T. Richardson.

Also found outside Cleveland in Birch Wood, Bilsdale (SE56959191) 28.05.2017 in mixed leaf litter (oak, holly, sycamore). Both these sites are ancient semi-natural woodland.

12. *Cryptops hortensis*. Image above. A scolopendrid centipede, as described above, similar to a lithobid but with 21 pairs of legs instead of 15, maximum length 30mm but often smaller. It is more common in the south, Lee & Richardson (1988) ranked it as 15th of 22 species occurring in Yorkshire.

Ormesby Hall garden (NZ53031674) 18.07.2023.

Found outside Cleveland nearby as follows:

Saltwick Bay, Whitby (NZ916108) 01.07.2013, beneath a stone on sand in the splash zone

Stockton Hermitage, near York in two 1km squares in mixed woodland (grid reference withheld at the landowner's request) 18.05.2019.

Spoilbank Wood, Darlington (NZ29350851) in mixed woodland 27.04.2019 (a first record for vice-county 65).

Additional species found nearby but not in Cleveland:

1. *Lithobius melanops*. Chestnut brown and 17mm long, this is a species of synanthropic sites and coastal areas such as sand dunes.

Former Hargreaves slag tip, now filled and capped (NZ5023) 11.06.1995

North Gare dune slacks (NZ53722768) 16.06.2019



2. *Geophilus carpophagus*. Greenish or grey-brown with a red-brown head and posterior end, 60mm long with 51 to 57 pairs of legs. Synanthropic and coastal sites.

Sinnington, in mixed woodland (SE738872) 21.09.1996. Lee & Richardson (1988) list this as the sixth most frequently recorded species in Yorkshire so it is perhaps surprising that it has not so far been recorded in Cleveland.

3. *Geophilus easoni*. Image above. Chestnut brown, 40mm long with 47 to 51 pairs of legs. Formerly considered to be a short form of *G. carpophagus*, only recognised as a separate species in 2001 and therefore not listed by Lee & Richardson (1988). Said to be common in heathland and elsewhere.

Easterside Hill (SE55299042) in rough grassland with scree 24.04.2016.

Lee & Richardson (1988) list two further species found in more than 10% of Yorkshire 10km squares that I have not so far found in Cleveland nor in nearby parts of Durham or Yorkshire. These are:

***Geophilus insculptus*.** Ranked 4th by Lee and Richardson (1988) and said to be widespread in urban and rural sites. Why this has not been found in Cleveland so far is hard to explain.

***Lithobius variegatus*.** Ranked 3rd by Lee and Richardson (1988). This centipede is very likely absent from Cleveland because being a large, distinctive species, 24mm long with the legs having a striped pattern, it is not easily overlooked. Moreover, it has a marked westerly distribution in Britain. It is present in the Richmond, Wensleydale, Barnard Castle and Malham areas.



The Table below lists all species recorded in Cleveland (as defined above) ranked by number of one km square records for each. The rank order for Watsonian Yorkshire as found by Lee and Richardson (1988) is included for comparison.

Species	No. one km square records	Rank	Yorkshire rank (Lee & Richardson 1988)*
<i>Lithobius forficatus</i>	25	1	1
<i>Lithobius crassipes</i>	12	2	2
<i>Lithobius macilentus</i>	8	3	13
<i>Geophilus flavus</i>	7	4	8
<i>Stigmatogaster subterranean</i>	6	4	9
<i>Lithobius microps</i>	6	6	7
<i>Strigamia acuminata</i>	5	6	12
<i>Cryptops hortensis</i>	1	8	15
<i>Lithobius borealis</i>	1	8	18
<i>Lithobius calcaratus</i>	1	8	11
<i>Lithobius curtipes</i>	1	8	18
<i>Geophilus truncurum</i>	1	8	5
Total	74	/12	/22

* = Rank order for Watsonian Yorkshire based on number of 10km square records (Lee & Richardson 1988).

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Common Earthball*Jo Scott*

It seems to have been a good year for the Common Earthball (*Scleroderma citrinum*) (I think!). These were photographed in the woods at Littlebeck, a nature reserve on the North Yorkshire Moors (near Sleights) on 26th November 2023.





An Aberrant Form of *Bombus lucorum*

Mark Stokeld

Last summer I came across a large queen bumblebee which exhibited a golden colour with only a darker band across the thorax. I was unable to identify it, the nearest I could get to was *B. distinguendus* which I knew was very rare nowadays and only found in the Scottish Isles. Through a contact at RSPB Saltholme my pictures were sent to Steven Falk (author of Field Guide to the Bees of GB and Ireland). He identified it as an aberrant form of *B. lucorum*. A copy of the email he sent back to me is below. The reply was illuminating and demonstrates the difficulty in identifying insects in the field.

‘Thanks for sending those images through. Only a few days ago I was tweeting about some of the freakish aberrations you can find in British bumblebees. I featured images of an all-black queen *B. terrestris* and a queen *B. lapidarius* with much of the abdomen and rear part of the thorax brown-haired. Your image is up there with the best examples of strange aberrations I've seen. It is a male *Bombus lucorum* (*sensu stricto*) but by far the palest I've ever seen, though I've seen the odd one approaching that state. The clues that it is not *B. distinguendus* include:

1. Head in front view too rounded with a very narrow gap between the eye and the mandible base (Great Yellow Bumblebee is a much longer-faced species).
2. A distinct and fairly well-defined white tail (*B. distinguendus* males may have the tail fading slightly whitish at the tip but nothing as extreme as this).
3. In image 6, sparse but obvious black hairs across the tergites.
4. It is actually too bright for Great Yellow which has a strange under-stated straw-yellow colour rather than the lemon-yellow or sulphur-yellow colour that some literature shows. *B. lucorum*, by contrast, has a gorgeous bright yellow in fresh specimens. Feature 3. is often the give away that helps separate really pale Common Carders from Moss Carders and Brown-banded Carders but you often need a microscope or good hand lens to see those black hairs, and photography often fails to pick them up.’

I hope this report gives the reader some food for thought.







Nacreous Clouds: a Winter Solstice Spectacle

Moira and Tony Wardhaugh

On 21st December 2023, the winter solstice, there was a spectacular and prolonged display of nacreous clouds over the Cleveland area. These were visible throughout the day from before 8.00am until after 4.15pm, i.e. approximately from sunrise to sunset, in the south-east to south-west part of the sky, as seen from our garden (13 Captain Cook's Crescent, Marton. NZ5243.1518). The day was cold and dry with an otherwise clear blue sky apart from the occasional presence of a few small cumulus clouds.

Nacreous ('mother of pearl') clouds, also known as polar stratospheric clouds, occur very high in the atmosphere, approximately 15 to 30 km above the Earth. They develop in the freezing temperatures of the lower stratosphere, usually below -80°C and are made up of nitric acid and water ice crystals. Their iridescent mother of pearl colours result from them occurring at a very great height and therefore lit from below by the low angle rays of the winter sun.

This was by far the longest and most extensive display of nacreous clouds we have ever seen, a truly beautiful spectacle.

Reference: *The Cloud Book*. Richard Hamblin. Publisher: David and Charles (2008).



