

Field Meetings 2018

I hope that you will find outings to your taste from this varied programme. Any suggestions for future outings are always welcomed by the committee. It is hoped that members will share transport, where possible, to ease any parking problems and be prepared to offer lifts to members without cars.

If you require further details about a walk, or in case of bad weather and possible cancellation, please contact the leader of the walk. Please bring suitable refreshment with you! This will be necessary for the walks that start on a morning and it may well be appropriate to take tea on an afternoon walk.

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

Malcolm Birtle (President)

Unscheduled Adhoc Events

Please note that, in addition to the scheduled walks included in this programme, our intention is to also have several adhoc events which are best organised at short notice because they are highly dependent on suitable weather conditions. These include moth trapping with Paul Forster, and possibly some bat walks and recording meetings. If you are interested in events such as these, please let either Eric Gendle or Neil Baker have your contact details (an email address if possible) and we will ensure you are kept informed about them as and when they are arranged.

Wednesday, 18th April, 1:30 pm, leader Tony Wardhaugh ☎ 01642 322935

GR NZ668216. **Saltburn Gill.** Meet in the Cat Nab car park. A fairly easy walk at a gentle pace to look for spring flowering plants, snails and other invertebrates.

Sunday April 22nd 2.20 pm

GR NZ 10537 14911 **Whorlton.** Meet at village green (leave Abbey Rd Darlington 2.00 pm)

Wednesday, 2nd May, 10:30 am, leader Colin Chatto ☎ 01642 599616

GR NZ570128. **Newton Wood.** Meet in the Roseberry Topping car park. A circular walk of about 4 to 5 miles through Newton Wood and around Roseberry Topping.

Sunday, 6th May, 10:15 pm, leader Neil Baker ☎ 01325 361547

GR NZ421132. **Transporter Bridge.** Meet in the Transporter Bridge car park. Come early if you would like to take the glass lift to the high level walkway on the Transporter for a bird's eye view of Saltholme and Teesside, weather permitting. A small entrance fee applies. Please contact Neil Baker at least a week beforehand if you would like to book a place on this visitor experience.

Otherwise join us at 11:30 for a linear riverside walk to the Newport Bridge via Teesaurus Park.

Sunday, 13th May, 10:30 am, leader Andy Astbury ☎ 01642 823114

GR SE537897. **Hawnby Circular.** Meet just beyond the church near Dalicar Bridge where there is car parking. A moderate circular walk of about 5 miles with some climbing. An exploration of Ryedale country with some springtime botanical interest along the way.

Wednesday, 16th May, 1:30 pm, leader Maggie and Graeme Boyd ☎ 01287 634707 40

GR NZ444228. **Gravel Hole Nature Reserve.** Park in Shearwater Lane, Norton. A short walk to explore Gravel Hole Nature Reserve.

Saturday, 19th May, 10:30 am, leader Colin Chatto ☎ 01642 599616

GR SE468992. **Cod Beck Reservoir.** Meet in the Sheepwash car park. A circular walk of about 3 miles around the reservoir and nearby woods.

Wednesday, 23rd May, 10:30 am, leaders Mark and Hazel Stokeld ☎ 01642 783819

GR NZ483372. **Crimdon Dene.** Park in Crimdon Dene car park on the cliff top. An exploration of the dunes, grassland and woodland around Crimdon Dene. A moderate walk of about 3 miles.

Wednesday, 30th May, 6:30 pm, leader Malcolm Birtle ☎ 01642 649938

GR NZ322152. **Great Burdon Woodlands.** Meet at the grid reference. Park with care on the B6270 roadside laybys.

Saturday, 2nd June, 10:30 am, leader Eric Gendle ☎ 01642 281235

GR SE900010. **Scalby Beck nr Scarborough.** Meet at the grid reference by the bridge over the beck. Park in Scalby or Newby. A walk led by Vic Fairbrother many years ago, to walk west along the picturesque North Beck Drain to Mowthorpe Farm and return along Keld Runnels road, with minor diversions possible. A walk of about 5 miles with very minor climbs.

Wednesday, 6th June, 10:30 am, leaders Peter and Ruth Waterton ☎ 01642 724270

GR SE535882. **Murton Wood, Murton Grange.** Meet at Murton Grange, where there is car parking. A walk to enjoy Murton Wood and nearby areas which will involve some climbing.

Wednesday, 13th June, 10:30 am, leader Andrew Ferguson ☎ 01642 311831

GR NZ672165. **Lingdale Meadows.** Meet near Saint Chad's church on Lingdale High Street. An easy morning walk around an area of reclaimed land that is a good local wildlife site. In the afternoon we will drive down to South Kilton to explore the local area further.

Saturday, 16th June, 10:30 am, leader Malcolm Birtle ☎ 01642 649938

GR NZ423375. **Castle Eden.** Meet in the car park. There is additional parking on the roadside in the village. This is a walk on old railway trackbeds. Note this is NOT Castle Eden Dene.

Sunday, 17th June, 10:30am, leader Jo Scott ☎ 01642 897843

GR NZ668216. **Saltburn Rockpools.** Meet in the Cat Nab car park. A chance to explore the rockpool life on this interesting stretch of shore. Wellingtons are advisable and please bring a bucket and small net if you can. This is a joint meeting with Darlington Nats.

Wednesday, 20th June, 10:30 am, leader Daphne Aplin ☎ 01642 884719

GR NZ454228. **Billingham Beck Valley Country Park.** Meet in the visitor centre car park. A leisurely full day to explore different parts of this interesting wetland area.

Sunday, 24th June, 10:30 am, leader Bill Hall ☎ 07753 663589

GR SE289761. **High Batts near Ripon.** Meet in the lay-by on the A6108 at the grid reference. From there we will drive down to the private nature reserve. In the afternoon there 41

should be time to visit some more ponds nearby. This is a joint meeting with the Yorkshire Dragonfly Group.

Tuesday, 26th June, 12.00

GR NY908282. **Bowlees**. Meet in Bowlees car park (leave Abbey Rd Darlington 11.00 am)

Wednesday, 27th June, 6:30 pm, leader Eric Gendle ☎ 01642 281235

GR NZ615161. **Guisborough Walkway**. Meet at the east end of Westgate (the main street).

A stroll along the old railway line looking for anything of interest. Return route negotiable.

Wednesday, 4th July, 10:30 am, leaders Mark & Hazel Stokeld ☎ 01642 783819

GR NY937186. **Hannah's Meadow**. Meet in the Balderhead Reservoir car park. An easy walk to enjoy the wildflowers in Hannah's Meadow and other wildlife in the surrounding countryside close to Low Birk Hatt farm, famous as the former home of Hannah Hauxwell, a truly remarkable daleswoman, who sadly died earlier this year.

Wednesday, 11th July, 10:30 am, leader Jo Scott ☎ 01642 897843

GR NZ325486. **Rainton Meadows**. Meet at the visitor centre where there is car parking. An easy walk around this lovely Durham Wildlife Trust nature reserve looking for butterflies and flowers.

Saturday, 14th July, 10:30 am, leader Eric Gendle ☎ 01642 281235

GR SE569920. **Birch Wood, Bilsdale**. Meet by the roadside where there is limited parking for only 5 to 6 cars. After a fruitful evening walk in 2017, it was felt that a day long exploration and survey of all aspects of this YWT semi ancient woodland would be enjoyable. Anything and everything can be recorded.

Wednesday, 18th July, 6:30 pm, leader Neil Baker ☎ 01325 361547

GR NZ421132. **Yarm Circular**. Meet by the church at Eggescliffe. An easy circular walk to Yarm.

Sunday, 29th July, 10:30 am, leader Neil Baker ☎ 01325 361547

GR SE603834. **National Centre for Birds of Prey Centre in Duncombe Park**. Meet in the free NCBP car park in Duncombe Park. There are three flying displays during the course of the day featuring different birds at each one, giving the opportunity for a very leisurely day. Some of the more energetic of us may like to also take a walk around the woods and parkland of the Duncombe Park National Nature Reserve. All the usual facilities are available onsite, including a café. An entrance fee applies with a wristband giving ready access to the NCBP for the full day.

Saturday, 4th August, 10:30am, leader Malcolm Birtle ☎ 01642 649938

GR NZ351123. **Dinsdale – Middleton One Row**. Meet opposite the Devonport Hotel. There is car parking on the roadside. A walk to explore the Durham side of the Tees riverbanks.

Wednesday, 8th August, 10:30am, leader Alan Simkins ☎ 01642 477484

GR NZ643158. **Guisborough Woods**. Meet at the Fox and Hounds, Slapewath. Park on the roadside nearby. We will walk up to Belman Bank alum quarry, paying particular interest to the local geology. This is a joint meeting with the Tees Valley RIGS Group.

Sunday, 12th August, 10:30 am, leader Daphne Aplin ☎ 01642 884719 42

GR NZ398152. **Coatham Stob.** Meet in the car park just off the minor road between Longnewton and Urlay Nook. An easy walk around this interesting site which is good for both butterflies and dragonflies.

Wednesday, 15th August, 12:00 pm, leader Jo Scott ☎ 01642 897843

GR NZ556276. **Beachcombing at South Gare.** Meet at the Coast Guard station. We will have lunch and then walk out along the high tide mark to see what we find before returning along the low tide mark to see what shells and seaweeds we come across. Low tide is at 13:50. This is a joint meeting with Darlington Nats.

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

GR SE524883. **Sutton Bank.** Meet in the car park at the National Park Centre. This is the YNU VC 62 meeting. Please see the YNU website events page for further details.

Wednesday, 22nd August, 6:00 pm, leader Malcolm Birtle ☎ 01642 649938

GR NZ480140. **Stainton Wood.** Meet at the St. Peter and Paul church. Park in and around Stainton village.

Sunday, 2nd September, 10:30 am, leader Neil Baker ☎ 01325 361547

GR NY997393. **Ashes Quarry and Stanhope Beck.** Meet in the free long stay car park at the top end of the Durham Dales Centre in Stanhope. A circular walk of about 5 miles to explore some abandoned quarry and mine workings now gradually being reclaimed by nature. This walk involves some climbing which we will take at a gentle pace.

Sunday, 16th September, 10:30 am, leader Andy Astbury ☎ 01642 823114

GR SE467908. **Kepwick Circular.** Meet in the car park in the grounds of the old school. A moderate walk of about 5.5 miles with a steady climb at the beginning. A rich assortment of scenery and fine viewpoints are provided by this walk. There is an easy escape route back to Kepwick about half way round this circular walk if required.

Saturday, 13th October, 10:30 am, leader Alan Simkins ☎ 01642 477484

GR SE817913. **Newtondale.** Meet on the forest trail near Levisham station. From Levisham village go down the road to Levisham station, drive over the railway track, turn right and park along the forest trail. This is a joint fungus foray with the North Eastern Fungus Study Group.

Mobile Phone

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

Websites

Members with internet access will find the following sites of interest:

www.clevelandnats.org.uk; www.barlow.me.uk; www.pwforster.co.uk and www.the-vasculum.com.

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

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

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

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

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

DATES FOR WINTER MEETINGS 2018-2019

Sep 24. Oct 15, 29. Nov 19. Dec 17. Jan 21. Feb 18, 25. Mar 18, 25.