

**Sunday, 23rd July, 10:30 am, leader Eric Gendle ☎ 01642 281235**

GR SE514173. **Brockadale.** Meet in the reserve car park. Brockadale is a YWT reserve on limestone grassland with north and south facing slopes, mixed woodland, streamside and wetland areas and rocky limestone cliffs. An easy walk with a few gentle climbs. There is a rich flora plus Marbled White, Dark Green Fritillary, Gatekeeper and Brimstone butterflies and Banded Demoiselle. To get there, take the B6474 Wentbridge Road off the A1 J40 south of the M62 right at junction signed Kirk Smeaton then towards Little Smeaton and a sharp right turn up a minor lane to the car park.

**Wednesday, 26th July, 10:30 am, leader Neil Baker ☎ 01325 361547**

GR NZ507250. **Greatham Creek and North Gare.** Meet in the car park at the Teesmouth NNR alongside the A178 between Seaton Carew and Port Clarence. A walk along Greatham Creek in the morning, hopefully timed right for the seals coming in with the tide. We will visit North Gare in the afternoon looking for orchids and butterflies behind the dunes. There are toilets and a café at the nearby Saltholme RSPB.

**Saturday, 29th July, 10:00 am, contact Neil Baker ☎ 01325 361547**

GR SE644374. **Skipwith Common NNR.** Meet in the reserve car park on King Ridding Lane. This is a joint meeting with the Yorkshire Dragonfly Group and the Freshwater Habitats Trust. We will explore the numerous ponds on this heathland nature reserve led by Keith Gittens, whose unsurpassed expertise in dragonflies has been greatly appreciated by our Club over many years.

**Wednesday, 2nd August, 10:30 am, leader Andy Astbury ☎ 07596 263655**

GR SE676856. **Kirk Dale.** Meet in the overflow car park near St. Gregory's Minster. An easy walk of about 3.5 miles along woodland and countryside paths.

**Wednesday, 9th August, 10:30 am, leader Andrew Ferguson ☎ 01642 057015**

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

**Sunday, 13th August, 10:30 am, leaders Mark and Hazel Stokeld ☎ 01642 783819**

GR SE648611. **Strensall Common.** Meet at the car park on Lords Moor Lane by the cattle grid. An easy flat walk around this large heathland reserve which is good for dragonflies and damselflies.

**Wednesday, 23rd August, 10:30 am, leader Neil Baker ☎ 01325 361547**

GR NZ326484. **Rainton Meadows.** Meet in the car park. Rainton Meadows is home to Durham Wildlife Trust's headquarters. There is a visitor centre complete with coffee shop and all the usual facilities on site. An excellent network of pathways on level terrain makes it easy to visit several different habitats, all of which are very good for wildlife.

**Sunday, 17th September, 10:30 am, leader Alan Simkins ☎ 01642 477484**

GR NZ161315. **Low Barns.** Meet in the car park. Join in a fungus foray with the North East Fungus Study Group.

#### **DATES FOR WINTER MEETINGS 2023-2024**

Sep 18. Oct 16. Nov 20. Dec 18. Jan 15. Feb 19. Mar 18. Apr 15.

# **CLEVELAND NATURALISTS' FIELD CLUB**



## **PROGRAMME DETAILS SUMMER 2023**

I am pleased that once again we have a full programme of field outings with something for everyone. I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible this coming summer and also welcoming any new members and guests.

This leaflet expands on the summary information provided on the Club membership card.

In spring and summer there are visits to explore the natural history of a particular area as set out in this leaflet. During the winter months there is a series of meetings with illustrated talks by both Club members and visiting speakers.

The annual subscription is currently only £8.

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

Mark Stokeld (President)

#### **THE OFFICERS and COMMITTEE 2023-2024**

President	Mark Stokeld, 38 Ash Grove, Kirklevington, TS15 9NQ
Secretary	Jo Scott, Tethers End, Hartburn Village, TS18 5DR Club email address: CNFCSec@gmail.com
Treasurer	Hazel Stokeld, 38 Ash Grove, Kirklevington, TS15 9NQ
Membership Secretary	Jo Scott, Tethers End, Hartburn Village, TS18 5DR
Programme Secretary	Neil Baker, 9 Glaisdale Court, Darlington, DL3 7AD
Immediate Past President	Jo Scott, Tethers End, Hartburn Village, TS18 5DR
Ordinary members	Eric Gendle, Daphne Aplin and several vacancies

#### **Mobile Phone**

The walk leader on the day carries the Club's mobile phone (☎ 07434 879084) 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](http://www.clevelandnats.org.uk); [www.barlow.me.uk](http://www.barlow.me.uk); [www.pwforster.co.uk](http://www.pwforster.co.uk) and [www.ynu.org.uk](http://www.ynu.org.uk).

These sites contain excellent material and links to many other natural history web pages. Fresh material for inclusion on our Club website is always welcomed.

#### **Twitter**

Our Club now has a Twitter account. @clevelandnats. Be sure to follow us.

## Health and Safety Notes

On all of our walks, please take great care that you never put yourself, or any other Club member, at risk of harm. If you have a personal mobile phone, please let the walk leader have your number in case we should accidentally become separated. It may help us to find each other once again.

Make sure you come suitably equipped with sensible clothing and footwear. For example, in wet or boggy areas wellingtons may be required. Sun hats, sun screen and insect repellent are also advisable if the British summers continue to be like they have been recently. Also ensure that you bring along sufficient food and drink for your needs. There's nothing worse than being hungry or thirsty on a field trip!

## Pop-Up Event

It is hoped to hold a moth trapping night during the summer. This will be arranged at short notice as it is dependent upon good weather. Please let any member of the committee know if you may be interested and we will be sure to contact you at the time.

### Wednesday, 26th April, 10:30 am, leader Tony Wardhaugh ☎ 01642 322935

GR SE516831. **Sutton Bank**. Meet at the Sutton Bank National Park Centre. There will be two separate walks, both of them easy and level. In the morning we will walk to the Kilburn White Horse and back, along the top of Roulston Scar. We will have lunch back at the meeting place and then in the afternoon, starting at 1:30 pm, we will walk to the chapel at Scotch Corner. Members are welcome to join us for either or both walks. There are good facilities available at the National Park Centre, including a pay and display car park, café and toilets.

### Wednesday, 3rd May, 10:30 am, leader Daphne Aplin ☎ 01642 884719

GR NZ428158. **Preston Park**. Meet in the car park at the Butterfly House end. An easy walk to enjoy the spring flowers.

### Wednesday, 10th May, 10:30 am, leader Neil Baker ☎ 01325 361547

GR NZ275410. **Durham University Botanic Garden**. Meet in the car park. The Botanic Garden covers a large area with plant collections from around the world, including many fine specimen trees. There are lots of well maintained footpaths with plenty of seating provided along the way. There is a visitor centre with a café and all the usual facilities. A small entrance fee is payable. The site is surrounded by native woodland which we may also explore if time permits. The easiest route to the Botanic Garden is from the south by the A167, over Sunderland Bridge, and then bear right off the dual carriageway onto the A177. The Botanic Garden is sign posted off to the right. Follow the road round through some university buildings to get to the car park.

### Sunday, 21st May, 10:30 am, leader Jo Scott ☎ 01642 897843

GR NZ668216. **Saltburn Rockpools**. Meet in the Cat Nab car park. We will explore the rockpools on this interesting stretch of shore. It is fairly flat slate rocks but care needs to be taken to avoid slipping. Wellingtons are a good idea as the rocks will be wet and there is more to see if you paddle in the pools. This is a joint event with Darlington Naturalists.

### Wednesday, 24th May, 10:30 am, leader Andy Astbury ☎ 07596 263655

GR SE612838. **Helmsley, Beck Dale and Ash Dale**. Meet in the Market Place at Helmsley. An easy walk of about 6.5 miles along woodland tracks and paths. There are gentle slopes for the most part and just one short steep climb about half way round.

### Saturday, 27th May, 10:30 am, contact Mark Stokeld ☎ 01642 783819

GR NZ530168. **Ormesby Hall**. Meet in the car park off Church Lane. This is a Nature Explorer Day event open to the public at the National Trust's Ormesby Hall. If any Club members are available to assist at this event, which is a good way of making our Club better known to the local population, then please come along. Contact Mark Stokeld for more details.

### Wednesday, 31st May, 10:30 am, leaders Mark and Hazel Stokeld ☎ 01642 783819

GR SE571844. **Ashberry YWT Nature Reserve**. Park at Ashberry Farm, either at the roadside at the farm or at the triangle just before the bridge. A gentle walk around this reserve with ancient woodland bordered by flower rich limestone grassland on the valley sides.

### Wednesday, 7th June, 10:30 am, leader David Laing ☎ 01642 316101

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.

### Wednesday, 14th June, 6:30 pm, leader Jo Scott ☎ 01642 897843

GR NZ517166. **Stewart Park**. Meet in the car park at Stewart Park. A leisurely evening walk around Stewart Park, where there are some fine specimen trees.

### Wednesday, 21st June, 6:30 pm, leader Neil Baker ☎ 01325 361547

GR NZ462193. **Portrack Marsh**. Meet in the large free car park on the Stockton side of the Tees Barrage. We will take a short leisurely walk around the Portrack Marsh nature reserve.

### Wednesday, 28th June, 10:30 am, leader Jo Scott ☎ 01642 897843

GR NZ471387. **Blackhall Rocks**. Meet in the car park. A walk along the cliff paths towards Crimdon Dene in the morning. We will return to the cars for lunch. In the afternoon we will walk north, taking in the old colliery at Blue House Gill. This is a flowers and butterflies walk.

### Wednesday, 5th July, 11:00 am, leader Alan Simkins ☎ 01642 477484

GR SE722947. **Rosedale**. Meet in the car park near the top of Chimney Bank. A walk of about 4 miles to view some of the extant iron mining remains and the associated geology. There will be a stiff walk back up the road to the cars. This is a joint meeting with the Tees Valley RIGS Group.

### Saturday, 8th July, 10:30 am, leader Daphne Aplin ☎ 01642 884719

GR NZ325350. **Raisby Hill Grassland**. Meet at the triangle on Station Road East, where there is plenty of parking. Turn immediately right after turning onto Front Street, Coxhoe from the A177. Raisby Hill Grassland is a Durham Wildlife Trust Nature Reserve. It has limestone grassland of national significance for its flora. There are also two ponds surrounded by marsh and fen habitats. The walk includes an incline, which we will take slowly, and also a few stiles.

### Wednesday, 12th July, 10:30 am, leaders Mark and Hazel Stokeld ☎ 01642 783819

GR SE317737. **Ripon Loop Nature Reserve**. Meet at the gate to the reserve. 0.75 miles north of Ripon on the A6108, turn right at Ripon City Golf Club. Drive past the tennis club and driving range, past a right turn to a farm and take the next right (just after a no unauthorised entry sign) and drive to the end. A small parking area is available on the left before the gate. The site is rich in plantlife and wildlife in both the wetlands and woodlands.

### Sunday, 16th July, 10:30 am, leader Jo Scott ☎ 01642 897843

GR NZ344287. **Hardwick Country Park, Sedgefield**. Meet in the car park. Parking fees are payable. A walk of about 5 miles on field tracks between Hardwick Country Park and Bishop Middleham. This is the same walk that had to be cancelled last year owing to bad weather.