CLEVELAND NATURALISTS'

FIELD CLUB

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Volume 9 Part 1 **Spring 2007**

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THE OFFICERS & COMMITTEE 2006-2007

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Secretary. Eric Gendle, 13 Mayfield Road, Nunthorpe.
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Membership Secretary. Jean McLean, 28 Pendle Crescent, Billingham.
Programme Secretaries. Vincent Jones, 'Hillways', Ingleby Greenhow.
Neil Baker, 10 Smithfield Road, Darlington.
The immediate past president. Dorothy Thompson.
Ordinary members. Ian Lawrence, Alick Hunter, Maurice Hallam, David Barlow.

Honorary Members

Mrs Jessie Graham, Mrs Joan Williams, Mr Ian Lawrence, Mr Maurice Hallam

Consultant Members

The following members will be pleased to assist in the identification of specimens.

Flowering Plants	Bryophytes	Birds	Lepidoptera
Ian Lawrence	John Blackburn	Maurice Hallam	Malcolm Birtle (and Geology), Eric Gendle

Representatives

I. C. Lawrence (TVWT)	J. Blackburn (YNU)

Membership Details

The Club seeks to promote an interest in all branches of Natural History and to assist members in finding out about the living things that they see in the countryside around them. The present membership includes those who have particular interests in birds, insects, slugs and snails, lichens, fungi, flowering plants and mosses and liverworts. Members with interests in other fields would be very welcome.

In spring and summer there are evening, half-day and whole-day visits to investigate the natural history of a particular area as set out in this leaflet. During the winter months there is a series of monthly meetings held in the Hydroponicum Lecture Hall at Natures World, Ladgate Lane, Acklam, Middlesbrough. We have been at this venue for three winter sessions now and it has proved to be an ideal meeting place which satisfies all our needs. A meeting usually takes the form of a lecture given by a club member or visiting speaker. The annual subscription is £5.

Any person interested in joining the Cleveland Naturalists Field Club should send their subscription to the Membership Secretary. Potential members are welcome to our field meetings listed at the back of this issue.
Annual subscriptions are due on the 1st January each year.

(Adult £5. 00. Students under 18 yrs. £1. 00)
Members are entitled to attend meetings of:
Yorkshire Naturalists' Union
Tees Valley Wildlife Trust The Ramblers' Association.
The Club is affiliated to these organisations.

President's Address: 2007.

I am very pleased to be able to present this report on another very interesting year in the life of the Cleveland Naturalists' Field Club as it continues to explore the natural history of Cleveland and the surrounding countryside. A programme of twenty-five field trips in 2006 provided a wide variety of records and experiences and the highlights are described in more detail in this Annual Record of Proceedings.

Members enjoyed five evening walks; at Coatham, Ingleby Bankfoot, Saltburn Cliffs, Egglescliffe, and Lustrum Beck, Portrack. The focus of two afternoon walks was on South Gare and the coast between Staithes and Skinningrove whilst Loftus and Hart Warren were the starting points for full day walks in Cleveland. There was much to appreciate during visits to Middleton-in-Teesdale, Cronkley Fell, Cassop and Rowley in County Durham whilst to the south; field trips in the Yorkshire Dales featured the delights of Wensleydale, Swaledale and Wharfedale. Nearer to home three of our mid week trips explored Ingleby Arncliffe Wood, Swinton and Lake Gormire. The North York Moors National Park was not neglected with visits to Thorodale and walks from Osmotherley, Kirby Knowle and Rosedale Abbey. Our joint meeting with the Yorkshire Naturalists Union was again organised by John Blackburn and this year held at Hayburn Wyke. Building on the interest kindled last year Tom Kirby led another successful fungus foray at Ingleby Bank.

Our indoor programme opened with Small is Beautiful, a superb presentation of close-up photography by award winning photographer David Smith. Club members Pauline Bastow, Eric Gendle, Norma Pagdin and Joan Bradbury illustrated the natural history highlights of visits to the Galapagos Islands, South Africa and Iceland. A wide-ranging talk by Ken Smith graphically illustrated his enthusiasm for Conserving the Natural World. The complex relationships between plants and their pollinators were delightfully revealed in an illuminating lecture by Dr. John Richards. Members Night featured short presentations by Peter Waterton on digi-scoping; Aubrey Colling on the Red-throated Divers of Islay; and Judy Dinwiddie on a journey by raft through the Grand Canyon. The AGM is to be followed by a presentation on local Fungi by Alan Bunn and Vincent Jones and the indoor programme at Natures World will conclude with a talk by David Barlow on Famous Naturalists.

A workshop on Butterflies, to be led by Peter Waterton has been arranged at the Dorman Museum by invitation of the curator Ken Sedman. This is the second in a series of occasional meetings intended to enable members to study and work on the extensive natural history collections held by the museum

During the year club members have assisted in two University of York student research projects involving a study of how amateur naturalists respond to natural history films and a survey of tree regeneration in the context of climate change.

A small group of members has completed the fieldwork required in order to identify a range of interesting and varied habitats, maps and flowers for inclusion in a booklet of local wild flower walks. The booklet will be

published by the Wildflower Ark and include information about the Cleveland Naturalists' Field Club.

The Botanical Society of the British Isles has appointed our programme secretary, Vincent Jones to be the new Recorder for VC 62. I know that you will join me in congratulating Vincent and no doubt this will give a fresh impetus to our recording of the flora of the vice county.

Many people have contributed to the success of the club in the last year including those members who have planned and led field trips and those who have given talks at indoor meetings. The smooth running of the club is ensured by the commitment and enthusiasm of the small team of volunteers who give their time to make all the necessary arrangements.

Eric Gendle, Secretary; Colin Chatto, Treasurer; Vincent Jones & Neil Baker, Programme Secretaries; Jean McLean, Membership Secretary; David Barlow, Website Manager; Malcolm Birtle, Editor of Record of Proceedings; committee members Maurice Hallam, Alick Hunter, and Ian Lawrence. Our Past President, Dorothy Thompson, has continued to host our committee meetings in her own inimitable style. I would like to thank them all for their support during the past year, my role as President is so much easier because of their quiet unassuming efficiency and I would ask you to show your appreciation of all their efforts on our behalf.

Vic. Fairbrother.

Highlights of 2006 Field Meetings

Saturday, 8th April, 10:30 am, Martin Allen Whitecliff Wood and Clarkson's Wood.

The first outing of the season was a bright cold day's scramble along slippery steep paths frequently with a sheer drop to one side, fallen trees to duck under, and we had a heavy downpour at the furthest point from the cars. Everybody enjoyed themselves!

Having started in the Loftus Leisure Centre car park we wandered down to Whitecliff Wood to discuss the huge, ancient coppiced *Tilia cordata* (Small-leaved Lime), the light grey bark being a particular feature at this time of year. Lime expert Dr. Donald Pigott had visited the site in 2005 and put their age at around 500 years old, possibly more. The surrounding woodland he described as of "very high quality" and pointed out the features that showed it to have been managed as coppice with standards in the past.

We looked at the site of the recently repaired landslip and the past one where the ancient woodland had been removed and the beck culverted, in order to shore up the road.

On entering Clarkson's Wood the new shoots of *Vicia sylvatica* (Wood Vetch) were common on the edge of the tip heap – this site being one of its few strongholds in the area. A quick rummage in the leaf litter produced two hairy snail species, both indicators of ancient woodland. Typical woodland wildflowers were present – *Primula vulgaris* (Primrose) and *Adoxa moschatellina* (Moschatel) were both in flower, and large stands of *Anemone nemorosa* (Wood Anemone) were in bud with only a few flowers open. The old fronds of *Polystichum setiferum* (Soft Shield Fern), still green, stood out amongst the bare undergrowth.

A large stand of *Equisetum hyemale* (Dutch Rush) was visited, which has spread out from a small patch adjacent to Kilton Beck in living memory. The flowers and leaves of *Chrysoplenium alternifolium* (Alternate-leaved Golden Saxifrage) and *C. oppositifolium* (Opposite-leaved Golden Saxifrage) were compared and contrasted where they grew by the beck, and a group of *Daphne laureola* (Spurge Laurel) spotted growing by some more ancient *Tilia cordata* coppice. We walked along the path to the end of Clarkson's Wood to look at another group of ancient *Tilia cordata* coppice, one even growing on the cliff edge.

On the way back along the top of the wood, we passed the site of *Neottia nidus-avis* (Bird's Nest Orchid), a locally rare saprophyte, and noted the remains of seed pods, before walking on through Liverton Mines and Loftus, stopping at the church to look at *Ceterach officinarum* (Rusty-back Fern) growing in the mortar of the church and the boundary wall.

Molluscs noted were-*Oxychilus alliarius* (Garlic Snail), *Discus rotundatus* (Rounded Snail), *Cochlodina laminata* (Plaited Door Snail), *Ashfordia granulata* (Silky Snail), *Trichia hispida* (Hairy Snail), and *Cochlicopa lubrica* (Slippery moss snail). The most spectacular find of the day was probably the *Sarcoscypha coccinea* (Scarlet Elf Cup) that has been known from this location for many years now. *Hookeria lucens* was noted in a small watercourse.

Wednesday, 19th April, 10:30 am, Joan Bradbury and Norma Pagdin Hudeshope Beck

Arum italicum ssp. *italicum* (Italian Lords-and Ladies) and *Cyclamen hederifolium* (Sowbread) were well-naturalised by woodland tracks. *Asplenium viride* (Green Spleenwort) was spotted growing on a cemented wall near spoil heaps. The microfungi *Leptosphaeria acuta* and *Calloria neglecta* were found on nettle, and *Paradidymella tosta* on Rosebay (confirmed by A. W. Legg)

Sunday 1st May, 10.30am, Barden Bridge, Vic.Fairbrother.

Undeterred by a rather depressing weather forecast a group of eleven members met for a circular walk from Barden Bridge to Bolton Abbey through Strid Wood and along the banks of the river Wharfe. The riverside revealed *Helictotrichon pratense and Helictotrichon pubescens* (Meadow and Downy Oat-grass), *Sanguisorba minor* (Salad Burnet), *Carex caryophyllea* (Spring Sedge), *Pilosella officinarum* (Mouse-ear Hawkweed), *Ranunculus bulbosus* (Bulbous Buttercup), *Potentilla anserina* (Silverweed), and *Polygala serpyllifolia* (Heath Milkwort).

As the rain increased the party were disinclined to linger but did note *Melica uniflora* (Wood Melick), *Stellaria nemorum* (Wood Stitchwort), *Geum x intermedium* (Hybrid Geum), *Phegopteris connectilis* (Beech Fern), *Gymnocarpium dryopteris* (Oak Fern), *Cardamine amara* (Large Bittercress), and extensive patches of the female flowers of *Petasites hybridus* (Butterbur). We were pleased to find *Paris quadrifolia* (Herb Paris) on both banks of the river and *Cheiranthus cheiri* (Wallflower) was noted on the walls of the Abbey.

There were Mallard with young on the river and Common Sandpipers, Pied and Grey Wagtails were observed flitting up and downstream. Sand Martins nesting in the riverbanks and the special feeding strategy of the

Dipper inevitably attracted a good deal of attention. Strid Wood is a superb habitat for some of our most prized summer visitors and despite the rain singing Blackcap, Pied Flycatcher, Redstart and Wood Warbler soon lifted our spirits. We also had good views of Spotted Flycatchers, which are much less common than they used to be. A convenient cave provided shelter for lunch and the bonus of excellent views of a confiding Nuthatch.

This was definitely not the day for butterflies but we did enjoy seeing a fine specimen of *Abraxus sylvata* (Clouded Magpie Moth).

Wednesday, 3rd May, 10:30 am, Colin Chatto Askrigg

Saxifraga tridactylites (Rue-leaved Saxifage), *Erophila verna* (Spring Whitlow Grass) and *Arabidopsis thaliana* (Thale Cress) were all flowering in Bainbridge amongst the cobbles in the village street. *Veronica agrestis* (Green Field-speedwell) was in wasteland near by.

Sunday, 14th May, 11:00 am, Malcolm Birtle Cassop Vale.

Orchis mascula (Early-purple Orchid), *Muscari armeniacum* (Garden Grape-hyacinth) and *Primula x polyantha* were giving a colourful show in the cemetery at Quarrington Hill. It was particularly pleasing to find a large colony of *Ophioglossum vulgatum* (Adder's Tongue) in short grassland in the cemetery. The hawkweed *Hieracium grandidens* was frequent on walls, in quarries and on forestry rides. There was a large colony of *Carex riparia* (Greater Pond-sedge) by the fishing pond at Cassop.

Land Snail and other records for field meeting at Cassop on 14th May 2006

Quarrington cemetery (NZ335379)

Carychium tridentatum
Lauria cylindracea
Discus rotundatus
Arion ater
Aegopinella nitidula
Cepaea hortensis

A small leaf litter and moss sample taken from here yielded in addition:

Cochlicopa lubrica
Vertigo pygmaea (This was one of the more interesting finds of the day. An uncommon species, it was found in the same 10km square on a previous CNFC field meeting to Wingate on 30th May 2000)
Punctum pygmaeum
Arion intermedius
Nesovitrea hammonis
Aegopinella pura
Deroceras reticulatum

Also in this area the woodlouse *Oniscus asellus* and the pill millipede *Glomeris marginata*

Birds in the area included willow warbler, swift, chaffinch and blackbird.

Cassop Quarry area (NZ338383)

Carychium tridentatum
Cochlicopa lubricella

Lauria cylindracea
Discus rotundatus
Arion ater
Arion subfuscus
Arion distinctus
Vitrea contracta
Oxychilus cellarius
Oxychilus alliarius
Deroceras reticulatum
Helicella itala (including live individuals. A significant find because this is a nationally declining species)
Trichia striolata
Trichia hispida (both dark red-brown and pale shelled individuals)
Cepaea hortensis

Also in this area the woodlice *Trichoniscus pusillus, Philoscia muscorum* and *Oniscus asellus* and the millipedes *Glomeris marginata* and *Tachypodoiulus niger*

Pond at Cassop
Lymnaea peregra
Oxyloma pfeifferi

Birds in the Little Wood area nearby: two partridge, skylark, linnet, bullfinch chaffinch.

Wednesday, 17th May, 6:30 pm, Ian Lawrence Majuba Road

Sunday, 21st May, 10:30 am, Vic Fairbrother Barden Bridge.

Wednesday, 24th May, 1:30 pm, Alan Bunn South Gare

On the wing were- Lycaena phlaeas (Small Copper), *Tyria jacobaeae* (Cinnabar), *Lasiommata megera* (Wall).

Notable plants seen were- *Asplenium adiantum-nigrum* (Black Spleenwort), *Myosotis ramosissima* (Early Forget-me-Not), Armeria maritime (Thrift), *Hydrocotyle vulgaris* (Pennywort), Hyacinthoides hispanica (Spanish Bluebell), *Phleum arenarium* (Sand Catstail), *Botrychium lunaria* (Moonwort), *Bromus hordeaceus* (Soft Brome).

Wednesday, 31st May, 10:30 am, Vincent Jones Hart Warren.

Short calcareous grassland at the edge of the golf course yielded *Arabis hirsuta* (Hairy Rock-cress), *Astragalus danicus* Purple Milk-vetch), *Koeleria macrantha* (Crested Hair-grass), *Potentilla tabernaemontani* (Spring Cinquefoil), *Cerastium arvense* (Field Mouse-ear) and *Orchis ustulata* (Burnt Orchid). In Spion Kop cemetery were many fine patches of *Ornithogalum angustifolium* (Star-of Bethlehem), the hybrid campion *Silene x hampeana* and abundant *Cerastium arvense x C. tomentosum*; the latter appeared to have ousted the native parent. In waste areas well-naturalised *Paeonia officinalis* (Garden Paeony) and *Salvia verbenaca* (Wild Clary) were found.

In the sand dunes at Crimdon Denemouth were a number of butterfly species- *Lasiommata megera* (Wall), *Erynnis tages* (Dingy Skipper), *Coenonympha pamphilus* (Small Heath), *Lycaena phlaeas* (Small Copper), and *Anthocharis cardamines* (Orange Tip). Also, *Cercopis vulnerata* (Black and Red Froghopper). Stonechat were chattering from plant stem perches, including juveniles. Amongst ground debris in the dunes squirming masses of millipedes were found. It was unclear what was happening but presumably it was some mating behaviour. Railway from Hartlepool to Golf course – *Anthocharis cardamines* (Orange Tip).

Wednesday, 7th June, 6:30 pm, Jack Marshall Bank Foot.

A quiet evening but the following were noted-At Ingleby Greenhow there were many Oak Apples, *Inachis io* (Peacock) was flying, and a single *Acanthosoma haemorrhoidale* (Hawthorn Shieldbug) was found.

Wednesday, 14th June, 6:30 pm, David Barlow Saltburn cliffs.

Lasiommata megera (Wall) was flying with quite a few *Vanessa cardui* (Painted Lady); possible new immigrants from the sea? *Euproctis similis* (Yellowtail) larvae were feeding on clifftop roses where *Pilosella (Hieracium) aurantiacum* (Orange Hawkweed) was also seen. Noticeably, there were very few breeding seabirds on the cliffs. A small flock of Oystercatcher was on the foreshore.

Sunday, 18th June, 10:30 am, Neil Baker Cronkley Fell,

The rare *Salix caprea* ssp. *sphacelata* (Goat Willow) was studied at Cronkley Bridge. Adjacent meadows by the river yielded *Rhinanthus minor* ssp. *stenophyllus* and the much rarer ssp. *monticola* (Yellow-rattle), and the hybrid orchid *Dactylorhiza x transiens*. *Thalictrum alpinum* (Alpine Meadow-rue), *Juncus triglumis* (Three-flowered Rush) and *Tolfieldia pusilla* (Scottish Asphodel) were spotted in wet flushes near the top of Cronkley Fell. Unfortunately rain prevented the party from enjoying to the full the botanical delights of the sugar limestone inside the exclosures. However, we were able to see the *Helianthemum oelandicum* ssp. *levigatum* (Hoary Rock-rose) at its only site in the world. Other choice plants included *Carex ericetorum* (Rare Spring-sedge), *Minuartia verna* (Spring Sandwort), *Draba incana* (Hoary Whitlowgrass), *Gentiana verna* (Spring Gentian) and *Dryas octopetala* (Mountain Aven).

Wednesday, 28th June, 10:30 am, Judy Dinwiddie Lake Gormire.

Twelve people, including three from the C.M. Rob Society, met at 10.30. We walked through the fields past Tang Hall Farm and Southwoods Hall, the home of the late Donald Sinclair (the Siegfried of the Herriot stories). We made a short detour to look at some meadows above Southwoods which had a nice mixed flora. On to Gormire Lake where we ate our lunch. A Great Crested Grebe was seen. Several flowers of *Lysimachia thyrsiflora* (Tufted Loosestrife) were found. Other plants included *Scutellaria galericulata* (Common Skullcap), *Potentilla palustris* (Marsh Cinquefoil), *Menyanthes trifoliate* (Bogbean), *Littorella uniflora* (Shoreweed), and *Ophioglossum vulgatum* (Adder's-tongue). After circling the lake we took the road down to Thirlby where we viewed the area which was so badly damaged in last years

floods. Passing Alf Wights house we were still in the true Herriot country. We returned to the cars along the stream bank.

Saturday, 1st July, 10:30 am, John Blackburn Hayburn Wyke
Details from this meeting will appear in YNU publications in due course.

Wednesday, 5th July, 10:30 am, Peter and Ruth Waterton Swinton
On a fine hot day (29 degrees) 10 members met on Swinton lane .The initial walk up the lane revealed *Silene vulgaris* (Bladder Campion), *Geranium pratense* (Meadow Cranesbill), *Knautia arvensis* (Field Scabious) in plenty. The plant we were looking for was soon located *Orobanche elatior* (Knapweed Broomrape). 10 good plants growing amongst large clumps of *Centeurea nigra* (Common Knapweed). Butterflies included *Aphantopus hyperantus* (Ringlet), *Maniola jurtina* (Meadow Brown), *Vanessa atalanta* (Red Admiral) plus *Zygaena filipendulae* (6 spot Burnet moths). Fields nearby saw *Aglais urtica* (Small Tortoiseshell), *Vanessa cardui* (Painted Lady), and *Polygonia c-album* (Comma). Broughton Lane which runs parallel to Swinton Lane is another good area to explore. More Broomrape was found *Clinopodium vulgare* (Common Basil) and *Origanum vulgare* (Marjoram) plus a few plants of *Allium scorodoprasum* (Sand Leek). *Potentilla argentea* (Hoary Cinquefoil) was eventually located, a few small plants struggling to survive amongst invasive Bramble. Vince Jones sharp eyes searching in adjoining fields found *Silene noctiflora* (Night-Flowering Catchfly). A small sample was taken to verify the finding and it was fascinating to watch flowers open at dusk and be closed by morning to flower only once !.
Lunch was eaten sitting on Broughton Lane after which 3 members left leaving the rest heading to Hildenly woods .A manure heap revealed Fine-Leaved Fumitory (*Fumaria parviflora*) and field edges contained Thlaspi arvense (Field Penny Cress) in full seed. Entering the woods was taken with care due to high stands of Nettles. Shorts inadvisable!.At least it was cool! Large quantities of *Lithospermum officinale* (Common Gromwell) were growing along the path with ancient Box hedging. A healthy plant of *Iris foetidissima* (Roast-Beef Plant) was in full flower. Butterflies seen mainly *Aphantopus hyperantus* (Ringlet), and one *Parage aegeria* (Speckled Wood). On our return at 4 p.m. the car thermometer read 36 degrees! First stop for the Leaders was the local pub !.

Wednesday, 12th July, 6:30 pm, Ian Lawrence Egglescliffe.

There was quite a goodly-sized party of members who set off on a dry July evening from Egglescliffe Church that Wednesday evening. All ready for a 2-3 mile walk taking the long route to Yarm via the river Tees. We took the well-defined track from the village starting at the farm at the north-east end where a stile took us onto the long track alongside a large arable field which connects up with the riverside track leading to Yarm.

Some of the plants worth mentioning back at the farm area were a nice patch of *Pentaglottis sempervirens* (Evergreen Alkanet) and on the well-worn track past the farm itself we found *Coronopus squamatus* (Swine-cress) which seems to be now quite uncommon in our area. It is a very low-growing plant and can easily be missed. It apparently was a favourite meal for grazing pigs in time past.

The arable field is usually a magnificent sight with its scarlet red *Papaver rhoeas* (Field Poppies) but at that time of day most of its petals had dropped. But to compensate for this there was a mass of *Tripleurospermum inodorum* (Scentless Mayweed) providing a colour contrast with their large daisy-type flowers.

Once down by the river we were met with a large stand of the pink flowers of *Impatiens glandulifera* (Himalayan Balsam) contrasting here with the creamy-white flowers of *Filipendula ulmaria* (Meadow-sweet) which covered the river bank These colours were added to by the blue flowers of *Geranium pratense* (Meadow Crane' s-bill) and, on both sides of the track, the red-purple flowers of *Centaurea nigra* (Common Knapweed). To add to all these were the delicate pink and white flowers of *Convolvulus arvensis* (Field Bindweed) scrambling over the low- growing Clovers including *Trifolium medium* (Zig-zag Clover) with its very rich red colour, making it also very conspicuous along the river bank. Where the Sallow bushes started along the route, the *Calystegia sylvatica* (Large Bindweed) was resplendent with its large white trumpet-like flowers in the gathering gloom. Along the way, close to the river, were the huge plants of *Heracleum mantagazzianum* (Giant Hogweed) which were beginning to go to seed.

The find of the evening could well have been missed because the odd few plants were hiding under the bushes in a very shady place. These were *Allium oleraceum* (Field Garlic) a much declining plant nationwide. In the open spaces on the river bank *Saponaria officinalis* (Soapwort) was abundant in places - another declining plant in our area and, similarly, a clump of *Stachys palustris* (Marsh Woundwort) was nice to see in one of its very few places in west Cleveland,

Out in the open, very close to Yarm were two patches of *Persicaria amphibian* (Amphibious Bistort) another rarity for Cleveland. From there we made for the slope which took us up to the Bluebell Inn and then back up to the church from where we had started. I.C.L.

Sunday, 16th July, 10:30 am, Eric Gendle Orgate Valley. Swaledale

The group met in Marske and walked through Clints Wood. Several *Pararge aegeria* (Speckled Wood) were seen flying in the sunlit glades. This was a new 10k sq record for this species. The party continued through Orgate and Telfit farms before following Marske beck to Helwith. The valley was disappointing in that the usual flushes from the limestone were completely dry. At the lunchstop the party was entertained by *Motacilla cinerea* (Grey Wagtails) feeding amongst the streamside rocks. After lunch the party followed Shaw beck a short distance upstream. An impressive display of Mountain Pansy *Viola lutea* had been much reduced in the hot dry weather. The party walked along the top of White Scar then along the edge of Telfit Bank before following the steep flower filled lane to Skelton Farm and a field path back to Marske

Wednesday, 26th July, 6:30 pm, leader Andrew Ferguson Lustrum Beck

Sunday, 13th August, 11:00 am, leader Malcolm Birtle Rowley

A meeting on a very wet cold day which was curtailed due to very wet and cold weather. Nevertheless, a Mole was found and *Galeopsis tetrahit agg.* (Common Hemp Nettle) and *Campanula rotundifolia* (Harebell) brightened the lineside to the spectacular Hownsgill Viaduct. Many brambles and raspberries raised some spirits despite the weather.

Sunday, 20th August, 10:30 am, leader Alick Hunter Rosedale Abbey

Potamogeton obtusifolius (Blunt Leaved Pondweed) was identified in a reservoir in Northdale and in a nearby wet area *Montia fontana* (Blinks), and *Ranunculus hederaceus* (Ivy Leaved Water Crowfoot) were in flower. *Mimulus moschatus* (Musk) thrives here and elsewhere in Rosedale but regrettably no longer retains its perfume in the wild.

Wednesday, 13th September, 12:00 pm, Colin Chatto Staithes

Garden escapes were prolific amongst the cobbles in Staithes village. These included *Antirrhinum majus* (Snapdragon), *Oxalis exilis* (Least Yellow-sorrel), *Campanula portenschlagiana* (Adria Bellflower), *Calendula officinalis* (Pot Marigold) and *Erysimum cheiri* (Wallflower).

Saturday, 23rd September, 10:30 am, Alf Rout Osmotherley.

Saturday, 7th October, 10:30 am, Tom Kirby Ingleby Bank.

Wednesday, 18th October, 10:30 am, Aubrey and Edith Colling Arncliffe Wood.

The following fungi were noted-*Stereum hirsutum* (Hairy Stereum), *Postia* (*Tyromyces*) *caesius* a blue bracket on a fallen tree, *Russula ochroleuca* (Common Yellow Russula), *Stropharia aeruginosa* (Verdigris), *Postea* sp., *Puccinea* on Bilberry, *Myxomycete* on old bracken, *Clavaria* on fallen Silver Birch, *Lactarius turpis* (Ugly Milkcap), *Amanita fulva* (Tawny Grisette), *Leccinum versipelle* (Orange Birch Bolete), *Laccaria* sp., *Clavinia*, *Leccinum scabrum* (Brown Birch Bolete), *Amanita rubescens* (Blusher), on Scarth Wood moor-*Stropharia semigolbata* (Dung Roundhead) on sheep dung, *Cystoderma amianthinum* (Earthy Powdercap), *Lycoperdon foetidum*, *Hygrocybe virginea* (Snowy Waxcap), Lane from Scarth Bank to main road- *Coprinus lagopus* (Hare's Inkcap), Treecreeper, and *Vanessa atalanta* (Red Admiral).

Saturday, 4th November, 10:30 am, leader Andy Astbury Kirby Knowle

There were many plants of *Oxalis articulata* (Pink-sorrel) on a roadside bank near Boltby. On the outskirts of the village a field wall sported a good colony of *Umbilicus rupestris* (Navelwort), a species only ever known at two sites in V.C. 62. On the road south of Boltby *Pholiota squarrosa* (Shaggy Pholiota), Anagallis arvensis (Scarlet Pimpernel), and Long-tailed Tit were seen.

The water bugs of Cleveland with a note on northwards expansions in range

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1. Introduction

The aquatic Hemiptera-Heteroptera are a diverse group of insects which can be divided between those which inhabit the surface film (or run over saturated moss or litter) and those which swim below the surface. The first group includes the water-crickets (Veliidae), Sphagnum bugs (Hebridae), water-measurers (Hydrometridae) and pond-skaters (Gerridae). The second includes saucer bugs (Naucoridae), river bugs (Aphelocheiridae), water scorpions and water stick-insects (Nepidae), backswimmers (Notonectidae), lesser backswimmers (Pleidae) and the speciose lesser water-boatmen (Corixidae). Most water bugs are predators on small invertebrates, the surface dwellers feeding on insects, which drop onto or become trapped on the surface film. The Corixidae, however, are a mixture of algae- feeders and omnivores.

There are 67 species of water bug on the British list, a few of which are recent additions. 32 of these have been recorded recently from the former County of Cleveland, now comprising the Unitary Authorities of Hartlepool, Middlesbrough, Stockton and Redcar & Cleveland[1]. A few additional species could probably be recorded: *Sigara semistriata* (Fieber) has been collected recently from the north-eastern part of the North York Moors National Park (R. Merritt pers comm.) whilst *Arctocorisa germari* (Fieber) might be found in large, sparsely-vegetated standing waters.

Water bugs remain relatively under-recorded, both locally and nationally. This is surprising since they can be very abundant in standing waters, are quite easily collected and relatively easy to identify compared to many aquatic invertebrates. Some species are unmistakeable even in their immature stages (variously referred to as nymphs or larvae) but most are best examined as adults. A good hand lens suffices to name many species though a low-power binocular microscope is invaluable for examining the Corixidae. Savage (1989) provides an excellent identification key whilst Huxley (2003) provides an up-to-date *Provisional Atlas* with much useful information, based on records available up to 2001.

Water bugs have quite well-defined habitat preferences related to the type of water body, water chemistry and amount of vegetation or detritus. The greatest diversity of Corixids is often found in ponds with moderate amounts of submerged vegetation and a proportion of bare substrate whilst a number of surface-dwellers are associated with the edge between open water and

[1] I have taken the liberty of also referring to records from Hell Kettles near Darlington.

emergent water-margin vegetation. Generally speaking, the richest habitats for water bugs are those with a high degree of structural diversity.

The following species list is based primarily on the author's own records from 2000 onwards plus a few others extracted from the Aquatic Heteroptera Recording Scheme dataset; Robert Merritt has also kindly made his records for the area available.

The order and nomenclature used in the following inventory follows the updated list of British water bugs by Shelia Brooke, published in Issue 11 (May 2006) of *HetNews*, the Heteroptera recording schemes electronic newsletter (see www.hetnews.org.uk). Site location details are appended. In the absence of a definitive, up-to-date assessment of the conservation status of British water bugs, the GB status of each species follows Merritt (2006), based on post-1980 records held by the national recording scheme and accessible on the NBN Gateway (www.searchnbn.net): scarce = recorded from 31-100 hectads[2] in GB; local A = recorded from 101-200 hectads; local B – recorded from 201-400 hectads; common = recorded from >400 hectads.

2. Species accounts

Nepidae (water scorpions and water stick insects)

Nepa cinerea L., Water Scorpion
GB status: Common
Recorded from many well-vegetated ponds and, less frequently, drainage dykes in the Cleveland lowlands.

Corixidae (lesser water boatmen)

Cymatia bonsdorffi (Sahlberg)
GB status: Local A
A widespread but usually very local Corixid found in lakes and ponds with stands of submerged macrophytes. Abundant in Norton Bottoms pond (BBVCP) on 13/09/2006.

Cymatia coleoptrata (Fabricius)
GB status: Local A
Abundant in Norton Bottoms pond on 13/09/2006 with three specimens encountered at Glebe Marsh pond (BBVCP) the same day. When data was collated for the recent *Provisional Atlas* of British water bugs (Huxley, 2003), the most northerly known sites for *C. coleoptrata* were on the south bank of the Humber estuary. There have been several subsequent records further north into Yorkshire but, at the time of writing, BBVCP is the most northerly known location for this species in Britain. This is therefore a new record for Vc 66.

[2] A hectad is an Ordnance Survey 10 x 10 kilometre square, e.g. Guisborough is in NZ 61. There are around 2,877 hectads in Great Britain as a whole.

Callicorixa praeusta (Fieber)
GB status: Common
Widespread and common in ponds of varying trophic status.

Corixa panzeri (Fieber)
GB status: Local A
This species is frequent in base-rich ponds in the Cleveland lowlands: sites for which water chemistry data has been recorded show a pH range of 7.3 to 8.2 with high electrical conductivity (870 µS/cm^{-1} to >2000 µS/cm^{-1}). It is particularly characteristic of ponds with open-structured submerged vegetation such as *Myriophyllum spicatum*, linear-leaved pondweeds and *Hippuris*.

Corixa punctata (Illiger)
GB status: Common
A very common large Corixid in standing or slow-flowing waters, in conditions ranging from acidic/oligotrophic to brackish. Water pH readings for Cleveland sites range from 4.6 to 8.2.

Hesperocorixa castanea (Thomson)
GB status: Local B
A local species of acidic ponds and pools, often containing *Sphagnum*. In Cleveland it has been recorded from Carr Pond on Eston Moor, a small, water-filled pit on Stanghow Moor, Newton Moor and Hart Bog. Elsewhere, *H. castanea* is occasionally found in mossy base-rich pools.

Hesperocorixa linnaei (Fieber)
GB status: Local B
A widespread species in base-rich (including slightly brackish) standing waters, occurring with other Corixids such as *Corixa panzeri*, *Sigara distincta* and *S. dorsalis*.

Hespercorixa sahlbergi (Fieber)
GB status: Common
Widespread in stagnant pools and ditches with dense vegetation and plant debris; *H. sahlbergi* is often the only Corixid in such situations.

Paracorixa concinna (Fieber)
GB status: Local B
This species has been recorded recently in small numbers from BBVCP (Glebe Marsh pond), High Clarence, Haverton Hill, Lingfields Countryside Centre pond (Coulby Newham) and Skelton Beck at Saltburn valley gardens. It was abundant at Margrove Ponds on 31/10/2006. *P. concinna* is associated with water bodies of high ionic content (Savage, 1989); at Margrove, electrical conductivity was measured at 1830 µS/cm^{-1}, a high value for an inland fresh water body.

Sigara stagnalis (Leach)
GB status: Local A
A brackish water specialist found locally in coastal and estuarine locations around the British coast north to the Solway and North-east England. Recorded by the author from Portrack Marsh NR (2001-2005) and in a strongly brackish pool (pH 9.4) on Cowpen Marsh (19/07/2006). Also recorded by T. Huxley from Seaton Common and, presumably as a stray, from Guisbrough Priory pond (both 15/09/98).

Sigara nigrolineata (Fieber)
GB status: Common
Occurs in a wide range of standing water habitats with limited vegetation cover. Recent records come from Stanghow Moor and four sites around the estuary or urban Teesside. *Sigara nigrolineata* is a versatile species in terms of water chemistry, with the Cleveland sites producing pH values ranging from 5.0 to 7.9.

Sigara limitata (Fieber)
GB status: Scarce
A single male of this scarce small Corixid was collected by the author from Carr Pond on Eston Moor in 1999 with another on 25/10/2006 (conf. R. Merritt). This is the most northerly authenticated site in England and the status of the species in Scotland is uncertain (Huxley, 2003). Most modern records of *S. limitata* are within a distinct band from Hertfordshire and Suffolk through the Midlands into Cheshire. It has recently been recorded from three sites north of Ripon in North Yorkshire but the Eston Moor site is otherwise quite isolated. The ecological requirements of this species are unclear; it is probably not strongly influenced by water chemistry but may favour ponds with a firm substrate and sparse or open-structured vegetation.

Sigara dorsalis (Leach)
GB status: Common
A very common species in standing or slow-flowing waters, in conditions ranging from moderately acidic to brackish.

Sigara distincta (Fieber)
GB status: Common
A widespread bug recorded from several Cleveland locations.

Sigara falleni (Fieber)
GB status: Common
Records come from six larger lowland ponds, and from the moorland reservoirs at Scaling Dam and Lockwood Beck (T. Huxley) but *S. falleni* could occur in any large body of standing water with little vegetation. It can tolerate quite foul conditions, as in fishing lakes.

Sigara fossarum (Leach)
GB status: Local B
A fairly widespread small Corixid which has been recorded from Lingfields Countryside Centre Pond, CBWP and High Clarence.

Sigara scotti (Douglas & Scott)
GB status: Local B
Recorded from Lockwood Beck reservoir by T. Huxley on 15/09/1998. This appears to be the only Cleveland record of this localised northern species, which is associated with sparsely-vegetated acidic waters.

Sigara lateralis (Leach)
GB status: Common
Widespread in standing waters with limited vegetation, in conditions ranging from moderately acidic to brackish. At one extreme, Carr Pond on Eston Moor, water pH has been measured at 5.5 - 6.4 with electrical conductivity of 80 - 100 µS/cm^{-1} whilst at the other, *S. lateralis* occurs in a pond at Huntsman Tioxide with pH 8.6 and conductivity of well over 2,000 µS/cm^{-1}. A very common 'pioneer' insect found in recently excavated or cleared-out ponds, pools and ditches, or where disturbance inhibits the development of vegetation.

Notonectidae

Notonecta glauca L., Common Backswimmer
GB status: Common
Widespread and common.

Notonecta obliqua Thunberg, Moorland Backswimmer
GB status: Local B
A characteristic species of acidic moorland ponds recorded from Carr Pond on Eston Moor, a pond on the North Yorkshire boundary at Newton Moor and a water-filled pit at Stanghow Moor. Water pH at these sites has ranged between 4.6 and 6.4 with low electrical conductivity (90 to 180 µS/cm^{-1}).

Notonecta viridis Delcourt
GB status: Local B
Notonecta viridis is noted here as a species new to Vc 66. First recorded in this area at Hell Kettles, Darlington in 2004, *N. viridis* has subsequently been found widely in Cleveland with sites including Whinney Banks pond, BBVCP, Lingfield Countryside Centre pond, Holme Fleet at High Clarence, ponds at Huntsman Tioxide, Cowpen Marsh, CBWP and ponds and ditches at Seaton Common. It is a 'southern' species which favours base-rich ponds with moderate vegetation cover. When data was collated for the recent *Provisional Atlas* (Huxley, 2003), *N. viridis* was know to occur as far north as Filey and York.

Pleidae (lesser backswimmers)

Plea minutissima Leach
GB status: Common
This species was hardly known in Yorkshire prior to the early 1990s but has spread rapidly since and is now widespread in north-east England (Eyre et al, 2005). It is frequent in lowland ponds in Cleveland, being locally-abundant where there is submerged vegetation such as *Myriophyllum*, linear-leaved pondweeds or charophytes.

Hydrometridae (water-measurers)

Hydrometra stagnorum (L.), Water-measurer
GB status: Common
A common but shy insect found amongst dense vegetation fringing standing or slow-flowing water, with records from seven or eight locations.

Veliidae (water-crickets)

Microvelia reticulata (Burmeister)
GB status: Local B
Recorded from low water-margin vegetation or amongst the litter layer of reedswamp in very shallow water. Recent records come from reedbeds near Seal Sands, Portrack Marsh NR, Norton Bottoms pond, Seaton Common and the Carr Pond on Eston Moor. Mostly found in base-rich habitats but Carr Pond is fairly acidic and oligotrophic.

Velia caprai Tamanini, Water Cricket
GB status: Common
A widespread species of sheltered streams which also occurs on ditches and gutters in woodland. Recorded from Skelton Beck, Marton West Beck, Billingham Beck, Errington Woods, Hutton Lowcross and Pinchinthorpe.

Gerridae (pond skaters)

Gerris costae, Moorland Pond-skater
GB status: Local A
A large pond-skater, typically found on small, peaty pools on moorland. It has been recorded from Moorsholm Moor (R. Merritt, 02/10/2006) and probably occurs more widely in the Cleveland part of the North York Moors, though it has not been found on the Eston Hills. A lowland population occurs at Errington Banks Wood near Marske.

Gerris gibbifer
GB status: Local A
Gerris gibbifer occurs on sheltered valley and forest ponds in a few discrete areas within the North York Moors. Within the Cleveland area it was recorded at Hutton Lowcross woods / Hutton Moor on 20/08/2000. *Gerris gibbifer* has a

localised, predominantly southern and western distribution in Britain, being absent from north-east England, the Midlands and most eastern Counties.

Gerris lacustris (L.), Common Pond-skater
GB status: Common
Widespread and very common.

Gerris odontogaster (Zetterstedt), Toothed Pond-skater
GB status: Common
A common small pond-skater, found on standing waters with conditions ranging from acidic and oligotrophic to slightly brackish.

Gerris thoracicus Schummel
GB status: Local B
Recorded from several base-rich ponds and grazing marsh ditches around the estuary and urban Teesside.

Gerris lateralis Schummel
GB status: Local A
A specimen was collected from a shaded pool at Moordale Bog on Eston Moor on 18/07/2006 (R. Merritt). Also recorded by the author at Hart Bog on 18/04/2000. This infrequently-encountered pond-skater is associated with shallow pools amongst sedge swamp or where overhanging bushes provide shade and shelter (Huxley, 2003; Merritt, 2006).

3. A changing fauna?

Entomologists tend to be very conservative about relating changes in the recorded distribution of insects to environmental change. This is because we know that recording is very uneven in terms of effort, competence, geographical spread and taxonomic focus. A *recorded* distribution is precisely that, and only for the most well-recorded groups (e.g. butterflies) will this necessarily bear a close resemblance to a species' real distribution.

However, there is strong evidence that several southern water bugs have rapidly expanded their range in Yorkshire in recent years. These include the Water Stick-insect *Ranatra linearis* (L.), the Saucer Bug *Ilyocoris cimicoides* (L.), the backswimmer *Notonecta viridis*, the lesser backswimmer *Plea minutissima* and the lesser water-boatmen *Micronecta scholtzi* (Fieber) and *Cymatia coleoptrata*. Some of these now reach Cleveland, and a few further north. It is impossible to say with any confidence whether *M. scholtzi* is a genuinely expanding species since it is tiny and very easily overlooked but large predators like the Water Stick-insect and Saucer Bug are unlikely to be overlooked even by the most casual pond-dipper. Eyre et al (2005) are confident that the expansion of *Plea minutissima* into North-eastern England is genuine as it was not found during extensive surveys in the 1980s.

The northwards expansion of southern water bugs corresponds closely to the dramatic spread of several dragonfly species. Eyre et al (2005) have documented the spread into North-east England of a range of aquatic

invertebrates, pointing out that most of them are associated with permanent ponds, often of recent man-made origin, with marginal vegetation and open water.

Several water beetles with a southerly distribution also appear to be recent colonists of Cleveland including the diving beetles *Dytiscus circumflexus* Fabricius, *Hydroglyphus geminus* (Fabricius) and *Laccophilus hyalinus* (De Geer), and the Hydrophilid *Enochrus melanocephalus* (Olivier) (Eyre et al, 2005 and M. Hammond unpublished records). These could soon be joined by the Screech Beetle *Hygrobia hermanni* (Fabricius), already recorded at Darlington, and the scavenger water beetle *Helochares lividus* (Forster).

If present trends continue, the Saucer Bug *Ilyocoris cimicoides* will soon colonise Cleveland; Eyre et al 2005 report finding a nymph in south Northumberland in 2004 so it has already been discovered further north, and the species is now widespread in lowland North Yorkshire. The backswimmer *Notonecta maculata* is also likely to appear, since it already reaches well into North Yorkshire: this insect is often associated with bare or recently-excavated water bodies variously including new wildlife ponds, balancing lagoons, cattle troughs and disused outdoor swimming pools. It can be confused with heavily-marked individuals of the common *N. glauca*. The spectacular Water Stick-inect *Ranatra* apparently colonised Yorkshire in about 1999, when it was discovered by W.R. Dolling in Holderness. It has rapidly consolidated its distribution in South Yorkshire and Howdenshire, northwards into Selby district. It could appear in the Cleveland lowlands within a few years.

4. References

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Merritt, R. (2006). **Atlas of the water beetles (Coleoptera) and water bugs (Heteroptera) of Derbyshire, Nottinghamshire and South Yorkshire, 1993-2005**. Sorby Record Special Series, No. 14. Sorby Natural History Society: Sheffield.

Savage, A.A. (1989). **Adults of the British aquatic Hemiptera-Heteroptera: a key with ecological notes**. Freshwater Biological Association Scientific Publication No. 50. Freshwater Biological Association: Ambleside.

Appendix

Site location details: sites are listed in alphabetical order with the Ordnance Survey grid reference and the Watsonian Vice-county (Vc 62 = North-east Yorkshire, Vc 66 = County Durham).

Billingham Beck Valley Country Park (BBVCP) NZ 45- 22- (66); Carr Pond (Eston Moor) NZ 563 174 (62); Coatham Marsh Nature Reserve NZ 58- 24- (62); Cowpen Bewley Woodland Park (CBWP) NZ 483 255 (66); Cowpen Marsh NZ 50- 24- (66); Errington Banks NZ 623 202 (62); Glebe Marsh pond (BBVCP) NZ 455 219 (66); Guisborough Priory pond NZ 619 159 (62); Hart Bog NZ 452 354 (66); Haverton Hill NZ 491 227 (66); Hell Kettles (Darlington) NZ 281 109 (66); High Clarence NZ 224 493 (66); the Holmes (Bassleton) NZ 447 160 (62); Huntsman Tioxide ponds NZ 51- 26- (66); Hutton Lowcross / Hutton Moor NZ 59- 13- (62); Lingfields Countryside Centre pond (Coulby Newham) NZ 511 135 (62); Lockwood Beck reservoir NZ 669 138 (62); Margrove Ponds NR NZ 650 160 (62); Marton West Beck NZ 50- 16- (62); Moordale Bog (Eston Moor) NZ 57- 17- (62); Moorsholm Moor NZ 674 128 (62); Newton Moor NZ 592 124 (62); Norton Bottoms pond (BBVCP) NZ 460 209 (66); Pinchinthorpe NZ 58- 15- (62); Portrack Marsh Nature Reserve NZ 465 193 (66); Saltholme ponds complex NZ 51- 22- (66); Seaton Common NZ 53- 27- (66); Skelton Beck at Saltburn valley gardens NZ 667 216 (62); Stanghow Moor NZ 659 131 (62); Tidal Pool (Cowpen Marsh) NZ 507 253 (66); Whinney Banks pond NZ 474 185 (62).

Recent records of notable aquatic Coleoptera from Cleveland

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Water beetles are amongst the most abundant and diverse macro-invertebrates in many non-marine aquatic habitats, including those of a seasonal or temporary nature; indeed if fly larvae are disregarded, they are by far the most species-rich group of macro-invertebrates found in ponds and ditches (Ponds Conservation Trust 2003). The British water beetle fauna is reasonably well-recorded, most species are scavengers or predators (thus not restricted by the distribution of specific food plants) and adult water beetles can be found almost throughout the year. For these reasons, aquatic Coleoptera are very useful in evaluating wetland habitats.

Furthermore, a number of species are restricted to ancient wetlands, i.e. sites which have had a continuity of wetland conditions since prehistoric times. These are extremely sedentary species, sometimes physically incapable of flight, though it is worth noting that such species are relatively small insects capable of persisting in waterlogged pools and not requiring extensive areas of open water. In Cleveland, Hart Bog is a kettle-hole mire which supports relict populations of two very rare diving beetles, *Hydroporus scalesianus* and *Laccornis oblongus*.

This note summarises some of the rarer or more noteworthy water beetles recorded by the author from the former County of Cleveland during the past few years. The order and nomenclature used follows the updated checklist of British water beetles by Professor G.N. Foster, published in *The Coleopterist* (Foster, 2004 & 2005). Site location details are appended. In the absence of a definitive, up-to-date assessment of the conservation status of British water beetles, the GB status of each species follows Merritt (2006), based on post-1980 records held by the national recording scheme and accessible on the

NBN Gateway (www.searchnbn.net): rare = recorded from 30 or fewer hectads in GB[3]; scarce = recorded from 31-100 hectads; local A = recorded from 101-200 hectads; local B = recorded from 201-400 hectads; common = recorded from >400 hectads.

Gyrinidae (whirligig beetles)
Gyrinus caspius
GB status: local A
A narrow-bodied whirligig beetle which hides amongst stands of *Phragmites* or *Bolboschoenus* in mildly brackish water. Its specialised habitat dictates that *G. caspius* is very local. Plentiful at Coatham Marsh NR (2000-2004) with small numbers encountered at South Gare Lagoon. Also found on the north side of the estuary at Huntsman Tioxide on 28/ix/2006.

Gyrinus urinator
GB status: local A
A distinctive orange-bellied whirligig found under emergent stands of swamp grasses (usually *Phalaris* or *Glyceria maxima*) at the edge of slow-flowing rivers or larger streams. Formerly regarded as a rare species, there have been an increasing number of records in recent years. Found in the Tees at Bassleton on 8/v/2006, with a single specimen found amongst a trailing mat of grass on Skelton Beck at Saltburn Valley Gardens on 11/x/2006. Just outside Cleveland, *G. urinator* has recently been found on the River Leven flood diversion channel near Stokesley.

Haliplidae (algivorous water beetles)

Haliplus apicalis Thomson
GB status: scarce
A small water beetle confined to brackish or otherwise very ion-rich waters. Plentiful at Coatham Marsh NR and Cowpen Marsh NR with a few records from drains and ponds on Seaton Common and at High Clarence / Haverton Hill. A single vagrant specimen was collected from a temporary freshwater pond near Acklam on 23/ix/2000. Interestingly, several specimens were also collected from Margrove Ponds on 1/ix/2002. This site has unusual water chemistry, discussed by Fryer (1993) in his comprehensive survey of aquatic Crustacea in Watsonian Yorkshire.

Dytiscidae (diving beetles)

Agabus affinis (Paykull)
GB status: local B
A local species of extensive *Sphagnum* mires with standing water, occasionally in base-rich, mossy fens. Plentiful in the basin mire on Eston Moor (1999-2006) with other *Sphagnum* mire beetles including *Hydroporus obscurus* Sturm and *Helochares punctatus* Sharp.

[3] A hectad is an Ordnance Survey 10 x 10 kilometer square, e.g. Guisborough is in NZ61. There are around 2,877 hectads in Great Britain as a whole.

Agabus conspersus (Marsham)
GB status: scarce
A coastal/estuarine specialist found in pools, ponds and dykes where there is some brackish influence; more rarely in inland waters with very high ionic content. *A. conspersus* is frequent around the Humber estuary but apparently scarce around Teesmouth: the author found individuals at Huntsman Tioxide (28/ix/2006) and Haverton Hill (15/xi/2006).

Ilybius guttiger (Gyllenhal)
GB status: local A
A very local, medium-sized diving beetle of mossy or sedgey fens and more mesotrophic lowland *Sphagnum* mires. It has been known at Hart Bog since 1978 and was re-found there in April 2000. *I. guttiger* was also recorded from fen at Margrove Ponds NR on 1/ix/2002.

Ilybius subaeneus Erichson
GB status: scarce
This species has a peculiar British distribution centred on the Midlands and North-east England. This may be due to the fact that it favours subsidence flashes and water bodies left by extractive industries, though it can also occur in more natural habitats. Recorded from two ponds at BBVCP in 2006. Eyre et al (2003) report finding this species in ponds at Coatham Dunes in 1995.

Ilybius quadriguttatus (Lacordaire)
GB status: local B
This medium-sized diving beetle is fairly widespread in richly-vegetated ponds and drains in the southern lowlands of Yorkshire, but its distribution ends rather abruptly at York and Scarborough. There were a handful records from Wearside in the mid 19th Century but it has not, apparently, been found in North-east England since. It was interesting therefore to find *I. quadriguttatus* at CBWP and a pool at Saltholme during 2006.

Rhantus suturellus (Harris)
GB status: local A
A very local (in England) and possibly declining species of acidic mire pools. *R. suturellus* is known from a handful of sites in the biological recording Vice-county of North-east Yorkshire (VC 62), at Strensall Common and on the North York Moors. To these can be added the basin mire at Eston Moor, where several were found in May 2006.

Rhantus suturalis (MacLeay)
GB status: local B
A widespread but sporadic species of lowland standing waters which can be found in disturbed and polluted habitats but is also characteristic of grazing marsh ditches. Recorded from Seaton Common on 12/ix/2006.

Dytiscus circumflexus Fabricius
GB status: local A
One of the Great Diving Beetles, *D. circumflexus* was formerly restricted to coastal Counties in the south-eastern part of Britain but has spread

northwards and inland in recent decades, recently reaching the Isle of Man and south-west Scotland (Foster & Bellstedt, 2005). On the eastern side of England it has been recorded as far north as York and Scarborough but has only very recently been found at Teesmouth. A male was recorded from Norton Bottoms pond on 13/ix/2006. This appears to be the first record for VC66.

Hydroglyphus geminus (Fabricius)
GB status: local B
A very small diving beetle often associated with disturbed habitats like recently-cleared or newly-created ponds. *H. geminus* is a southern species which is evidently expanding its range. Records from The Holmes at Bassleton on 8/v/2006 and Lingfields Countryside Centre pond (Coulby Newham) on 17/x/2006 are the most northerly recent British records known at the time of writing.

Hydroporus longicornis Sharp
GB status: local A
A small diving beetle of acidic seepages in hill and upland districts. Several were found in ochreous seepages at Moordale Bog on Eston Moor on 15/viii/2006. *H. longicornis* is of local occurrence on the North York Moors with the Eston Moor site representing an isolated outlier.

Hydroporus scalesianus Stephens
GB status: rare
This very small, reddish-coloured diving beetle is restricted to ancient fens and mires. It has a widely scattered but extremely localised distribution, its only stations on the east side of England north of the Wash being at Hornsea Mere (East Yorkshire) and Hart Bog. *H. scalesianus* was discovered at Hart Bog in 1978, was recorded again in 1982 and was found in large numbers by this author on 18/iv/2000.

Laccornis oblongus (Stephens)
GB status: rare
This chestnut and black diving beetle is restricted to relict mires but is rather more widespread than *Hydroporus scalesianus*. *Laccornis* has recently been found at four locations in Yorkshire but its only known site in North-east England is at Hart Bog, where it was discovered in 1978. It was re-found there by the author on 18/iv/2000.

Helophoridae

Helophorus dorsalis (Marsham)
GB status: scarce
An uncommon beetle with an easterly distribution in England which has only been recorded as far north as Castle Eden Dene. It occurs in small, very shallow and often ephemeral pools on woodland tracks or on open ground within wooded landscapes. These are often little more than puddles, small seepages or collections of hoof-prints. It has recently been recorded from Ten Acre Bank at Eston, Wilton Woods and Errington Woods near New Marske.

Helophorus fulgidicollis Motschulsky
GB status: scarce
A saltmarsh species found in shallow, grassy, brackish pools. *H. fulgidicollis* has been recorded from pools inland of the floodbank near Greatham Creek and in a small remnant of saltmarsh near the Mandale Roundabout at Thornaby. Eyre et al (2003) also recorded this species from pitfall traps in a dune slack area at North Gare in 1996.

Hydrophilidae (scavenger water beetles)

Enochrus bicolor (Fabricius)
GB status: scarce
This species occurs in moderately brackish to markedly saline conditions and has been found in two locations around the Tidal Pool at Cowpen Marsh (2005/2006). Also reported from Cowpen Marsh in 1996 by Eyre et al (2003).

Enochrus coarctatus (Gredler)
GB status: local B
E. coarctatus has a widespread but patchy and localised distribution in fens and other richly-vegetated wetlands. Not previously recorded from Cleveland, it was found during 2006 at The Holmes (Bassleton) and at Norton Bottoms pond.

Enochrus melanocephalus (Olivier)
GB status: local A
A sporadic, southern species often occurring in disturbed habitats such as the edges of man-made ponds. It has only been recorded in North-east England during the past few years. Eyre et al (2005) cite records from Cowpen Bewley and Billingham in 2003 along with several other locations further north. Found by the author during 2006 in a pond at Huntsman Tioxide on 28/ix/2006.

Laccobius atratus Rottenberg
GB status: scarce
A speciality of acidic flushes on moorland. *L. atratus* has a strongly 'Atlantic' distribution in Britain, from southern England along the western seaboard to the Hebrides. It is fairly widespread in suitable habitat on the North York Moors but these represent very isolated eastern outlier populations. Within the Cleveland boundary, *L. atratus* was recorded from a flush on Hutton Moor on (20/viii/2000).

Cercyon ustulatus (Preyssler)
GB status: local B
A local beetle found in richly-vegetated water margins. Recorded from Margrove Ponds on 1/ix/2002 and Huntsman Tioxide on 28/ix/2006.

Hydraenidae

Ochthebius marinus (Paykull)
GB status: local A
A saltmarsh species which can be abundant where suitable habitat occurs. *O. marinus* appears to be widespread in brackish pools around Seal Sands and Cowpen Marsh, and also occurs (with *Helophorus fulgidicollis*) in a small remnant of saltmarsh near the Mandale Roundabout at Thornaby. It also occurs in small numbers in ditches and ponds on Seaton Common. A specimen from a freshwater pond at CBWP on 14/vii/2005 was presumably a wanderer.

Curculionidae (weevils)

Phytobius leucogaster (Marsham)
GB status: scarce
This is one of a small number of aquatic weevils which live on water milfoils (*Myriophyllum* spp.) in both fresh and moderately brackish waters. At Cowpen Marsh, it was numerous in a pond with abundant spiked water-milfoil (*M. spicatum*) on 19/vii/2006 (M. Hammond det R. Merritt).

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Appendix

Site location details: sites are listed in alphabetical order with the Ordnance Survey grid reference and the Watsonian Vice-county (Vc 62 = North-east Yorkshire, Vc 66 = County Durham).

Billingham Beck Valley Country Park (BBVCP) NZ 460 209 (66); Coatham Marsh NR NZ 58- 24- (62); Cowpen Bewley Woodland Park (CBWP) NZ 48- 25- (66); Cowpen Marsh NZ 50- 24-/50- 25- (66); Errington Woods NZ 626 203 (62); Eston Moor: basin mire NZ 562 171 (62); Eston Moor: Moordale Bog NZ 571 172 (62); Hart Bog NZ 45- 35- (66); Haverton Hill NZ 490 227 (66); High Clarence NZ 495 222 (66); Huntsman Tioxide ponds NZ 51- 26- (66); Hutton Moor NZ 60-12- (62); Lingfields Countryside Centre pond (Coulby Newham) NZ 511 135 (62); Mandale saltmarsh site NZ 468 176 (62); Margrove Ponds NZ 650 160 (62); Norton Bottoms pond NZ 460 209 (66); Portrack Marsh NR NZ 465 193(66); River Tees at Bassleton NZ 446 158 (62); Saltholme Pools NZ 515 227 (66); Seaton Common/ North Gare dune slacks NZ 52- 28- (66); Skelton Beck at Saltburn Valley Gardens NZ 667 216 (62); South Gare lagoon NZ 56- 26- (62); Ten Acre Bank, Eston NZ 555 167 (62); The Holmes, Bassleton NZ 447 160 (62); Wilton Woods NZ 593 197 (62)

Martin Hammond
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Notes on the identification of *Euphrasia* in VC62

Vincent Jones

There are relatively few *Euphrasia* species known in VC62. Only two are common :- *E. nemorosa* and *E. confusa*. *E. confusa* is mainly found in grazed grassland, acidic or basic, in upland areas and is a common plant of road verges in the NY moors.

E. nemorosa prefers more basic grassland, but unlike *E. confusa*, it thrives in rougher grassland. It grows in meadows and on road verges and is often found on forest rides.

Comparative table for *E. nemorosa* and *E. confusa*

Species	Habitat	Leaves	Flowers	Capsules
E. nemorosa	Often numerous, rather rigid branches arising from lower and middle parts of stem	Darkish green and glossy at least the basal pair of teeth directed out at 90 degrees. Teeth of stem leaves finely pointed.	First flowers often around node 9, usually white with lilac upper lip. Flowers mainly in pairs on the stem.	Usually shorter than the calyx.
E. confusa	Short, slender plant with wavy stem and branches, often with numerous basal branches.	Light green, relatively narrow, glabrous or hairy. Those towards the base of branches often very small. All teeth directed towards the leaf tip.	First flowers around node 6 (so starts flowering earlier). Larger, white flowers. Flowers, especially the lower, alternate on the stem.	Usually +/- equalling the calyx.

Four other taxa occur rarely :- *E. arctica* subsp*. borealis*, *E. micrantha, E. scottica* and (arguably) *E. tetraquetra.*

Characters distinguishing *E. arctica* subsp*. borealis* from *E. nemorosa*

- Branches like *E. nemorosa* but with basal branches typically longer and more wavy.
- Leaves are larger and broader.
- Plants usually glandular, especially on the floral leaves (those associated with flowers or capsules).
- First flowers around node 8 or lower, so starts flowering earlier than *E. nemorosa.*

In similar habitats to *E. nemorosa*, but prefers damper and more acidic soils. Only found recently in two sites in VC62.

Comparative table for *E. micrantha* (the commonest of these 4) and *E. scottica*

Species	Habitat	Leaves	Flowers	Capsules
E. micrantha	Slender plant. Branches 0 to numerous, stiff and straight, in pairs arising at a narrow angle from the middle part of the stem.	Commonly flushed purple on both surfaces, or sometimes only above; more acutely toothed than *E. scottica*.	Small, usually purple with purple lines, lower lip distinctly longer than the upper lip and having distinctly narrow (+/- parallel-sided) lobes.	Usually shorter than calyx.
E. scottica	Very slender plant. Branches often lacking, but when present they curve upwards and are alternate. There is often just one branch from mid part of the stem.	Small, very much shorter than internodes. Stem leaves green on upper surface, but strongly purple beneath, narrow with blunt, forwardly-directed teeth.	Small, white. An important character is that the lower lip is little longer than upper lip.	Usually longer than calyx.

Although in some ways *E. micrantha* and *E.scottica* are similar, their habitats are distinct. *E. micrantha*, like *E. confusa*, is a moorland species of dry, short turf, almost always growing in close association with *Calluna*. Look for it, especially by the side of moorland roads or vehicular tracks over the moors where the grazed turf meets the heather. *E. scottica* is a plant of wet flushes in the moors. It may well be under-recorded.

Euphrasia tetraquetra typically grows in short, coastal grassland on sea cliffs and dune systems. It is very rare on the East coast of England, but plants resembling it occur at the South Gare. These need further study and expert determination. In its typical form, *E. tetraquetra* is a distinctive plant. Its salient features are :-

- Plant very compact and squat. Branches, if present, are basal and curve upwards to become only slightly shorter than the main stem.
- The leaves are broad, fleshy with very blunt teeth.

- When viewed from above the inflorescence and plant outline is distinctly four-sided.

A word of caution
It is important in any attempt to identify Eyebrights that all the characters of the plant are studied (usually on 2 to 6 plants). Unfortunately, where the habitats overlap, two or more species may occur in the same area. In these circumstances hybrids can be prolific. Indeed hybrid swarms may occur in the absence of the parents. Further comment on the *Euphrasia* hybrids is beyond the scope of this article.

Key and Identification Notes for the Hawkweeds of NE Yorkshire (VC 62)

Vincent Jones

Before attempting to use the key, please note the following points:-

1. The key and accompanying notes are for use only in VC62 (and SE Durham).
2. There are hawkweeds in VC62 which are rare (some with only a single site) or restricted to the limestone of the southern part of the N.Y. Moors. In general these are not included in the key.
3. It is not advisable to attempt to name hawkweeds which are weak, stunted, showing secondary growth, or flowering out of their typical flowering period (the latter would especially apply to members of the section *Hieracium* flowering after mid-June).
4. The use of some technical terms is unavoidable. These will be defined.

For hawkweeds with many stem leaves (sections *Sabauda* and *Tridentata*) the median leaves (those in the middle of the stem) are the most diagnostic and should be particularly studied to aid identification.

The most important characters for the classification of hawkweeds are the nature, quantity and position of the hairs on the involucral bracts. There are 3 types of hair :-

- stellate hairs. Surface hairs that are star-shaped.
- simple hairs.
- glandular hairs. Simple hairs with glands at the tip.

A difficult, though rarely needed, character is essential to confirm the identity of one common hawkweed in the area (see couplet 7). This is to examine the teeth on the margins of the receptacle pits. To do this, carefully remove the ligules (the yellow ‘petals’/florets of the flower) and bend back or remove the involucral bracts. It should now be possible, with a x 10 lens, to examine the receptacle. Look at it from the side and the margins of the pits will be clearly visible.

The VC 62 *Hieracium* Key

1	Stem leaves more than 7	.	2
1	Stem leaves 7 or fewer		8
2	Stem leaves more than 20; plants flowering from early August to October	.Section *Sabauda*.	3
2	Stem leaves 8 – 20; plants flowering early July to early August	Section *Tridentata*	7
3	Involucral bracts with numerous slender glandular hairs		4
3	3. Involucral bracts with no or few glandular hairs		5
4	Involucral bracts and upper parts of the peduncles with numerous simple hairs		***H. sabaudum forma sabaudum***
4	Involucral bracts and the upper part of the peduncles without or with only an occasional simple hair		***H. sabaudum forma bladonii***
5	Stem leaves widest near the middle, broadly elliptical to ovate		***H. vagum***
5	Stem leaves widest below the middle, narrowly elliptical or lanceolate		6
6	Leaf-teeth regular, up to 5 mm		***H. salticola***
6	Leaves irregularly and sharply toothed, some teeth to 10 mm		***H. prominentidens***
7	Margins of the receptacle pits with long filamentous projections (hair-like)		***H. eboracense***
7	Margins of the receptacle pits lacking long filamentous projections; at least some leaves up to 3 cm wide		***H. trichocaulon***
8	Stem leaves (2) 3-7; plants flowering early June to end of July	Section *Vulgata*	9
8	Stem leaves 0 – 1; plants flowering mid-May to mid-June	Section *Hieracium*	13
9	Involucral bracts with numerous simple hairs, numerous stellate hairs and a few glandular hairs		***H. vulgatum***
9	Involucral bracts with numerous to dense glandular hairs, no more than a few simple hairs		10
10	Involucral bracts with numerous to dense stellate hairs especially on the margins		11
10	Involucral bracts with no or very few		12

	stellate hairs, glandular hairs distinctly more slender (spidery)		
11	Basal and lower stem leaves ovate or elliptic-ovate; some stem leaves with narrow sharp teeth to 10 mm		***H. consociatum***
11	Basal and lower stem leaves mainly elliptical or lanceolate (i.e. narrower); stem leaves with teeth not exceeding 5 mm		***H. argillaceum***
12	Peduncles with numerous simple hairs; leaves rather flaccid with long,unequal, sharp teeth		.***H. anglorum***
12	Peduncles with few simple hairs; leaves rather thick and rigid, subentire or with a few, smaller sharp teeth		***H. daedalolepioides***
13	Leaves heavily spotted and marbled brownish purple		***H. scotostictum***
13	Leaves not spotted		14
14	Involucral bracts with dense glandular hairs, without simple hairs		15
14	Involucral bracts with simple hairs, at most a few glandular hairs		***H. oistophyllum***
15	Leaves with large mammiform teeth		***H. grandidens***
15	Leaves entire or with small teeth		16
16	Leaves shining green, glabrous (or nearly so) on upper surface		***H. pellucidum***
16	Leaves not shining green, with stiff, simple hairs on the upper surface		17
17	Involucral bracts blackish-green with few stellate hairs		***H. subaequialtum***
17	Involucral bracts greyish-green with dense stellate hairs along the margin		***H. sublepistoides***

Moth Trapping in Nunthorpe 2006

Eric Gendle 13 Mayfield Rd Nunthorpe Middlesbrough

2006 has proved a fruitful year with several new species being trapped for the first time, whilst others have been more plentiful.
Lime and Elephant Hawk Moths seem to appear in the trap more often. In earlier years, to find a single Elephant Hawk moth in a year was usual, whilst a Lime Hawk Moth was never recorded until the last 2 years. The Poplar Hawk Moth on the 12/9 was remarkably late.
Blair's Shoulder Knot and Setacious Hebrew Characters were suddenly more plentiful than in previous years.

Moths new to the trap included the Red Underwing, Silver Y f. gamma, the Merveille de Jour and the Scarce Bordered Straw, an immigrant species, tentatively confirmed by Peter Waterton .

Again I would encourage members to try moth trapping in their garden or even better if they have a friend with a large garden and a different habitat to try there as well. Different species will appear in different habitats.

Moth Records 2006

Date	Moths of interest
25/5	White Ermine, Angle Shades
2/6	Lime Hawk Moth
3/6	Spectacle
6/6	Elephant Hawk Moth
7/6	Elephant Hawk Moth, Figure of 80 *2, Peppered Moth, Brown Silver Lines,
10/6	Lime Hawk Moth, Beautiful Golden Y,
12/6	Miller, Brimstone*3
13/6	Elephant Hawk Moth, Small Angle Shades, Scorched Wing
15/6	Blood Vein, Flame Carpet
6/7	Poplar Hawk Moth, Sallow, Grey Dagger, Light Emerald, Buff Arches
7/7	Burnished Brass*3, Spruce Carpet, Buff Arches
18/7	Burnished Brass*2, Scarce Silver Lines, Swallowtail, Mother of Pearl, Fanfoot,
27/7	Antler*2, 6 Striped Rustic
28/7	6 Striped Rustic, Orange Swift, Lesser Common Rustic, Brimstone, Dunbar
6/8	Dusky Sallow*3, 6 Striped Rustic*4, Chestnut
20/8	July Highflyer, Beech Green Carpet, Great Brocade, Centre Barred Sallow
25/8	Centre Barred Sallow*3
26/8	Rosy Rustic, Gold Spot
28/8	Dusky Sallow
1/9	Silver Y f gamma, Gold Spot
8/9	Setacious Hebrew Character*8
12/9	Poplar Hawk Moth, Silver Y
13/9	Angle Shades*2. Gold Spangle, Silver Y*4,Mouse, Marbled Carpet
14/9	Red Underwing, Lunar Underwing
16/9	Setacious Hebrew Character*4, Scarce Bordered Straw, Rosy Rustic, 6 Striped Rustic
17/9	Setacious Hebrew Character*2, Blairs Shoulder Knot, Spruce Carpet
18/9	Lunar Underwing
24/9	Blairs Shoulder Knot*8, Angle Shades, Green Brindled Crescent*2, Dotted Rustic*2
25/9	Blairs Shoulder Knot*6, Pink Barred Sallow
14/10	Yellow Lined Quaker,
15/10	Merveille de Jour, Chestnut

These moths were recorded in a suburban garden in Nunthorpe nr Middlesbrough. The garden backs onto rather larger older gardens with perhaps more trees than is usual. NZ533156
Also on 26/7 at NZ 580064 in Ingleby Greenhow In a large garden, the following were recorded Scarce Silver Lines, Poplar Hawk Moth, Scarce Silver Y, Gold Spangle, Plain Golden Y, 6 Striped Rustic, Dunbar

Field Meetings 2007

Full details of the walks and their starting-points are given below. If you require further details about a walk or in the event of inclement weather and possible cancellation please contact the leader of the walk. Please carry 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.

Presidents message to members and potential members

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

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

by the President

Saturday, 24th March, 10:30 am, Mulgrave Woods, leader Neil Baker ☎ 01325 361547

GR NZ862125. Meet at the entrance to Mulgrave Woods, by the road bridge over East Row Beck in Sandsend. An easy walk of about 4½ miles through mixed woodland.

Saturday, 31st March, 10:30 am, Kepwick, leader Colin Chatto ☎ 01642 599616

GR SE469909. Meet in Kepwick village. A walk of 5 or 6 miles with some climbing.

Saturday, 21st April, 10:00 am, Moorsholm, leaders Helen and Jessica Herring ☎ 01642 710474

GR NZ689139. Approach Moorsholm by Freeborough road. Meet at the start of Cow Close Lane, before reaching Moorsholm village. This will be a morning walk of about 3 hours duration. During last year Helen and Jessica worked on hedge surveys in the area. They will share their findings with us. Lunch will not be taken during the walk, but members may like to bring lunch and have a further walk in the afternoon.

Wednesday, 2nd May, 10:30 am, Low Barns, **leader Anne Pritchard ☎ 01287 632981**

GR NZ161316. Meet in the reserve car park. Low Barns Nature Reserve is by the river Wear and has varied habitats. Easy walking.

Wednesday, 9th May, 6:30 pm, Upleatham, **leader Ian Lawrence ☎ 01642 281380**

GR NZ632193. Meet in Upleatham village. An easy circular walk via Tocketts Mill.

Sunday, 13th May, 10:30 am, Helmsley, leader Norman Thompson ☎ 01642 316204

GR SE614836. Meet by the stone bridge over the river Rye at the south end of Helmsley. There should be ample parking in the vicinity. An easy walk of about 4 miles.

Wednesday, 16th May, 10:30 am, Kisdon, leaders Joan Bradbury and Norma Pagdin ☎ 01429 268416

GR SD911978. Meet in the car park at Muker at the eastern end of the village. A walk of about 6 miles with a little steep climbing.

Sunday, 20th May, 10:30 am, Scalby, **leader Vic Fairbrother ☎ 01287 633744**

GR TA011905. Meet in Scalby village. An easy circular walk of about 5 miles.

Wednesday, 30th May, 6:30 pm, Kirklevington, leader Linda Peace ☎ 01642 785413

GR NZ416098. Meet in the layby on the north side of the road, near the electricity pylons. An easy walk.

Sunday, 3rd June, 11:00 am, Souter, leader Malcolm Birtle ☎ 01642 558055

GR NZ407643. Meet in the lighthouse car park. Parking is available there or in adjacent car parks. An easy cliff top and beach walk.

Wednesday, 6th June, 1:30 pm, Newton Wood, leader Alan Bunn ☎ 01287 633404

GR NZ571127. Meet in the car park at Newton-under-Roseberry. A walk of about 5 miles, which will involve some climbing (which will be taken slowly).

Wednesday, 13th June, 10:30 am, Fox Covert, leader Judy Dinwiddie ☎ 01845 537340

GR SE165975. Meet at the entrance to Cambrai Barracks. Further directions will be given from guards at the gates. Easy walking.

Sunday, 17th June, 10:30 am, Bowlees, **leader Neil Baker ☎ 01325 361547**

GR NY907283. Meet in the Bowlees car park. We will visit both Low Force and High Force. A leisurely walk of about 6 miles with a little climbing.

Wednesday, 27th June, 10:30 am, Malton, **leader Eric Gendle ☎ 01642 281235**

GR NZ180460. Meet at Malton picnic area. Take the A691 Durham to Consett road. One mile before Lanchester, take the left turn to the picnic area. We shall visit three different sites which are close to each other. Easy walking.

Wednesday, 4th July, 10:30 am, Cawthorne, **leaders Peter and Ruth Waterton ☎ 01642 724270**

GR SE784897. Meet in the car park for Cawthorne Camp. A walk of about 6 miles on easy terrain.

Friday, 13th July, 10:30 am, Strensall, **leader Vincent Jones ☎ 01642 722814**

GR SE636599. Meet in the car park inside Strensall Common. Approach Strensall from the Sherrif Hutton road. Turn right at the first T-junction in Strensall, take the next left (ignoring any turns into the houses), continue for about ½ mile, you should see the common in front of you, go straight across at the T-junction into the common, bear right and the car park is on the left. Strensall is very rich in natural history, botanically there are several plants there recorded nowhere else in VC 62.

Wednesday, 18th July, 6:30 pm, Maze Park, leader Ian Lawrence ☎ 01642 281380

GR NZ463189. Meet by the short lane on the south side of the river Tees, immediately east of the bridge over the barrage. An easy walk.

Saturday, 21st July, 10:30 am, Glaisdale leader John Blackburn ☎ 01642 583815

GR NZ784055. This is the YNU VC62 meeting. Meet at the eastern end of the village where the railway crosses the river Esk.

Wednesday, 25th July, 6:30pm, Brewsdale, **leader Andrew Ferguson ☎ 01642 311831**

GR NZ464114. Meet in Hilton village. An easy walk around Brewsdale.

Sunday, 5th August, 11:00 am, Saltersgate (Co. Durham) leader Malcolm Birtle ☎ 01642 558055

GR NZ077426. Park at the roadside. Walking will be easy along tracks and an old railway through moorland, but it will be at a high level.

Sunday, 12th August, 10:30 am, Hovingham leader Alick Hunter ☎ 01751 477708

GR SE667757. Meet at the entrance to the hall. There should be ample parking in the vicinity. A walk of about 5 miles, involving a little climbing.

Sunday, 19th August, 10:30 am, Loftus, **leader Vic Fairbrother ☎ 01287 633744**

GR NZ722182. Park in Loftus and meet in the main street near the Golden Lion. An easy circular walk of about 5 miles exploring new areas south of Loftus.

Wednesday, 29th August, 10:30 am, Hawnby, **leader Eric Gendle ☎ 01642 281235**

GR SE537897. This is repeat of Eric's walk in 2006 which had to be aborted. Meet on the verge at Hawnby church. A walk of about 6 miles involving some climbing. There will be mixed woodland, moorland and unimproved limestone grassland.

Wednesday, 12th September, 10:30 am, Cropton, **leader Colin Chatto ☎ 01642 599616**

GR SE757891. Meet in Cropton village. There should be ample parking. A walk of about 6 miles with some gentle climbing.

Saturday, 22nd September, 10:30 am, Great Ayton, leader Andy Astbury ☎ 01642 823114
GR NZ564109. Meet in the TIC car park at Great Ayton. A circular walk heading out by Roseberry Topping and returning by Captain Cook's Monument. Some steady climbing
Saturday, 6th October, 10:30 am, Hasty Bank leader Tom Kirby ☎ 01642 722814 (Vincent Jones)
GR NZ572036. This is a fungus foray. Tom's expertise and enthusiasm is now well-known to the club. Some climbing will be involved, but it will be taken at a very slow pace.
Wednesday, 17th October, 10:30 am, Moorsholm, leaders Aubrey and Edith Colling
☎ 01609 882339
GR NZ689139. Take the turning north to Moorsholm about 1 mile east of Lockwood Beck reservoir. Meet on the west side of the road before reaching Moorsholm at the turn off to Cow Close Lane. A walk of about 5 miles in the Woodland Trust. The main interest will be a fungus foray.
Saturday, 20th October, 10:30 am, Rosedale leaders Alan Bunn ☎ 01287 633404 and Vincent Jones ☎ 01642 722814
GR SE679997. Meet in the car park of the Lion Inn. The main focus will be a fungus foray. A walk of about 4 miles, particularly searching for fungi which grow in the upland grassland beside the old railway. We shall return by a footpath across the valley, which will involve some climbing.
Saturday, 3rd November, 10:30 am, Byland Abbey, leader Andy Astbury ☎ 01642 823114
GR SE573786. Meet by the roadside at Jerry Carr Bank, between Wass and Ampleforth. A walk of about 7½ miles through a mixture of woodland and fields, with some climbing.

Meetings Of The Yorkshire Naturalists' Union
Details are available from John Blackburn ☎ 01642 583815.

Websites
Members with access to the world wide web will find the following sites of interest.
http://www.clevelandnats.org.uk and http://www.davebarlow.co.uk and http://www.the-vasculum.com.
These sites contain excellent links to many other sites with a natural history theme.