

# CLEVELAND NATURALISTS'

## FIELD CLUB



## RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Volume 13 Part 3

Spring 2025

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## THE OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE 2022-2023

President	Mark Stokeld, 38 Ash Grove, Kirklevington, Yarm, TS15 9NQ
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Secretary	Jo Scott, Tethers End, Hartburn Village, Stockton, TS18 5DR
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Membership Secretary	Jo Scott, Tethers End, Hartburn Village, Stockton, TS18 5DR
Programme Secretary	Neil Baker, 9 Glaisdale Court, Darlington, DL3 7AD
Immediate Past President	Jo Scott, Tethers End, Hartburn Village, Stockton, TS18 5DR
Ordinary Members	Daphne Aplin.

### Membership Details

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

In spring and summer there are evening, half-day and whole-day visits to investigate the natural history of a particular area. During the winter months there is a series of meetings held in the Marton Community Centre, Cypress Road, Middlesbrough TS7 8PZ. If you have any difficulty getting to this venue, please speak to any committee member and we will see if we can arrange a lift for you. A meeting usually takes the form of a talk given by a club member or visiting speaker. The annual subscription is £10.

Members are entitled to attend meetings of two affiliated organisations:

Yorkshire Naturalists' Union.

Tees Valley Wildlife Trust.

Details are available from our website <http://clevelandnats.org.uk/>

## President's Address 2024 - 2025

As expected our move to meetings at the Marton Community Centre, Cypress Road, Marton, has suited our needs very well. It has also been more cost effective.

During last summer the club attended a few events the aim of which was to raise our wider public profile as well as within the conservation scene. We again attended the Tees Valley Nature Conference, this time held at Teesside University. Our display stand showed our work and we attended several of the lectures. I think we made some more useful contacts. We also attended in July the RSPB Saltholme Bioblitz helping with their understanding of the reserve's biodiversity.

We are now nearing the end of our winter programme which again has produced some interesting and informative talks. We kicked off with my talk on Local Birding giving some insight into the diversity of the birding of both local and migrating species. In October Tony Daniels gave us a talk on the natural history of his garden. The hoped for talk by Marek Borkowski on 'Bialowieza: The Sheer Wood of Europe' which was to be a joint meeting with the RSPB Cleveland Local Group finally took place and it was well worth the wait. This year it was our turn to host the Frank Elgee Memorial lecture to be held at the Dorman Museum in Middlesbrough. Colin Gibson of the Teesside Wildlife Trust gave us a talk on his campaign to install Barn Owl boxes throughout the old county of Cleveland. This year's January talk again given by Jill Cunningham whose talk was entitled 'Bugs, Beasties and Buzzers' was very well received. Finally we had an excellent talk by renowned botanical artist Martin Allen on Ancient Grasslands. For members who were not able to attend he has written a short summary which can be accessed here <https://insideecology.com/2018/04/23/ancient-grasslands-in-england-a-summary/>

Our summer 2024 programme commenced in April with a walk up Saltburn Gill. Unfortunately, the inclement weather during the summer meant that some of our outings had to be cancelled. We did, however, manage a walk along the Durham coast from Trow Point via Frenchman's Bay to Marsden Rocks, South Shields. The purpose was to view the Permian (dolomitic) rocks giving the base for the calcareous grasslands along the coast. A trip in late May to the North Gare dunes saw us finding orchids such as Early and Northern Marsh Orchids. We also re-visited Ashberry YWT and Castle Eden Dene. A new location was Coatham Dunes and near York 'The Forest of Flowers'. This was once an arable farm which has been converted to a wildlife reserve. Several ponds have been created and the number of species of dragonfly was impressive. We visited High Batts Nature Reserve near Ripon on the River Ure, an area of mixed woodland. Wingate Quarry, quarried for Permian dolomitic stone, now is a DWT reserve with a calcareous plant assemblage and hosts one of the most northerly colonies of Marbled White butterflies. We also revisited Ripon City Wetlands. The lack of Gatekeeper butterflies was noted compared with the numbers seen last year. In the North York Moors we visited Rosedale Iron Kilns and Maybeck (Falling Foss) in August and September. We concluded our programme in November in Cropton Forest with our annual meeting with the North East Fungus Study Group.

We now have 168 followers on X so our message is still getting to a wider public. Membership is still not where we would like it to be but I am always hopeful that things will improve. I would like to acknowledge the committee, officers, and helpers. Special thanks to Tony Wardhaugh for his work on the proceedings and Dave Barlow for managing the website.

Mark Stokeld

## **Acknowledgements and Note to Contributors**

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

Contributions can include scientific articles, records, historical or biographical articles, poems, artwork, in fact anything which documents or celebrates natural history in Cleveland. These can be sent in at any time of year.

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

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

- use either MS Word or Pages, including for any tables (please do not submit tabulated information as a spreadsheet). Alternatively, send text in the body of an e-mail.
- avoid using any paragraph formatting and line spacing other than single.
- send any images as separate .jpg files with the caption as a separate Word or Pages file. These are always most welcome.
- when naming species provide the vernacular name, where a widely used one exists, followed by the appropriate scientific name in italics and bracketed. If no vernacular name exists please provide just the scientific name in italics.
- Send to [tonyandmoirawardhaugh2@gmail.com](mailto:tonyandmoirawardhaugh2@gmail.com)

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

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

## Obituary

### Peter Waterton

Peter Waterton was a member of CNFC for many years and was a fine all-round naturalist. Notable among his interests were butterflies, moths, dragonflies, flora and birds. He was not drawn to committee work but was a major contributor to all other aspects of club activities.

Together with his wife Ruth who was a keen botanist they led many field excursions, too many to list but memorable examples included Tranmire bogs, Ellerbeck, Broomfleet Washlands, Duncombe Park, Potteric Carr and Nosterfield Nature Reserves, Bransdale and Wheldrake Ings.

Peter and Ruth were also regular contributors to the winter indoor programme of lectures, sometimes featuring their natural history-based travels to places like Cyprus, Bulgaria, Turkey, Anatolia, Northern Greece and the Danube Delta. On other occasions they focussed on Peter's species interests nearer home such as Butterflies and Moths of the North York Moors, Dragonflies, and Jewels of the North York Moors.

Peter frequently operated a moth trap in his garden and often provided an additional trap in moth trapping late evenings organised by Paul Forster in various venues including Guisborough Woods and by special arrangement in Mulgrave Castle Gardens. He was also a keen painter and photographer and contributed many beautiful exhibits to the annual Members' Night displays.

In an addition to the printed programme in 2006/7, a workshop on Butterflies was led by Peter at the Dorman Museum by invitation of the curator Ken Sedman. This was 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.

Peter was also a member whose expertise was recognised beyond CNFC.

He was a butterfly species coordinator for Yorkshire Butterfly Conservation responsible for Holly Blue, Small Heath, and Large Heath. This included writing up these species in *Argus*, the Yorkshire Lepidoptera Annual Report.

When the *Butterflies of Yorkshire* (ed. Howard Frost) was published in 2004 Peter was one of the writers. He was responsible for the section on the Large Heath, having been one of the species coordinators during the fieldwork 1996-2003 "whose analytical work provided the backbone of new information in this book."

Peter was a good friend to so many of us and his expertise which he so willingly shared will be sorely missed by the club.

Vic Fairbrother



## Highlights of 2024 Field Meetings

**Wednesday 24th April 10:30 am. Saltburn Gill (NZ668215)**

**Leader, Tony Wardhaugh**

Eight stalwart members braved the weather for this meeting which began with a very cold and strong north wind, drizzle and a flurry of hail as we assembled in the Cat Nab Car Park. However, the precipitation soon stopped and within the Gill we were well sheltered from the wind. We walked at a gentle pace as far as the Darnbottle where we had a picnic lunch before our return. During the afternoon the weather was rather better and we walked through the Valley Gardens as far as the Woodland Centre and adjacent garden.

The following were recorded in Saltburn Gill:

	<b>Common Name</b>	<b>Scientific Name</b>
<b>In Flower</b>	Barren Strawberry	<i>Potentilla sterilis</i>
	Common Dog Violet	<i>Viola riviniana</i>
	Cow Parsley	<i>Anthriscus sylvestris</i>
	Crab Apple	<i>Malus sylvestris</i>
	Daisy	<i>Bellis perennis</i>
	Dandelion	<i>Taraxacum</i> sp.
	Dog's mercury	<i>Mercurialis perennis</i>
	English Bluebell	<i>Hyacinthoides non-scripta</i>
	Goldilocks	<i>Ranunculus auricomus</i>
	Greater Stitchwort	<i>Stellaria holostea</i>
	Ground Ivy	<i>Glechoma hederacea</i>
	Hawthorn	<i>Crataegus</i> sp.
	Herb Robert	<i>Geranium robertianum</i>
	Lesser Celandine	<i>Ficaria verna</i>
	Opposite-leaved Golden Saxifrage	<i>Chrysosplenium oppositifolium</i>
	Pendulous Sedge	<i>Carex pendula</i>
	Primrose	<i>Primula vulgaris</i>
	Red Campion	<i>Silene dioica</i>

	<b>Common Name</b>	<b>Scientific Name</b>
	Water Avens	<i>Geum rivale</i>
	Wild Arum	<i>Arum maculatum</i>
	Wild Garlic	<i>Allium ursinum</i>
	Wood Anemone	<i>Anemone nemorosa</i>
	Wood Speedwell	<i>Veronica montana</i>
<b>Birds</b>	Blackcap	<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>
	Blue Tit	<i>Cyanistes caeruleus</i>
	Chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>
	Chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>
	Grey Wagtail	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>
	Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>
<b>Molluscs</b>	Copse Snail	<i>Arianta arbustorum</i>
	Large Black Slug aggregate	<i>Arion ater</i> agg.
	Tawny Slug	<i>Arion owenii</i>
	Dusky Slug	<i>Arion subfuscus</i>
	Tree Snail	<i>Balea heydeni</i>
	Netted Field Slug	<i>Deroceras reticulatum</i>
	Kentish Snail	<i>Monacha cantiana</i>
	Budapest Slug	<i>Tandonia budapestensis</i>
	Strawberry Snail	<i>Trochulus striolatus</i>
<b>Millipedes</b>	Pill Millipede	<i>Glomeris marginata</i>
	Black Snake Millipede	<i>Tachypodoiulus niger</i>
<b>Beetle</b>	Seven-spot Ladybird	<i>Coccinella septempunctata</i>
<b>Bug</b>	A mirid nymph	<i>Calocoris alpestris</i>
<b>Flies</b>	A hoverfly	<i>Cheilosia antiqua</i> group
	A dung fly	<i>Scathophaga stercoraria</i>

The Tawny Slug *Arion owenii* is a recent colonist, first noted in Saltburn gill on 19.08.2019 this being a new record for VC62. The Tree Snail *Balea heydeni* occurs in a few north-east Yorkshire woodlands. Two were found on fence rails near Darnbottle NZ67442084.

My thanks to Daphne Aplin for the bug and fly records.



**Above and below: Goldilocks Buttercup *Ranunculus auricomus*  
(Moirá Wardhaugh)**





*Calocoris alpestris* nymph (Daphne Aplin)

At past Field Club meetings in the Valley Gardens Ian Lawrence pointed out the flowering plant Abraham Isaac and Jacob (*Trachystemon orientalis*) growing by the side of Skelton Beck. At the end of today's meeting three members went in search of this and duly found it (NZ666211). Thanks to Jo Scott for the images below.





**Saturday 4th May 10:30 am. Black Hambleton (SE479958)**

**Leader, Andy Astbury**

**Wednesday 8th May 10:30 am. Trow Point, South Shields (NZ383667)**

**Leader, Jo Scott**

With thanks to Alan Simkins for the text. Images below by Jo Scott.

The north-east of England is internationally famous for the superbly exposed Permian rocks [from approximately 300 to 250 million years ago] which crop out in Tyne and Wear, Durham and Cleveland. The oldest rocks exposed, Lower Permian, are the Yellow Sands [quarried in inland parts of Durham] once visible in Frenchman's Bay just south of Trow Point but now largely hidden by landslip. These rocks were formed as dunes under hot, arid, desert conditions [e.g. as seen today in the dunes of Arabia]. From about 260 million years ago the desert was flooded by a large semi-landlocked tropical sea, the Zechstein Sea, which extended from Durham in the west to north Germany and Poland in the east. This resulted in the deposition of a series of largely marine deposits through to the end of the Permian and onwards to the younger rocks of the Triassic and Jurassic epochs [only exposed further south in Cleveland and Yorkshire].

The amount of water in the Zechstein Sea was likely controlled by a submerged bar of rock restricting inflow of water from the open ocean to the north. Fluctuations in global sea level and intense evaporation of Zechstein seawater controlled the rock forming processes. In periods of normal salinity thick sequences of carbonates [limestones] formed on the seabed in the marginal parts of the sea. But with each phase of increased salinity [due to reduced water inflow from the

oceans to the north] evaporites [rocks consisting of various sea salts] formed. Five "evaporite cycles" termed Z1 to Z5 are recognised in the Zechstein rocks.

The Zechstein rocks from Tyne and Wear, Durham and Cleveland were deposited in an embayment of the Zechstein Sea, 'The Durham Province'. The rock succession consists of a series of limestones, the Magnesian Limestones, interbedded with evaporites. In the excursion from Trow Point to Marsden Bay only rocks of the Z1 and Z2 evaporite cycles are seen. At Trow Point the basal rocks are the well bedded limestone of the Raisby Formation [formerly the Lower Magnesian Limestone], deposited in a relatively deepwater marine environment; the top few metres marked by a submarine slump deposit [prior to lithification], the Downhill Slide, formed as a result of a basinwide fall in sea level. Above this is seen the Trow Point bed, only about 15cm thick here but known to be much thicker further west and south where it is best known for the fossil reef it contains [e.g. as seen in the Tunstall Hills at Sunderland].

The overlying Hartlepool Anhydrite consists of only about 1cm of insoluble clay residue, as the anhydrite has been dissolved [due to uplift of the deposits during the Tertiary epoch]. It may have been up to 100 metres thick originally as proved by boreholes in the North Sea today where that original thickness remains. The Hartlepool Anhydrite represents a major basinwide fall in sea level and marks the end of the Z1 Evaporite Cycle.

Above this residue are seen the rocks of the Z2 Evaporite Cycle limestones of the Roker Formation, deposited after a marine transgression from the north. Due to the dissolution of the underlying Hartlepool Anhydrite much of the Roker Formation has been broken up [millions of years after its deposition and lithification], brecciation is the term used, and collapse breccias are well seen in the cliffs of Marsden Bay. Nature dislikes a vacuum! Careful examination showed collapse breccias of the Roker Formation and undisturbed, disturbed sedimentary sections of the same formation side by side throughout Marsden Bay.





**Wednesday 22nd May 10:30 am. Cronkley Fell (NY867298)****Leader, Neil Baker****Wednesday 29th May 10:30 am. North Gare (NZ532282)****Leader, Daphne Aplin**

A lovely warm day with a pleasant breeze. Seven of us met for a walk at North Gare where, in previous years, there has been a goodly display of orchids. We were not disappointed. After such a wet spring there were impromptu “ponds” between the dunes and the golf course which were being enjoyed by Gadwall and Mallard. To say it was so nice there wasn't much insect activity apart from a couple of lovely Common Blue and Wall Butterflies when we set off. Neil climbed into the dunes and pointed out a Four-spotted Chaser Dragonfly and we were able to watch it being buffeted around by the wind before it settled in the grass. The river was busy with ships and we noted how different the skyline looked on the south side with the demise of the steel works at Redcar.

When we were having lunch on the beach Neil came up trumps again when he noticed a black beetle making its way over the sand. A quick check confirmed it was *Otiorhynchus atroapterus* commonly known as the Black Marram Weevil. Just as we were leaving Mark saw a tiny brown Butterfly which turned out to be a Large Skipper probably newly emerged.

**Gastropoda:**

Tony Wardhaugh's list and comments:

*Arion ater* seg. (Large Black Slug)

*Cepaea nemoralis* (Brown-lipped Snail)

*Ceriuella virgata* (Striped Snail)

*Cornu aspersum* (Garden snail)

*Helicella itala* (Heath snail) at NZ53734.27596 including live individuals. This is an uncommon species in VC66 there being only three known populations: North Gare, Bishop Middleham Reserve and Wingate Reserve.

My comments: I learned that a true *Arion ater* has black edges to the sole of the foot. If the edges are any other colour it is the product of hybridisation and is referred to as an agg. (aggregate).

Tony went off into the dunes to search for Heath Snails because he had found them there in the past. He came back with a live specimen to show us. The top of the snail was grey in colour and it had a rather flattened appearance. Underneath the umbilicus was quite deep and seemed rather yellowish but that might have been from the body inside? It was safely returned to its habitat after we had had a chance to look at it. Tony also showed us the empty shell of *Vitrina pellucida*. This is one of the Glass Snails and fully grown at approx. 3mm shell diameter. Tony has shown us much smaller snails over the years!

Our other finds are listed below:

**Aves:**

Stonechat - *Saxicola torquata*

Skylark – *Alauda arvensis*

Whitethroat – *Sylvia communis*  
 Linnet – *Carduelis cannabina*  
 Sand Martin – *Riparia riparia*  
 Swallow – *Hirundo rustica*  
 Meadow Pipit – *Anthus pratensis*  
 Goldfinch – *Carduelis carduelis*  
 Carrion crow – *Corvus corone*  
 Pied Wagtail – *Motacilla alba*  
 Magpie – *Pica pica*  
 Gadwall – *Anas strepera*  
 Mallard – *Anas platyrhynchos*

**Plantae:** thanks to Jo and Myra

Northern Marsh Orchid – *Dactylorhiza purpurella*  
 Early Marsh Orchid – *Dactylorhiza incarnata*  
 Hybrid Orchid (Northern Marsh and Common spotted)  
 Common Twayblade – *Neottia ovata*  
 Common Chickweed – *Stellaria media*  
 Milkwort – *Polygala vulgaris*  
 Common Vetch – *Vicia sativa*  
 Red Clover – *Trifolium pratense*  
 Black Medick – *Medicago lupulina*  
 Mignonette – *Reseda lutea*  
 Bird's-foot Trefoil – *Lotus comiculatus*  
 Common Vetch – *Vicia sativa*  
 Alexanders – *Smyrnium olusatrum*  
 Toadflax – *Linaria vulgaris*

**Odonata:**

Four-spotted Chaser – *Libellula quadrimaculata*

**Butterflies:**

Wall Brown - *Lasiommata megera*  
 Common Blue - *Polyommatus icarus*  
 Large Skipper – *Ochlodes sylvanus*  
 Peacock – *Aglais io*

**Moths:**

Yellow-tail moth larvae x 4 *Euproctis similis*  
 Six-spot Burnet moth larva - *Zygaena filipendulae*  
 Silver-ground Carpet- *Xanthorhoe montanata*  
 Garden Tiger larvae x 2 *Arctia caja* on sand at track side.  
 Footman larvae x 2 probably Dingy Footman *Eilema griseola* on fence posts

**Coleoptera:**

Black Marram Weevil *Otiorhynchus atroapterus* on beach

*Lagria hirta* larva on fence post  
Alder Leaf Beetles *Agelastica alni*  
Seven-spot Ladybird *Coccinella septempunctata*  
Two-spot Ladybird *Adalia bipunctata*

**Hemiptera:**

*Tingis ampliata* x 2 on Creeping Thistle  
Lots of Cuckoo spit – Secretion that protects Froghopper nymphs.

**Diptera:**

Snipe fly – *Rhagio scolopaceus*

**Four-spotted  
Chaser *Libellula  
quadrifasciata***



**Black Marram Weevil  
*Otiorynchus atroapterus***



Larva of *Lagria hirta* with a shell of *Vitrina pellucida*



Caterpillar of Yellow-tail Moth *Euproctis similis* (Mark Stokeld)



**Common Blue *Polyommatus icarus***  
**(Mark Stokeld)**



**Wall *Lasiommata megera*** (Mark Stokeld)

**Wednesday 5th June 6:30 pm. Stewart Park (NZ517166)**

**Leader, Jo Scott**

**Sunday 9th June 10:30 am. Ashberry YWT Nature Reserve (SE571844)**

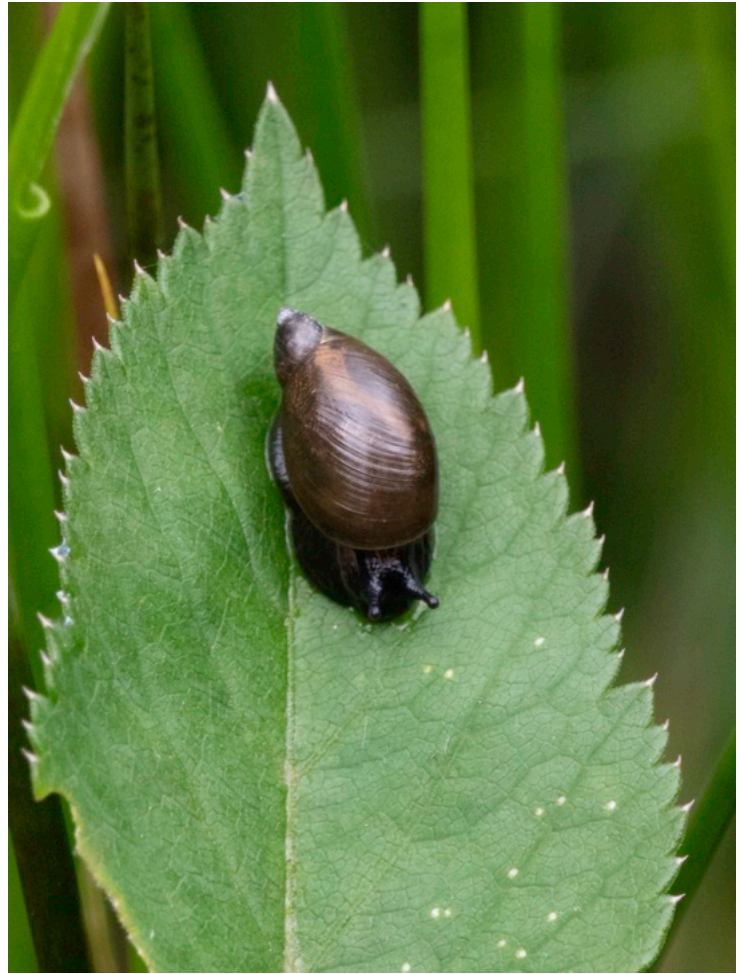
**Leaders, Mark and Hazel Stokeld**

This little YWT reserve is one of the gems of the North Yorkshire Moors. It sits in a small valley carved by glacial melt waters that cut through the Jurassic rocks and thus creating a series of habitats. The upper slopes are unimproved calcareous grassland and woodland giving rise to a high diversity of flora. Along the sides of the small 'chalk' streams we came across species such as Globeflower, Bird's-eye Primrose, Cuckoo Flower, Common Butterwort and Marsh Lousewort. There were Early Marsh Orchids present by the calcareous flushes. Butterflies included Orange-tips and Green-veined Whites. Later in the year Marsh Helleborine and Grass-of-Parnassus can be found. A nice reserve and worth further visits.



**Mayfly *Ephemera danica***

**Amber snail**  
*Succinea putris*



**Early Marsh Orchid**  
*Dactylorhiza incarnata*

Thanks to Daphne Aplin for the following records:

**In the meadow:** Beetle - *Malachius bipustulatus*

Beetle - *Oedemera lurida*

Fly - *Chrysopilus cristatus* Male

**Roadside:** *Anthocoris* sp. Nymph

Mullein Moth larvae - *Cucullia verbasci*

Beetle - *Cantharis pellucida*

Beetle - 10-spot Ladybird - *Adalia decempunctata*

Birch Shieldbug - *Elasmotethus interstinctus*

Sawfly - *Rhogogaster* sp.

Fly - *Sicus ferrugineus*

Scorpion flies - *Panorpa* sp.

Hoverfly - *Ferdinandea cuprea* Female on Andy's sleeve!

**Wednesday 12th June 10:30 am. Castle Eden Dene (NZ428385)**

**Leader, Jo Scott**

Castle Eden Dene, a beautiful valley, is a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) stretching from Peterlee and the A19 to the coast. It is on the magnesian limestone so has a rich and varied flora and fauna. The walk along the dene takes you through very old woodland often with steep sides in the limestone and has a beck running along the bottom. Oak, yew, ash and wych elm line the steep sides.

The dene was carved out by post-glacial melt water which dissolved the magnesian limestone on its way to the sea creating about 200 hectares of woodland and low grasslands.

We walked from the church in Castle Eden to the viaduct and recorded a good list which included:

Sanicle (*Sanicula europaea*), Herb Paris (*Paris quadrifolia*), Wood Cranesbill (*Geranium sylvaticum*), Water Avens (*Geum rivale*), Wood Avens (*Geum urbanum*), Wren (*Troglodytes troglodytes*), Nuthatch (*Sitta europaea*), Blackcap (*Sylvia atricapilla*), and Robin (*Erithacus rubecula*) as well as some interesting plant galls. *Phyllocoptes goniothorax* a mite gall on Hawthorn, *Chirosia betuleti* on ferns and a willow rust. Insects included Red-headed Cardinal Beetle (*Pyrochroa serraticornis*), Green Shieldbug (*Palomena prasina*) and Figwort Weevil (*Cionus scrophulariae*).



**Wood Cranesbill *Geranium sylvaticum***

*Phyllocoptes goniothorax*



*Chiroisia betuleti*

**Figwort Weevil**  
*Cionus scrophulariae*



**Red-headed Cardinal Beetle**  
*Pyrochroa serraticornis*

Sunday 16th June 10:30 am. Forest of Flowers, Huby (SE544654)  
Joint meeting with the Yorkshire Dragonfly Group

Images by Mark Stokeld:

**Broad-bodied Chaser**  
*Libellula depressa*  
(Male)



**Broad-bodied Chaser**  
*Libellula depressa*  
(Female)

**Red-eyed Damselfly**  
*Erythromma najas*  
(Male)





*Oedemera nobilis*  
(Male)

**Hairy Shieldbug**  
*Dolycoris baccarum*



**Mullein Moth**  
*Cucullia verbasci*

**Wednesday 26th June 6:30 pm. Coatham Dunes (NZ592252)**

**Leader, Jo Scott**

**Sunday 30th June 10:30 am. High Batts Nature Reserve (SE299767)**

**Leaders, Mark and Hazel Stokeld**

This is a private reserve on the banks of the R. Ure near N. Stainley, Ripon. It consists of a mixed woodland with open clearings and small ponds. Flora included Giant Bellflower, Meadow Cranebill, Common Mallow, Meadowsweet, Wild Marjoram, Vipers Bugloss etc. Orchids present include Pyramidal Orchid and Common Spotted Orchid. The small ponds were hosts to numerous Banded Demoiselles as well as Four-spotted Chasers. Bird seen included Chiffchaff, Nuthatch, Kingfisher, Collard Dove and Great Spotted Woodpecker. Everyone visiting the reserve thoroughly enjoyed their time there.

Thanks to Daphne Aplin for the following records:

**Hemiptera:**

*Grypocoris stysi*

*Cixiidae sp.*

Common Froghopper - *Philaenus spumarius*

*Anthocoris nemorum*

*Deraeocoris ruber* Nymphs x 3

*Plagiognathus arbustorum*

**Coleoptera:**

Cream-streaked Ladybird larva - *Harmonia quadripunctata*

Alder Leaf Beetles and eggs - *Agelastica alni*

*Rhagonycha fulva*

**Diptera:**

*Episyrphus balteatus* Male

*Scathophaga stercoraria*

*Leucozona lucorum* Female

*Sphaerophoria scripta* Male

*Volucella bombylans* Male

*Eristalis pertinax* Male

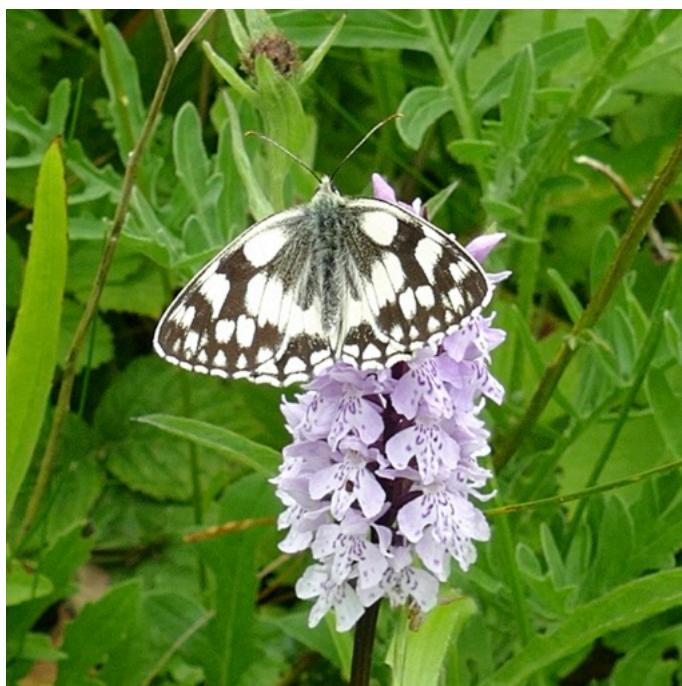
*Syrphus sp.* Male

*Dexiosoma caninum*

**Odonata:**

Broad bodied chaser Male - *Libellula depressa*

Wednesday 3rd July 10:30 am. Wingate Quarry (NZ371373)  
Leader, Daphne Aplin



**Marbled White**  
*Melanargia galathea*

**Fragrant Orchid**  
*Gymnadenia* sp.  
(Mark Stokeld)





**Common Twayblade**  
*Neottia ovata*  
 (Mark Stokeld)

**Sunday 7th July 10:30 am. Ripon City Wetlands (SE331699)**

**Leaders, Mark and Hazel Stokeld**

This was a return visit to these wetlands. The flora we observed were listed in last years proceedings. Dragonflies we observed included Southern Migrant Hawker and Emperor. Butterflies were conspicuous by their absence although we did see a few specimens of Gatekeeper. Similarly, the numbers of Alder Beetles were much reduced. A Red-legged Partridge was seen running across the car park.

Thanks to Daphne Aplin for the following records:

**Coleoptera:**

Alder Leaf Beetle *Agelastica alni*. Eggs, larvae and adults.

Two-spot Ladybird *Adalia bipunctata*

Harlequin Ladybird *Harmonia axyridis*. Pupa and larva.

Common Red Soldier Beetle *Rhagonycha fulva*

**Hemiptera:**

Forest Shield Bug *Pentatoma rufipes*. Adult and nymph.

*Plagiognathus arbustorum*

*Grypocoris stysi*

*Deraeocoris flavilinea*. Male and female.

*Campyloneura virgula*. Female.

**Lepidoptera:**

Common Footman Moth *Eilema lurideola*

Mullein Moth *Cucullia verbasci*. Larva.

**Diptera:**

Marmalade Hoverfly *Episyrphus balteatus*

**Trichoptera:**

*Leptocerus tineiformis* ?

**Alder Leaf Beetle**  
*Agelastica alni*

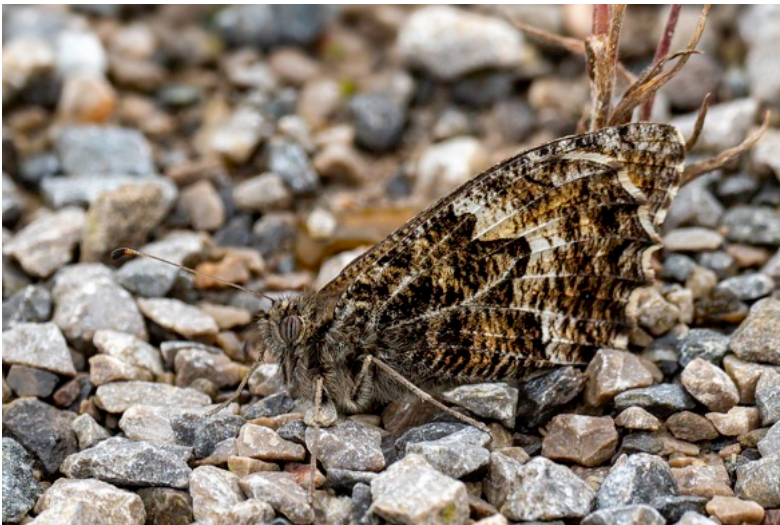


**Gatekeeper**  
*Pyronia tithonus*

*Campyloneura virgula*  
(Daphne Aplin)



Wednesday 10th July 10:30 am. Greatham Creek and Dorman's Pool (NZ507250)  
Leader, Neil Baker



Grayling  
*Hipparchia semele*  
Greatham Creek  
(Mark Stokeld)

Barn Owl  
Dorman's Pool  
(Mark Stokeld)



**Sunday 21st July 10:30 am. Brockdale (SE514173)**

**Leader, Andrew Ferguson**

**Wednesday 24th July 6.30 pm. Cod Beck Reservoir (SE468992)**

**Leader, Jo Scott**

**Wednesday 31st July 10:30 am. Billingham Beck Valley Country Park (NZ454228)**

**Leader, David Laing**

A beautiful, sunny day started well with a mirid bug (*Deraeocoris flavilinea*) and a Harlequin Ladybird *Harmonia axyridis* in one of the Silver Birches (*Betula pendula*) in the car park. On our walk round we were astonished at the height of the vegetation and the dense profusion of Himalayan Balsam (*Impatiens glandulifera*) edging the Beck and lining the tracks. An invasive species much loved by bees and we did see a few flying in and out of the flowers.

A lot of work has been carried out on the Beck this year to increase biodiversity. This included the removal of the weir as part of the Tees Tidelands Project so, after lunch, we went to have a look to see what difference this has made. Apparently hundreds of Signal Crayfish (*Pacifastacus leniusculus*) had been caught in the process of the work. This is yet another invasive species! This crustacean burrows into waterway banks thus eroding the soil and is a voracious predator that will eat almost anything including its own young!

For such a delightful day there wasn't much insect activity and we noticed that some of the plants were struggling to keep a foothold amongst the encroaching Himalayan Balsam.

List for the day:-

**Hoverfly:** *Helophilus pendulus* Male

**Butterflies:** Comma (*Polygona c-album*) x1: Meadow Brown (*Maniola jurtina*): Large White (*Pieris brassicae*): Small White (*Pieris rapae*): Green-veined White (*Pieris napi*): Speckled Wood (*Parage aegeria*).

**Beetles:** Common Red Soldier Beetle (*Rhagonycha fulva*): Harlequin Ladybird (*Harmonia axyridis*): Seven-spot Ladybird (*Coccinella septempunctata*).

**Snails:** Brown-lipped Snail (*Cepaea nemoralis*): Amber Snail (*Succinea sp.*): Strawberry Snail (*Trochulus striolatus*).

**Hemiptera:** *Plagiognathus arbustorum*: *Deraeocoris flavilinea*: Green Shieldbug - *Palomena prasina* x 2 Nymphs.

**Harvestman:** *Dicranopalpus ramosus* agg.

**Flowers:** Thanks to Neil Baker for the list. Himalayan balsam (*Impatiens glandulifera*): Melilot (*Melilotus officinalis*): Common Mallow (*Malva sylvestris*): Betony (*Stachys officinalis*): Meadowsweet (*Filipendula ulmaria*): Great Willowherb (*Epilobium hirsutum*): St. John's-wort (*Hypericum perforatum*): Tufted Vetch (*Vicia cracca*): Self-heal (*Prunella vulgaris*): Red Campion (*Silene dioica*): Comfrey (*Symphytum officinale*): Meadow Cranesbill (*Geranium pratense*): Purple Loosestrife (*Lythrum salicaria*): Pineapple Mayweed (*Matricaria discoidea*): Fleabane (*Pulicaria dysenterica*): Herb Robert (*Geranium robertianum*): Smooth Sow-thistle (*Sonchus oleraceus*) Reed Canary Grass (*Phalaris arundinacea*): Marsh Woundwort (*Stachys palustris*).

**Wednesday 7th August 10:30 am. Kirk Dale (SE676856)**

**Leader, Andy Astbury**

**Wednesday 14th August 10:30 am. Rosedale (SE684990)**

**Leader, Alan Simkins**

**Saturday 17th August 10:30 am. Skinningrove area (NZ711196)**

**Leader, Andrew Ferguson**

**Wednesday 28th August 10:30 am. Cowpen Bewley Woodland Park (NZ479254)**

**Leader, Neil Baker**

**Wednesday 11th September 10:30 am. Maybeck (NZ892024)**

**Leader, Jo Scott**

A small number of members met to walk along the beautiful Maybeck from the car park to the cafe at Falling Foss waterfall.

The following fungi were recorded:

Shaggy Bracket	<i>Inonotus hispidus</i>
Holly Speckle	<i>Trochila ilicina</i>
Ochre Aldercap	<i>Naucoria escharioides</i>
Birch Bolete	<i>Leccinum scabrum</i>
Beefsteak fungus	<i>Fistulina hepatica</i>
Glue Crust	<i>Hymenochaete corrugate</i>
Birch Polypore	<i>Fomitopsis betulina</i>
Buttercap	<i>Rhodocollybia butyracea</i>
Bleeding Broadleaf Crust	<i>Stereum rugosum</i>
Hairy Curtain Crust	<i>Stereum hirsutum</i>
Little Bonnet	<i>Mycena sp.</i>
Birch Woodwart	<i>Hypoxylon multiforme</i>
Tawny Grisette	<i>Amanita fulva</i>

Lichens recorded included:

*Phlyctis argyna*  
*Lecanactis abietina*  
*Baeomyces rufus*  
*Lecanora expallens*  
*Physcia caesia*  
*Arthonia radiata*  
*Lepraria incana*  
*Hymenelia prevostii*  
*Diploica canescens*  
*Acrocordia coniodea*  
*Leptogen pulvinatum*  
*Hypogymnia tubulosa*



**Buttercap**  
*Rhodocollybia*  
*butyracea*



**Hairy Curtain Crust**  
*Stereum hirsutum*

*Baeomyces rufus*



*Phlyctis argyna*

**Saturday 2nd November 10:30 am. Cropton Forest (SE758919)**  
**Leader, Alan Simkins**



**Blueing Bracket Fungus**  
*Tyromyces subcaesius*  
 (Mark Stokeld)

**Saturday 14th December 10:30 am. Lockwood Beck (NZ669141)**  
**Leader, Jo Scott**

The dismal weather didn't stop a few of us having a 'pop-up' winter outing to Lockwood Beck. It's always an interesting place to visit with plenty to look for.

At the bird feeding station we saw Marsh Tit (*Poecile palustris*), Chaffinch (*Fringilla coelebs*) and Blackbird (*Turdus merula*).

Turning over the rotting logs showed us two slugs: the greyish slugs and eggs were *Arion ater* agg. A brown and yellowish coloured slug was *Limacus maculatus*. There was also a Garlic Snail (*Oxychilus alliarius*) under the same log, and two small millipedes found nearby were *Proteroiulus fuscus*.

There were not many fungi around as it had been so wet that most had rotted away but we did see a lot of Buttercaps (*Collybia butyracea*), Candlesnuff (*Xylaria hypoxylon*), Yellow stagshorn (*Calocera viscosa*), Lumpy Bracket (*Trametes gibbosa*) and the lovely Conifer Conecap (*Baeospora myosura*)

Lichens included *Physcia adscendens*, *Xanthoria parietina*, *Ramalina farinacea*, *Evernia prunastri* and *Melanelixia subaurifera*.



**Candlesnuff Fungus**  
*Xylaria hypoxylon*

**Conifer Conecap**  
*Baeospora myosura*



## Grasshoppers?

*Daphne Aplin*

I have always associated grasshoppers with warm summer days and lovely, flower rich meadows so when I saw what looked like one on a dull, cool, April morning I did a double-take. This insect was sitting in a nettle patch amid trees and bare earth bordering a track between the gas works and a large pond in Cowpen Bewley Woodland Park in Billingham. On closer inspection I realised there was something different about it. Frustratingly, as it was rather windy I managed only one, rather shaky, photo before it “hopped off” never to be seen again – by me anyway! Luckily the photo was reasonable enough for me to think it might be a groundhopper and *Tetrix subulata* looked a likely candidate. I wrote to the Grasshopper Recording Scheme and I got confirmation that it was indeed *T. subulata* commonly known as the Slender Groundhopper.

Over a number of years I have seen and, on occasion, photographed Common Green Grasshoppers (*Omocestus viridulus*) and Field Grasshoppers (*Chorthippus brunneus*) at Cowpen Park and this encounter reignited my interest in these fascinating creatures but, unfortunately, it also coincided with a very wet spring that caused a huge spurt in vegetation growth! I believe grasshoppers prefer a short sward so I didn't actually see one until mid-July when the group did a field trip to a nature reserve in Brockdale owned by the Yorkshire Wildlife Trust. Andrew Ferguson drew my attention to some “grasshoppers” in one of the meadows. We were able to follow and photograph one of these insects but unable to identify it at the time. After a bit of research, and going by the location, I discovered it was a Roesel's Bush Cricket (*Metrioptera roeselii*) a female final instar nymph. It is the first time I have, knowingly, seen a cricket so two new orthopteran species for 2024!

Fortunately the second week in August brought me better luck at Cowpen Park. The meadow grass had been well trampled by then and, success, a grasshopper actually flew past me. I followed it as best I could and when it had settled itself on a blade of grass I saw it was a female Field Grasshopper. At around 15-25mm females are much larger than males as can be seen from one of my historic photos. This species is very variable in colour. In August, 2020 when I was walking along a track at the back of Billingham cemetery I was lucky enough to see a stunning red one.

In the last week in August this year on a group walk organised by Neil Baker round Cowpen Park, David Miller, (who had been looking for invertebrates all day), actually swept a Slender Groundhopper from short vegetation near the carpark as we were leaving! This one (just like the one I saw) was near water and I believe they are very good swimmers as well as fliers.

There are 11 species of Grasshopper in Great Britain – mostly found in the South because it is warmer. As I have only come across two species I was keen to find out what others might have been seen in my locality so I contacted the Environmental Records Office in Newcastle (E.R.I.C.). They kindly sent me their records which showed that from 2001 – 2023, the only other grasshopper they have records for is the Mottled Grasshopper (*Myrmeleottix maculatus*). Two of this species were found in Billingham in August 2023. I have also seen that the NBN Atlas holds a few Teesside records of the Mottled Grasshopper.

I look forward to spotting this and perhaps other species in the future.



*Slender Groundhopper Tetrix subulata*



**Field Grasshopper *Chorthippus brunneus*  
(Red form)**



**Mating Field Grasshoppers**  
*Chorthippus brunneus*



**Roesel's Bush Cricket (nymph)**  
*Metrioptera roeselii*

## Moth Records 2024

*P W Forster*

Moths recorded were all adults, caught using a mercury vapour light trap at Middleton Drive, Guisborough NZ617153 (VC62).

Code	Scientific Name	Vernacular Name	No	Date
73.015	<i>Poecilocampa populi</i>	December Moth	1	25-Oct-24
73.087	<i>Griposia aprilina</i>	Merveille du Jour	1	25-Oct-24
70.081	<i>Autographa gamma</i>	Silver Y	1	7-Sep-24
70.097	<i>Spodoptera exigua</i>	Small Mottled Willow	2	7-Sep-24
73.343	<i>Thera obeliscata</i>	Grey Pine Carpet	2	7-Sep-24
72.003	<i>Dysstroma truncata</i>	Common Marbled Carpet	3	7-Sep-24
49.039	<i>Noctua fimbriata</i>	Broad-bordered Yellow Underwing	1	7-Sep-24
18.001	<i>Hypena proboscidalis</i>	Snout	1	7-Sep-24
73.162	<i>Epiphyas postvittana</i>	Light Brown Apple Moth	8	7-Sep-24
73.076	<i>Plutella maculipennis</i>	Diamond-back Moth	3	7-Sep-24
72.078	<i>Apamea monoglypha</i>	Dark Arches	1	7-Sep-24
73.107	<i>Helicoverpa armigera</i>	Scarce Bordered Straw	1	7-Sep-24
73.219	<i>Catocala nupta</i>	Red Underwing	1	7-Sep-24
73.015	<i>Mormo maura</i>	Old Lady	4	7-Sep-24
73.131	<i>Atethmia centrigo</i>	Centre-barred Sallow	2	1-Sep-24
73.345	<i>Autographa gamma</i>	Silver Y	1	1-Sep-24
70.016	<i>Luperina testacea</i>	Flounced Rustic	1	1-Sep-24
70.235	<i>Noctua comes</i>	Lesser Yellow Underwing	2	1-Sep-24
70.061	<i>Idaea aversata ab. remutata</i>	Riband Wave [non-banded form]	1	1-Sep-24
73.357	<i>Ennomos fuscantaria</i>	Dusky Thorn	1	1-Sep-24
73.113	<i>Epirrhoe alternata</i>	Common Carpet	1	1-Sep-24
72.002	<i>Xestia xanthographa</i>	Square-spot Rustic	2	1-Sep-24
70.081	<i>Phlogophora meticulosa</i>	Angle Shades	1	1-Sep-24
73.325	<i>Rivula sericealis</i>	Straw Dot	1	1-Sep-24
73.342	<i>Thera obeliscata</i>	Grey Pine Carpet	1	1-Sep-24
73.359	<i>Agrotis puta</i>	Shuttle-shaped Dart	1	1-Sep-24
70.049	<i>Noctua pronuba</i>	Large Yellow Underwing	40	1-Sep-24
49.039	<i>Xestia c-nigrum</i>	Setaceous Hebrew Character	3	1-Sep-24
72.078	<i>Xanthorhoe fluctuata</i>	Garden Carpet	1	1-Sep-24
73.365	<i>Epiphyas postvittana</i>	Light Brown Apple Moth	6	1-Sep-24
73.107	<i>Catocala nupta</i>	Red Underwing	1	1-Sep-24
73.162	<i>Eugnorisma glareosa</i>	Autumnal Rustic	1	1-Sep-24
73.345	<i>Mormo maura</i>	Old Lady	2	1-Sep-24
63.006	<i>Apamea monoglypha</i>	Dark Arches	1	1-Sep-24
70.053	<i>Noctua comes</i>	Lesser Yellow Underwing	1	28-Aug-24

73.342	<i>Pyrausta aurata</i>	a moth	1	28-Aug-24
49.039	<i>Xanthorhoe designata</i>	Flame Carpet	1	28-Aug-24
63.067	<i>Noctua pronuba</i>	Large Yellow Underwing	1	28-Aug-24
49.338	<i>Epiphyas postvittana</i>	Light Brown Apple Moth	1	28-Aug-24
73.345	<i>Eudonia lacustrata</i>	a moth	1	28-Aug-24
73.357	<i>Cydia pomonella</i>	Codling Moth	1	26-Aug-24
35.04	<i>Noctua comes</i>	Lesser Yellow Underwing	2	26-Aug-24
73.348	<i>Xestia xanthographa</i>	Square-spot Rustic	2	26-Aug-24
73.342	<i>Bryotropha terrella</i>	a moth	1	26-Aug-24
73.169/70	<i>Noctua janthe</i>	Lesser Broad-bordered Yellow Underw	2	26-Aug-24
73.345	<i>Noctua pronuba</i>	Large Yellow Underwing	2	26-Aug-24
70.235	<i>Mesapamea secalis</i> agg.	Common/Lesser Common Rustic agg.	1	17-Aug-24
73.357	<i>Noctua comes</i>	Lesser Yellow Underwing	3	17-Aug-24
73.342	<i>Ennomos fuscantaria</i>	Dusky Thorn	1	17-Aug-24
49.039	<i>Xestia xanthographa</i>	Square-spot Rustic	2	17-Aug-24
73.338	<i>Noctua pronuba</i>	Large Yellow Underwing	4	17-Aug-24
73.345	<i>Epiphyas postvittana</i>	Light Brown Apple Moth	1	17-Aug-24
73.169/70	<i>Lycophotia porphyrea</i>	True Lover's Knot	1	17-Aug-24
63.006	<i>Noctua comes</i>	Lesser Yellow Underwing	1	13-Aug-24
73.062	<i>Mesapamea secalis</i> agg.	Common/Lesser Common Rustic agg.	1	13-Aug-24
70.016	<i>Pyrausta aurata</i>	a moth	1	13-Aug-24
73.357	<i>Amphipyra pyramidea</i>	Copper Underwing	1	13-Aug-24
73.348	<i>Idaea aversata</i> ab. <i>remutata</i>	Riband Wave [non-banded form]	1	13-Aug-24
72.043	<i>Xestia xanthographa</i>	Square-spot Rustic	1	13-Aug-24
63.089	<i>Noctua janthe</i>	Lesser Broad-bordered Yellow Underw	1	13-Aug-24
73.162	<i>Eilema depressa</i>	Buff Footman	1	13-Aug-24
73.338	<i>Agriphila tristella</i>	a moth	1	13-Aug-24
73.169/70	<i>Apamea monoglypha</i>	Dark Arches	1	13-Aug-24
49.127	<i>Lycophotia porphyrea</i>	True Lover's Knot	1	13-Aug-24
73.345	<i>Mesapamea secalis</i> agg.	Common/Lesser Common Rustic agg.	5	10-Aug-24
49.026	<i>Aethes cnicana</i>	a moth	1	10-Aug-24
73.084	<i>Noctua comes</i>	Lesser Yellow Underwing	2	10-Aug-24
73.357	<i>Pandemis heparana</i>	Dark Fruit-tree Tortrix	1	10-Aug-24
63.006	<i>Bryophila domestica</i>	Marbled Beauty	1	10-Aug-24
63.074	<i>Xestia xanthographa</i>	Square-spot Rustic	1	10-Aug-24
70.097	<i>Pyrausta aurata</i>	a moth	1	10-Aug-24
73.348	<i>Eudonia mercurella</i>	a moth	1	10-Aug-24
73.342	<i>Dysstroma truncata</i>	Common Marbled Carpet	1	10-Aug-24
73.281	<i>Noctua janthe</i>	Lesser Broad-bordered Yellow Underw	5	10-Aug-24
49.039	<i>Noctua pronuba</i>	Large Yellow Underwing	6	10-Aug-24
41.003	<i>Hadena bicruris</i>	Lychnis	1	10-Aug-24
41.002	<i>Epiphyas postvittana</i>	Light Brown Apple Moth	6	10-Aug-24
73.162	<i>Blastobasis decolorella</i>	a moth	1	10-Aug-24
63.089	<i>Blastobasis lignea</i>	a moth	5	10-Aug-24

16.001	<i>Apamea monoglypha</i>	Dark Arches	4	10-Aug-24
73.015	<i>Agriphila tristella</i>	a moth	1	10-Aug-24
73.169/70	<i>Yponomeuta evonymella</i>	Bird-cherry Ermine	1	1-Aug-24
72.046	<i>Autographa gamma</i>	Silver Y	1	1-Aug-24
73.293	<i>Mesapamea secalis</i> agg.	Common/Lesser Common Rustic agg.	5	1-Aug-24
63.006	<i>Eilema complana</i>	Scarce Footman	1	1-Aug-24
73.348	<i>Mythimna impura</i>	Smoky Wainscot	1	1-Aug-24
70.133	<i>Pyrausta aurata</i>	a moth	1	1-Aug-24
62.028	<i>Noctua janthe</i>	Lesser Broad-bordered Yellow Underw	3	1-Aug-24
63.08	<i>Perizoma alchemillata</i>	Small Rivulet	1	1-Aug-24
73.342	<i>Dioryctria abietella</i>	a moth	1	1-Aug-24
70.049	<i>Chrysoteuchia culmella</i>	Garden Grass-veneer	2	1-Aug-24
73.174	<i>Noctua pronuba</i>	Large Yellow Underwing	3	1-Aug-24
71.012	<i>Xanthorhoe fluctuata</i>	Garden Carpet	2	1-Aug-24
49.039	<i>Oligia latruncula</i>	Tawny Marbled Minor	1	1-Aug-24
73.162	<i>Notodonta dromedarius</i>	Iron Prominent	3	1-Aug-24
63.038	<i>Epiphyas postvittana</i>	Light Brown Apple Moth	3	1-Aug-24
49.161	<i>Apamea monoglypha</i>	Dark Arches	4	1-Aug-24
69.017	<i>Pleuroptya ruralis</i>	Mother of Pearl	1	1-Aug-24
73.169/70	<i>Celypha striana</i>	a moth	1	1-Aug-24
69.003	<i>Deilephila porcellus</i>	Small Elephant Hawk-moth	1	1-Aug-24
73.084	<i>Bryophila domestica</i>	Marbled Beauty	1	27-Jul-23
69.016	<i>Deilephila elpenor</i>	Elephant Hawk-moth	1	27-Jul-23
73.342	<i>Noctua pronuba</i>	Large Yellow Underwing	6	27-Jul-23
73.162	<i>Apamea monoglypha</i>	Dark Arches	1	27-Jul-23
73.169/70	<i>Mesapamea secalis</i> agg.	Common/Lesser Common Rustic agg.	6	24-Jul-23
70.089	<i>Eulithis prunata</i>	Phoenix	1	24-Jul-23
73.357	<i>Xestia xanthographa</i>	Square-spot Rustic	1	24-Jul-23
63.074	<i>Eudonia mercurella</i>	a moth	1	24-Jul-23
73.317	<i>Agrotis exclamationis</i>	Heart and Dart	1	24-Jul-23
69.016	<i>Deilephila elpenor</i>	Elephant Hawk-moth	3	24-Jul-23
63.08	<i>Chrysoteuchia culmella</i>	Garden Grass-veneer	3	24-Jul-23
72.045	<i>Eilema lurideola</i>	Common Footman	2	24-Jul-23
73.173/4/5	<i>Oligia strigilis</i> agg.	Marbled Minor agg.	1	24-Jul-23
63.08	<i>Chrysoteuchia culmella</i>	Garden Grass-veneer	1	24-Jul-23
73.342	<i>Noctua pronuba</i>	Large Yellow Underwing	4	24-Jul-23
73.342	<i>Noctua pronuba</i>	Large Yellow Underwing	2	24-Jul-23
73.162	<i>Apamea monoglypha</i>	Dark Arches	8	24-Jul-23
73.017	<i>Autographa jota</i>	Plain Golden Y	1	24-Jul-23
73.169/70	<i>Mesapamea secalis</i> agg.	Common/Lesser Common Rustic agg.	4	22-Jul-23
70.089	<i>Eulithis prunata</i>	Phoenix	1	22-Jul-23
70.008	<i>Idaea seriata</i>	Small Dusty Wave	1	22-Jul-23
73.015	<i>Autographa gamma</i>	Silver Y	1	22-Jul-23
63.054	<i>Cydalima perspectalis</i>	Box-tree Moth	1	22-Jul-23

73.084	<i>Bryophila domestica</i>	Marbled Beauty	1	22-Jul-23
63.074	<i>Eudonia mercurella</i>	a moth	1	22-Jul-23
73.317	<i>Agrotis exclamationis</i>	Heart and Dart	2	22-Jul-23
73.173/4/5	<i>Oligia strigilis</i> agg.	Marbled Minor agg.	2	22-Jul-23
70.226	<i>Opisthograptis luteolata</i>	Brimstone Moth	1	22-Jul-23
70.141	<i>Gymnoscelis rufifasciata</i>	Double-striped Pug	1	22-Jul-23
73.342	<i>Noctua pronuba</i>	Large Yellow Underwing	8	22-Jul-23
41.002	<i>Blastobasis adustella</i>	a moth	1	22-Jul-23
73.162	<i>Apamea monoglypha</i>	Dark Arches	8	22-Jul-23
35.047	<i>Bryotropha affinis</i>	a moth	1	19-Jul-23
73.126x127	<i>Amphipoea fucosa x lucens</i>	Saltern Ear x Large Ear	1	19-Jul-23
18.001	<i>Plutella xylostella</i>	Diamond-back Moth	2	19-Jul-23
74.003	<i>Nola cucullatella</i>	Short-cloaked Moth	1	19-Jul-23
73.084	<i>Bryophila domestica</i>	Marbled Beauty	1	19-Jul-23
70.207	<i>Lomaspilis marginata</i>	Clouded Border	1	19-Jul-23
63.074	<i>Eudonia mercurella</i>	a moth	2	19-Jul-23
72.045	<i>Eilema lurideola</i>	Common Footman	1	19-Jul-23
63.08	<i>Chrysoteuchia culmella</i>	Garden Grass-veneer	6	19-Jul-23
69.016	<i>Deilephila elpenor</i>	Elephant Hawk-moth	4	19-Jul-23
72.063	<i>Lygephila pastinum</i>	Blackneck	1	19-Jul-23
73.342	<i>Noctua pronuba</i>	Large Yellow Underwing	4	19-Jul-23
70.074	<i>Hydriomena furcata</i>	July Highflyer	1	19-Jul-23
73.174	<i>Oligia latruncula</i>	Tawny Marbled Minor	4	19-Jul-23
49.083/4	<i>Acleris ferrugana/notana</i>	Acleris ferrugana/notana agg.	1	19-Jul-23
70.226	<i>Opisthograptis luteolata</i>	Brimstone Moth	1	19-Jul-23
73.338	<i>Lycophotia porphyrea</i>	True Lover's Knot	1	19-Jul-23
70.013	<i>Idaea biselata</i>	Small Fan-footed Wave	1	19-Jul-23
73.017	<i>Autographa jota</i>	Plain Golden Y	1	19-Jul-23
63.038	<i>Pleuroptya ruralis</i>	Mother of Pearl	3	19-Jul-23
70.241	<i>Crocallis elinguararia</i>	Scalloped Oak	1	19-Jul-23
70.243	<i>Ourapteryx sambucaria</i>	Swallow-tailed Moth	1	19-Jul-23
73.169/70	<i>Mesapamea secalis</i> agg.	Common/Lesser Common Rustic agg.	2	18-Jul-23
73.084	<i>Bryophila domestica</i>	Marbled Beauty	1	18-Jul-23
70.016	<i>Idaea aversata ab. remutata</i>	Riband Wave [non-banded form]	3	18-Jul-23
70.283	<i>Campaea margaritaria</i>	Light Emerald	1	18-Jul-23
49.038	<i>Clepsia consimilana</i>	a moth	1	18-Jul-23
63.08	<i>Chrysoteuchia culmella</i>	Garden Grass-veneer	2	18-Jul-23
63.08	<i>Chrysoteuchia culmella</i>	Garden Grass-veneer	1	18-Jul-23
62.028	<i>Dioryctria abietella</i>	a moth	1	18-Jul-23
72.045	<i>Eilema lurideola</i>	Common Footman	1	18-Jul-23
73.173/4/5	<i>Oligia strigilis</i> agg.	Marbled Minor agg.	3	18-Jul-23
73.342	<i>Noctua pronuba</i>	Large Yellow Underwing	2	18-Jul-23
70.226	<i>Opisthograptis luteolata</i>	Brimstone Moth	1	18-Jul-23
73.174	<i>Oligia latruncula</i>	Tawny Marbled Minor	1	18-Jul-23

73.162	<i>Apamea monoglypha</i>	Dark Arches	4	18-Jul-23
73.162	<i>Apamea monoglypha</i>	Dark Arches	1	18-Jul-23
63.038	<i>Pleuroptya ruralis</i>	Mother of Pearl	1	18-Jul-23
73.338	<i>Lycophotia porphyrea</i>	True Lover's Knot	1	18-Jul-23
69.017	<i>Deilephila porcellus</i>	Small Elephant Hawk-moth	1	18-Jul-23
73.015	<i>Autographa gamma</i>	Silver Y	8	17-Jul-23
18.001	<i>Plutella xylostella</i>	Diamond-back Moth	1	17-Jul-23
70.089	<i>Eulithis prunata</i>	Phoenix	1	17-Jul-23
73.169/70	<i>Mesapamea secalis</i> agg.	Common/Lesser Common Rustic agg.	1	17-Jul-23
73.317	<i>Agrotis exclamationis</i>	Heart and Dart	4	17-Jul-23
73.173/4/5	<i>Oligia strigilis</i> agg.	Marbled Minor agg.	1	17-Jul-23
17.003	<i>Ypsolopha dentella</i>	Honeysuckle Moth	2	17-Jul-23
69.016	<i>Deilephila elpenor</i>	Elephant Hawk-moth	1	17-Jul-23
63.08	<i>Chrysoteuchia culmella</i>	Garden Grass-veneer	2	17-Jul-23
73.317	<i>Agrotis exclamationis</i>	Heart and Dart	1	17-Jul-23
62.001	<i>Aphomia sociella</i>	Bee Moth	1	17-Jul-23
63.08	<i>Chrysoteuchia culmella</i>	Garden Grass-veneer	3	17-Jul-23
66.01	<i>Euthrix potatoria</i>	Drinker	1	17-Jul-23
73.343	<i>Noctua fimbriata</i>	Broad-bordered Yellow Underwing	1	17-Jul-23
73.001	<i>Abrostola tripartita</i>	Spectacle	1	17-Jul-23
72.007	<i>Hypena crassalis</i>	Beautiful Snout	1	17-Jul-23
73.342	<i>Noctua pronuba</i>	Large Yellow Underwing	8	17-Jul-23
72.053	<i>Herminia tarsipennalis</i>	Fan-foot	1	17-Jul-23
73.342	<i>Noctua pronuba</i>	Large Yellow Underwing	20	17-Jul-23
49.039	<i>Epiphyas postvittana</i>	Light Brown Apple Moth	2	17-Jul-23
73.274	<i>Mamestra brassicae</i>	Cabbage Moth	1	17-Jul-23
73.114	<i>Euplexia lucipara</i>	Small Angle Shades	1	17-Jul-23
73.096/7	<i>Hoplodrina octogenaria/blanca</i>	Uncertain/Rustic agg.	2	17-Jul-23
73.27	<i>Melanchra persicariae</i>	Dot Moth	1	17-Jul-23
73.016	<i>Autographa pulchrina</i>	Beautiful Golden Y	1	17-Jul-23
73.162	<i>Apamea monoglypha</i>	Dark Arches	35	17-Jul-23
73.162	<i>Apamea monoglypha</i>	Dark Arches	2	17-Jul-23
73.015	<i>Autographa gamma</i>	Silver Y	1	16-Jul-23
70.168	<i>Eupithecia nanata</i>	Narrow-winged Pug	1	16-Jul-23
35.047	<i>Bryotropha affinis</i>	a moth	1	16-Jul-23
73.345	<i>Noctua comes</i>	Lesser Yellow Underwing	1	16-Jul-23
49.341	<i>Cydia splendana</i>	a moth	1	16-Jul-23
73.357	<i>Xestia xanthographa</i>	Square-spot Rustic	2	16-Jul-23
70.283	<i>Campaea margaritaria</i>	Light Emerald	2	16-Jul-23
70.016	<i>Idaea aversata</i> ab. <i>remutata</i>	Riband Wave [non-banded form]	1	16-Jul-23
73.361	<i>Xestia triangulum</i>	Double Square-spot	1	16-Jul-23
63.08	<i>Chrysoteuchia culmella</i>	Garden Grass-veneer	3	16-Jul-23
69.016	<i>Deilephila elpenor</i>	Elephant Hawk-moth	3	16-Jul-23
17.003	<i>Ypsolopha dentella</i>	Honeysuckle Moth	3	16-Jul-23

70.237	<i>Selenia dentaria</i>	Early Thorn	1	16-Jul-23
49.038	<i>Clepsia consimilana</i>	a moth	3	16-Jul-23
73.317	<i>Agrotis exclamationis</i>	Heart and Dart	3	16-Jul-23
73.173/4/5	<i>Oligia strigilis</i> agg.	Marbled Minor agg.	1	16-Jul-23
73.267	<i>Lacanobia oleracea</i>	Bright-line Brown-eye	2	16-Jul-23
18.001	<i>Plutella maculipennis</i>	Diamond-back Moth	3	16-Jul-23
41.002	<i>Blastobasis adustella</i>	a moth	1	16-Jul-23
41.002	<i>Blastobasis lignea</i>	a moth	1	16-Jul-23
73.114	<i>Euplexia lucipara</i>	Small Angle Shades	1	16-Jul-23
73.27	<i>Melanchra persicariae</i>	Dot Moth	1	16-Jul-23
73.162	<i>Apamea monoglypha</i>	Dark Arches	6	16-Jul-23
73.015	<i>Autographa gamma</i>	Silver Y	1	15-Jul-23
18.001	<i>Plutella xylostella</i>	Diamond-back Moth	3	15-Jul-23
28.009	<i>Endrosis sarcitrella</i>	White-shouldered House-moth	11	15-Jul-23
70.016	<i>Idaea aversata</i> ab. <i>remutata</i>	Riband Wave [non-banded form]	1	15-Jul-23
49.342	<i>Cydia grossana</i>	a moth	1	15-Jul-23
69.016	<i>Deilephila elpenor</i>	Elephant Hawk-moth	6	15-Jul-23
49.038	<i>Clepsia consimilana</i>	a moth	1	15-Jul-23
63.08	<i>Chrysoteuchia culmella</i>	Garden Grass-veneer	1	15-Jul-23
73.361	<i>Xestia triangulum</i>	Double Square-spot	2	15-Jul-23
73.173/4/5	<i>Oligia strigilis</i> agg.	Marbled Minor agg.	1	15-Jul-23
73.317	<i>Agrotis exclamationis</i>	Heart and Dart	2	15-Jul-23
73.174	<i>Oligia latruncula</i>	Tawny Marbled Minor	3	15-Jul-23
72.003	<i>Hypena proboscidalis</i>	Snout	1	15-Jul-23
73.342	<i>Noctua pronuba</i>	Large Yellow Underwing	2	15-Jul-23
49.05	<i>Cnephasia stephensiana</i> f. <i>octo</i>	Grey Tortrix	1	15-Jul-23
41.002	<i>Blastobasis lignea</i>	a moth	1	15-Jul-23
73.162	<i>Apamea monoglypha</i>	Dark Arches	5	15-Jul-23
73.017	<i>Autographa jota</i>	Plain Golden Y	4	15-Jul-23
69.017	<i>Deilephila porcellus</i>	Small Elephant Hawk-moth	1	15-Jul-23
65.009	<i>Mesapamea secalis</i> agg.	Common/Lesser Common Rustic agg.	4	11-Jul-24
73.357	<i>Laothoe populi</i>	Poplar Hawk-moth	1	11-Jul-24
16.003	<i>Habrosyne pyritoides</i>	Buff Arches	1	11-Jul-24
73.342	<i>Xestia xanthographa</i>	Square-spot Rustic	1	11-Jul-24
73.267	<i>Yponomeuta malinellus</i>	Apple Ermine	1	11-Jul-24
72.003	<i>Noctua pronuba</i>	Large Yellow Underwing	2	11-Jul-24
73.368	<i>Lacanobia oleracea</i>	Bright-line Brown-eye	1	11-Jul-24
73.114	<i>Hypena proboscidalis</i>	Snout	1	11-Jul-24
73.017	<i>Naenia typica</i>	Gothic	2	11-Jul-24
73.162	<i>Euplexia lucipara</i>	Small Angle Shades	1	11-Jul-24
73.096	<i>Autographa jota</i>	Plain Golden Y	1	11-Jul-24
70.258	<i>Apamea monoglypha</i>	Dark Arches	4	11-Jul-24
70.277	<i>Hoplodrina octogenaria</i>	Uncertain	1	11-Jul-24
49.338	<i>Cydia pomonella</i>	Codling Moth	3	8-Jul-23

49.224	<i>Spilonota ocellana</i>	Bud Moth	1	8-Jul-23
49.156	<i>Hedya nubiferana</i>	Marbled Orchard Tortrix	1	8-Jul-23
49.091	<i>Pseudargyrotoza conwagana</i>	a moth	1	8-Jul-23
73.015	<i>Autographa gamma</i>	Silver Y	1	8-Jul-23
49.062	<i>Acleris forsskaleana</i>	a moth	1	8-Jul-23
70.008	<i>Idaea seriata</i>	Small Dusty Wave	1	8-Jul-23
70.258	<i>Peribatodes rhomboidaria</i>	Willow Beauty	1	8-Jul-23
70.016	<i>Idaea aversata ab. remutata</i>	Riband Wave [non-banded form]	2	8-Jul-23
63.08	<i>Chrysoteuchia culmella</i>	Garden Grass-veneer	28	8-Jul-23
69.016	<i>Deilephila elpenor</i>	Elephant Hawk-moth	1	8-Jul-23
73.173/4/5	<i>Oligia strigilis</i> agg.	Marbled Minor agg.	14	8-Jul-23
49.294	<i>Notocelia uddmanniana</i>	Bramble Shoot Moth	1	8-Jul-23
73.317	<i>Agrotis exclamationis</i>	Heart and Dart	15	8-Jul-23
73.342	<i>Noctua pronuba</i>	Large Yellow Underwing	10	8-Jul-23
70.141	<i>Gymnoscelis rufifasciata</i>	Double-striped Pug	1	8-Jul-23
70.085	<i>Cidaria fulvata</i>	Barred Yellow	1	8-Jul-23
18.001	<i>Plutella maculipennis</i>	Diamond-back Moth	1	8-Jul-23
49.039	<i>Epiphyas postvittana</i>	Light Brown Apple Moth	1	8-Jul-23
63.038	<i>Pleuroptya ruralis</i>	Mother of Pearl	1	8-Jul-23
73.016	<i>Autographa pulchrina</i>	Beautiful Golden Y	1	8-Jul-23
73.162	<i>Apamea monoglypha</i>	Dark Arches	10	8-Jul-23
16.002	<i>Yponomeuta padella</i>	Orchard Ermine	1	8-Jul-23
70.252	<i>Biston betularia</i>	Peppered Moth	2	8-Jul-23
73.037/8	<i>Acronicta tridens/psi</i>	Dark/Grey Dagger agg.	2	8-Jul-23
70.243	<i>Ourapteryx sambucaria</i>	Swallow-tailed Moth	1	8-Jul-23
69.01	<i>Macroglossum stellatarum</i>	Humming-bird Hawk-moth	1	8-Jul-23
73.338	<i>Lycophotia porphyrea</i>	True Lover's Knot	1	8-Jul-23
73.169/70	<i>Mesapamea secalis</i> agg.	Common/Lesser Common Rustic agg.	1	7-Jul-23
73.173/4/5	<i>Oligia strigilis</i> agg.	Marbled Minor agg.	1	7-Jul-23
73.317	<i>Agrotis exclamationis</i>	Heart and Dart	1	7-Jul-23
73.342	<i>Noctua pronuba</i>	Large Yellow Underwing	4	7-Jul-23
73.162	<i>Apamea monoglypha</i>	Dark Arches	4	7-Jul-23
69.003	<i>Laothoe populi</i>	Poplar Hawk-moth	1	4-Jul-23
73.317	<i>Peribatodes rhomboidaria</i>	Willow Beauty	1	5-Jul-24
73.001	<i>Cabera pusaria</i>	Common White Wave	1	5-Jul-24
70.226	<i>Agrotis exclamationis</i>	Heart and Dart	6	5-Jul-24
72.003	<i>Abrostola tripartita</i>	Spectacle	1	5-Jul-24
73.162	<i>Opisthograptis luteolata</i>	Brimstone Moth	1	5-Jul-24
70.013	<i>Hypena proboscidalis</i>	Snout	1	5-Jul-24
63.067	<i>Apamea monoglypha</i>	Dark Arches	6	5-Jul-24
18.001	<i>Idaea biselata</i>	Small Fan-footed Wave	1	5-Jul-24
72.015	<i>Eudonia lacustrata</i>	a moth	1	5-Jul-24
70.008	<i>Idaea seriata</i>	Small Dusty Wave	1	4-Jul-23
17.003	<i>Ypsolopha dentella</i>	Honeysuckle Moth	1	4-Jul-23

49.294	<i>Notocelia uddmanniana</i>	Bramble Shoot Moth	1	4-Jul-23
63.08	<i>Chrysoteuchia culmella</i>	Garden Grass-veneer	4	4-Jul-23
69.016	<i>Deilephila elpenor</i>	Elephant Hawk-moth	1	4-Jul-23
73.163	<i>Apamea lithoxylaea</i>	Light Arches	1	4-Jul-23
73.317	<i>Agrotis exclamationis</i>	Heart and Dart	2	4-Jul-23
73.342	<i>Noctua pronuba</i>	Large Yellow Underwing	2	4-Jul-23
70.226	<i>Opisthograptis luteolata</i>	Brimstone Moth	1	4-Jul-23
73.096	<i>Hoplodrina octogenaria</i>	Uncertain	1	4-Jul-23
73.162	<i>Apamea monoglypha</i>	Dark Arches	3	4-Jul-23
49.039	<i>Plutella xylostella</i>	Diamond-back Moth	20	25-Jun-24
73.015	<i>Calliteara pudibunda</i>	Pale Tussock	2	25-Jun-24
73.156	<i>Epiphyas postvittana</i>	Light Brown Apple Moth	1	25-Jun-24
69.001	<i>Autographa gamma</i>	Silver Y	1	23-Jun-24
73.113	<i>Apamea crenata</i>	Clouded-bordered Brindle	1	23-Jun-24
49.039	<i>Mimas tiliae</i>	Lime Hawk-moth	1	23-Jun-24
70.16	<i>Phlogophora meticulosa</i>	Angle Shades	1	23-Jun-24
49.156	<i>Epiphyas postvittana</i>	Light Brown Apple Moth	1	23-Jun-24
49.091	<i>Eupithecia tripunctaria</i>	White-spotted Pug	6	21-Jun-24
69.016	<i>Hedya nubiferana</i>	Marbled Orchard Tortrix	1	21-Jun-24
72.002	<i>Pseudargyrotoza conwagana</i>	a moth	1	21-Jun-24
73.328	<i>Deilephila elpenor</i>	Elephant Hawk-moth	1	21-Jun-24
28.01	<i>Rivula sericealis</i>	Straw Dot	1	21-Jun-24
70.226	<i>Axylia putris</i>	Flame	1	21-Jun-24
72.003	<i>Hofmannophila pseudospretel</i>	Brown House-moth	1	21-Jun-24
73.342	<i>Opisthograptis luteolata</i>	Brimstone Moth	1	21-Jun-24
73.174	<i>Hypena proboscidalis</i>	Snout	1	21-Jun-24
73.176	<i>Noctua pronuba</i>	Large Yellow Underwing	3	21-Jun-24
49.039	<i>Oligia latruncula</i>	Tawny Marbled Minor	1	21-Jun-24
73.015	<i>Oligia fasciuncula</i>	Middle-barred Minor	1	21-Jun-24
69.003	<i>Epiphyas postvittana</i>	Light Brown Apple Moth	3	21-Jun-24
73.113	<i>Autographa gamma</i>	Silver Y	2	17-Jun-24
73.325	<i>Laothoe populi</i>	Poplar Hawk-moth	1	17-Jun-24
69.001	<i>Phlogophora meticulosa</i>	Angle Shades	5	17-Jun-24
71.017	<i>Agrotis puta</i>	Shuttle-shaped Dart	10	17-Jun-24
70.049	<i>Mimas tiliae</i>	Lime Hawk-moth	1	17-Jun-24
70.184	<i>Pheosia tremula</i>	Swallow Prominent	2	17-Jun-24
49.039	<i>Xanthorhoe fluctuata</i>	Garden Carpet	1	17-Jun-24
70.183	<i>Eupithecia exiguata</i>	Mottled Pug	2	17-Jun-24
70.16	<i>Epiphyas postvittana</i>	Light Brown Apple Moth	1	17-Jun-24
69.003	<i>Eupithecia vulgata</i>	Common Pug	1	17-Jun-24
73.325	<i>Eupithecia tripunctaria</i>	White-spotted Pug	1	15-Jun-24
70.104	<i>Laothoe populi</i>	Poplar Hawk-moth	1	15-Jun-24
73.036	<i>Agrotis puta</i>	Shuttle-shaped Dart	2	15-Jun-24
49.039	<i>Lampropteryx otregiata</i>	Devon Carpet	1	15-Jun-24

70.184	<i>Acrionicta alni</i>	Alder Moth	1	15-Jun-24
70.222	<i>Epiphyas postvittana</i>	Light Brown Apple Moth	2	15-Jun-24
72.02	<i>Eupithecia exiguata</i>	Mottled Pug	3	15-Jun-24
73.317	<i>Petrophora chlorosata</i>	Brown Silver-line	3	15-Jun-24
70.097	<i>Spilosoma lubricipeda</i>	White Ermine	1	11-Jun-24
73.328	<i>Agrotis exclamationis</i>	Heart and Dart	1	11-Jun-24
73.174	<i>Dysstroma truncata</i>	Common Marbled Carpet	1	11-Jun-24
49.039	<i>Axylia putris</i>	Flame	1	11-Jun-24
3.002	<i>Oligia latruncula</i>	Tawny Marbled Minor	1	11-Jun-24
69.001	<i>Epiphyas postvittana</i>	Light Brown Apple Moth	3	11-Jun-24
70.097	<i>Korscheltellus lupulina</i>	Common Swift	1	9-Jun-24
73.328	<i>Mimas tiliae</i>	Lime Hawk-moth	1	9-Jun-24
73.174	<i>Dysstroma truncata</i>	Common Marbled Carpet	1	9-Jun-24
49.039	<i>Axylia putris</i>	Flame	1	9-Jun-24
63.025	<i>Oligia latruncula</i>	Tawny Marbled Minor	1	9-Jun-24
73.016	<i>Epiphyas postvittana</i>	Light Brown Apple Moth	1	9-Jun-24
69.003	<i>Anania hortulata</i>	Small Magpie	1	9-Jun-24
73.264	<i>Autographa pulchrina</i>	Beautiful Golden Y	1	9-Jun-24
73.317	<i>Laothoe populi</i>	Poplar Hawk-moth	1	2-Jun-24
73.174	<i>Lacanobia thalassina</i>	Pale-shouldered Brocade	1	2-Jun-24
70.138	<i>Agrotis exclamationis</i>	Heart and Dart	1	2-Jun-24
49.039	<i>Oligia latruncula</i>	Tawny Marbled Minor	1	2-Jun-24
73.194	<i>Perizoma flavofasciata</i>	Sandy Carpet	1	2-Jun-24
71.017	<i>Epiphyas postvittana</i>	Light Brown Apple Moth	2	2-Jun-24
70.081	<i>Conistra vaccinii</i>	Chestnut	1	8-May-24
70.226	<i>Pheosia tremula</i>	Swallow Prominent	1	8-May-24
70.067	<i>Thera obeliscata</i>	Grey Pine Carpet	1	8-May-24
44.001	<i>Opisthograptis luteolata</i>	Brimstone Moth	2	8-May-24
70.184	<i>Anticlea derivata</i>	Streamer	1	8-May-24
49.039	<i>Alucita hexadactyla</i>	Many-plumed Moth	6	8-May-24
71.011	<i>Eupithecia exiguata</i>	Mottled Pug	1	8-May-24
70.061	<i>Epiphyas postvittana</i>	Light Brown Apple Moth	8	8-May-24
69.001	<i>Drymonia ruficornis</i>	Lunar Marbled Brown	1	8-May-24
44.001	<i>Epirrhoe alternata</i>	Common Carpet	1	5-May-24
49.039	<i>Mimas tiliae</i>	Lime Hawk-moth	1	5-May-24
70.184	<i>Alucita hexadactyla</i>	Many-plumed Moth	8	5-May-24
70.183	<i>Epiphyas postvittana</i>	Light Brown Apple Moth	1	5-May-24
74.004	<i>Eupithecia exiguata</i>	Mottled Pug	1	5-May-24
70.183	<i>Eupithecia vulgata</i>	Common Pug	1	5-May-24
74.004	<i>Nola confusalis</i>	Least Black Arches	1	5-May-24
	<i>New Species for Location 11</i>			
	383 for the year			
	219 Species for the location			

## Harvestmen (Opiliones) of Durham, Northumberland and Cleveland

*Ian J Beddison*



**Figure 1.** *Lophopilio palpinalis*

### INTRODUCTION

I have been photographing, identifying and recording all manner of invertebrates in the north-east for over 20 years and perhaps inevitably I have developed particular interests and fondness for specific groups. Psocoptera and Hemiptera are favourites, but it is the Opiliones, or Harvestmen, which I find especially interesting, and even endearing.

The order Opiliones belong to the class Arachnida and are probably best known to us as Harvestmen or Daddy-long-legs; the latter name best avoided as it can refer colloquially to Harvestmen, Craneflies, or Spiders in the genus Phalangioides. The name Harvestmen is thought variously to originate as a descriptor of the animals' long legs having a resemblance to the stilts traditionally used by European shepherds, or the fact that some species are especially numerous around harvest time. The Dutch name for these animals, 'Hooijwagens' translates delightfully as 'hay wagons'. Throughout this article the names Harvestmen and Opiliones are used as synonyms.

It is probably quite common to think of harvestmen as a type of spider. They have eight legs and belong to the same class of animals, but they can be said to be more closely related to mites and scorpions. Though part of the same subphylum (Chelicerata) as the true spiders (Araneae) there are many fundamental differences;

### **Spiders**

Produce silk  
Have 6-8 eyes  
Produce venom (most)  
Chelicerae terminate in fangs

### **Harvestmen**

Do not produce silk  
Have 2 eyes  
Do not have venom  
Chelicerae terminate in ‘pincers’

If we are familiar with harvestmen at all, it is likely to be some of the large, long-legged species commonly encountered in gardens but there is tremendous variety within the 33 species recorded in the United Kingdom in size, leg length, colouration and markings. Harvestmen are overlooked in general and perhaps this is in part due to a lingering impression that identification is difficult but most species can easily be identified in the field using a 10x hand lens or from good macro photographs. Though the standard synopsis of the British fauna (Hildyard) is sadly out of print and somewhat out of date, there are currently excellent online resources and a Field Studies Council chart (Richards) to aid the keen beginner, and the British Arachnological Society’s Harvestman Recording Scheme is very active in examining and verifying records via the iRecord platform.

The intention of this article is not to provide a comprehensive field guide or textbook on the Opiliones but to introduce these fascinating and charismatic animals to a wider audience. I shall provide brief notes on most of the 20 or so species currently known from Durham, Northumberland and Cleveland.

## **HARVESTMAN BIOLOGY**

It is beyond the scope of this article to provide a thorough description of the anatomy, habits and lifestyle of Opiliones. A brief overview and the discussion of certain key anatomical features may prove useful as a stimulus to identification and appreciation of these fascinating creatures. Throughout the species accounts certain key features are mentioned and where these may be unfamiliar to the general naturalist they are introduced and highlighted in bold below.

The majority of British species have an annual life cycle, overwintering in the egg stage, though there are exceptions such as *Rilaena triangularis* which overwinter as juveniles. Mating in Opiliones is via direct copulation. In both sexes genitalia are concealed beneath the shield-like **genital operculum**. Females lay eggs through a flexible ovipositor onto a suitable substrate, such as damp soil. In species such as *Megabunus diadema* parthenogenesis is common and the incidence of males in a population may be low.

After hatching the nymphs undergo a series of up to nine moults before reaching maturity.



**Figure 2. *Paroligolophus agrestis* moulting**

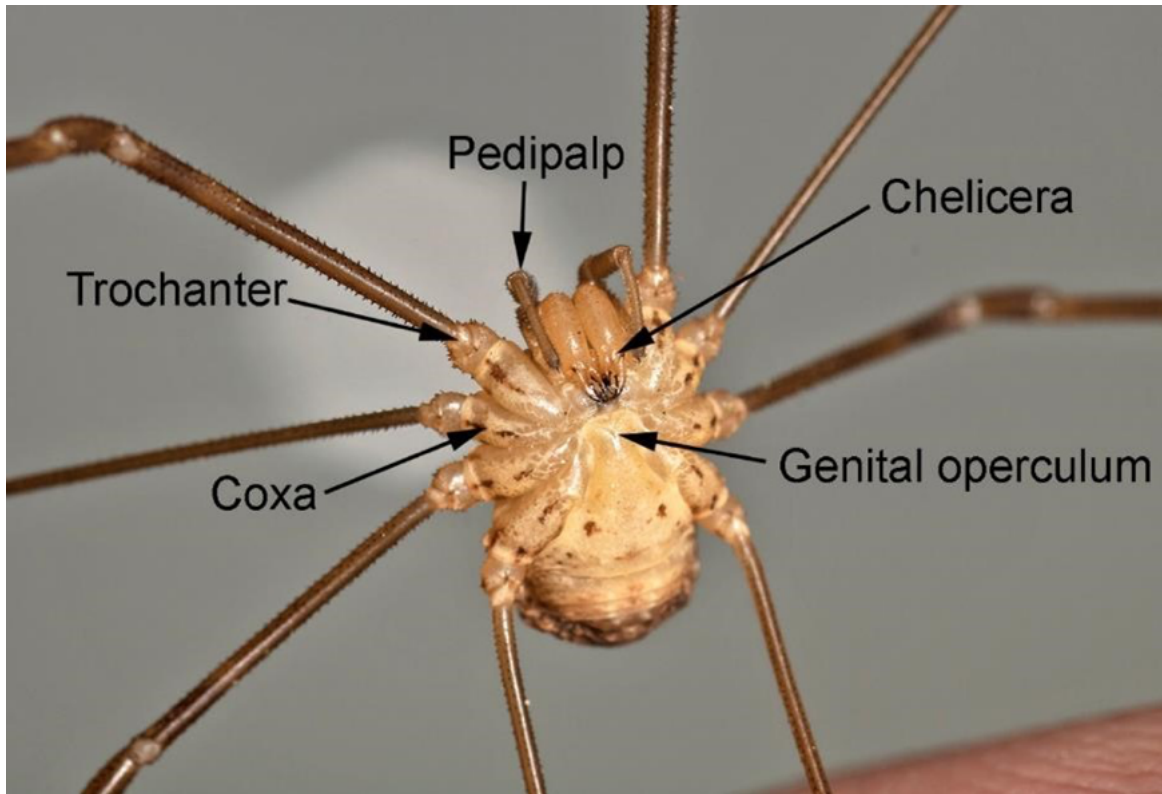
The species found in Northumberland and Durham are mostly generalist feeders and diet may consist of other small arthropods such as springtails and mites but they will also scavenge invertebrate carrion, occasional vegetable matter, and they occasionally even find nutrition in bird droppings.

Harvestmen species are variously intolerant of water loss and will generally require moist surroundings. Many are relatively inactive by day, and nocturnal searches of likely habitat by torchlight may reveal the extent of activity at a locale.

## **ANATOMY**

It is by examining the physical structure and lifestyle of harvestmen that the difference to the spiders (Araneae) becomes clear. One of the more obvious features of spiders is that the body shows a clear division or 'waist' between the **cephalothorax** and abdomen. Harvestmen have a fused or 'one piece' body with no obvious divide when viewed dorsally. The dorsal surface in many species bears a 'saddle' marking, and the shape and colouration of this is often important in identification to species. A ventral view will reveal that the four pairs of legs are attached at the cephalothorax, and it is also here that the mouthparts are found. Unlike spiders, Opiliones do not liquefy their food, but ingest morsels directly via a mouth. These are passed to the mouth by the 'pincers' of the **chelicerae**. If you have observed a crab tearing up and eating food, you will get the idea. The chelicerae are often possessed of various lumps and bumps or **apophyses** which can be important in species identification or in sexing individuals. An additional pair of short limbs, the **pedipalps**, are

attached toward the front of the cephalothorax. These frequently terminate in a single claw and may be furnished with armature such as spines which, as with the chelicerae, provide useful identification features in some species. In some species **setae** or hairs are present which are tipped with a sticky substance to aid in the capture and manipulation of prey, one of the main functions of these appendages.



**Figure 3. Anatomy-ventral *Opilio parietinus* male**

The legs are divided into several sections, beginning with the basal **coxa** which in some species may have coloured markings useful in identification. The next section is the **trochanter**, to which the femur of the leg attaches and from which it can readily detach as a means of escaping predators in a process known as **autotomy**. If handling specimens is necessary, it is essential to grasp them by two or more legs to avoid this detachment and subsequent escape. It is common to find animals with one or more limbs missing and they often seem to manage very well though locomotion becomes more restricted with each loss. Perhaps the most important for the survival of the harvestman are the second pair of legs which in all species are noticeably the longest and function largely as sense organs. The two simple eyes do not provide acute vision, and observation of harvestmen in motion will reveal them feeling their surroundings with the second pair of legs.

The eyes are situated on top of the cephalothorax in a protuberance known as the **ocularium**. The prominence and armament of this feature varies between species, from a slightly raised bump in *Nemastoma bimaculatum* to a large turret-like structure with long spikes in *Megabunus diadema*. The appearance of the ocularium is often a critical identification feature.

In some species a **trident** is present, situated on the body midline, forward of the ocularium. This is comprised of a number of tubercles (typically 3 main and sometimes a number of ancillary ones) and the appearance of this can be an important identification feature

Harvestmen have chemical defences against predators and if threatened a noxious fluid may be released via the **odoriferous glands**, the openings of which are located toward the front of the cephalothorax. The scent of this is usually undetectable to humans and is harmless on contact.

## COLLECTING AND PHOTOGRAPHY

Some species of harvestman require relatively little effort to find. *Mitopus morio* and *Phalangium opilio* can often be seen basking on hogweed or thistle leaves in the sun of a late summer day for example. Observing other more secretive or troglodytic species will need a different approach. Turning over fallen branches in woodland may reveal *Nemastoma bimaculatum* or *Lophopilio palpinalis*. Species of the ground layer generally may be collected in pitfall traps, while herb or tree layer species can be found with the aid of a sweep net.

All of the photographs taken by the author to illustrate this article were of live animals, usually in situ in the location where found, none of them were harmed during the process, and all were returned to the original location within minutes. There seems to have been traditionally a notion that harvestmen are difficult to identify from live specimens and perhaps this has been one of the factors hindering recorders. In fact the majority of the UK fauna can readily be identified at least to genus and frequently to species without the need to euthanize. Observations based exclusively on live animals – which is my own preferred approach - will impose some limitations and I fully understand and endorse the responsible collection of specimens where necessary. A minority of UK species cannot be definitively identified from live specimens. *Dicranopalpus ramosus* and *D. caudatus* for example, require examination of the male penis to verify.

In some cases, similar species are present in parts of Europe and further afield. Given how successful many harvestmen have been at establishing populations here once introduced, it would be prudent to keep checking specimens of some ‘native’ harvestmen to detect infiltrators. *Nemastoma lugubre* for example, is quite frequent on mainland Europe, and is very similar in external appearance to the established *Nemastoma bimaculatum*.

These points being noted however, there are several advantages to examining and photographing live specimens for identification. Being soft bodied, harvestmen cannot be ‘pinned’ in a collection in the way that bugs and beetles etc. can be. They must be preserved in a liquid medium, which invariably with time will degrade the colouration and markings of specimens. Study of such specimens will allow for examination of anatomy but will not give much of a feel for the appearance of the same animal when observed in the wild.

Another advantage of photography is the opportunity to capture aspects of behaviour such as feeding or courtship which can add to our knowledge of individual species.

## HARVESTMEN IN DURHAM, NORTHUMBERLAND AND CLEVELAND

In this piece, intended as an overview and brief introduction to the Opiliones, there is not space for detailed discussion and exploration of the history of recording in the North-East. The fact that roughly one third of species currently on the British list have not been recorded in the region, may be encouraging to naturalists with an interest in this family as it represents an opportunity for discovery: it seems likely that cold intolerant species such as *Odiellus spinosus* will eventually turn up here as climate change may favour their survival further north than their current range permits.

### Notes on the species accounts

There is clear demand for a comprehensive, well illustrated field guide to the UK's Harvestman fauna. The current article can provide only a very brief introduction to the Opiliones and an overview of local species.

Leg length – I have adopted, with permission, the system used by Paul Richards in the FSC's 'Harvestmen of the British Isles' wherein the leg lengths of species *relative to their body size* is listed as Short, Medium, Long, or Very Long.

Body size – This is the length of the animal excluding legs, pedipalps or chelicerae. Where two figures are given the lower figure gives the lower limit of the size range in males and the higher figure is the upper end of the size range in females.

Ocularium – This may be armoured with various tubercles, spines and hairs, or be relatively smooth; little more than a low bump on the dorsum or prominent and 'chunky'. Brief notes are provided for the appearance of this feature in each species.

Trident – The structure of the trident, generally a group of three or more pointed tubercles in front of the ocularium, can be critical in identification. In some species it is altogether absent.

In presenting the species accounts I have not followed the standard order based on suborders and subfamilies etc. The species are very loosely arranged here by the adult season of each species, beginning with those which may be found all year round, then progressing through Spring maturing species etc. This does not strictly follow however and I hope readers will forgive the slightly eccentric arrangement.

*Nemastoma bimaculatum* (Fabricius, 1775)

Adult season – All year

Leg Length - Short

Body length – 2 – 2.8 mm

Ocularium – low, with no significant armament

Trident - None

With relatively short legs and a maximum body length of 3 mm, this secretive ground-dwelling species is likely to be overlooked and under-recorded. It can be typically found in leaf-litter, under rocks and logs in woodland habitats but is very rarely seen in the open during the day. Almost entirely black apart from two small pale patches on the abdominal dorsum, it is one of our more spider-like species in general appearance and movements. They tend to freeze when first disturbed, but once on the move they rarely pause.



**Figure 4.** *Nemastoma bimaculatum*

*Mitostoma chrysomelas* (Hermann, 1804)

Adult season – All year

Leg length – long

Body length – 1.5 – 2.5 mm

Ocularium – low, with rows of tubercles similar to those on the body

Trident - None

This tiny, delicate and secretive species can be challenging to find but is worth seeking out for its enchanting appearance. The pedipalps are very long, usually held out straight in front in a characteristic posture and are covered in fine hairs (setae). The dorsal abdomen is decorated with rows of flat-topped tubercles which appear like strings of beads. The species is unmistakable among the UK fauna.

Typical locations for this species are leaf litter, moss and under fallen branches, bark and stones on the woodland floor. As with most ground-living species it is highly intolerant of water loss, and I often find it in damp locations such as under stones at the edge of rivers and burns in woodland locations.



**Figure 5.** *Mitostoma chrysomelas*

***Megabunus diadema*** (Fabricius, 1779)

Adult season – March to July

Body length – 2.6 to 4.5 mm

Leg length – Medium

Ocularium – Armed with long spines. Unmistakable among the UK fauna

Trident – none

*Megabunus diadema* is surely one of the easiest UK harvestmen to identify, but not always the easiest to find. This small species sports highly effective camouflage in its typical habitat of lichen covered rocks or tree trunks at the edge of woodland. Luckily for the observer this bright and colourful patterning shows up very well when the animal is on a plainer background such as green algae on a fencepost – one of my favourite places to look for them.

The sexes are very similar in external morphology, but most reproduction in this species seems to be parthenogenetic and males are much less frequently found than females.

*Megabunus* tend to be very wary of approach and can be one of the more challenging species to observe or photograph at close quarters.



**Figure 6.** *Megabunus diadema*

***Rilaena triangularis*** (Herbst, 1799)

Adult Season – April to July

Leg length – Long

Body length – 3.7 to 7 mm

Ocularium – Prominent, with two rows of short, spiked tubercles

Trident – Insignificant, usually one small tubercle

Adults of this predominantly woodland-dwelling species are typically the first of the conspicuous harvestmen seen in Spring. The juveniles overwinter in a late instar and can often be found under shelter. A discarded pizza box found in a graveyard in January harboured half a dozen of these. The adults are quite easy to identify, having quite a chunky ocularium and a mottled sandy brown colour to the dorsal abdomen with an inconspicuous saddle in males. Females tend to be darker overall and have a more clearly defined rectangular saddle.

Mature specimens can be readily observed by day, languidly basking on nettle leaves in partly shaded woodland. Some individuals are quite skittish, but generally this is an easy species to approach for a closer look.



**Figure 7. *Rilaena triangularis***

***Platybunus pinetorum*** C. L. Koch, 1839

Adult Season – March to August

Leg length – Long

Body length – up to 9 mm

Ocularium – Very prominent, broad and ‘chunky’, with two rows of tubercles

Trident - None

This large and very distinctive species was first recorded in the UK in 2010 and has apparently been very successful in colonizing many areas. Adult females are typically observed on walls and tree trunks. Reproduction in this country appears to be almost exclusively parthenogenetic, with only one male specimen recorded nationally at the time of writing. The species has a very large and robustly armoured ocularium, usually of a rich caramel colour, and the palpal femurs are armed ventrally with large white spines which can easily be seen at close quarters. Should a male be encountered, they share these features with the females, but the overall appearance of the individual will be very dark, almost black, and with a tapering bullet shaped body.



**Figure 8. *Platybunus pinetorum* female**

***Lacinius ehippiatus*** (C. L. Koch, 1835)

Adult Season – June to September

Leg Length - Medium

Body length - 3.5 to 5.5 mm

Ocularium – Prominent, with two rows of up to six tubercles

Trident – 3 members, slender, equally spaced and equal length

This is another secretive species which may be found by turning fallen branches and bark amongst leaf litter on the woodland floor, although it is also recorded from habitats including marsh and grassland.

The smart black rectangular saddle marking of males is characteristic, but the more discretely marked females require closer examination to avoid confusion with *Lophopilio palpinalis* or *Oligolophus tridens*. In both sexes the trident, with three evenly spaced upwardly inclined members is a key feature.



**Figure 9. *Lacinius ehippiatus* male**

***Lophopilio palpinalis*** (Herbst, 1799)

Adult Season – July to January

Leg Length – Medium

Body Length – 2.8 to 5.0 mm

Ocularium - Prominent, with two rows of around 4 sharp tubercles

Trident – Three members, the central slightly longer

This is a species which typically inhabits the ground layer of woodland and can best be found by turning fallen branches and bark. Like *Lacinius ehippiatus*, individuals typically show reluctance to move, which is very useful to the observer but can make them difficult to spot against a busy background.

Both sexes are best identified (and separated from confusion species *Oligolophus tridens* and *Lacinius ehippiatus*) by examination of the palpal femur which is armoured ventrally with long pale spines which can readily be seen from a side view of the animal.



**Figure 10.** *Lophopilio palpinalis*

***Dicranopalpus ramosus* agg.**

Adult season – Summer to Winter

Leg length – Very long

Body length – up to 6 mm

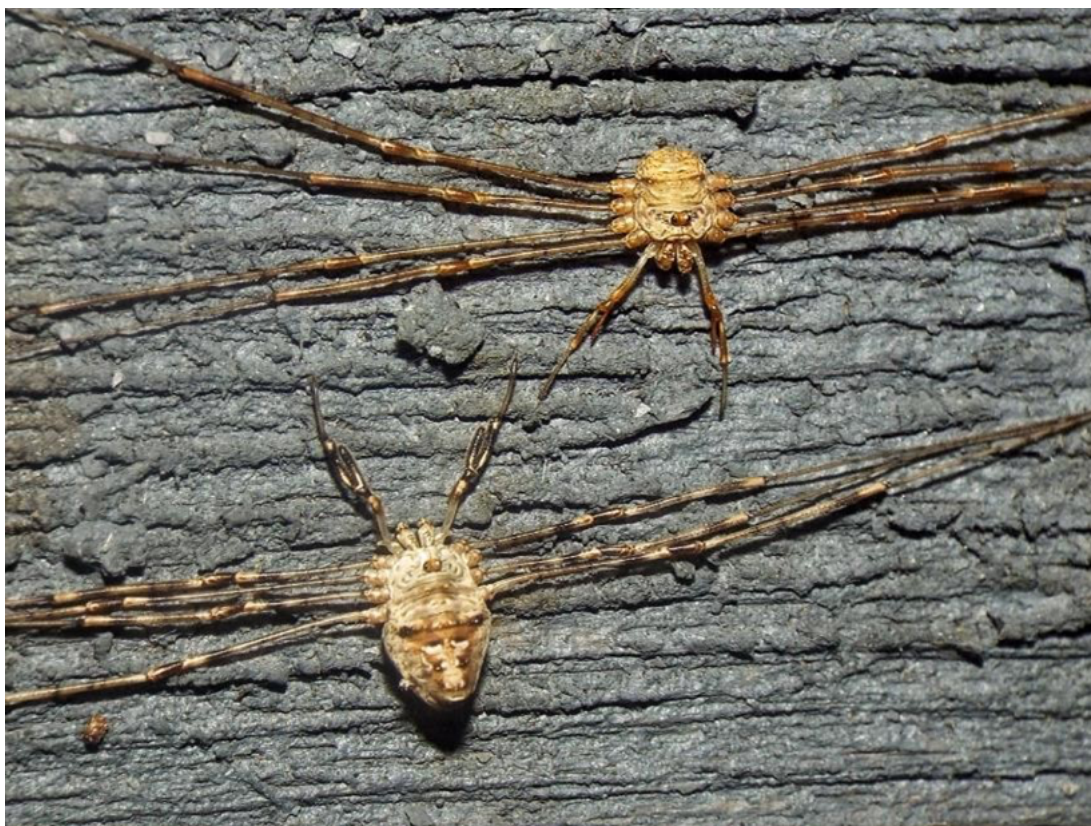
Ocularium – Prominent, without armament

Trident - None

The distinctive *Dicranopalpus ramosus* (Simon, 1909) was first recorded in the UK in the 1970s and with its long, forked pedipalps (the ‘thumb’ is actually a patellar apophysis), unique resting pose with the legs held straight out at near 90 degrees from the body, and ‘Zorro mask’ in the males was one of the easiest species to identify. The occurrence of the near-identical *Dicranopalpus caudatus* (Dresco, 1948) has put paid to this status though, and microscopic examination of male specimens is now required to ensure a certain identification.

The species is widely distributed in the region and its broad habitat preferences make it a familiar sight in woodlands, parks and gardens. In my own experience, if any harvestman species is likely to wander in through an open kitchen door at night, it’s this one.

The difficulty in obtaining identification other than by means of dissection/microscopic examination means that casual sightings of these are best recorded as *Dicranopalpus ramosus* agg. A third member of the genus – *Dicranopalpus larvatus* (Canestrini, 1874) – has recently been added to the British list but has not yet been reported from the North-East and in any event is sufficiently different in external morphology as to be relatively easy to identify.



**Figure 11. *Dicranopalpus ramosus* agg. male and female**

***Mitopus morio*** (Fabricius, 1799)

Adult season – July to November

Leg length - Long

Body length – 4 to 8.5 mm

Ocularium – Low, weakly armoured and with slightly upward-looking eyes

Trident – None, but has a few scattered tubercles

A widely distributed species, *Mitopus morio* is one of our larger and more conspicuous harvestmen. They are found in a variety of habitats including woodland, hedgerows and moorland and can be locally abundant. They are not difficult to find, as they are one of the species which can be readily seen basking in sunshine on vegetation such as thistles and hogweed leaves.

Males tend to have an extensive black, single-waisted saddle on an otherwise pale body. Females exhibit a double-waisted saddle and occur in a wide variety of colours and patterning, with yellow, red, chocolate, silver, gold and even purple elements being found.

Confusion in identification can arise when separating females of *Mitopus morio* and *Phalangium opilio*. The most reliable feature is the presence/absence of two tiny ‘teeth’ on the supra-cheliceral lamella (the area immediately above the chelicerae), present in *P. opilio* but absent in *M. morio*.



**Figure 12.** *Mitopus morio* female

***Phalangium opilio*** Linnaeus, 1758

Adult season - June to December

Leg length – Very long

Body length – 4 to 9 mm

Ocularium – 2 rows of sharp-tipped tubercles

Trident – None, but has scattered tubercles

In many ways the archetypal harvestman, this large species is at home in a wide variety of habitats from woodland to moorland and coastal sites. The species is markedly sexually dimorphic, with mature males being equipped with large forward-pointing ‘horns’ on the chelicerae, and pedipalps which are greatly elongated, with a dark base to the femur. Mature males cannot easily be confused with any other UK species. Females are a different matter and superficially appear similar to female *Mitopus morio* in size and appearance of the saddle. In *P. opilio* the range of colours tends to be more restricted to browns and greys, the ocularium is more upright and armed with definite spines, and crucially (in both sexes) there are a pair of tiny ‘teeth’ above the chelicerae which can readily be seen with a hand lens or in a photograph taken from the right angle – a  $\frac{3}{4}$  ‘portrait’ is useful.



**Figure 13. *Phalangium opilio* male**

***Opilio canestrinii*** (Thorell, 1876)

Adult season – Summer to Autumn

Leg length – Very long

Body length – up to 9 mm

Ocularium – Pale, smooth

Trident – None

This large (up to 9 mm) species is a recent introduction to the British Isles, first seen in 1999, and has been extremely successful in expanding its range. It is now ubiquitous in many habitats throughout the region. They can be readily found in woodland, gardens, vegetation in open areas, and on buildings. A search of the walls around St Mary's Island lighthouse (Whitley Bay) in late Autumn produced dozens of individuals. They are also very active and easy to observe by night. Buddleia flowers in my garden for example see high levels of nocturnal activity from these large harvestmen.

The females are easy to identify, with short paired black and white bars running across the abdomen. Males are less distinctive and are often mistaken for males of the genus *Leiobunum*, but the plain orange trochanters and pale ocularium of *O. canestrinii* are quite obvious.

The HRS is particularly keen to understand any effect this species may have on the native *Opilio parietinus* (see species account).



**Figure 14. *Opilio canestrinii* female**

***Paroligolophus agrestis*** (Meade, 1855)

Adult season – July to December

Leg length - Medium

Body length – 3 – 5 mm

Ocularium – Pale, insignificant armament

Trident – variable in appearance

Typically seen resting on vegetation on bright days, this common and widely distributed species can be found in a variety of habitats and may be a familiar sight in gardens.

This is sometimes considered one of the tricky species to identify, there being room for confusion with similarly sized species such as *Oligolophus tridens*, but with practice it may be readily distinguished. Ideally the ventral surface should be examined where a deep notch is seen in the genital operculum of females. This is less pronounced in males. Saddle markings are usually present in both sexes but are diffuse toward the rear of the abdomen. Colouration of the dorsal abdomen is variable, but generally quite bright with silver, gold and copper colours. Compare them with the typically more drab brown and olive colours of *O. tridens*.



**Figure 15.** *Paroligolophus agrestis*

***Leiobunum rotundum*** (Latreille, 1798)

Adult season – July to December

Leg length – Very long

Body size – 3 – 6.5 mm

Ocularium – Small but prominent. Dark circles around eyes, pale between

Trident – none

The two UK species in the genus *Leiobunum* are perhaps the typical idea of a harvestman, having a relatively small, rounded body and very long thin legs. *Leiobunum rotundum* is often active by day and may be found in a wide variety of habitats (woodland especially) on vegetation such as bramble. Mixed sex congregations can often be observed on a sunny day in summer. They are readily startled, and it is marvelous to see how quickly those seemingly ungainly legs can propel an individual through a dense tangle of vegetation.

The species is noticeably sexually dimorphic; the males having a predominantly brick-orange coloured body, black legs and ocularium while the females have a dark straight-sided saddle marking and a dark triangular area in front of the ocularium.



**Figure 16. *Leiobunum rotundum* male and female**

***Leiobunum blackwalli*** Meade, 1861

Adult season – July to December

Leg length – Very long

Body size – 2.6 to 6 mm

Ocularium – Small but prominent. Pale circles around the eyes, dark between

Trident - None

Superficially similar to *Leiobunum rotundum*, this slightly smaller species appears to be much less frequent in the region, though it can be locally common where found, in its typical habitat of deciduous woodland. It may be that the close similarity to its cousin has led to these being overlooked. In my experience the two species are frequently found together, and paying close attention to aggregations of individuals may well increase our knowledge of their presence in the area. The differing colouration of the ocularium is the most easily observed characteristic in both sexes, *L. blackwalli* having pale circles around the eyes with a dark area in between; the ‘opposite’ of *L. rotundum*. Additionally the female typically has a broad, delta-shaped saddle marking which observed closely can have a dark green subtly metallic appearance and is quite unlike female *L. rotundum*.



**Figure 17. *Leiobunum blackwalli* female**

***Opilio parietinus*** (De Geer, 1778)

Adult season – July to December

Leg length – Very long

Body length – up to 9 mm

Ocularium – small spines

Trident – None

This large harvestman is widely distributed in the UK but never seems very numerous, which may in part be because its appearance is at first glance rather unexceptional and it has perhaps been considered difficult to identify. Dorsally the male abdomen is brown in colour, the female tending more to dark grey, with quite a subtle saddle marking. Ventrally there are a series of dark spots on the coxae which are useful in identification.

The status of this species may be threatened by the recent introduction of the related *Opilio canestrinii*. Some mainland European countries have reported a sharp decline in numbers of *O. parietinus* where *O. canestrinii* has become successfully established. The causal link, if any, is not fully understood. The Harvestman Recording Scheme is particularly keen to receive records of *O. parietinus* to monitor the situation.



**Figure 18.** *Opilio parietinus* female

***Oligolophus hanseni*** (Kraepelin, 1896)

Adult season – August to December

Leg length - Medium

Body length – 3.3 to 5 mm

Ocularium – dark, with 2 rows of short, hair-tipped tubercles

Trident – 3 short trident members, with various scattered tubercles

The ubiquitous *Oligolophus hanseni* is a medium sized species of medium leg length, with variable though usually dark colouration. Adults occur from late Summer and can persist through to the new year. This is a generalist species in terms of habitat and can be markedly synanthropic. A torchlight search of house walls in the later months of the year may well find this nocturnally active species engaged in courtship. They can often be observed by day too, resting on trees, walls and fenceposts in a typically downward-facing posture.

A saddle is present, though not usually very distinct, and typically there are a few white spots or patches bordering the posterior part of the saddle area. There is a trident with three short, forward facing tubercles and the ocularium is lightly armoured. Body colours are usually dark greys and browns, but lighter drab-olive individuals are frequent and forms with pale rear tergites occur. Distinctive white patches are frequently present.



**Figure 19.** *Oligolophus hanseni*

***Opilio saxatilis*** C. L. Koch, 1839

Adult season – July to December

Leg length – long

Adult size 3.2 – 6 mm

Ocularium – lightly armoured

Trident - None

One of the more elusive species in the region, it would seem based on the few records available that *Opilio saxatilis* is most likely to be found at locations on or near the coast. I have found the species among dunes at Warkworth on the Northumberland coast and at North Gare and Cowpen Bewley on Teesside.

In common with its cousin *O. canestrinii* it has lateral bars on the abdomen, but in *O. saxatilis* they meet at the pale centre line to form a quite distinctive forward pointing series of chevrons with a pale central line. Examination of the ventral surface will reveal a pattern of dark spots and patches on the coxae which is useful in confirming identification.

*Opilio saxatilis* is a more reclusive species than the other two members of the genus. In coastal areas it may be found among the roots of marram grass and other vegetation, but more generally may be found under stones or debris etc.



**Figure 20.** *Opilio saxatilis*

*Nelima gothica* Lohmander, 1945

Adult season – July until frosts

Leg length – Long

Body size – 2.5 – 4.5 mm

Ocularium - None

Trident – none

There is a dearth of recent *Nelima gothica* records from the region which may well be due to this subtly coloured and unobtrusive species being overlooked. I spent a long time believing that this species would elude me until in 2022 I found an apparently healthy population in my own garden! Whilst I hesitate to describe it as drab it is certainly lacking in showy features such as bold saddle markings or an elaborately armoured ocularium etc. But this sombre appearance is a distinguishing feature in itself and they are quite straightforward to identify. The abdomen appears in shades of brown throughout, with a scattered pattern of paler patches and an indistinct saddle may be seen in females. Late season individuals and males especially may have a darker appearance, tending towards grey tones.

*Nelima gothica*'s habitat requirements appear quite broad, found among vegetation and under stones and logs at altitude, lowland and coastal sites.



**Figure 21.** *Nelima gothica* female

***Oligolophus tridens*** (C. L. Koch, 1836)

Adult Season – July until the frosts

Leg length – Medium

Body size – 3.5 to 5.5 mm

Ocularium – 2 rows of up to 7 low, hair-tipped tubercles

Trident – 3 near vertical members, central longer in female

This species is likely to be one of the most common in the British Isles but its unassuming appearance, small size and subdued colouration, along with the potential for confusion with other species probably lead to under-recording. The leaves of nettles and buttercups in open woodland are where I often find this species if searching by eye but turning fallen branches and bark in woodland tends to be much more productive.

Males are quite easy to identify, having a dark single-waisted saddle which makes them look somewhat like a miniature, shorter-legged version of male *Mitopus morio*. They also have a tapering ‘bullet-shaped’ abdomen which is a useful identification feature.

Females are perhaps less obvious, having a less contrasting saddle than males, which is broken into a row of dark patches towards the rear tergites. Examination of the trident will help to rule out *Oligolophus hanseni* and this species lacks the strong armament of the pedipalps seen in *Lophopilio palpinalis*.



**Figure 22.** *Oligolophus tridens*