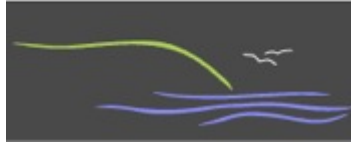


Scarborough Field Naturalists



NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER

Hello everyone

Hope this finds everyone well. Despite the virus the Society has been pretty active and the 'mini meetings' in groups of 6 seems to have really fired everyone up with the result we have had waiting lists. With this surge in interest we are planning a list of these through the winter and below is a list of what we have organised so far together with the contact details of the person leading the visit. Please contact them direct if you wish to attend. We are open to suggestions for any items of interest or places to go that you would like to see added.

2020

7 th Nov	Fungi foray	Invitation already sent
28 th Nov	Deepdale walk	Brian walker bwalker827@btinternet.com 07932 491075
6 th Dec	Langdale forest	Nick Gibbons nicholas.gibbons123@btinternet.com 07790 113025
19 th Dec	East coast birding	Rob Stark robstark@hotmail.co.uk 07737 400962

2021

9 th Jan	Humber estuary	Rob Stark robstark@hotmail.co.uk 07737 400962
24 th Jan	Dalby forest	Nick Gibbons nicholas.gibbons123@btinternet.com 07790 113025
7 th Feb	Wheldrake for birds	Rob Stark robstark@hotmail.co.uk 07737 400962
24 th March	Hunmanby amphibian survey	Nick Gibbons nicholas.gibbons123@btinternet.com 07790 113025
10 th April	Adder walk	Rob Stark robstark@hotmail.co.uk 07737 400962
17 th April	Spring Flora	John Hume jhhume@hotmail.com 07717 220152

Nick Gibbons

SEASHORE STUDIES

Members of Scarborough Field Naturalists and special guest Jane Pottas (of Whitby Nats) had a fantastic two days rock pooling at Crook Ness, Burniston Bay. Thanks to Jane 36 species of seaweed were identified including sea lettuce, coral weed, egg wrack, serrated wrack, bladder wrack, Irish Moss, False Irish moss, red rags and sea oak. 22 species of animals were found including the popular, chitons, blue ray limpets and velvet swimming crab, but the highlight were the two sea urchins discovered on both days.

John Hume



Sea urchin



Blue rayed limpet



False Irish moss



Egg wrack



Chiton

HUNMANBY POND

The Nats had been asked for advice on the management of a pond in Hunmanby by the Hunmanby in Bloom volunteers. An initial visit showed the site heavily overgrown with Reed mace and very little open water. As there were reportedly

Great crested newts in the area there was limited management that could be done before a survey was carried out. A survey could not be effectively done before spring 2021.



Some clearance of the Reed mace by hand pulling was deemed

advisable and could be done without affecting any newts present. A resultant work party has now cleared most of the standing Reed mace although there are still many roots left that will need managing in spring. We will be carrying out some newt surveys in March and April for anyone who fancies it.



Nick Gibbons

BEAVERS AND BATS

A follow up visit to the beaver site for those not able to attend earlier showed that 'wellies' were definitely essential. The heavy rain over the previous few days meant that Sutherland Beck was in full spate. This, coupled with the increased beaver activity of raising the dam, meant that access to parts of the site that we visited last time were several inches deep in fast flowing water. We were unsuccessful in seeing any beavers as we sat at dusk and, due to the roaring of the water flow, we were not able to hear where they were working. It was an 'enjoyable trip' for at least two of the party, including myself as we walked back in the dark!



Due to the virus we have not been able to carry out the bat box checks at Keldy in the normal manner, handling of bats being banned except for exceptional purposes. To check whether the bats were still present Cath Bashforth and I did a quick inspection of the boxes using sanitised endoscopes. We were able to ascertain that there were at least two good clusters of Natterer's bats present and at least two Noctules and some pipistrelles. We could not do a count as we were only able to view the nearest bats to the box entrance. It does mean that the beavers do not seem to have any impact on the use of the boxes as yet although, with raising water levels, it is the first time I have needed wellingtons to do a bat box check.

Nick Gibbons

FUNGI FORAYS

On Saturday October 10th the first this year's Fungus Foray's took place in Wykeham Forest, starting at the Forestry Commission research office at North Moor. From there we relocated to Highwood Brow for lunch and a further walk round the Northern most compartments. Some 67 species were recorded; highlights were **White Saddle** (*Helvella crispa*), a good spread of **Amethyst Deceiver** (*Laccaria amethystina*), **Dyer's Mazegill** (*Phaeolus schweinitzii*), **Trumpet Chanterelle** (*Cantharellus tubaeformis*), **Porcelain Fungus** (*Oudemansiella mucida*), **Angel's Bonnet** (*Mycena arcangeliana*), **Salmon Salad** (*Guepinia helvelloides*) and **Yellow Brain Fungus** (*Tremella mesenterica*).

A second foray was held on Saturday October 24th, this time to Turkey Carpet and Reasty in Broxa Forest. Although not so prolific as the previous foray a reasonable list of species was non the less produced. Among the more interesting finds were **Common Rustgill** (*Gymnopilus penetrans*), **Raspberry Slime Mould** (*Tubifera ferruginosa*), **Lilac Bonnet** (*Mycena pura*), **Variable Oysterling** (*Crepidotus variabilis*), **Elfin Saddle** (*Helvella lacunosa*), but for me the find of the day was **Rooting Poisonpie** (*Hebeloma radicosum*) which was last recorded in our district in Dalby in 1999 this species has a distinctive "tap root" which was some 5 inches long.

My thanks go to those who attended these events which, hopefully were enjoyed by all.

Brian Cockerill
Mycological Recorder



White saddle (*Helvella crispa*)



Raspberry Slime Mould (*Tubifera ferruginosa*)



Salmon salad (*Guepinia helvelloides*)



Rooting Poisonpie (*Hebeloma radicosum*)



Elfin saddle (*Helvella lacunosa*)



Porcelain Fungus (*Oudemansiella mucida*)



Mycena arcangelicana

AGM DEFERRED

With the absence of any indoor meetings and the likelihood that this will continue into next year the Committee has agreed that the AGM will be deferred until further notice.

All current Committee members have agreed to continue in post until such time that the AGM can take place.