

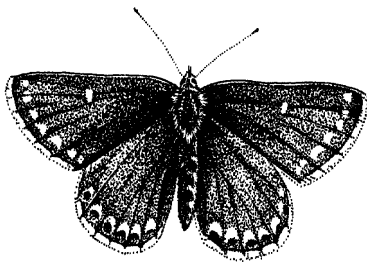
Volume 91

2006

# **THE VASCULUM**

**The North Country Journal  
of Natural History**

**<http://www.the-vasculum.com>**



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## **THE VASCULUM**

*The Vasculum* is a journal concerned with the Natural History of North-East England. Founded in 1915 as a privately-published concern, from 1942 to 2006 it was the published organ of the Northern Naturalists' Union.

## **THE NORTHERN NATURALISTS' UNION**

The Northern Naturalists' Union (NNU) was founded in 1924 to promote co-operation between natural history societies, and to collect and collate local records.

The NNU published *The Vasculum*, and several past publications included a series of *Transactions* published between 1931 and 1953 and three separately published supplements to *The Vasculum: Sources of Information on the Natural History of County Durham* (1972) and parts I and II of T.C. Dunn & J.D. Parrack's *The Moths and Butterflies of Northumberland and Durham* (1986 & 1992).

## From the Editor

This represents the first issue of the electronic Vasculum. This is intended to replace the paper-based journal that was published up to December 2005 by the Northern Naturalists' Union, which ceased to exist in that month. The purpose of the Vasculum remains the same i.e. recording and celebrating aspects of the natural history of Northumberland and Durham. There will be some changes. The journal can now include images and other multi-media elements. Distribution will be purely web-based.

Contributions are invited from anyone with an interest in natural history. Contributions can include articles, papers, notices, images, sound or similar. The editor would also like to expand the content to include celebratory/descriptive material such as visual art, prose and poetry and such contributions are also invited.

Publication will work as follows. A web page will be constructed over a year containing the contributions sent to the editor. At the end of each year the page will be compiled into a printable version of the journal as a volume and added to the archive (non-printable elements will also be added to the archive as separate components). All the volumes in the archive are available for download.

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

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## 1. Introduction

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

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

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

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

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<sup>1</sup> I have taken the liberty of also referring to records from Hell Kettles near Darlington.

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

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

## 2. Species accounts

### Nepidae (water scorpions and water stick insects)

*Nepa cinerea* L., Water Scorpion

GB status: Common

Recorded from many well-vegetated ponds and, less frequently, drainage dykes in the Cleveland lowlands.

### Corixidae (lesser water boatmen)

*Cymatia bonsdorffi* (Sahlberg)

GB status: Local A

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

*Cymatia coleoptrata* (Fabricius)

GB status: Local A

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

*Callicorixa praeusta* (Fieber)

GB status: Common

Widespread and common in ponds of varying trophic status.

*Corixa panzeri* (Fieber)

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

GB status: Local A

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

*Corixa punctata* (Illiger)

GB status: Common

A very common large Corixid in standing or slow-flowing waters, in conditions ranging from acidic/oligotrophic to brackish. Water pH readings for Cleveland sites range from 4.6 to 8.2.

*Hesperocorixa castanea* (Thomson)

GB status: Local B

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

*Hesperocorixa linnaei* (Fieber)

GB status: Local B

A widespread species in base-rich (including slightly brackish) standing waters, occurring with other Corixids such as *Corixa panzeri*, *Sigara distincta* and *S. dorsalis*.

*Hesperocorixa sahlbergi* (Fieber)

GB status: Common

Widespread in stagnant pools and ditches with dense vegetation and plant debris; *H. sahlbergi* is often the only Corixid in such situations.

*Paracorixa concinna* (Fieber)

GB status: Local B

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

*Sigara stagnalis* (Leach)

GB status: Local A

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

*Sigara nigrolineata* (Fieber)

GB status: Common

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

*Sigara limitata* (Fieber)

GB status: Scarce

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

*Sigara dorsalis* (Leach)

GB status: Common

A very common species in standing or slow-flowing waters, in conditions ranging from moderately acidic to brackish.

*Sigara distincta* (Fieber)

GB status: Common

A widespread bug recorded from several Cleveland locations.

*Sigara falleni* (Fieber)

GB status: Common

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

*Sigara fossarum* (Leach)

GB status: Local B

A fairly widespread small Corixid which has been recorded from Lingfields Countryside Centre Pond, CBWP and High Clarence.

*Sigara scotti* (Douglas & Scott)

GB status: Local B

Recorded from Lockwood Beck reservoir by T. Huxley on 15/09/1998. This appears to be the only Cleveland record of this localised northern species, which is associated with sparsely-vegetated acidic waters.

*Sigara lateralis* (Leach)

GB status: Common

Widespread in standing waters with limited vegetation, in conditions ranging from moderately acidic to brackish. At one extreme, Carr Pond on Eston Moor, water pH has been measured at 5.5 - 6.4 with electrical conductivity of 80 - 100  $\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}^{-1}$  whilst at the other, *S. lateralis* occurs in a pond at Huntsman Tioxide with pH 8.6 and

conductivity of well over 2,000  $\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}^{-1}$ . A very common 'pioneer' insect found in recently excavated or cleared-out ponds, pools and ditches, or where disturbance inhibits the development of vegetation.

### Notonectidae

*Notonecta glauca* L., Common Backswimmer

GB status: Common

Widespread and common.

*Notonecta obliqua* Thunberg, Moorland Backswimmer

GB status: Local B

A characteristic species of acidic moorland ponds recorded from Carr Pond on Eston Moor, a pond on the North Yorkshire boundary at Newton Moor and a water-filled pit at Stanghow Moor. Water pH at these sites has ranged between 4.6 and 6.4 with low electrical conductivity (90 to 180  $\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}^{-1}$ ).

*Notonecta viridis* Delcourt

GB status: Local B

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

### Pleidae (lesser backswimmers)

*Plea minutissima* Leach

GB status: Common

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

### Hydrometridae (water-measurers)

*Hydrometra stagnorum* (L.), Water-measurer

GB status: Common

A common but shy insect found amongst dense vegetation fringing standing or slow-flowing water, with records from seven or eight locations.

### Veliidae (water-crickets)

*Microvelia reticulata* (Burmeister)

GB status: Local B



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

*Velia caprai* Tamanini, Water Cricket

GB status: Common

A widespread species of sheltered streams which also occurs on ditches and gutters in woodland. Recorded from Skelton Beck, Marton West Beck, Billingham Beck, Errington Woods, Hutton Lowcross and Pinchinthorpe.

Gerridae (pond skaters)

*Gerris costae*, Moorland Pond-skater

GB status: Local A

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

*Gerris gibbifer*

GB status: Local A

*Gerris gibbifer* occurs on sheltered valley and forest ponds in a few discrete areas within the North York Moors. Within the Cleveland area it was recorded at Hutton Lowcross woods / Hutton Moor on 20/08/2000. *Gerris gibbifer* has a localised, predominantly southern and western distribution in Britain, being absent from north-east England, the Midlands and most eastern Counties.

*Gerris lacustris* (L.), Common Pond-skater

GB status: Common

Widespread and very common.

*Gerris odontogaster* (Zetterstedt), Toothed Pond-skater

GB status: Common

A common small pond-skater, found on standing waters with conditions ranging from acidic and oligotrophic to slightly brackish.

*Gerris thoracicus* Schummel

GB status: Local B

Recorded from several base-rich ponds and grazing marsh ditches around the estuary and urban Teesside.

*Gerris lateralis* Schummel

GB status: Local A

A specimen was collected from a shaded pool at Moordale Bog on Eston Moor on 18/07/2006 (R. Merritt). Also recorded by the author at Hart Bog on 18/04/2000. This infrequently-encountered pond-skater is associated with shallow pools amongst sedge

swamp or where overhanging bushes provide shade and shelter (Huxley, 2003; Merritt, 2006).

### 3. A changing fauna?

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

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

The northwards expansion of southern water bugs corresponds closely to the dramatic spread of several dragonfly species. Eyre et al (2005) have documented the spread into North-east England of a range of aquatic invertebrates, pointing out that most of them are associated with permanent ponds, often of recent man-made origin, with marginal vegetation and open water.

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

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

#### 4. References

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- Merritt, R. (2006). **Atlas of the water beetles (Coleoptera) and water bugs (Heteroptera) of Derbyshire, Nottinghamshire and South Yorkshire, 1993-2005**. Sorby Record Special Series, No. 14. Sorby Natural History Society: Sheffield.
- Savage, A.A. (1989). **Adults of the British aquatic Hemiptera-Heteroptera: a key with ecological notes**. Freshwater Biological Association Scientific Publication No. 50. Freshwater Biological Association: Ambleside.

#### Appendix

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

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

## The 2006 status of County Durham clearwing moths.

Terry Coult (Terry.Coult@durham.gov.uk)

Until recently, finding clearwing moths required hard work, with the hope of only scant reward, the Amateur Entomologists' Society published a leaflet in 1946 on "Collecting Clearwings" it suggested that "*the tools needed are: a hammer and chisel, a small hand saw, a strong pen knife, and a good supply of perseverance*".

Clearwing moths all have caterpillars which feed inside either, the roots, branches or trunks of flowering plants and trees. For example hornet clearwing (*Sesia apiformis*) caterpillars feed inside the trunks of poplar trees and six belted clearwings (*Bembecia ichneumoniformis*) the roots of birds foot trefoil, combine this with the adult clearwing's day time flight and their similarity to a range of flies, most are wasp mimics to varying degrees, then finding them is very difficult.

Historically the standard search technique was to dig up, or saw off bits of the host plant which were suspected to have the caterpillars, take them home and wait to see what emerged. In the last few years artificial pheromones (chemical sexual attractants) have been developed for some species which will draw in male clearwings from quite a distance making sampling much easier.

In County Durham there are a number of historical clearwing records, the most recent being for currant clearwing (*Synanthedon tipuliformis*), caterpillars inside the branches of currant bushes, red tipped clearwing (*Synanthedon formicaeformis*), caterpillars inside the branches of willow, and lunar hornet clearwing (*Sesia bembeciformis*) with caterpillars in the trunks of willow. The only twenty first century records for any clearwing in Durham were for lunar hornet clearwing, by far the commonest clearwing in England.

In the last three years with the pheromone attractants becoming available there has been renewed effort in clearwing recording in Durham. The results have been interesting. Lunar hornet clearwing, one of the clearwings which do not come to pheromones, seems to be quite widespread, although finding the adults is very difficult. Their distinctive bore holes, low down in willow trunks, are however, very easy to see and the bore holes at least seem to be quite common. Using the lures, currant clearwing has been re-found on Teeside and Tyneside and red tipped clearwing on Waldrige Fell. Interestingly, work in 2006 has turned up large red belted clearwing (*Synanthedon culiciformis*) at Malton (NZ180460) including on the Durham Wildlife Trust nature reserve, this is the first time the moth has been recorded in County Durham. Large red belted clearwings do come to pheromones but with no great alacrity, work at Malton was of the old fashioned kind with saw and net.

If current trends in climate warming continue then there is the real possibility that more clearwing species will colonise Durham from the south and there is certainly plenty of the county still to search for the clearwings which are known to be here, the current list of twenty first century records stands at large red belted, lunar hornet, red tipped and currant clearwing but there is plenty of scope for further research.

**Clearwing records, Teeside, Durham and Northumberland**

<b>Clearwing species</b>	<b>Common name</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Grid Ref</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Host plant</b>	<b>Recorder</b>	<b>Reference</b>	<b>Notes</b>	<b>Current status</b>
Paranthrene tabaniformis	Dusky clearwing	Birtley	NZ2755	1931	Black poplar	J.W. Heslop Harrison	Vasc. 17.4.p157	Knocked out of a black pop. 2 or 3 miles from Birtley	Extinct
Synanthedon formicaeformis	Red tipped clearwing	Gibside	NZ1758	1899		Thomas Pigg	Robsons Catalogue	On an umbellifer head	
Synanthedon formicaeformis	Red tipped clearwing	Derwent Valley		1917	Salix	G.B. Walsh	Vasc. 4.3/4.p94		
Synanthedon formicaeformis	Red tipped clearwing	Bywell	NZ0461	1925	S. purpurea	J.W. Heslop Harrison	Vasc. 11.4.128		Nb
Synanthedon formicaeformis	Red tipped clearwing	Wylam	NZ1164	1939	S. purpurea	J.W. Heslop Harrison	Vasc. 26.2.p59		
Synanthedon formicaeformis	Red tipped clearwing	Wylam	NZ1164	1944	S. purpurea	NNU	Vasc. 29.3.p19		
Synanthedon formicaeformis	Red tipped clearwing	Allansford	NZ2852	1944	S. purpurea	NNU	Vasc. 29.3.p20		
Synanthedon formicaeformis	Red tipped clearwing	Chester le Street	NZ2850	1948	various Salix sp.	J.W. Heslop Harrison	Vasc. 34.2.16		
Synanthedon formicaeformis	Red tipped clearwing	Wylam	NZ1164	1948	S. nigricans	J.W. Heslop Harrison	Vasc. 34.2.16		
Synanthedon formicaeformis	Red tipped clearwing	Eastgate	NY9538	1952	S. phylicifolia	J.W. Heslop Harrison	Vasc. 38.2.15		
Synanthedon formicaeformis	Red tipped clearwing	Kelloe	NZ3436	1952	S. atrocineria	J.W. Heslop Harrison	Vasc. 38.2.15		
Synanthedon formicaeformis	Red tipped clearwing	Wylam	NZ1164	1952	S. viminalis	J.W. Heslop Harrison	Vasc. 38.2.15		
Synanthedon formicaeformis	Red tipped clearwing	Waldridge fell	NZ2549	1964	S. aurita, S.atrocineria	J.W. Heslop Harrison & E. Hall Terry Coult, Stuart Priestley	Mapmate database		
Synanthedon formicaeformis	Red tipped clearwing	Waldridge fell	NZ253493	2.7.06		Keith Dover	Mapmate database		
Synanthedon formicaeformis	Red tipped clearwing	Waldridge fell	NZ253493	4.7.06		Keith Dover	Mapmate database		
Synanthedon formicaeformis	Red tipped clearwing	Brass Castle	NZ255497	4.7.06		Keith Dover	Mapmate database		

Synanthedon culiciformis	Large red belted clearwing	Wilton Wood	NZ5919	1985	Ken Smith	Recorder	
Synanthedon culiciformis	Large red belted clearwing	Wilton Wood	NZ59319 7	1986	Ken Smith	Recorder	
Synanthedon culiciformis	Large red belted clearwing	Lazenby Bank	NZ57319 0	1987	Chris Bentley	Recorder	Nb
Synanthedon culiciformis	Large red belted clearwing	Eston Moor	NZ5617	2005	Terry Coult	Mapmate database	Breeding
Synanthedon culiciformis	Large red belted clearwing	Love's Wood, Malton	NZ17845 7	15.5.0 6	Terry Coult	Mapmate database	Betula pendula
Synanthedon culiciformis	Large red belted clearwing	Malton Nature Reserve	NZ18245 7	Betula 4.6.06 pendula	Terry Coult	Mapmate database	Female egg laying
Synanthedon culiciformis	Large red belted clearwing	Eston Moor	NZ5617	5.6.06	Dave Wainwright	Mapmate database	Breeding
Synanthedon tipuliformis	Currant Clearwin g	Durham	NZ2742	1889	Maddison	Robsons Catalogu e	
Synanthedon tipuliformis	Currant Clearwin g	Newcastle	NZ2465	1899	Wailes	Robsons Catalogu e	
Synanthedon tipuliformis	Currant Clearwin g	Darlington	NZ2815	1899	Wailes/ Backhouse	Robsons Catalogu e	
Synanthedon tipuliformis	Currant Clearwin g	Wolsingha m	NZ0737	1899	Pickard	Robsons Catalogu e	
Synanthedon tipuliformis	Currant Clearwin g	Birtley Hookergat	NZ2755	1945	G. Heslop Harrison	Vasc. 30.3.35	larval workings, The Avenue Nb
Synanthedon tipuliformis	Currant Clearwin g	/High Spenn	NZ1459	1973	R. Henderson		
Synanthedon tipuliformis	Currant Clearwin g	Eaglescliff e	NZ4113	2004	James Duffie	Mapmate database	Found dead in kitchen, reported from
Synanthedon tipuliformis	Currant Clearwin g	Benton, Newcastle	NZ28069 2	Jun- 06	Steve Soar	Mapmate database	neighbou rs garden
Synanthedon tipuliformis	Currant Clearwin g	Eaglescliff e	NZ4113	2.7.06	Mike Hunter	Mapmate database	

Synanthedon flaviventris	Sallow clearwing Birtley?	NZ2755	1933		J.W. Heslop Harrison	Vasc. 19.2.	Nb
Sesia apiformis	Hornet clearwing High Force, Teesdale	NY8792 83	1899		Wailes J.W.	Robsons Catalogu e	
Sesia apiformis	Hornet clearwing Birtley	NZ2755	1925	S. caprea	Heslop Harrison	Vasc. 12.3.119	Nb
Sesia apiformis	Hornet clearwing Lamesley	NZ2558	1927	Salix sp. & Black Poplar	Heslop Harrison	Vasc. 14.2.77	Hag Wood
Sesia apiformis	Hornet clearwing Birtley	NZ2755	1927		G. H. Harrison	Vasc. 14.77	
Sesia apiformis	Hornet clearwing Bishop Middleha m	NZ3331	1953	S. caprea	Heslop Harrison	Vasc.38. 15	
Sesia apiformis	Hornet clearwing Birtley	NZ2755	1953		J.W. Heslop Harrison	Vasc.38. 15	
Sesia apiformis	Hornet clearwing Causey Dene	NZ2055	1962		NNU	Vasc. 4.7.12	

Nb, Nationally Scarce B, recorded from 31-100 10km squares in GB since 1st Jan. 1980

## Notes and Records

On Saturday 14th January 2006, 1.00 pm a bat, probably Pipistrelle, was flying around a field on the eastern edge of Cocken Wood. NZ 298 472.

Three Red Kite and a single Buzzard were seen flying at Edge (NZ 040 240) on Saturday 16th April 2006 3.00pm

Yellow Star of Bethlehem (*Gagea lutea*) were seen on the riverbank at Low Coniscliffe (with naturalised *Scylla's*) and Gainford (NZ 242 133, NZ 166 166) on Tuesday 18th April 2006. Beeflys (*Bombylius major*) were feeding on Butterbur (*Petasites hybridus*), and Tawny Mining Bees (*Andrena fulva*) were active.

Notes made at some Darlington and Teesdale Naturalists' Field Club meetings

Saturday 6th May 2006 Hawthorn Dene

Peacock (*Inachis io*), Brown Silver Lines (*Petrophora chlorosata*), *Cydia lunula*. Early Purple Orchid (*Orchis mascula*). Old Whitethroat nests were found in long grass near the cliffs.

Notes made at some Cleveland Naturalists' Field Club meetings

Sunday 1th May 2006 Cassop

Early Purple Orchid (*Orchis mascula*), Twayblade (*Listera ovata*), False Oxlip (*Primula veris x vulgaris*) and Adderstongue (*Ophioglossum vulgatum*) in Quarrington burial ground NZ 334 379.

In Cassop Vale NZ 336 384-Twayblade, Butterwort (*Pinguicula vulgaris*) and a colony of Heath Snail (*Helicella itala*).

Wednesday 31st May Hart Warren and Crimdon NZ 4936 and NZ 4837

Wall (*Lasiommata megera*) Small Copper (*Lycaena phlaeas*), Dingy Skipper (*Erynnis tages*), Small Heath (*Coenonympha pamphilus*), Orange Tip (*Anthocharis cardamines*). Stonechats with young. 'Nests' of numerous millipedes were observed in short grass on the dunes.

Same day Spion Kop cemetery Hartlepool NZ 511 351 White Star of Bethlehem (*Ornithogalum umbellatum*), Duke of Argyll Tea Plant (*Lycium barbarum* or *L. chinense*), Hybrid Red and White Campion (*Silene latifolia x dioica*). On footpath behind old magnesite works NZ 505 353 Orange Tip (*Anthocharis cardamines*), Wild Clary (*Salvia verbenaca*), and Fennel (*Foeniculum vulgare*).



## LOCAL RECORDERS (recorders: please notify changes or additions to the editor)

### Butterflies

Mike Hunter, 17 Gilderdale Close, Faverdale, Darlington, DL3 0EE  
Home: 01325 243022  
E-mail: [mhunter.mike@ntlworld.com](mailto:mhunter.mike@ntlworld.com)

### Moths

Durham: Terry Coult, 4 Officials Row, Malton, Lanchester, Co. Durham, DH7 0TH. *B.R.C. recorder*,  
Northumberland: Keith Regan [keithregan@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:keithregan@blueyonder.co.uk)

### Dragonflies

Durham, Northumberland: Harry Eales, 11 Ennerdale Terrace, Low Westwood. Co. Durham. NE 17  
7PN. 01207-560732. [harryeales@aol.com](mailto:harryeales@aol.com)

### Birds

Durham Bird Club: Tony Armstrong, 39 Western Hill, Durham City, County Durham. DH1 4RJ (tel.  
386 1519).  
Northumberland & Tyneside Bird Club: Nick Rossiter, West Barn, Lee Grange, Ordley, Hexham.  
NE46 1SX.

### Amphibia and Reptiles

Lee Stephenson, 12 Gainsborough Rd., Grindon Village, Sunderland SR4 8HU.  
[Lee.Stephenson@twmuseums.org.uk](mailto:Lee.Stephenson@twmuseums.org.uk) (0191 5532323)

### Mammals (general)

Northumberland: Mary Gough, c/o Northumberland Wildlife Trust, Garden House, St Nicholas Park,  
Gosforth, Newcastle upon Tyne NE3 3XT. (tel. 0191 284 6884)  
Durham: Kevin O'Hara, c/o Northumberland Wildlife Trust, Garden House, St Nicholas Park,  
Gosforth, Newcastle upon Tyne NE3 3XT. (tel. 0191 284 6884) email: [kevin.ohara@northwt.org.uk](mailto:kevin.ohara@northwt.org.uk)

### Bats

Northumberland Bat Group: Ruth Hadden, East Farm Cottage, Ryal, Northumberland. NE20 0SA.  
Durham Bat Group: Ian Bond, 105 Davison Rd., Darlington DL1 3DS (01325 264296)

**Badgers** (Badger groups may be contacted *via* the relevant Wildlife Trusts).

### Plants

*B.S.B.I. recorder (Durham) and Algae*: Dr F.G. Hardy, 8, Soulby Court, Kingston Park, Newcastle  
upon Tyne, NE3 2TQ. Tel: 0191 271 3271. e-mail: [seaweedgav@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:seaweedgav@yahoo.co.uk) or [f.g.hardy@ncl.ac.uk](mailto:f.g.hardy@ncl.ac.uk)  
*B.S.B.I. recorder (Northumberland)*: Professor G.A. Swan, 81 Wansdyke, Morpeth, Northumberland.  
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### Spiders

Isobel Baldwin, British Arachnological Society Recorder, 14 Murrayfield Drive, Brandon, Durham,  
DH7 8TG.

### Geological

Contact: S.G. McLean, The Hancock Museum, Barras Bridge, Newcastle upon Tyne. NE2 4PT.