

Field Meetings 2017

All Field Meetings start at 10.30am. If you intend to come along to meetings please try and let Linda Robinson know, contact details at end of Newsletter. If you need to know more about the Craven Conservation Meetings please contact Mike Canaway on 01729823808.

2nd January (Monday) – B.S.B.I. New Year Plant Hunt – Meet at roadside on the eastern edge of Hardraw village at SD868.912. We will book a Pub lunch so please let me know if you are coming.

11th February (Saturday) Snowdrops and other spring species weather permitting. Drive along verges and lanes looking for naturalised Snowdrops and other spring aliens (more than 25m away from habitation). Probably drop off for lunch at a Pub or Coffee Shop so no packed lunch needed. Meet at Moulton near Scotch Corner beside the Pub at NZ237.037

11th March (Saturday) – Gagea hunt on the Tees at Stapleton, Meet in Stapleton on the edge of the village green near the 3 way junction at NZ264.123.

18th March (Saturday) – Gagea Hunt on the Ure near Middleham. Meet just north of Middleham near the footpath at The Busks SE125.882.

29th April (Saturday) – West Witton, walk along roads and tracks to Witton Steeps, along to Nossil End and the old disused quarry, and back to West Witton via the waterfall and woodlands. Meet just out of West Witton near the lower single steep road arrow on the map at SE063.880.

21st May (Sunday) – Ellingstring, footpaths through Woodland and old lanes and some springs thrown in. Meet near Milestone Bank Plantation at the junction of the footpath with Stark Bank Road at SE166.837

31st May (Wednesday) – Wraymire Gill and Fairy Gill from Bluecaster Side. Ascending the Gill habitat culminating in limestone cliffs and a pothole at the head of Wraymire Gill before returning via the moorland. Park near Cautley on the open fell up the narrow lane at SD699.960. In conjunction with the Craven Conservation Group. Difficulty – moderate.

9th June (Friday) – In conjunction with the Yorkshire Naturalists Union, A hunt to refind old *Alchemilla* records on the verges around Cotherstone, Romalldkirk and Briscoe and hopefully turn up more. High viz clothing would be useful. Meet on the verge at the junction with Hard Ings road at NZ000.207

14th June (Wednesday) – Bluecaster Lane and Ecker Secker Beck. Park near Cautley as for Wed 31st May Meeting. Recording in tree-lined lane with ancient hedgerows and ferns then descending into a Wooded Gill. Return via the foot of Fairy Gill to parking area. In conjunction with Craven Conservation Group. Difficulty – Easy except last section which is Moderate.

25th June (Sunday) – Kirby Wiske and surrounding area, to look for old records of *Persicaria minor* and other species recorded in the last century. Meet in Kirby Wiske Car Park at SE377.848

5th July (Wednesday) – Taythes Gill. Park near Cautley as previous meetings on 31st May and 14th June. We will ascend the gill and return via a segment of limestone grassland with outcrops. We will be off-paths and walking poles might be useful particularly for crossing streams. In conjunction with Craven Conservation Group. Difficulty – Moderate.

15th July (Saturday) – Boldron, verges and footpaths around Boldron with some tantalizing unconfirmed old records of rare *Alchemilla* sp. All to find. Meet Boldron village near the Pub at NZ034.144

29th July (Saturday) – Barningham, footpaths and verges over moorland, meet near the cattle grid at NZ078.100

12th August (Saturday) – Rawthey Ramble. Park at car park near SD7122.9789, 100m before Rawthey Bridge. If you can't see the bridge you have not gone far enough as confusingly there is

another car park beforehand. We will explore shake holes and swallow holes on the northern part of Bluecaster before visiting some fine riverside habitat. In conjunction with the Craven Conservation Group. Difficulty – Moderate

27th August (Sunday) – A higher level Meeting starting at Cowgill Head Bridge, visiting shake holes, springs and shaking moss. There are some tracks on the fell but we will not be sticking to them, may be quite hard going. Meet at Cowgill Head Bridge at SD786.891

9th September (Saturday) – Snape, near Bedale, looking for old wetland species along the ditches around Snape Mires. Meet near Ings Lane end just out of Snape at SE271.844