



Whitby Naturalists' Club

Workshop and Outdoor Programme 2026

March	
Thu 26 th 10.00	Amphibians with Margaret Marsland Looking at the various ponds/ditches in the forest above the car park. The terrain has been altered by the creation of firebreaks; we will observe the effects on amphibians. Meet at the Forestry Car Park Maybeck (Pay)GR NZ 8925 0244. Booking Required Contact MM
April	
Thu 16 th 10.30	Morning Birdsong Walk with Graham Oliver. A walk to Falling Foss from the Forestry Car Park Maybeck (Pay). GR NZ 8925 0244. Booking Required Contact GO
Mon 20 th 11.00	Rocky Shore at Boggle Hole with Jane Pottas. Meet at Boggle Hole slipway, NZ955040. Parking available on Mill Lane, YO22 4UQ, 5 minutes' walk from the slipway. Low water 12.45. Bucket, camera and hand lens useful. Refreshments available afterwards in YHA café. Wear footwear suitable for getting wet. Contact: JP.
May	
Sun 3 rd 10.00	Spring Flower walk with Marian Brockway Meeting point to be arranged. Contact MB
Tue 19 th 11.00	A Geology Walk with Tim Burnhill at Staithes. Explore the geology of Cow Bar & Old Nab. Meet 11.00 Harbour Front, NZ7834 1881. Low tide 12.33. Sturdy footwear or wellies recommended; bring packed lunch. Contact TB
June	
Sat 6 th 10.00	Bioblitz in Crow Wood and Soulsgrave Wood with Wendy English. This is part of our fire monitoring project. A walk to Crow Wood (affected by fire) and nearby Soulsgrave Slack (not affected). John McEachen will be demonstrating bird ringing. Recorders will have been moth trapping, recording bat activity and trapping small mammals overnight. Parking very restricted close to site; meet Redgates GR 8921 0470 to car share to site. Bring lunch. Rough terrain. Contact WE
Tue 9 th 10.00	Less Mobile Group. with Mike Bagshaw Contact TC
Wed 10 th 10.00	A visit to Bankside Farm Glaisdale. Emma and Chris Padmore will host a farm visit before the meadows are cut. Limited parking so booking please and we can then arrange car sharing. GR NZ 7684 0375. Booking Required Contact WE
Sat 13 th	YNU Recording Meeting Forge Valley/ Raincliffe Woods Meet at Hackness Village Hall SE 967 899. Contact YNU
Tues 23 rd 14.30	Orchid walk with Wendy English. A walk along West Cliff to see the orchids. Meet at Cliff Lift Whitby North Terrace GR NZ 890 114. Contact WE
Thu 25 th TBA	Swift Awareness Week. A walk along the West Cliff from the Metropolitan Hotel to St Hilda's, with Sally Granger from EskREConnect, in search of Swifts and Sand Martins. Elaine Tranter and Wendy Holliday will point out the swift boxes in St Hilda's Belfry. Meeting place TBA. Contact EskREConnect
July	
Fri 3 rd 10.00	Botany, Butterflies & Dragonflies at Wheeldale & Tramire Bog with Wendy English and Graham Featherstone. Meet at Wheeldale near the ford GR SE 8008 9919. After a short walk towards Bumble Wood for insectivorous plants and butterflies we will move to Wheeldale Bridge to look for dragonflies on Tramire Bog. Bring lunch and a drink. Contact WE
Thu 2 nd 10.00	Insect Sweep at Upgang Ravine with Alan Ritson. Sweep netting to record insect life in the ravine. Limited parking in the ravine GR NZ 8812 1184. Contact AR
Tue 7 th 10.00	Less Mobile Group. with Mike Bagshaw. Contact TC
Thu 16 th 7.00pm	Nightjar evening with John McEachen. Venue to be confirmed later. We hope to hear and see nightjars and other nocturnal wildlife. John will be setting up his mist net. Contact J McE
Thu 23 rd 10.30	Cropton Beaver Enclosure with Rachel Midgley of Forestry England. A group visit to see the beaver activity in The Cropton Beaver Project. Numbers limited to 12 so booking required before 1st July. Meet at GR SE7765 9082. Contact RP
Thu 30 th 6.30-7.00	House Martin Viewing with Elaine Hoyle. There is a large colony of house martins that nest at Elaine's house and we are invited to watch them roost from Elaine's garden. Weather dependent. Contact RP
Aug	
Sat 1 st 10.00	Join Jane Ellis for a joint walk with NYMA around Ravenscar. Jane will be showing the wartime history as well as the ancient clues, plus alum and railways. The walk can be a half day or full day activity because Jane is doing a figure of eight walk so you can drop out at the halfway mark. Approximately 7.5 miles in total. Lunch/drinks/suitable footwear. Parking on road side GR NZ 9802 0151 Contact RP

Thu 14 th 10.30	The Batts with Zoe Dunett of the Environment Bank who manage the area for nature. A visit to the Batts to hear about the work of the Environment Bank and see the Strawberry Clover and other salt-marsh plants with Zoe Dunett and Wendy English. Meet at Ruswarp rail crossing GR NZ 8902 0912 . Contact WE
Thu 20 th 14.00	Larpool Walled Garden Visit with Effie Burns. The Walled Garden is a long-term project hoping to help people become involved with nature and promote emotional, physical and social well-being. Effie will show us the orchard, and the work done by the volunteer group on the produce garden and wildlife enhancements. Meet at Larpool Hall car park GR NZ 8988 0938. Contact EB
TBA	Whitby Cemetery Grassland Management. Park in the Cemetery entering through gates from Larpool Lane and turn right. Contact WE.
September	
Fri 11 th 10.00	Rocky Shore at Saltwick Bay with Jane Pottas. Jane will lead an exploration of the rock-pools and shoreline at low tide. Low water 11.09 Refreshments available in the cafe afterwards. Meet at the top of the path to the beach, NZ 915108. Limited parking beside the road to Whitby Holiday Park, or walk along the Cleveland Way from Whitby. Wear footwear suitable for getting wet. Contact: JP.
Wed 16 th 10.30	A Historic look at the Mulgrave Castles with Christiane Kroebel. Two medieval castles in Mulgrave Woods and their landscape. 10:30 am start. Meet East Row/Sandsend Mill Cottage NZ 861 125. Paid parking or X4 bus. Approx. 8km, bring lunch. Booking required, Contact CK
Sun 27 th 10.00	Pebbles on the beach with Tony Kearsley. A walk along the beach to Stoupe Beck, to explore the origins and journeys made by a sample of the pebbles found there. Refreshments and review of findings and maps in the YHA afterwards. Meet at Boggle Hole slipway, NZ955040. Low water 11.17. Contact: WE.
October	
TBC	Conservation work task, Uppang Ravine. Grassland management – raking off GR NZ 8812 1184 . Contact WE
Fri 23 rd 10.00	Fungi/Lichen Foray in Littlebeck Wood with Graham Featherstone . Meet at Littlebeck Village Hall Car Park GR NZ 8803 0504. Contact GF

Contact details:

AR	Alan Ritson	awritson@gmx.co.uk		JMcE	John McEachen	birds@whitbynaturalists.uk	01947 810251
EF	Effie Burns	effie.l.burns@gmail.com		MBr	Marian Brockway	Md.brockway@yahoo.co.uk	
GF	Graham Featherstone	graham_sharon@btinternet.com		TC	Tommy Cooper	Tomcooper267@yahoo.com	07871388425
GO	Graham Oliver	g.h.oliver@btinternet.com	07766 201641	TB	Tim Burnhill	tjburnhill@gmail.com	07555 067588
JP	Jane Pottas	seashore@whitbynaturalists.uk	01947 605501	WE	Wendy English	plants@whitbynaturalists.uk	0750 5505937
RP	Roger Payn	rogerpayn11@gmail.com	07434888265	YNU	Yorkshire Naturalists' Union	see website: www.ynu.org.uk	
MM	Margaret Marsland	robert.marsland@btinternet.com	01947 897076	CK	Christiane Kroebel	archaeology@whitbynaturalists.uk	07421 772066

Notes. Relevant risk assessments are now on the website so please look at them prior to leading/participating in an event. The outdoor events are open to Whitby Naturalists and their guests, none members can contact the event organiser to see if places are available. Sorry, no dogs. Some events are weather dependent – contact the event organiser for advice. For events distant from Whitby please contact the event organiser if you need transport, or have spare places in your car, or want to car-share, so that everyone can access events and we minimise use of cars. Further details about these events may be sent by e-mail and posted on the Club website. Extra 'ad hoc' events may be organized at short notice.