

Tees Valley

Wildlife Trust



Events

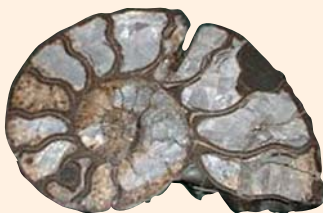
January - June 2010



Protecting **Wildlife** for the Future

Alum, Alchemy and Ammonites

This is a new 2 year project, supported by the National Lottery through the Heritage Lottery Fund, about the alum industry of East Cleveland. We want to help people understand and love the unique landscape and heritage that are associated with it.



We are looking for volunteers to get involved with the project. This could be; leading a guided walk, creating a guided walk trail, helping to run an event or researching local history. If you are interested then contact Beth Andrews on 01287 636382 or e-mail beth.geo@gmail.com.



January

Friday 29th January 10am
(4.5 hours)

Guisborough Forest Lost Industry Wander

Join Beth for a stroll around Guisborough Forest to look at the remains of the Alum Industry for the first walk of the new Alum, Alchemy and Ammonites project.

Meet: Slapewath, just off the A171, outside the Fox and Hounds pub (please do not use the pub car park).



All events are free and you don't need to book unless otherwise stated. As we cannot guarantee the weather please make sure that you wear suitable clothing (warm/ waterproof) and sturdy shoes and bring a packed lunch if the walk takes place over lunch time.

If you have any questions about the walks then please contact Beth on 01287 636382 or beth.geo@gmail.com.



February

Tuesday 2nd February 10am (4 hours)

Hunton and Hummersea

Join Beth for a visit to the remains of Hummersea alum works and find out about an unsung hero and the important contribution he made to geology that is still being used today.

Meet: at Skinningrove car park near the shore, just off Cliff Terrace. (NZ 713 201)



Monday 8th February
10am (4 hours)

A Right Royal Monopoly

Find out about the very ambitious but unlucky George Colebrook and his grand plan to create an alum monopoly while visiting his Cocksure Hill Alum Works.

Meet: at Gribdale Gate car park (NZ 592 110).

Monday 15th February 10am or 1pm (2 hours)

To Dye For – A family workshop at Margrove

Express yourself with the true colours of nature.

Find out about natural dyes and create your own colourful creation to take home.

Booking is essential for this event.



Friday 26th February
10am (2.5 hours)

Slapewath Alum Walk

Visit some of the earliest alum works in East Cleveland and learn about the shaky beginnings to this massive industry.

Meet: Slapewath, just off the A171, outside the Fox and Hounds pub (please do not use the pub car park)

March

Thursday 4th March

10am (5 hours)

Sandsend to Kettlecess Alum Walk

Take this chance to stroll around the last alum works to close along the Yorkshire Coast and discover the link with the famous explorer Shackleton.

Meet: Sandsend car park, foot of Lythe Bank (NZ 860 128)



Tuesday 9th March 11am (3.5 hours)

Myths, magic and monsters

Join Beth for a gentle walk, and find out about the exciting past and some of the legends surrounding Loftus town.

Meet: at Loftus car park, off North Road.

Wednesday 17th March 1pm (2 hours)

Chaloner Circuit around Guisborough town

The Chaloner family played an important part both in the growth of Guisborough and the alum industry in Britain. Find out more about their impact on the town during this gentle stroll.

Meet: Outside St. Nicholas Church, Church Road

Monday 22nd March

10:30am (4 hours)

Boulby Alum Works

Still one of the most impressive alum works on the coast. Come and visit the remains of this mighty undertaking and marvel at the scale of this long dead industry.

Meet: Boulby lay-by, just off A174



April

Thursday 1st April 10am (3 hours)

Saltburn Alum Walk

Join Tees Archaeology for a walk to explore the rutways cut into the rock on the shore under Huntcliff and the remains of Saltburn's Alum House. Please note this walk includes areas of uneven rocky foreshore which may be slippery.

Meet: Cat Nab car park (NZ 668 215)

14-16th April 11am-2pm

Rock and Fossil Roadshow

Try your hand at fossil making, be a dinosaur detective and dig up the past. Come along to these free fun events during the Easter Holidays.

Wednesday 14th April: Saltburn Valley Woodland Centre

Thursday 15th: Flatts Lane Country Park

Friday 16th: Margrove Heritage Centre, Margrove Park

These events are open to all but under 12s must be accompanied by an adult.

Friday 23rd April 10:30am (4.5 hours)

Airy Hill Amble

Climb the hill and soak in the views as we wander back in time through the villages of Skelton, Skelton Green and Boosbeck.

Meet: Margrove Heritage Centre, Margrove Park, off the A171 Whitby-Guisborough Road.

Sunday 25th April - 11am-4pm

Wildlife Gardening Celebration day

Drop in and find out how to create and stock a pond for wildlife, attract mammals and birds, plant a nectar garden for bees and butterflies and encourage beneficial insects into your garden or allotment by dropping in for a day of demonstrations, displays advice sessions and hands on activities with the Tees Valley Wildlife Trust at the Margrove Park Heritage Centre. Sustainable local hazel bean poles, coppiced from the Wildlife Trust's Nature Reserves will be on sale as part of National Bean Pole Week. There will also be wildlife gardening activities for families with children.



April continued

Wednesday 28th April 10:30am (4 hours)

Carlton Bank

This isolated alum works managed to survive against the odds, learn more about its history and take this opportunity to become a jet collector as we look at the history of jet in Cleveland.

Meet: Lord Stones car park, Carlton Bank

May

Wednesday 12th May

1:30pm (2 hours)

Hartlepool History

Led by local history expert Jenny Braddy, learn more about Old Hartlepool, as a place of worship and a place of war as well as its links to the alum industry.

Meet: Middlegate car park, Hartlepool Headland – by St Hilda's Church

Saturday 15th May 4:30am (3.5 hours)

Dawn Chorus Walk

Join Steve for an invigorating early morning walk around Margrove Valley to hear the dawn chorus and learn a little bit about our native birds. Booking essential for this event.

Monday 17th May 10am (4 hours)

Saltwick Bay Walk

Take a walk to see the large scale remains of Saltwick alum works and find out about the industrial past to this idyllic tourist spot. **Meet:** Abbey Plain, Whitby (At the top of the 199 steps) (NZ 902 113)

Thursday 27th May 1pm (3 hours)

Errington Woods Walk

Was this the site of the mysterious Marske alum works? Join Beth for a walk and find out more about the history of these wonderful woods.

Meet: Errington Woods car park, New Marske



May continued



Wednesday 2nd June 1pm (2 hours)

Family Fossil Fossick

Come along for fossil finding fun as we learn about the giant sea monsters that lived here 200 million years ago,

Meet: Coast Road car park, nearest Marske-by-the-Sea. (NZ 632 232)

This event is open to all but under 12s must be accompanied by an adult.

June

Friday 11th June 1pm (2 hours)

Coals from Coatham

Learn about the importance of landlocked Coatham as a port and find out more about the ill fated attempt at a coal mine.

Meet: at Coatham Marsh Nature Reserve car park, Todd Point Road.

Monday 14th June 10:30am (3.5 hours)

Whitby Wander

Find out more about the geology that underpins this fascinating fishing village and learn about the glaciers that shaped the whole coast 10,000 years ago.

Meet: at bottom of 199 steps

Monday 28th June

10:30am (4 hours)

Ravenscar

Come and find out about the resort that was almost developed and see the best preserved remains of an alum house along the coast.

Meet: Outside Ravenscar Coastal Centre, (Near Raven Hall Hotel)



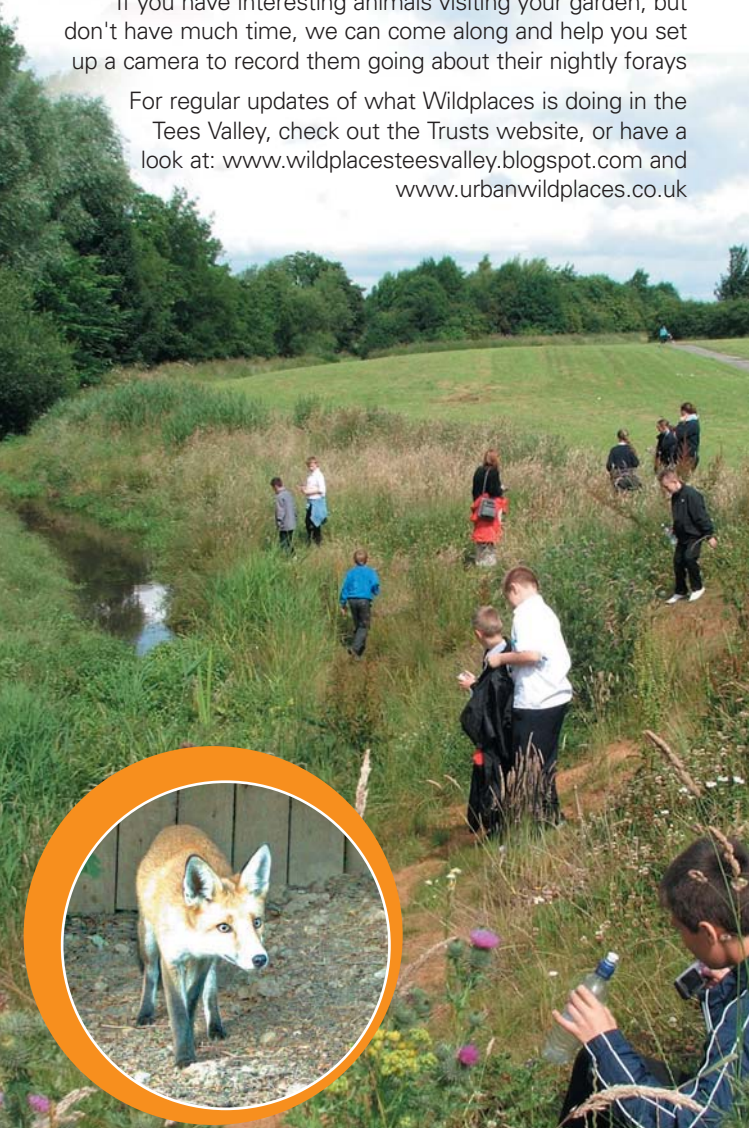
The WildPlaces Project



The Wildplaces project is looking for volunteers who would like to be involved in a variety of activities, including setting up and monitoring some of the wildlife camera systems, and checking and editing the footage.

If you have interesting animals visiting your garden, but don't have much time, we can come along and help you set up a camera to record them going about their nightly forays

For regular updates of what Wildplaces is doing in the Tees Valley, check out the Trusts website, or have a look at: www.wildplacesteesvalley.blogspot.com and www.urbanwildplaces.co.uk



Protecting **Wildlife** for the Future



Our Nature Reserves



Tees Valley Wildlife Trust Nature Reserves are spread throughout the Tees Valley and represent some of the best wildlife habitats in the area. Each reserve has its own character and interesting features and are well worth a visit.

For further information please look at our Nature Reserve leaflet or contact Tees Valley Wildlife Trust on 01287 636382.

 **The Howls**

OS Ref: NZ 463 315

 **Gravel Hole**

Ref: NZ 447 231

 **Portrack Marsh**

Ref: NZ 465 194

 **Maze Park**

Ref: NZ 467 191

 **Bowesfield**

Ref: NZ 440 160

 **Brewsdale**

Ref: NZ 471 109

 **Margrove Ponds**


Ref: NZ 465 162

 **Coatham Marsh**

Ref: NZ 586 247

 **Hunt Cliff**

Ref: NZ 674 215

 **Saltburn Gill**

Ref: NZ 674 208

 **Cattersty Gill**

Ref: NZ 706 204

The Howls is a woodland reserve west of Hartlepool. A circular footpath takes you around the steep sided valley where Twayblades and Violets can be seen in the springtime before the canopy closes in.

Gravel Hole is located in a disused sand quarry, near Norton. The resulting grassland now supports a calcareous herb rich grassland, which includes significant stands of Fragrant and Common Spotted Orchids. The rich grasslands also support a wide range of invertebrates.

Portrack Marsh is situated on the north bank of the River Tees just below the Tees Barrage. The reserve's main lake (West Water) provides good opportunities to see over-wintering ducks. The lake is fringed by Common Reed and Reedmace and the fluctuating water levels dictate what birds can be seen.

Maze Park is an urban nature reserve situated on the south bank of the Tees. Landscaped mounds have been planted up with a variety of broad-leaved species. The other major habitat found on the site is rough grassland, which is managed for butterflies of which over 12 species have been recorded including the rare Grayling butterfly.

Bowesfield is a wetland reserve on former farmland in the floodplain to the north of the River Tees. Three loops of the river include stands of Common Reed and steep banks which are good for Sand Martins to nest in. The area floods in the winter and supports large numbers of duck and wading birds including Teal, Wigeon, Lapwing and Curlew.

Brewsdale is a lowland valley situated in farmland between the villages of Hilton and Middleton-in-Leven. Brewsdale Beck that runs through the site is a tributary of the River Leven. Primroses, Cowslips and Early Purple Orchids can be seen in the spring and the summer is a good time to see Ringlet Butterflies along the woodland paths.

Margrove Ponds is a small reserve situated near Margrove Park. The main areas of interest are the open water habitats and fenland areas bordering the site. Reed Bunting and Sedge Warbler breed in the reedbeds while a variety of wildfowl can be seen on the main lake.

Coatham Marsh is the largest wetland on the south bank of the Tees, an important site for many wildfowl and waders such as Teal, Snipe, Lapwing and Heron. The ditches that criss cross the marsh are home to many aquatic invertebrates as well as frogs and toads.

Hunt Cliff nature reserve is part of a series of cliffs running from Saltburn to Skinningrove. The cliffs themselves are home to internationally important numbers of breeding Kittiwakes. The grassland on top of the cliffs supports a wide range of wildflowers.

Saltburn Gill is one of the few examples of semi-natural ancient woodland in East Cleveland, dominated by an Oak /Ash canopy with a shrub layer made up of a range of species including Hazel, Holly and Spindle. There are carpets of bluebells and wild garlic in the spring.

Cattersty Gill is a coastal valley supporting large tracts of hawthorn scrub and several areas of lime rich grassland. The scrub provides valuable cover for many newly arrived migrants and is an important refuelling stop.



Working with local communities to conserve the area's wildlife.

Photo credits: Steve Ashton, Dan Van Den Toorn, Kenny Crooks, Andy Cooper, Andy Carter



Tees Valley Wildlife Trust

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