

CONCHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

ACTING PROGRAMME SECRETARY'S REPORT for 2021

The 2021 programme consisted of 4 Ordinary meetings and 9 field meetings (8 single day and one 7-day residential). All of the indoor meetings were held on Zoom due to Covid-19 restrictions at the Natural History Museum. The October meeting was cancelled due to the unavailability of the guest speaker. Five planned field meetings were also cancelled for a variety of reasons.

Ordinary (Zoom delivered) Meetings

Saturday 27th February 2021: ONLINE MEETING

Guest speaker: Ben Rowson (NMW/Amgueddfa Cymru, Cardiff), 'Brought to the Surface: a new beginning for freshwater snail identification'.

Saturday 17th April 2021: Annual General Meeting. ONLINE MEETING

Guest speaker: Robert Cameron (University of Sheffield), 'At a snail's pace: how a New Naturalist got written'.

Saturday 17th July 2021: ONLINE MEETING

Guest speaker: Imogen Cavadino (Royal Horticultural Society), 'For the love of slugs: using citizen science to explore species diversity in UK gardens.'

Saturday 11th December 2021: ONLINE MEETING

Guest speaker: Ian Killeen, 'Thirty years of *Margaritifera* research – Pearl Anniversary'

Field Meetings

Saturday 29th May 2020: NON-MARINE: Mendip area, Somerset.

Leader: Keith Alexander: *Ena montana* surveys in Woodland Trust / National Trust ancient woodlands on limestone Dolebury Warren. (For meeting report see *Mollusc World 57*: 13 – 14.)

Saturday 12th June 2021: NON-MARINE: Carmel National Nature Reserve, Carmarthenshire.

Leaders: Ben Rowson and Dai Herbert: Reserve in karst limestone area with dramatic disused quarries, ancient woodland and 'the only seasonal lake' in Britain. (For meeting report see *Mollusc World 57*: 17 – 19.)

Sunday 3rd July 2021: NON-MARINE: Wenlock Edge, Shropshire.

Leader: Mags Cousins: Continuing the exploration of National Trust areas with Silurian limestone grassland and disused quarries.

Saturday 10th July: NON-MARINE: near Watlington, Oxfordshire.

Leader: Tom Walker: The meeting visited Greenfield Copse and Howe Wood and adjacent woodlands to collect *Ena montana* data to contribute to a Conchological Society study of the national status of the snail as coordinated by Keith Alexander. (For meeting report see *Mollusc World 57*: 27.)

Saturday 21st & Sunday 22nd August 2021: MARINE: (1) Pagham Harbour LNR and (2) Medmerry managed coastal retreat reserve area, nr. Selsey,

Leader: Martin Willing

Day 1 meeting: Pagham: visiting a wide variety of intertidal and stable upper-shore shingle beach habitats;

Day 2 meeting: Medmerry: monitoring of colonisation by marine molluscs of this large coastal retreat area.

(For meeting report see *Mollusc World 58*: 8 - 15.)

Saturday 11th September 2021: NON-MARINE: Devil's Punch Bowl, Hindhead, Surrey. Leader: June Chatfield: Visiting a variety of habitats on the areas of wet and dry sandstone heathland

Saturday 18th September – Saturday 25th September 2021: MARINE and NON-MARINE: N. Pembrokeshire Coast.

Leader: Simon Taylor

Surveys of a variety of relatively under-recorded rocky and sandy shores lying close to Dale Fort Field Study Centre. (For meeting report see *Mollusc World 58*: 4 - 6.)

October 23rd 2021: NON-MARINE: Wyre Forest, Worcs.

Leaders: Rosemary Hill and Rosemary Winnall

A joint meeting with Wyre Forest Study Group surveying new areas of woodland with a focus on trying to determine how close to the woodland edge *Malacolimax tenellus* is living.

Martin Willing

Acting Programme Secretary

March 2022