Het News

Newsletter of the UK Heteroptera Recording Schemes

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2nd Series

Editorial:
We keep saying this: once again we have news of more species new to Britain – this time it's three in fact, plus a possible 'new to science'! In this issue we also have two articles with a (very) historical flavour and two regional overviews, Kent & Wales – consider writing up your own area for a future issue. Something else we would like more of, is information on changing seasonal patterns of species. If you have unusually early or late records, or evidence of additional broods, we would welcome details. The next (autumn) issue will include the usual publications update.

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Contents

ARTICLES

Heteroptera in Kent

Eric Philp

The Heteroptera of the county of Kent has been reasonably well documented, with the first detailed list, compiled by Edward Saunders, published in the *Victoria History of Kent* in 1908. This contained 330 species. The next comprehensive list was that by Arthur Massee in 1955, published in the *Transactions of the Society for British Entomology*, which contained 416 species. In 1963 Dr Massee produced his *Hemiptera-Heteroptera of Kent 2*, in the *Proceedings of the South London Entomological & Natural History Society*, in which the total number of species had now reached 443. I remember at that time Dr Massee commenting that it was now difficult to add any further species to the county total and that it had probably reached its upper limit. However, since then a further 20 species have been added and the total now stands at 463. It is highly probable that this total will be further extended in the future as other species on the continent extend their range. For example, I encountered specimens of *Graphosoma italicum* this time last year in the Pas-de-Calais area, (an adjoining county!) in places almost in sight of Kent.

In putting all the Kent records together, there are some for which there are only very old records, some for which the identification by present standards might be a bit doubtful, and others which might be wrongly claimed for the county. For instance, some of the older records from 'Tunbridge Wells' could easily have referred to specimens actually taken in Sussex, as even today it is quite easy to stray over county border, and old records often referred to the Tunbridge Wells area without stating the county.

To help clear up some of these points, I would be most interested to hear from anybody who has taken specimens in Kent of any species listed in the box, or who have old Kentish specimens of these species in collections in their care.

Details of Kent records are needed for:

Micracanthia marginalis	*Acalypta brunnea*
Myrmedobia coleoptrata	*Bothynotus pilosus*
Capsodes gothicus	*Hadrodemus m-flavum*
Megacoelum beckeri	*Stenodema holsata*
Hallodapus rufescens	*Amblytylus brevicollis*
Plesiodema pinetella	*Psallus albicinctus*
Prostemma guttula	*Nabis brevis*
Anthocoris butleri	*Xylocoris formicetorum*
Aradus corticalis	*Lygaeus equestris*
Nysius helveticus	*Drymus pilicornis*
Eremocoris plebejus	*Pachybrachius fracticollis*
Peritrechus convivus	*Acompus rufipes*
Dicranocephalus agilis	*Liorhyssus hyalinus*
Rhopalus maculatus	*Arenocoris walti*
Spathocera dahlmanni	*Canthophorus impressus*
Eurygaster austriaca	*Jalla dumosa*
Carpocoris purpureipennis	*Eysarcoris aeneus*
Pitedia juniperina	

Whilst the chance of many of these species being found in Kent again is rather remote, there is always hope. It is worth mentioning that I have a pencil note added many years ago to my card for *Stictopleurus punctatonervosus* stating that there was no voucher specimen to back up the sole record for this species (in other words querying the record), but this bug turned up nine years ago and is now quite frequent in the county.

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An historic French record in the archives: discovery of a 15th century bug.

François Dusoulier

During the restoration of a 15th century cartulary, an insect was discovered between the gummed cover and the endsheet. This insect was photographed by the archivists of the Hérault department before being carefully extracted from the gum in which it had been preserved for five and a half centuries.

Examination of the specimen on 16th December 2005 resulted in the identification, without doubt, of *Reduvius personatus* (L., 1758), a predatory heteropteran of the family Reduviidae. Despite the years, and the understandable flattening, the specimen had not deteriorated, probably protected by the layer of gum. The pygophore was clearly discernable, which meant it was a male, as was the general habitus, the antennae (1st & 2nd segments), the rostrum, the hemelytra and the limb assemblage, with the exception of the tarsi of the mid right leg.

What seems the most interesting outcome of this anecdote is that the date and locality of the binding of this book are known. It is a cartulary from the ancient Valmagne Abbey, actually situated in the Villeveyrac area, in the Hérault department (alt 72m, N 43.48721^0, E 3.56208^0). As regards the binding, the conservationists and restorers think that the 15th century is the probable date. Thus, we have at our disposal a valuable biological record: an almost intact insect with date and locality ….. just like a specimen in an entomological collection that would have spanned centuries.

The fact that this species found itself in a bookbinder's workshop and was held in gum ever since the drying process is not altogether down to luck. In fact, the synanthropic behaviour of this reduviid has been known for a long time, August PUTON (1880:176) reported it 'common throughout France, especially in houses where it wages war with other insects, flies, bed-bugs etc'.

Now the specimen is carefully conserved in the archives of the Hérault department, which can claim to hold the oldest insect in France with date and locality.

Acknowledgements
I wish to thank Vivienne Miguet, Director of Departmental Archives of Hérault for informing me of the discovery of this insect, also Martine Sainte-Marie, conservationist, and Marie-Laure Brouillard, restorer, for their friendly welcome at the time of my visit.

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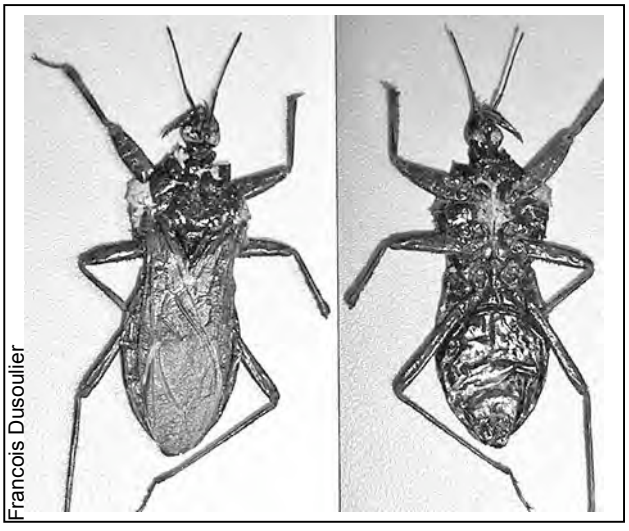
[Translated (loosely) by SEB.]



Reduvius personatus

Martin Lister (1638-1712): father of British hemipterology?

Bill Dolling

Lister studied medicine at Cambridge and also in France where he met and made friends with the English naturalist John Ray. He started work on a Natural History of English Animals but the only part of it to be completed and published concerned spiders and molluscs (1685, *Historia Animalium Angliae*). His earliest publication on British Hemiptera was a paper in the *Philosophical Transactions* of the Royal Society for 1671. This concerned the bug now known as *Corizus hyoscyami* and contained his detailed observations on its life-history, including descriptions of the egg, nymph and adult, explicitly based on English material.

He prepared a new edition of Jonannes Goedartius's *De Insectis*, published in 1685, and took the opportunity to add two appendices. The first of these was the *Historia Animalium Angliae*. The second comprised illustrations of English 'beetles' (a term that incuded bugs and cockroaches at that time). This included four plates of well executed figures with no accompanying text apart from a note (on page 45) that they were English beetles depicted 'from life.' This presumably means that they were original figures, not that the animals were actually alive at the time. They are arranged in rows as if in cabinet drawers, which is very likely the way they were presented to the engraver. One of these plates depicts two dytiscid beetles, plus *Nepa cinerea, Velia* sp.(presumably *caprai*), and a macropterous gerrid identified by Linnaeus (1758) as *Gerris lacustris* but perhaps actually *Aquarius sp.* The remaining bugs, all terrestrial, are on another plate arranged in seven rows; if held with the free edge at the top, the insects can be numbered 1 to 31. The bugs are in rows 4 to 7, numbers 14 to 31. These engravings probably represent the first British records of most of the species illustrated. My interpretations are listed in the text box

Species on Lister's bug plate

14 shieldbug, probably *Acanthosoma haemorrhoidale;*
15 *Coreus marginatus;*
16 *Pentatoma rufipes;*
17 *Syromastes rhombeus;*
18 shieldbug, perhaps *Palomena prasina*;
19 shieldbug, probably *Dolycoris baccarum* and so identified by Linnaeus (1758);
20 *Aelia acuminata,* so identified by Linnaeus (1758);
21 *Corizus hyoscyami,* so identified by Linnaeus (1758);
22 ?Cydnidae;
23 shieldbug, *?Sciocoris;*
24 shieldbug nymph;
25 shieldbug nymph;
26 *Hadrodemus m-flavum;*
27 *Pithanus maerkeli;*
28 *Heterogaster urticae;*
29 ?Saldidae;
30 *Nabis ferus;*
31 *Reduvius personatus.* Linnaeus (1758) referred to Lister's "*tabulis mutis*" as *List. mut.*

After moving to London in 1683, it seems that Lister lost interest in Natural History. His notes for the projected account of British beetles were deposited in the Ashrnolean Museum and appeared as an appendix to John Ray's (1710) posthumous *Historia Insectorum.* Ray's work was not restricted to British insects but Lister's was. Lister's Heteroptera (on pages 396-397) were:

XXXVI *Dolycoris baccarum,*
XXXVII *Sehirus bicolor,*
XXXVIII *Reduvius personatus*
XXXIX *Corizus hyoscyami*

though they were not, of course, called by these names. Linnaeus (1758) cited all four species, referring to this work as *List. loqu.* Lister's account of *Reduvius* is remarkable in that it contains precise locality data, as follows (my translation from the original Latin): "As yet, I have not seen these alive but I have discovered several suspended in spiders' webs at the tops of roofs of Cambridge churches and in our library of St John the Evangelist." This record must date, at the latest, from 1683, making it the earliest locality record that I have been able to trace for any British bug.

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The Heteroptera of Wales

Mike Howe

In 2004, the Countryside Council for Wales published a provisional checklist of the Heteroptera of Wales (Howe, 2004) which reviewed historical recording in Wales, provided a current assessment of the fauna, highlighted species of conservation concern and aimed to encourage future recording efforts. Whilst the full report will soon be available in pdf format on the CCW website:

http://www.ccw.gov.uk/publications--research/research--reports.aspx),

The following revised extract focuses on the key habitats and species in Wales, and highlights those species lacking recent records which are either extinct or overlooked.

Since the publication of the provisional checklist, the mirid *Chlamydatus evanescens* and the damsel bug *Nabis pseudoferus* have been refound after a long absence, and the batbug *Cimex pipistrelli* and woundwort shieldbug *Eysarcoris fabricii* have been added to the Welsh list which now stands at 411 species, 70% of the UK fauna. This total includes 11 Red Data Book species, two of which (*Elasmucha ferrugata* and *Prostemma guttula*) are now extinct in the UK, and 35 Nationally Scarce (Notable) species.

Key sites & habitats in Wales

Red Data Book and Notable species of Heteroptera associated with major Welsh habitats will now be discussed, they are summarised in Table 1, Table 2 lists host plants.

The extensive Welsh **sand dune systems** support two Red Data Book species, *Pionosomus varius* (Lygaeidae) & *Odontoscelis fuliginosa* (Scutelleridae), and eight Nationally Scarce species There are also historic records of *Prostemma guttula* (Nabidae), which is extinct in the UK, and of *Geotomus punctulatus* (Cydnidae), which is now restricted to a single locality in Cornwall. *Odontoscelis fuliginosa* (Scutelleridae) is confined to the dunes of south Pembrokeshire, whilst *Pionosomus varius* (Lygaeidae) has been recorded here and from dunes on the south Gower coast. *Trigonotylus psammaecolor* (Miridae), associated with sand couch *Elytrigia juncea* and often the only heteropteran encountered in the semi-fixed foredune zone, is more widespread and can be found at sites in north and south Wales, although records are few. *Dicranocephalus agilis* (Stenocephalidae) is widespread in south and south-west Wales and appears to be spreading, being found for the first time on Anglesey in 2006 (Bratton *et al*., in press). *Monosynamma sabulicola* (Miridae), which is associated with creeping willow *Salix repens*, appears to be best represented on the dunes in Merionethshire and on Anglesey. The predatory *Globiceps fulvicollis* (Miridae) is associated with dune slacks from Kenfig to Tywyn Aberffraw, *Megalonotus dilatatus* (Lygaeidae) has been recorded from a handful of sites in south and south-west Wales, whilst *Heterogaster artemisiae* (Lygaeidae), *Systellonotus triguttatus* (Miridae) is known in Wales from a single records only but *Nabis pseudoferus* (Nabidae), first recorded by G.E. Woodroffe at Barafundle Bay in Pembrokeshire in 1963, has recently been refound at the neighbouring Broomhill Burrows (Judd, 2004). A suite of species of more local significance also occurs on Welsh dunes, some of which are widespread including the stiltbugs (Berytidae) *Gampsocoris punctipes* and *Neides tipularius*, and *Corizus hyoscyami* (Rhopalidae), whilst others e.g. the squashbugs (Coreidae) *Arenocoris falleni* and *Syromastes rhombeus* (Coreidae) and *Chorosoma schillingi* (Rhopalidae) have a more restricted distribution.

Factors affecting the heteropteran faunas of **coastal cliffs** include habitat heterogeneity, rate of erosion and aspect. *Trapezonotus ullrichi* (Lygaeidae) favours stands of oxeye daisy *Leucanthemum vulgare* growing on hard-rock cliff tops and slopes in south-west Wales, *Megalonotus praetextatus* (Lygaeidae) and *Rhyparochromus pini* (Lygaeidae) are associated with bare ground on cliffs and other habitats in south Wales, and *Henestaris laticeps* (Lygaeidae) feeds on buck's-horn plantain *Plantago coronopus* growing on exposed cliff tops and ledges, also in south Wales. Other important species include *Beosus maritimus* (Lygaeidae), *Liorhyssus hyalinus* (Rhopalidae) and *Strongylocoris luridus* (Miridae), which is associated with sheep's-bit *Jasione montana* on cliff tops in Pembrokeshire. The characteristic bug of **coastal soft cliff** in Wales is *Enoplops scapha* (Coreidae), which feeds on mayweed *Matricaria* on slow, eroding cliffs and occurs at suitable sites in south-west Wales and on the Llyn peninsula.

Records of specialist **grassland** bugs in Wales are sparse, and species such as *Catoplatus fabricii* (Tingidae), *Chlamydatus pulicarius* (Miridae), *Drymus pumilio* (Lygaeidae), *Eysarcoris aeneus* (Pentatomidae) and *Graptopeltus lynceus* (Lygaeidae) are known from only one or two localities. *Macroplax preyssleri* (Lygaeidae) is associated with common rock-rose *Helianthemum nummularium* on coastal limestone grassland at Horton Cliffs and Overton Cliff on the south Gower coast. *Chlamydatus evanescens* (Miridae) has been refound in Wales after an 80-year hiatus and has been recorded from extensive swards of white stonecrop *Sedum album* growing on thin soils in rocky limestone grassland on the Little Orme, Caernarvonshire and Graig Fawr, Flintshire (Foster & Howe, 2005) and from similar habitat on the Cambrian rocks of Barmouth Hillside, Merionethshire.

Whilst **woodlands** support rich faunas, few heteropteran species are specialists or uncommon. *Eremocoris plebejus* (Lygaeidae) has only been recorded once in Wales and is not strongly associated with woodland. *Anthocoris visci* (Anthocoridae) is associated more with orchards

than woodlands and *Xylocoris formicetorum* (Anthocoridae) is a great rarity in wood ant nests in Wales. There are also few Welsh records of *Sehirus biguttatus* (Cydnidae), arguably our most noteworthy woodland heteropteran, which feeds on common cow-wheat *Melampyrum pratense*. Conversely, *Metatropis rufescens* (Berytidae), feeding on enchanter's-nightshade *Circaea lutetiana* growing on base-rich soils in woodlands, is widespread where suitable conditions occur. No species of flatbug or barkbug is particularly common in Wales, although *Aradus depressus* (Aradidae), which feeds on fungal hyphae beneath the thick bark of logs and stumps, is the most widespread and has recently been found at a handful of sites including three parklands. A recent survey of orchards in Monmouthshire has provided the first Welsh records of *Dufouriellus ater* (Anthocoridae) and *Pinalitus viscicola* (Miridae) (Whitehead & Whitehead, 2002).

Welsh **wetlands** support a number of uncommon species, including nine that are regarded as Nationally Scarce, and the Nature Conservancy Council's Welsh Peatland Invertebrate Survey (WPIS) recorded some rich assemblages on the fens of Anglesey and the Llyn peninsula, the raised mires and other wetlands of Cardiganshire, and at scattered sites in Glamorgan and Carmarthenshire. However, only *Pachybrachius luridus* (Lygaeidae) can be regarded as a UK rarity and is known from *Sphagnum*-dominated wetland at Ynys-hir in Cardiganshire and Bryn-y-bont in Merionethshire. Both *Cryptostemma waltli* (Dipsocoridae), which was found at two WPIS sites and is otherwise known from only two other Welsh localities, and *Hebrus pusillus* (Hebridae), known from five sites, are also associated with *Sphagnum* and other mosses. *Adelphocoris seticornis* (Miridae) is known from a scattering of sites supporting flower-rich, tall fen in south and south-west Wales, including Banc-y-mwldan SSSI in Cardiganshire, and *Tytthus pubescens* (Miridae) favours rush-dominated areas on wetlands such as Cors Erddreiniog, Magor Marsh on the Gwent Levels and Fenn's Moss. There are single records only for *Rhopalus maculatus* (Rhopalidae) and *Teratocoris caricis* (Miridae), the latter a recent Welsh discovery from Llyn y Sarnau in Caernarvonshire (Peter Kirby, pers. comm.), and just two records of *Globiceps juniperi* (Miridae). *Saldula opacula* (Saldidae) is known from four sites, Cors Bodeilio on Anglesey and three estuarine localities, with an additional record requiring confirmation, and *Micracanthia marginalis* has been recorded from pool margins at Cors Fochno, Fenn's Moss and Nûg, in Denbighshire.

Whilst the heteropteran fauna associated with **exposed riverine sediments** is rather depauperate in Wales, and both *Macrosaldula scotica* (Saldidae) and *Cryptostemma alienum* (Dipsocoridae) are widely distributed, rich assemblages can be found on **rivers**, **pools** and other **open waters**. However, the majority of species are common or, at best, of local occurrence. The northern element of the aquatic fauna found in upland water bodies in Scotland and northern England is absent or poorly represented in Wales. Several species such as the lesser water boatmen (Corixidae) *Arctocorisa carinata* and *Sigara selecta*, the Nationally Scarce *Aquarius paludum* (Gerridae) and *Sigara striata* (Corixidae), and the Red Data Book *Hydrometra gracilenta* (Hydrometridae) and *Micronecta minutissima* (Corixidae) have been recorded from Wales but are either misidentifications or should be viewed with caution because of subsequent taxonomic changes.

Conservation of Welsh Heteroptera

Compared to the heteropteran fauna of southern England, the Welsh fauna is relatively impoverished. However, it is clear that Welsh dunes, coastal cliffs and wetlands support nationally important populations of rare species and rich assemblages. The dune systems on Gower, and more particularly in Pembrokeshire, are the UK foci for species such as *Pionosomus varius* (Lygaeidae) and *Odontoscelis fuliginosa* (Scutelleridae). Whilst the majority of the major sand dunes are protected as Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), and many are managed as National Nature Reserves by the Countryside Council for Wales, it is vital that management takes into account the ecological requirements of these key species. The management of coastal cliffs and slopes should also accommodate the needs of *Trapezonotus ullrichi* (Lygaeidae) where this occurs, some sites being threatened by bracken and scrub encroachment (Stephen Judd, pers. comm.). As with our dune systems, most of the important Welsh wetlands are protected but there is a similar need to manage sympathetically for the associated heteropteran faunas.

The majority of populations of the six Red Data Book species with recent records occur on SSSI or National Nature Reserves, they are:

- *Chlamydatus evanescens*
- *Macroplax preyssleri*
- *Odontoscelis fuliginosus*
- *Pachybrachius luridus*
- *Pionosomus varius*
- *Trapezonotus ullrichi*)

The exception is *Pachybrachius luridus*, for which only one of its two sites is notified. However, the non-statutory site, which is owned by the National Trust, lies close to Hafod Garregog NNR and targeted searches of areas of suitable habitat there is likely to find the bug. Many of the Nationally Scarce species are also well represented on SSSI.

There are a handful of species with few Welsh records for which existing information is too imprecise to determine whether they occur on SSSI, but it is likely that their preferred habitats are represented:

- *Amblytylus brevicollis* (Miridae)
- *Drymus pumilio*
- *Heterogaster artemisiae*
- *Scolopostethus pictus* (Lygaeidae)
- *Rhopalus maculatus* (Rhopalidae)
- *Xylocoris formicetorum* (Anthocoridae)

An exception is likely to be *Anthocoris visci*, which is associated with mistletoe in orchards. Surveys of old orchards in Monmouthshire may reveal that this species is more widespread than currently appreciated.

Determining the current status of Red Data Book species for which we have no recent data should be a high priority and these species should be included in Local Biodiversity Action Plans (LBAPs) in order to encourage and initiate targeted searches, these species are::

- *Prostemma guttula* (Nabidae)
- *Geotomus punctulatus* (Cydnidae)
- *Eysarcoris aeneus* (Pentatomidae)
- *Elasmucha ferrugata* (Acanthosomatidae)

Extinct or overlooked species

47 species recorded from Wales have not been seen since 1980 (Table 3), a surprisingly high figure, 11% of the total Welsh fauna of 411 species, although many have undoubtedly been overlooked as a consequence of the relatively low levels of recording. Efforts need to be made to determine their current Welsh status, particularly the five Red Data Book species:

- *Elasmucha ferrugata*
- *Eysarcoris aeneus*,
- *Geotomus punctulatus*
- *Prostemma guttula*
- *Pyrrhocoris apterus*

& 12 Nationally Scarce species.

Table 1: Preferred habitats of Red Data Book & Notable (Nationally Scarce) Heteroptera.

Habitat type	Species (RDB or Nationally Scarce)
Flood refuse	*Scoloposthethus pictus*
Wetland	*Cryptostemma waltli* *Hebrus pusillus*, *Micracanthia marginalis* *Saldula opacula* *Adelphocoris seticornis* *Teratocoris caricis* *Globiceps juniper* *Tytthus pubescens*, *Pachybrachius luridus* *Rhopalus maculatus*
Grassland	*Catoplatus fabricii* *Amblytylus brevicollis* *Chlamydatus evanescens*, *Chlamydatus pulicarius* *Macroplax preyssleri* *Drymus pumilio* *Graptopeltus lynceus* *Eysarcoris aeneus*
Sand dune	*Trigonotylus psammaecolor* *Globiceps fulvicollis* *Systellonotus triguttatus* *Monosynamma sabulicola*, *Prostemma guttula* *Nabis pseudoferus* *Heterogaster artemisiae* *Pionosomus varius* *Megalonotus dilatatus*, *Dicranocephalus agilis* *Geotomus punctulatus* *Odontoscelis fuliginosa*.
Coastal grassland	*Strongylocoris luridus*
Coastal cliff	*Trapezonotus ullrichi* *Megalonotus praetextatus* *Rhyparochromus pini*
Rocky shore	*Aepophilus bonnairei*
Woodland	*Anthocoris visci* *Xylocoridea brevipennis* *Xylocoris formicetorum* (wood ant nests) *Eremocoris plebejus* *Sehirus biguttatus*
Ruderal	*Raglius alboacuminatus*
No strong habitat preference	*Pyrrhocoris apterus* *Eurydema dominulus* *Elasmucha ferrugata*

Note: Where multiple habitats are utilised, the species is attributed to that most frequently occupied in Wales.

Table 2: Host plants of Red Data Book & Notable (Nationally Scarce) Heteroptera.

Species	Host plant
Catoplatus fabricii	oxeye daisy *Leucanthemum vulgare*
Trigonotylus psammaecolor	sand couch *Elytrigia juncea*
Strongylocoris luridus	sheep's-bit *Jasione montana*
Chlamydatus evanescens	white stonecrop *Sedum album*
Monosynamma sabulicola	creeping willow *Salix repens*
Anthocoris visci	feeds on aphid *Psylla visci* - confined to mistletoe *Viscum album*
Heterogaster artemisiae	wild thyme *Thymus polytrichus*
Macroplax preyssleri	common rock-rose *Helianthemum nummularium*
Trapezonotus ullrichi	oxeye daisy *Leucanthemum vulgare*
Graptopeltus lynceus	viper's-bugloss *Echium vulgare*, forget-me-not *Myosotis*
Raglius alboacuminatus	black horehound *Ballota nigra*
Pyrrhocoris apterus	mallow *Malva*, *Lavatera*, lime *Tilia*
Dicranocephalus agilis	Portland spurge *Euphorbia portlandica*, sea spurge *Euphorbia paralias*
Sehirus biguttatus	common cow-wheat *Melampyrum pratense*
Odontoscelis fuliginosa	common stork's-bill *Erodium cicutarium*
Eysarcoris aeneus	slender St. John's-wort *Hypericum pulchrum*
Eurydema dominulus	cuckooflower *Cardamine pratensis*

Note: Species not listed are either predatory or utilise a wide range of food plants.

Targeted searches will surely find *Aepophilus bonnairei*, which is likely to prove to be widespread on suitable rocky shore coasts and, given the predictions in changes to our climate, it is probably only a matter of time before *Pyrrhocoris apterus* is refound in Wales. Eight species have not been recorded since the publication of Saunders' book in 1892 and suspicion must remain over the accuracy of some of the identifications.

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Table 3: Heteroptera known from Wales but not recorded since 1980.

Aepophilus bonnairei	1979
Chiloxanthus pilosus	1946
Teloleuca pellucens	1946
Stephanitis rhododendri	1932
Camptozygum aequale	1970
Miridius quadrivirgatus	1951
Phytocoris pini	1970
Pinalitus rubricatus	1952
Halticus apterus	1979
Halticus luteicollis	pre-1892
Strongylocoris leucocephalus	1902
Orthotylus concolor	pre-1945
Pseudoloxops coccineus	pre-1892
Pilophorus cinnamopterus	pre-1892
Pilophorus clavatus	1924
Pilophorus perplexus	1916
Systellonotus triguttatus	pre-1923
Amblytylus brevicollis	
Chlamydatus pulicarius	1915
Conostethus brevis	
Megalocoleus tanaceti	1978
Phoenicocoris obscurellus	pre-1945
Psallus variabilis	1915
Psallus wagneri	
Psallus quercus	1979
Prostemma guttula	pre-1899
Anthocoris gallarumulmi	1924
Anthocoris visci	
Xylocoridea brevipennis	1930
Xylocoris flavipes	1906
Xylocoris galactinus	1974
Empicoris culiciformis	1966
Reduvius personatus	1978
Berytinus clavipes	1927
Heterogaster artemisiae	post-1973
Eremocoris plebejus	pre-1892
Scolopostethus pictus	1970
Graptopeltus lynceus	pre-1960
Raglius alboacuminatus	pre-1892
Xanthochilus quadratus	1867
Pyrrhocoris apterus	pre-1923
Rhopalus maculatus	1940
Sehirus luctuosus	pre-1892
Geotomus punctulatus	pre-1892
Eysarcoris aeneus	1940
Eurydema dominulus	pre-1892
Elasmucha ferrugata	189

SPECIES REPORTS

Sigara longipalis new to Britain.

John Blackburn — Last autumn I was identifying ECN's 2006 invert samples from the Broads & was looking out for more *Sigara iactans*. A benthic sample from Upton Broad contained many adult corixids, mostly *Sigara concinna* & *Arctocorisa germari*, amongst which along with a single male *iactans* were two specimens of *Sigara longipalis.* The shape of the pala and arrangement of pegs was distinctive, matching Antti Jansson's figure in Nilsson's *Aquatic Insects of N Europe*. The two specimens of *longipalis* look rather longer & narrower than the *falleni* as does the single male *iactans*. More striking, & perhaps quite useful, was the broad pale lines on the pronotum and clavus of *longipalis*.

The EA biologist for the Anglian region took a couple of samples from Upton Broad in December which contained many adult corixids, including many belonging to sub-genus *Subsigara* of *Sigara*. A thorough search of these produced two male *Sigara longipalis* with larger numbers of *S. falleni* & *S. distincta*, but no *S. iactans* this time.

A search for useful additional features revealed a difference in the fringe of hairs along the inner edge of the mid-femur. In both *longipalis* & *iactans* the fringe is dense and extends along almost the whole length of the femur. *S. falleni* has a much sparser fringe, and *distincta* just a few isolated hairs. Also, while all *Subsigara* have the claw of the middle leg longer than the tarsus, *S. longipalis* is the only one in which the claw is longer than the tibia.

I sorted through the female *Subsigara* and found three with this feature. The difference was quite easy to spot and the higher claw/tibia ratio of *S longipalis* was as much due to a shorter tibia as it was to a longer claw.

[John sent some nice micrographs of the palae of some *Subsigara* spp, a sample is reproduced below.]

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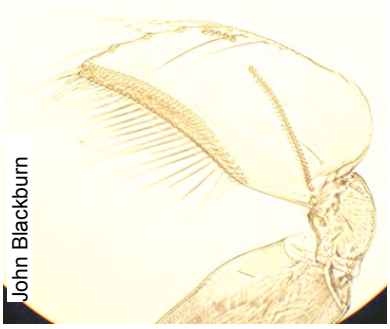
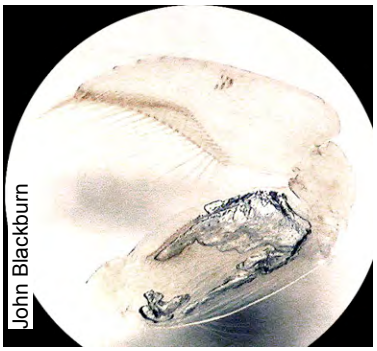


Sigara falleni



Sigara longipalis

Sigara iactans

***Arocatus roeselii* established in Britain?**

Bernard Nau & Nigel Straw — On 11th November 2006 Dr Robin Knill-Jones handed BSN a red & black lygaeid to identify, having recently found it in the Royal College of Physicians, Regent's Park, central London (VC21). Referring to Péricart's lygaeid monograph (1998, *Faune de France,* **84a**) BSN concluded it was *Arocatus roeselii*, resident on the Channel Is. but not mainland Britain.

As this issue was being edited, NS sent BSN four *Arocatus* sp, for an opinion; they proved to be this same species. Six had been collected on 14th April 2007 on plane trees (*Platanus*) at Grays Inn, London (VC 21), one to two km as the bug flies from the other site. Most were under bark. Whilst long known as an associate of alders (*Alnus*), Jean Péricart (op.cit.) says that in France it is strongly associated with *Platanus* — a very common tree in London!

The photo (rt) shows the male. Notice the exposed connexivum, black head & scutellum, form of the black marks on the pronotum, black legs, & that the dark patch on the corium extends to the outer edge of the hemelytra.

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Arocatus roeselii

***Reuteria marqueti* Puton, new to Britain**

Sheila Brooke & Bernard Nau — For many years Ian Woiwod has run a Rothamsted-type moth trap in his rural garden at Cockayne Hatley (TL24, VC 30, Bedfordshire). He separates Heteroptera caught, for BSN to identify, and in the middle of editing this issue we were working on the 2006 catch. The 29th July box contained an unfamiliar orthyline mirid, notable for its dense white pubescence and, on the antennae, a sharply defined black band along each side of A1, linked apically beneath, & a dusky ring at the base of A2. The translucent forewings were green tinted with green veins & obscure green patches, plus a blackish green mark at the apices of cuneus & clavus. The photo (rt) shows the bug (in a poor state!). In Wagner (1973, *Miriden des Mittelmeeraumes*,**2**) it keys to *Reuteria marqueti*, this is associated with lime, oak & elm (*Tilia*, *Quercus*, *Ulmus*), all are in a wood 0.5 km from the trap. This genus is very close to *Brachynotocoris*, from which we reported *B. puncticornis* new to Britain in the previous issue!

Reuteria marqueti

'Unknown' orthotyline on Wellingtonia in Oxford.

Rob Ryan — On 19th August 2006 Rob e-mailed some Oxfordshire het records to me. These included a note on a number of small green bugs he had recently found on a group of half a dozen Wellingtonia trees (*Sequoiadendron gigantea*) in University Parks, Oxford. Using S&L(1959) he had found they keyed to *Orthotylus adenocarpi* but were too small (only 3 mm long) and not on the 'proper' host, broom(*Cytisus*).

I offered to examine the bugs. A short series duly arrived (2m. & 5f.) and it was immediately apparent that this was not a British species and, on dissection, that the parameres were not those of any western European or Mediterranean species, not least because the large rounded lobe of the left paramere had four large teeth on its periphery (see photo).

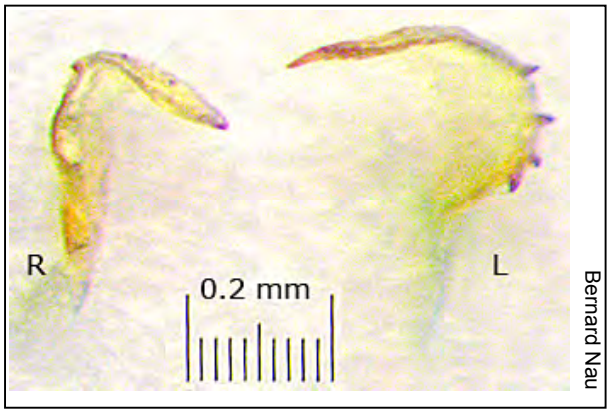
The park is a mature Victorian park within the city, the Wellingtonias were planted in 1888, apart from one in 1972. There is also a large Wellingtonia in front of the adjacent Oxford University Museum, but I found no bugs on this. The park has many exotic tree species, from diverse parts of the world, so the origin of the mystery bug could be anywhere.

I also checked two Bedfordshire parks with Wellingtonias: Stockgrove Park, Leighton Buzzard on 26th, August, & Wardown Park, Luton, on 29th - neither yielded the bug.

As the bug was on a Californian tree species I sent photos of bug and parameres to Michael Schwartz, a heteropterist at the American Museum of Natural History, N.Y. They were not a species he immediately recognised so Rob sent him specimens for closer study and he confirmed they were unknown to him, adding that the male genitalia vaguely resembled those of the conifer orthotylines *Orthotylus fuscescens* and *Dichaetocoris piceicola*. Subsequently Bill Dolling expressed similar views. There the matter rests for the moment.

On 28th August I visited University Parks and found only two of the bugs, both females. Evidently the season for this species was virtually over.

Bernard Nau



Orthylinae sp.?

Laboratory studies on the flight & other behaviour of *Ranatra* (Heteroptera).

I. Lansbury

Flight of Ranatra

There is little evidence to suggest that *Ranatra* has a high migration potential. *R. biroi* from New Guinea has been collected from light traps, Lansbury (1972). Kiritschenko (1911) described a mass flight of *R. linearis* seen at Odessa on 22nd September 1908 by N.I. Zhukov. The flight started before 2 pm and the *Ranatra* did not fly in a solid mass but, individually, they were attracted to a recently painted roof of a house where they stuck to the paint. Over 500 specimens were collected in half an hour, the flight ceased at 3 pm.

Using a large number of *R. obscura* Montandon from Surinam, I found it possible on several occasions to persuade specimens to leave the water and make short flights. A number of conditions seem to be necessary to cause this reaction.

The water level must drop appreciably, a number of individuals need to be in close proximity to each other, the water temperature about 30ºC and the air temperature a degree or so lower.

The *Ranatra* leave the water climbing onto floating vegetation where they remain stationary, if touched or turned over, they go into a state of catalepsy. Out of the water the body is held at an angle, either with the head directed upwards or downwards. With an air temperature of 28-29ºC they remain in this state for about twenty-five minutes. Using the front tarsi, they groom themselves vigorously along the back of the head and the area along the inner margins of the eyes. The hind tibia are drawn along the edge of the elytra causing a faint rasping sound. Prior to flight, the elytra are disengaged from the abdomen and this is audible as a faint 'click' as the press-stud fastening (co-aption-apparatus) is released. The abdomen is gently reflexed up and down. Immediately before flight the *Ranatra* aligns itself horizontally. In the restricted space of the laboratory, the initial flight was directed to the window and rather like a large tipulid. In the laboratory, they were unable to sustain flight for more than a minute or so and dropped rapidly to the floor or the bench. The reddish tergites were not particularly conspicuous in flight. Butler (1923), quoting Buenca in a paper not seen, described the flight of *R. quadridentata*, where the sequence of movements and position of the body and legs were slightly different to those observed with *R. obscura*. *Ranatra* can walk extremely well negotiating equipment on the laboratory bench without difficulty.

Supplementary Observations

The colony of *R. obscura* and a lesser number of other species from Surinam were observed in a large aquarium for several months. They tended to be rather gregarious, particularly if the water temperature dropped, gathering together like a bundle of twigs on the bottom and were never seen to rise to the surface.

When the water was warm or tepid, the groups dispersed and were randomly distributed in the aquarium.

The front legs always held in the same position; the coxae diverge slightly from the head downwards, the femora usually held at an angle of between 45-90^0 to the coxae and always directed upwards. The femora are spread in front of the head forming a 'Y' with coxae. Food is grasped between the front femur and tibia and brought towards the rostrum. Small inactive prey are not held by the prehensile leg once the rostrum has been inserted. Large prey are held by one leg pushing with the tarsus against the tooth/projection on the inner margin of the femur. *Ranatra* does not normally actively seek prey, but waits for it to come within reach. Moribund *Asellus* dropped within reach of *Ranatra* did not elicit any reaction, live *Asellus* are taken immediately. It was found, however, that some *Ranatra* including *linearis* adopted another strategy resting on submerged vegetation just below the surface film with the front legs level with the water. They reacted with great speed when surface dwelling prey was offered. They also reacted to metal forceps and pencils above the surface film.

Two examples of symbiosis have been found on *Ranatra*. A specimen of *R. capensis* from the Transvaal was found with a debris-encrusted tube on the prosternum. The tube was constructed to utilise as much of the host's structure as possible by using the central ridge and linear depressions. It proved impossible to even be sure which order the tube builder belonged to. The open end appeared to be towards the head of the host. A similar example was found on a specimen of *R. biroi* from New Guinea. Presumably, the inhabitant of the tube would feed on the remains of the prey of the *Ranatra*. The tube would to a certain extent impede the use of the coxa as it could not be folded back beneath the prothorax.

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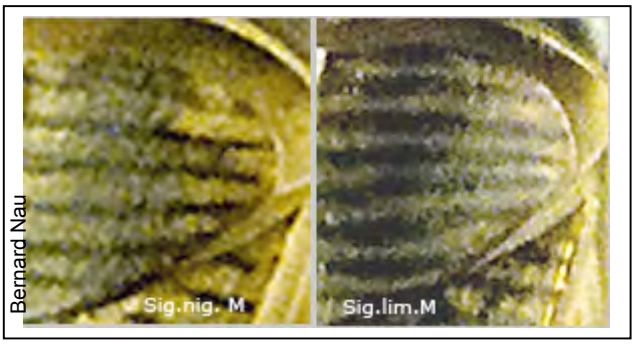
Separation of female *Sigara limitata* & *S. nigrolineata* (Het.: Corixidae).

Bernard Nau & Sheila Brooke— These two corixids are closely related, both are about 6mm long and have rather similar markings. Males are easily separated by details of the pala and the facial depression but females are difficult to separate and sometimes impossible. For females, British keys have relied on variable, rather unreliable differences between the longitudinal dark bands of the corium: *nigrolineata* usually has at most one, in the inner angle, while *limitata* usually has an additional dark band near the outer margin, and sometimes a third down the middle. But *nigrolineata t*oo may have incipient outer & middle bands, and in *limitata* the longitudinal bands may be poorly developed.

Whilst examining a mixed sample of these two species we noticed a difference in the form of the side margin of the pronotum. In *nigrolineata* this is evenly rounded, essentially parabolic in form, whereas in *limitata* it is linear behind, then weakly convex, essentially obliquely truncate – as in *S.distincta*. The photographs shows these details of the lateral margin (the difference in the transverse stripes is not significant).



S.nigrolineata ***S.limitata***

Identification & habitat of *Aquarius paludum* (Het.: Gerridae).

John Hunnisett — John sent nice close-up photos of *Aquarius paludum* (see col.2.) showing some of the identification characters of this large, gregarious, macropterous species of pond-skater.

This bug has been spreading in England in the last few years after many years confined to the extreme SE, south of the River Thames. For instance it is now well established in the south midlands, in Bedfordshire.

It occurs on both still and flowing water. At Sandy (Beds) last summer there were 100s on an ornamental lily pond about 20x5m in size. In Sussex we saw several on a stream just 2m wide, feeding into a large reservoir a few hundred yards downstream.

The apical spines of the abdomen are angled upwards at about 30°, this can be seen in side view. We found this a useful character when the first individuals arrived in Bedfordshire. They were on a flooded sand-pit and too far offshore to catch & examine in the hand, but with the aid of a birdwatching telescope the angled points were clearly visible!

Sheila Brooke & Bernard Nau

Shieldbug *Cyphostethus tristriatus* is in Scotland!

Harry Eales — He writes as follows: I've just (18th April 2007) got back from a two day trip into Scotland. One aim of my visit was to look at the large stands of Juniper (*Juniperus communis*) growing in the Lammermuir Hills to the south of Edinburgh. These bushes are spread over several hillsides and in the valleys and are in excellent condition.

Although I twisted my ankle between the car and the nearest shrubs, on my very first tap over the beating tray two specimens of Juniper Shieldbug were found**.** I believe these are the first records for Scotland. I have retained both for my collection.

There are none of the alternative foodplants within a great many miles of these hills & I would think it very likely that the Juniper Shieldbug, like those I found all over Northumberland, are a natural indigenous population that have simply been overlooked, or simply not looked for.

I hope this record will make Scottish Hemipterists take a new look at stands of Juniper elsewhere.

The site is on the south facing slope of a hill immediately above the Dam at Hopes Reservoir NT549623. Altitude 300m. This is site is on a private estate and no vehicular access is permitted without permission. However, it is only a short walk from the end of the public road.

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***Buchananiella continua* (Anthocoridae) in south Devon (VC 3).**

The pantropical anthocorid *Buchananiella continua* (F.B. White, 1880) was observed for the first time in Great Britain in 1995 in London (Kirby, 1999: Buckingham Palace gardens). Since then, first records reported from various counties are:

- Yorkshire, 2001 (ref.5)
- Bedfordshire, 2002 (ref.3)
- Berkshire, 2004 (ref.4)
- Hertfordshire, 2004 (ref.3)
- Surrey in 2004 (ref.3)
- Worcestershire, 2004 (ref.5)
- Northamptonshire, ≤2005 (ref.2).

In October 2006 during a short stay on the southeast coast of Devon I found that it appeared to be common at the following localities in that county:

- Torquay, Hope's Nose (SX9463), 7th, 14th & 27th October: many larvae were beaten from withered foliage of dead branches of *Acer pseudoplatanus*.
- Torquay, Maidencombe (SX9268) 10th, 14th & 15th October: habitat as above
- Brixham, Berry Head (SX9456) 8th, 9th & 27th October: habitat as above, also in low numbers on *Crataegus* and *Clematis vitalba*.

Its typical habitat was fallen down or cut off branches of trees, especially sycamore, with the dry withered foliage still present. At the three localities *B. continua* was beaten in large numbers from foliage, together with many larvae, amidst dense populations of juvenile and adult Psocoptera. Most likely it can be found whenever abundant food, especially Psocoptera, is available.

In the Netherlands the recently arrived invasive anthocorid *Amphiareus obscuriceps* (Poppius) shows a similar way of life and a comparable rapid spread. It seems only a matter time before it will arrive in Great Britain as well!

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Please send contributions for the next issue by 30th September 2007

FROM THE REGIONS

DORSET Vice County 9

***Aquarius paludum* spreading west**

John Hunnisett:

On 28th September 2006 Robert Aquilina visited Alder Hills Nature Reserve (SZ063931), where he captured 2spp of pond skaters, *Gerris odontogaster* & *Aquarius paludum*. The Reserve is urban heathland in the Borough of Poole. It has a fairly large fishing pond in what was presumably a clay pit. Non-native water lilies dominate the margins with some native emergents, the water is pH7.4 and conductivity 400 ms/cm. *A.paludum* was in groups of a dozen or so in most of the bays between the vegetation. Altogether ca100 were present, assuming that all the large ones were *A. paludum*,. They were extremely wary & required careful stalking! The provisional atlas gives the nearest county for *A. paludum* as Berkshire.

On 8th September 2006 I spent the morning looking for bugs at Durlston County Park (SZ 028711) hoping to boost their species list. An unfamiliar nymph was found in a suction sample taken from dry sparse vegetation on a S facing slope. It was identified as *Lygus pratensis* from a photo sent to Bernard, it is the fifth Dorset record for this species.

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S. HANTS Vice County 11

***Eurydema ornatum* increasing**

Andy Collins:

I saw six *Eurydema ornatum* above Portman Ravine, Boscome (admin. county Dorset) on 14th April 2007. This is the largest number I have seen yet & indicates they are becoming well established.

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N. HANTS Vice County 12

***Eurydema oleracea* abounds**

Peter Brough:

! am wondering if *Brassica* bugs are exploding in numbers elsewhere? Here in my part of VC12, north Hampshire, between Newbury and Basingstoke, *Eurydema oleracea* is now abundant and recently has been pairing in large numbers on *Alliaria petiolata*, particularly in damp stream valleys of local mixed deciduous woodlands. All its colour variants are present. Up to three years ago it was a very uncommon bug in these parts, and I'd be lucky to find two or three a year. Since then it has gradually increased so that it is now one of the commonest shield bugs hereabouts, rivalling *Dolycoris baccarum* and *Palomena prasina* for abundance.

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OXFORDSHIRE & BERKS VCs 22 & 23

John Campbell:

Gastrodes abietum was plentiful in Spruce cones at Marcham Park in the autumn, with a few *Gastrodes grossipes* present as well (SU49, VC 22, Berks). April 19th, in my garden SP2410, at Burford, one *Corizus hyoscami*, a first for VC 23 Oxfordshire. Also tens of *Dolycoris baccarum*, fives of *Coreus marginatus*, and a few *Palomena prasina* were all emerging from hibernation and enjoying the sun and warmth. The emergence site is close to my rhubarb on which the *C. marginatus* fed last year.

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N ESSEX Vice County 19

***Aphanus rolandri* arrives**

Jerry Bowdrey:

Whilst recording in the Thorrington area of north–east Essex (TM 0821, VC19) on 25th April 2007, I noticed a small bug struggling on its back on the surface of a pond beside a woodland track. On retrieving it, I was surprised to find that it was an example of *Aphanus rolandri*! Traditionally this has been regarded as a very southern species.

Peter Kirby, Essex Heteroptera Recorder, informs me that he is unaware of any recent Essex records for this species. There are some old records for S. Essex (VC 18) where the species was reported as being not uncommon under pea haulms in fields in the 1930's (Kirby, 1992).

According to Southwood and Leston (1959) the bug undertakes pre-mating flights in early summer, perhaps explaining how it came to land on the surface of the pond.

The Thorrington area is characterised by extensive gravel workings and there is evidence that there were formerly areas of heathland, most of which have subsequently become secondary woodland.

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E SUFFOLK Vice County 25

***Aphanus* & *Syromastus* in Suffolk**

Jerry Bowdrey:

A.rolandri has recently been found in E. Suffolk by Nigel Cuming (2006, Four species of Hemiptera new to Suffolk. *Suffolk Natural History* **42**, 69-70) at several sites in east Suffolk, including under dried up *Corydalis* plants.

In the last issue of HetNews (No8, p.9) I reported *Syromastus rhombeus* as new to E. Suffolk in 2006 but I had overlooked an earlier record from this vice-county, namely from Theberton (TM444661), photographed by S.Downes 6.ix.2005 on fat hen. I thank Stephen Downs for drawing my attention to his record.

Editors: BSN found one *S. rhombeus* in E. Suffolk at Claydon quarries (TM15) on 21st August 1992

BEDFORDSHIRE Vice County 30

Bernard Nau

Bedfordshire (Beds) is a well worked county for Heteroptera. For many years I have worked the county at a fairly uniform level of effort and, since 1972, have published an annual report on this in *Bedfordshire Naturalis*t, the annual journal of the Bedfordshire Natural History Society.

Beds is a lowland, inland county (only 1200 km^2) 50 km N of London, wedged between the south Midlands and East Anglia. It is crossed by a chalk escarpment, a low sand ridge, and four clay belts ranging from neutral to calcareous. Land use is mainly arable farming, with considerable quarrying and increasing urban development. There is one sizeable river, the Great Ouse, and various tributaries.

By the end of 2006 the number of species on the county list was 383, i.e. 66% of the 580 or so 'British Species'. Kent can claim more but has the advantages of being coastal, southern, and close to mainland Europe.

2006 was an interesting year for Heteroptera in Beds, eight species were added to the county list, although only three by natural extension of range; of the others, one was a horticultural import, one resulted from a taxonomic change (subspecies raised to species), two were probably overlooked species, and one was a 'reluctant acceptance' of a bug already recorded several times previously. The additions were as follows.

CORIXIDAE:

Sigara iactans - from 2 gravel quarry sites and a field pond, a recent arrival in England.

TINGIDAE:

Corythuca ciliata - a tree-nursery import, on *Platanus* from Italy, new to Britain from Beds in 2006 (Malumphy & Reid, 2006, *Het News*, **8**, p8).

MIRIDAE:

Lygus wagneri - a boreo-montane species of northern Britain, where I have seen convincing examples, but somewhat unlikely in southern England. I have seen bugs of a *Lygus* sp. in Beds, and elsewhere in SE England, that I thought most likely to be a uniform brown form of *L. pratensis*, although somewhat similar to *L. wagneri*. In 1959 in Pamber Forest (Hants) some '*L. wagneri*' were found by Woodroffe and confirmed by Southwood (Woodroffe, G.E.,1960, *Ent.Mon.Mag*., 96, p4). I encountered this small population by chance on visits to Pamber in 1992 & 1993.

The 1959 find predates Woodroffe's respected 1966 review of genus *Lygus* in which he refers to *L. wagneri* in 'forest rides' in SE England (Woodroffe, G.E.,1966, *Ent. Mon. Mag*., 99, p201-206). However, I am not altogether convinced of the identity of these uniform brown *Lygus* but have now decided to include them on the Beds list as *L. wagneri* so that their existence is on record. At some future time this decision may need review.

Brachynotocoris puncticornis - new to Britain from Beds in 2006 (Brooke & Nau, 2006, *Het News*, 8, p9)

Psallus montanus Josifov, 1973 - a central European sub-species of *P. betuleti* (Fallén, 1826)] until Rieger & Rabitsch (2006, *Tijd.voor Ent.*, **149**, pp161-166) showed it to be a good species, ranging across Europe to Asia & N America. Berend Aukema kindly sent me a copy of the above paper, enabling me to check my British reference material. I found that both species are present in Beds, in particular I have *P. montanus* from Stockgrove Park and *P. betuleti* sensu strictu from Flitwick Moor. The former predominates amongst my British material.

ANTHOCORIDAE :

***Anthocoris minki minki* Dohrn, 1860 - o**n 19th September 2006 SEB & I found this in numbers in Stewartby, on Lombardy Poplars (*Populus nigra* var *italica*) bearing abundant *Pemphigus* galls. A sample comprised a 5th instar nymph, 5 females and 4 males (paramere checked). I also found it just outside the county, on 15th September in Buckinghamshire at Three Locks, and on 5th August in Cambridgeshire near Cockayne Hatley Wood. It is probably well established in the region, but overlooked.

[Note: S&L(1959) includes '*Anthocoris minki* Dohrn' saying it is usually found on Ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*). This was based on mis-identification, the Ash bug referred to is actually *A. simulans* Reuter (L. Jessop, 1983, *Ent. Mon. Mag*., **119**, pp221-223). Jessop points out that *A. minki* Dohrn is associated with *Pemphigus* galls on Lombardy Poplar (*Populus nigra* var *italica*) and reports it from the R.Thames towpath at Kew. There have been a few subsequent records from Britain.]

Elatophilus nigricornis - On 22nd August 2006 I shook a female from Scots Pine foliage in Maulden Wood. S&L(1959) says 'this is normally found at the base of young needles & until 1938 was confined to Scotland but subsequent records range from Yorkshire to the south coast of England, spread perhaps by conifer planting'.

RHOPALIDAE:

Corizus hyoscyami – Stephen Plummer found a female at Duck End N.R., Maulden, on a seed-head of Creeping Thistle (*Cirsium arvense*) in a small clearing in humid scrub. It remained on this seed-head for about two weeks! Formerly a dune species, very rare inland, it has spread rapidly inland in the past year or two.

WALES

Vice Counties 41-52

Mike Howe

Mike sent us a spreadsheet of his 2006 records from Wales & elsewhere, with full details of sites and numbers of bugs, etc. In the table below we have summarised his Welsh records for the shieldbugs & allies only, giving the number of sites from which each species was recorded by him in each vice county. This gives some idea of the range and status of these species in Wales in 2006.

FAMILY / Species	Vice County	Sites
ALYDIDAE		
Alydus calcaratus		
	45. Pembrokeshire	1
COREIDAE		
Arenocoris falleni		
	41. Glamorgan	1
	45. Pembrokeshire	2
Coreus marginatus		
	46. Cardiganshire	2
Enoplops scapha		
	49. Caernarvonshire	1
DICRANOCEPHALIDAE		
Dicranocephalus agilis		
	41. Glamorgan	3
	48. Merionethshire	1
	49. Caernarvonshire	1
	52. Anglesey	2
RHOPALIDAE		
Chorosoma schillingi		
	41. Glamorgan	3
	52. Anglesey	1
Corizus hyoscyami		
	41. Glamorgan	4
	45. Pembrokeshire	2
	48. Merionethshire	1
	49. Caernarvonshire	3
	52. Anglesey	4
Rhopalus parumpunctatus		
	41. Glamorgan	2
PENTATOMOIDEA		
Acanthosoma haemorrhoidale		
	43. Radnorshire	1
Aelia acuminata		
	41. Glamorgan	2
	48. Merionethshire	1
	49. Caernarvonshire	1
	52. Anglesey	5
Dolycoris baccarum		
	41. Glamorgan	5
	45. Pembrokeshire	4
	46. Cardiganshire	3
	48. Merionethshire	1
	49. Caernarvonshire	6
	52. Anglesey	8
Elasmostethus interstinctus		
	42. Breconshire	1
	49. Caernarvonshire	1
Eurygaster testudinaria		
	41. Glamorgan	2
Odontoscelis fuliginosa		
	45. Pembrokeshire	1
Palomena prasina		
	46. Cardiganshire	1
	48. Merionethshire	1
	49. Caernarvonshire	1
	52. Anglesey	1
Pentatoma rufipes		
	43. Radnorshire	1
	49. Caernarvonshire	1
Picromerus bidens		
	49. Caernarvonshire	2
Piezodorus lituratus		
	46. Cardiganshire	1
	48. Merionethshire	1
	49. Caernarvonshire	2
	52. Anglesey	3
Troilus luridus		
	43. Radnorshire	1
Zicrona caerulea		
	52. Anglesey	1

YORKSHIRE

Vice Counties 61, 63, 64

Bill Dolling:

A visit to Rotherham in July 2006 (SK49, VC 63 SW Yorks) yielded an abundance *of* adults & nymphs *of Dolycoris baccarum,* this species was first recorded in Yorkshire at Hatfield Moors by Brian Eversham in 1980; several nymphs *of Palomena prasina,* for which there are only two pre-1995 Yorkshire records; an adult and several nymphs *of Rhopalus subrufus* and, just across the border in Sheffield, a nymph *of Aelia acuminata.* The last two species are new to Yorkshire. *Orius laticollis* was on riverside willows at Rotherham. Both *Palomena* and *Dolycoris* also occurred at Wintringham (SE87, VC 61 SE Yorks)) on August 27, the former still only as nymphs.

On the soft cliffs between Filey and Flamborough (TA17, VC 61) in September were *Stygnoconis rusticus* and *Berytinus signoreti,* both previously reported in this vice-county only from Spurn, and a single pioneering female *of Stictopleurus abutilon,* new to Yorkshire.

A trip to Goole (SE72, VC 63) produced records for *Eysarcoris venustissimus* (first reported from Yorkshire at the nearby Hatfield Moors, under its old name of *fabricii,* by Peter Skidmore in 1992) and

Conostethus roseus which, at this early date (June 14th), was mainly represented by gravid females, with a few males among them.

I found *Buchananiella continua* in a small urban site in Hull (TA02, VC 61) in 2001 and renewed my acquaintance with it in my home village of Elstronwick (TA23, VC 61) in October 2006 when I shook three adults from an abandoned wasp nest taken from a roadside hedge. The first capture of *Himacerus apterus* in Yorkshire was in 1995 at Hatfield Moors (Skidmore again); since then, I and others have taken it widely in the county, vice-counties 61, 63, and 64 (Mid-west Yorks). Nymphs of *H. mirmicoides* occurred at Potteric Carr (SE50, VC 63) in July 2003, adding yet another southerner to the Yorkshire list.

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BRC RECORDING SCHEMES

BRC Heteroptera recording scheme organisers are:

Water Bugs: Sheila Brooke
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brooke.aquahet@btinnternet.com

Land Bugs : Bernard Nau
15 Park Hill, Toddington, Dunstable, Beds LU5 6AW
nauhet@btinternet.com

To submit records by e-mail, please format as tab delimited text, or spreadsheet, & send to the national organiser with a copy to the local scheme. Local recorders are listed below. If you are not listed but are willing to accept records on your county's behalf let us know please, and we will add you to the list.

[* means recording area is administrative county]

Water Bug Recording Scheme:

Internet **:** Thank you all who have sent records in the last year! I plan to forward about 2000 new records, and some corrections, to the Biological Records Centre in the next few weeks. These will subsequently appear on the *NBN Gateway* where you will be able to view updated distribution maps for your area. Also, I hope that new British species, such as *Sigara iactans*, will be added to the species list in the near future.

In the meantime, you might be tempted to target a few of those sparsely recorded squares near you! If you have a problem with ID I am happy to assist and I look forward to receiving your records.

SEB

VC 1 & 2	**Cornwall**	**Keith Alexander**	keith.alexander@waitrose.com
VC 3 & 4	**Devon**	**Keith Alexander**	keith.alexander@waitrose.com
VC 9	**Dorset**	**Ian Cross**	I.Cross@dorsetcc.gov.uk
VC10	**Isle of Wight**	**David Biggs**	Plum Tree Cottage, 76 Albert Road, Gurnard, Cowes, I. of Wight PO31 8JU (& Galls, Leaf-miners & Microfungi)
VC 15 & 16	**Kent**	**Eric Philp**	eric.philp2@virgin.net
VC 18 & 19	**Essex**	**Peter Kirby**	peter.kirby7@ntlworld.com
VC 20	**Hertfordshire**	**John Widgery**	12 Bushcombe Close, Woodmancote, Cheltenham, Glos GL52 9HX
VC 23 (22)	**Oxfordshire***	**John Campbell**	campbell397@btinternet.com
VC 25 & 26	**Suffolk**	**Adrian Chalkley (water)**	adrian@boxvalley.co.uk
		Nigel Cuming (land)	marionnigel@onetel.com
VC 30	**Bedfordshire**	**Bernard Nau**	nauhet@btinternet.com
VC 32	**Northamptonshire**	**Tony Cook**	tony.cook@newtonfieldcentre.org.uk
VC 33 & 34	**Gloucestershire**	**John Widgery**	12 Bushcombe Close, Woodmancote, Cheltenham, Glos GL52 9HX
VC 37	**Worcestershire***	**John Partridge**	records@wbrc.org.uk
VC 53 & 54	**Lincolnshire***	**Annette Binding**	allan.binding@ntlworld.com (& spiders)
VC 56	**Nottinghamshire**	**David Budworth**	dbud01@aol.com
VC 57	**Derbyshire**	**David Budworth**	dbud01@aol.com
VC 58	**Cheshire**	**Steve Judd**	Steve.Judd@liverpoolmuseums.org.uk
VC 59 & 60	**Lancashire**	**Steve Judd**	Steve.Judd@liverpoolmuseums.org.uk
VC 65	**NW Yorks**	**Steve Hewitt**	SteveH@carlisle-city.gov.uk
[-]	**Cumbria***	**Steve Hewitt**	SteveH@carlisle-city.gov.uk
VC 69	**Westmorland**	**Steve Hewitt**	SteveH@carlisle-city.gov.uk
VC 70	**Cumberland**	**Steve Hewitt**	SteveH@carlisle-city.gov.uk