

## **CONTENTS**

<b>Important message from the Editor</b> .....	2
<b>The Vanished Biodiversity of the Reddish Canal</b>	
Erica Swale.....	2
<b>Meadow Management for Autumn Crocus at Chew Moor, Lostock, Bolton</b>	
Fred Lovell.....	5
<b>Notice of A.G.M.</b> .....	5
<b>Society Diary</b>	
Calendars of Meetings of Affiliated Societies.....	6
 <b>Contributions for the next issue by the end of December please!</b>	

Contributions are welcomed as e-mail attachments to [patricia.francis@bolton.gov.uk](mailto:patricia.francis@bolton.gov.uk), or on disk, in most PC word processing formats (with a second file in rich text format \*.rtf) or in typescript from contributors who do not have a PC. Illustrations should, ideally, be produced on A4 paper with a margin of at least 2.5cm all round with 'oversized' lettering (14pt normal/body text, if typed) to allow for it to be photographically reduced to A5 (approx 70% reduction) and still be readable.

## IMPORTANT MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR

### Please Read This!

I am about to change my job which will obviously necessitate new addresses and contact details but as I have yet to receive an official confirmation of my post, at present I am unable to do this. So below are my personal contact details to which any contributors to the next edition are very welcome to use. This should not affect the venue of the next AGM which will still be at Bolton Museum.

Patricia

Rushey Cottage, Back Bury Road South, BOLTON BL2 6JE - rusheycottage@btinternet.com

## THE VANISHED BIODIVERSITY OF THE REDDISH CANAL

Erica Swale, 23 Pepys Way, Girton,  
Cambridge, CB3 0PA

The Reddish (or more correctly, Stockport) Canal was constructed in the 1790s as a branch of the Ashton Canal, in order to carry coal to Stockport. Mills sprang up along its banks; and when land transport largely succeeded water the canal still served as a source of cooling water for the mill machinery. At Broadstone Mill, Reddish, the warmth of the canal water due to hot discharges and pollution from washing the raw cotton resulted in the establishment of several tropical algae, two belonging to the Chlorophyta or green algae, *Chara braunii* and *Pithophora oedogonia*, and one to the Rhodophyta or red algae, *Compsopogon caeruleus* (in fact blue-green in colour) (see West & Fritsch 1927, John et al 2002, Swale 1962). However nothing else has been written about the ecology of this vanished habitat.

A jar of preserved *Chara braunii* in the Manchester Museum Herbarium, where I was working as a student, first interested me in the canal. I visited it at various times between 1948 and 1964 at a site opposite Broadstone Mill. The alien algae were seen

each time up to 1956, together with a rich diversity of plant and animal life, in spite of there being patches of oil on the surface and much dumped rubbish, including the occasional dead cat (Swale 1962).

By 1961 the mills had ceased to function and the warmth-loving alien plants had disappeared. The canal was choked with debris and there were plans to fill it in (Swale 1962). There are now (2010) only two short stretches remaining at Reddish, as small concrete edged ponds, and it would be interesting to know what, if anything, survives in these.

In 1951 I wrote two popular articles for the *Stockport Advertiser* describing the canal at Reddish and some of its plants and animals as it was then, and the results have been incorporated in this article.

Beneath the stone edge of the canal a shallow muddy bottom sloped into deeper water, the depth varying somewhat with rainfall. Where hot water was discharged the canal was mostly devoid of animals and plants, but there were great flocculent masses of cyanobacteria (blue-green algae), some of which can tolerate temperatures of 75°C, and can grow in hot springs. The mud, presumably somewhat cooler than the water above was inhabited by numerous *Tubifex* worms red with haemoglobin and waving their tails. Presumably the area above the mud was low in oxygen

though no purple sulphur bacteria, which would indicate anaerobic conditions, were seen.

Further from the hot effluent, where the water was cooler but still warm, was abundant plant and animal life, and the vegetation would have kept the water well aerated. A rich tangle of marginal plants grew rooted in the shallow muddy bottom below the coping. Most conspicuous of these was Reed Sweet Grass (*Glyceria maxima*), and its feathery inflorescences were favourite resting places for the numerous blue Damsel Flies (*Enallagma cyathigerum*). Other conspicuous plants of the shallow water were Sweet Flag (*Acorus calamus*), Water Plantain (*Alisma plantago-aquatica*), Great Willow Herb (*Epilobium hirsutum*), and smaller species of *Epilobium*. Clustered Dock (*Rumex conglomeratus*) and two species of Bur-Reed (*Sparganium erectum* and *S. emersum*). Other marginals were Club-Rushes (*Scirpus* spp.), Gypsywort (*Lycopus europaeus*), Rosebay Willowherb (*Chamaenerion angustifolium*), Cow-parsley (*Anthriscus sylvestris*), Remote sedge (*Carex remota*) and even a Royal Fern (*Osmunda regalis*), which must have escaped from a nearby garden. On stones at the water's edge were bright green patches of the liverwort *Riccia fluitans* (which can also float like a duckweed). Many plants of the white flowered Frogbit with round green leaves like miniature water lily leaves floated on the surface together with the oval leaves of Floating Pondweed (*Potamogeton natans*) and between them the minute fronds of three species of Duckweed, Gibbous (*Lemna gibba*) with its swollen undersides; *Lemna minor* and *Lemna trisulca* with 3-leaved colonies suspended just below the surface, together with *Riccia fluitans*.

Submerged plants included large patches of the introduced, sometimes troublesome, Canadian Pondweed (*Elodea canadensis*) often with minute white flowers on the surface at the end of long white stalks like threads of cotton, the introduced Ribbon Grass (*Vallisneria spiralis*) with similar long-stemmed white flowers, several species of *Potamogeton* and the tufted conifer-like Hornwort (*Ceratophyllum demersum*). Lastly there were the three alien warm-water algae for which the canal was noted. Thread-like green whorled stems of the Egyptian Stonewort (*Chara braunii*) were common, in clumps or tangled with other plants, less frequent was *Pithophora oedogonia*, like Blanketweed (*Cladophora*) but with swollen reproductive cells like oval beads, and lastly the blue-green thalli of the "red" alga *Compsopogon coeruleus* were sometimes present in large tangled masses among other submerged vegetation. Many Great Pond Snails (*Lymnaea stagnalis*) carried attached to the tips of their shells long streamers of its filaments up to 2mm across and 25cm in length, and were very conspicuous. Lastly among algae was the green epiphytic species (*Chaetonema irregularis*) not an alien but a rare native, seen in 1955 ramifying in the mucilage of a species of *Batrachospermum*, probably *B. gelatinosum*.

Animals were abundant, but only the more conspicuous were noted in the survey. Moorhens bred among the marginal plants, and Brown Rats were sometimes seen. Smooth Newts (*Triturus vulgaris*) were particularly conspicuous during the spring breeding season, but surprisingly, no frogs were seen. Introduced Goldfish (*Carassius auratus*) were often present, reaching a

large size. There seemed to be no other fish but 3-spined Sticklebacks (*Gasterosteus aculeatus*).

Dragonflies (*Anisoptera*) and Damsel Flies (*Zygoptera*) were conspicuous flying over the canal on sunny days, and the larvae of these and of the Great Diving Beetle (*Dytiscus marginalis*) together with the handsome adults were voracious aquatic predators. Two small aquatic water beetles *Hydroporus palustris* and *Laccophilus minutus*, were very common, while silvery Whirligig Beetles (*Gyrinus spp.*) circled round at high speed on the surface film looking for small entrapped insects, as did the Pond Skater and Water Cricket (*Gerris* and *Velia spp.*) walking on the film. Among other bugs Water Boatmen were common, *Novonecta* sp, which swims upside down, and *Corixa* sp, the right way up, while Water Scorpions lurked in the reeds (their apparent "sting" is an air tube).

Water snails were well represented. In the cooler water the largest were the Great Ramshorn (*Planorbis corneus*) and the Great Pond Snail (*Lymnaea pereger*) was the most abundant, and the operculate *Bithynia tentaculata* also occurred in large numbers. In the warmer part of the canal the alien Bladder Snail (*Physa acuta*) was very common, many bearing on their shells feathery masses of a colonial ciliate, probably a species of *Eristylis*. *Physa acuta* was introduced from Southern Europe and is known to favour water warmed by industrial processes. The smaller snails were not identified.

Leeches were common, the largest being the Horse Leech (*Haemopsis sanguisuga*), up to 5" or c. 120mm when extended. Their backs were variously coloured like oriental carpets, and they were often seen

swimming in bright sunshine. They subsist largely on carrion, represented here by dead dogs, cats and rats. The smaller *Erpobdella octoculata* and *Glossiphonia heteroclita* could also be seen swimming about when the sun shone.

Black, brown or white Flatworms (*Turbellaria*) of several species were seen gliding over leaves or the underside of floating pieces of wood. The white *Dendrocoelum lacteum* was particularly conspicuous, though only a few millimeters long.

Bearing in mind that this was mostly an undergraduate study (although I had advice from botanists and zoologists), it is clear that this section or the canal was a particularly rich site in terms of its flora and fauna, and a team of specialists could have produced much longer lists. The warm water with its temperature gradient was particularly interesting. Are there any existing comparable sites in the area in terms of flora and fauna, or of hot water discharges?

Thanks are due to the late J. Grant Roger and other staff of the Manchester Museum who gave much help with the identifications. My colleague Hilary Belcher assisted in the preparation of this account.

#### References:

- John, D. M., Whitton, B.A. & Brook, A. J. (2002). *The Freshwater Algae of the British Isles*. Cambridge University Press.
- Swale, E.M.F. (1962). Notes on some algae from the Reddish Canal. *British Phycological Journal* 2: 174-175.
- West, G.S. & Fritsch, F.E. (1927). *A Treatise on the British Freshwater Algae*. Cambridge University Press.

# MEADOW MANAGEMENT FOR AUTUMN CROCUS AT CHEW MOOR, LOSTOCK, BOLTON

**Fred Lovell, Beaumont Lodge,  
1482 Junction Road West, Lostock,  
Bolton, BL6 4EG**

The Autumn Crocus (*Crocus nudiflorus*) on this site, in both the meadow and the woodland, have been flowering progressively earlier each year over the past decade:

Year	commencement of flowering
2000	23 September
2006	18 September
2007	14 September
2008	13 September
2009	11 September

Likewise, the peak flowering date has been getting progressively earlier each year:

Year	peak flowering
2008	5 October
2009	3 October

Crocus stems emerge from the ground at least seven days prior to flowering. However, depending upon the orientation and the amount of shading, there is at least a two week variation in flowering date for each of the many crocus colonies at Chew Moor.

The crocus Spring foliage begins to emerge on the 15 January approximately and then starts to wilt on 21 April approximately. However in 2010, due to the long cold winter, the wilt was very late and was not observed to begin until the 9 May.

In my opinion, from my observations, the Autumn Crocus would not appear to be a woodland species, as it thrives in full sun in open meadowland. In all probability this species “retreated” to the woods to escape grassland “improvements”, and it would appear that its decline as a meadow species is directly due to the agricultural demand for a springtime silage cut which inhibits the formation of crocus bulbils and corms.

To eliminate the need for a silage cut, and reduce the sward height and soil nitrogen level, the meadow was sown with Yellow-rattle (*Rhinanthus minor*), in order to provide a “selective herbicide” to control Perennial Rye-grass (*Lolium perenne*). This was first sown on 12 August 2007, Old Lammas Day, at a rate of 0.19 grams per square metre. Since then the crocus have begun to flourish on the meadow and the volume of risings from a once a year cut have been dramatically reduced:

Cutting on 10 August produced:

2007	10 bales
2008	7 bales
2009	4.5 bales
2010	negligible amount

**NWNU AGM  
Saturday 5 March  
2011  
Bolton Museum**

## **SOCIETY DIARY**

**Please note that members of the Northwestern Naturalists' Union are welcome to attend the meetings of all the affiliated societies.**

### **ACCRINGTON NATURALISTS' AND ANTIQUARIANS' SOCIETY**

Meetings start at 2.30 pm at Antley Methodists' Church Hall, Blackburn Road, Accrington. Enquiries 01254 381236 or 236076. Non-members welcome - £1.00 minimum lecture fee.

**Sunday 31 October : The Wildlife and Sights of Shetland**

David Tolliday

**Sunday 14 November : Orphaned Orang-utans of Borneo**

Kathleen Edwards

**Sunday 28 November : Wild Orchids**

Irene Ridge

**Friday 10 December : Christmas Luncheon at the Auberge Restaurant, Rishton**

**Sunday 12 December : The Wildlife of the Pennines**

Gordon Yates

**Sunday 6 January : Members Presentations**

Slides, exhibits and readings followed by afternoon tea

**Sunday 23 January : The Highlands and Islands of Scotland**

John Shaw

**Sunday 6 February : The Lady's Gone Fishing**

Judith Clark

**Sunday 20 February : Travel in the Great Rift Valley (Tanzania)**

Joan Vincent

**Sunday 6 March : Exploring Antarctica by Boat, Ski and Dog-sleigh**

Neil Aitkenhead

**Sunday 20 March : AGM and refreshments**

**Sunday 10 April : Watching over the Regions Weather**

Alan Goodman (Met Office Advisor)

### **BLACKBURN & DISTRICT BIRD CLUB**

Indoor meetings are usually held on the first Monday of the month at St. Silas's Church Hall, Preston New Road, Blackburn at 7.30 pm. Outdoor meetings are held to observe and study birds in the field, and are usually led by a member of the committee.

## **ALTRINGHAM AND DISTRICT NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY**

Except where otherwise stated, all meetings will be held at Bowdon Parish Centre, Stamford Road, Bowdon and will be timed approximately as follows : 7.30 pm informal gathering, 7.45pm lecture, 9.15 tea and chat.

All excursions leave from the public car-park, Cecil Road, Hale (behind supermarket) at the times indicated. If you intend to join the excursion please give three days notice to the leader. Food and drink for the day and suitable footwear are advisable.

**Tuesday 26 October : Illustrated lecture: 'Dunham and its people'**  
by Mike Gitsham

**Saturday 6 November : Full Day Excursion (NB 9:30a.m. start), Fungi foray at Tatton Park** - Dave Higginson-Tranter. Limited Numbers. Contact us for details

**Tuesday 9 November : Illustrated lecture: 'Alberta - The Banff & Jasper National Parks'** - Gerry Stephen

**Tuesday 23 November : Illustrated lecture: 'Hedges - Turning the Tide'**  
Richard Parker

**Tuesday 7 December : Illustrated lecture: 'Wildlife of the Pennines'**.  
A film with Gordon Yates

**Tuesday 11 January 2011 : Illustrated lecture: 'Fungi for beginners'**  
Dave Higginson-Tranter

**Tuesday 18 January : New Year Dinner - Contact us for details.**

**Tuesday 25 January : Illustrated lecture: 'Greater Manchester's Hidden Wildlife'**  
David Winnard

**Tuesday 8 February : Phil Newton Memorial Lecture: 'Butterflies of Manchester'**  
Peter Hardy

**Tuesday 22 February : Illustrated lecture: 'Manx Natural History'**  
Mike Taylor

**Tuesday 8 March : Illustrated lecture: 'Wildflowers of Oregon & Northern California'** - Sheena Hesketh

**Tuesday 22 March : ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.**

With a short slide show to conclude the evening. Exhibits of Natural History are welcome. The supplementary Spring/Summer programme will be available at this meeting.

**Tuesday 12 April : Illustrated lecture: 'A Ribble Estuary year'**

A film by Peter Guy. Please note that this event will start at the earlier time of 7:30pm

**Tuesday 27 September : The first indoor meeting commences.**

## **CESHIRE ACTIVE NATURALISTS**

Please note these events, and others listed on the website, are 'members only'.

If you are interested in attending any of the events, please do not hesitate to join, as many of our courses are filling up fast. Please visit the CAN website: [www.cheshireactivenaturalists.org.uk](http://www.cheshireactivenaturalists.org.uk) to view the events calendar, join our yahoo group or twitter stream, and download the membership form. Membership is £20 per annum or £10 for concessions. These events, and others listed on the website, are 'members only' but open events (such as local BioBlitzes) will also be held at times to be announced in the near future.

### **Saturday 30 October : Fungal Foray**

Styal t.b.c.

### **Saturday 13 November : Lichen Identification Day**

Goyt Valley Steve Price

### **Saturday 4 December : Mammal Trapping and Pellet Dissection**

Rob Smith and Jeff Clarke

## **CHEADLE HULME & BRAMHALL NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY**

Indoor meeting venue is at St. Michael's Church Hall, St. Michael's Avenue, Bramhall, Stockport, SK7 2PG at 7.30pm

### **Thursday 21 October : Iceland**

Frank Duckett

### **Thursday 18 November : Natural History of the Canary Islands**

Michael Pettipher

### **Thursday 9 December : A Walk on the Wildside**

Jack Swan

### **Thursday 20 January 2011: Namibia – Land of the Khoi-Khoi**

Heather James

### **Thursday 17 February : AGM (7.15PM) + Antipodean Adventures**

George Beaumont

### **Thursday 3 March: Hot Pot Supper**

### **Thursday 17 March : A World of Insects**

Tony Pioli

### **Thursday 21 April : Hedges & Conservation**

Richard Parker

## **GREATER MANCHESTER LOCAL RECORD CENTRE**

Greater Manchester Ecology Unit, Ryecroft Hall, Manchester Road, Audenshaw, Manchester, M34 5. Any queries contact: Suzanne Waymont on 0161 371 5834

Email: [suzanne.waymont@tameside.gov.uk](mailto:suzanne.waymont@tameside.gov.uk)



## **DERBYSHIRE AND NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY**

### **Saturday 6 November : Insect Show**

Broomfield Hall, Morley. 10.30 to 4.00 p.m.

Entrance £2, members and children free

## **LANCASHIRE & CHESHIRE ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY**

Indoor meetings are at 7.30pm, unless indicated and are at Frodsham Community Centre, Fluin Lane, Frodsham

## **LIVERPOOL BOTANICAL SOCIETY**

Indoor meetings are held in the Clore Natural History Centre, World Museum, Liverpool, starting at 11.00am.

### **Saturday 23 October : Freshfield and Ainsdale**

Meet Freshfield station at 10.25 am Leader Steve Cross

### **Saturday 13 November : Holiday Exhibits and Slides**

### **Saturday 11 December : Fern Identification Workshop**

Eric Greenwood and Steve Cross

### **Saturday 8 January : Liverpool Urban Wildflowers**

Steve Cross

### **Saturday 12 February : AGM**

Followed by a resume of the 2010 field season

**Tuesday 15 March : A visit to the Botanical Material in the Sydney Jones Library, University of Liverpool - 2-4 pm** Limit of 20 people, booking essential - Steve Cross (0151 478 4854)

## **MANCHESTER AND NORTH MIDLANDS FERN GROUP**

Contact: Yvonne Golding, 7 Grange Road, Buxton, Derbyshire SK17 6NH.  
01298 24588. Secretary@eBPS.org.uk

### **Saturday 23 October : Autumn Indoor Meeting**

The Firs, University of Manchester

Plant swap, slide shows, organise next years programme.

## **MANCHESTER MICROSCOPICAL AND NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY**

All meetings are held in the Stopford Building (Medical School) University of Manchester M13 9PT, corner of Oxford Road and Aker Street (next to the Holy Name Church), Manchester, from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. **All are welcome** – feel free to bring a friend or two. Non-members and members of other Societies are welcome. The Society's library will be available at all Stopford meetings and includes copies of our Newsletters and literature on microscopic history, as well as many books on microscopy and Natural History.

See also our Internet site at <http://www.manchestermicroscopical.org.uk>

## **MANCHESTER FIELD CLUB**

Indoor Meetings are held at Sale United Reformed Church Hall, Montague Road, Sale, M33 3BU, near Sale Metro station, commencing 7.00pm. Free to members, visitors £2.00.

Walk organiser: Alan Hill, 15 Merston Drive, East Didsbury, M20 5NT.  
Tel: 0161 445 1535 Website: [www.manchesterfieldclub.org.uk](http://www.manchesterfieldclub.org.uk)

## **NELSON NATURALIST SOCIETY**

All meetings are held at Christ Church, Carr Road, Nelson and start at 7.30pm

Enquiries: David Nelson 01282 863012

**Wednesday 20 October : A Beginners Guide to Fungi**  
Fungalpunk Dave

**Wednesday 3 November : In the Wake of Darwin – The Galapagos Islands**  
Jim Clift

**Wednesday 7 November : How to avoid being Eaten**  
Malcolm Edmunds

**Wednesday 1 December : Birds of the Yorkshire Dales National Park**  
Ian Court

**Wednesday 15 December : Coconuts and Coral Reefs**  
Ron Crosby

## **NORTHWESTERN NATURALISTS' UNION - BRYOPHYTE AND LICHEN SECTION**

All meetings on Saturdays, starting at 10.30 am. Bring food and clothing adequate for a full day in rough country and bad weather. Please check with section secretary a day or so before the meeting, in case of cancellation or changes.

“Beginners” are welcome any ANY meeting.

**Saturday 6 November : Healey Dell (Rochdale)**  
SD880155 (Healey Dell Visitor Centre, Dell Road). Leader Norman Bamforth.

**Saturday 4 December : Tom Wood (Charlesworth)**  
SJ996935 (Lymefield Visitor Centre, Broadbottom). Park in signposted overflow car-park. Leader Norman Bamforth.

## **PRESTON BIRD WATCHING AND NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY**

Meetings at St. Mary's Church Hall, Cop Lane, Penwortham.

Further details from Steve Halliwell 01772 705468, [www.prestonsociety.co.uk](http://www.prestonsociety.co.uk)

**Monday 18 October : Birds, Bee-eaters and Dodgy Geysers**  
Keith Scovell

**Monday 25 October : MEMBER'S EVENING**  
Bring your own images.

**Monday 1 November : Hedgerows – Turning the Tide**

Rick Parker

**Monday 8 November : A Night on the Tiles**

Jeff Clarke

**Monday 15 November : Managing Shell-fishing in Morecambe Bay**

Bob Houghton

**Monday 22 November : Seafood Through the Ages**

Prof. Callum Roberts

**Monday 29 November : Wildlife of Walls**

Ken Green

**Monday 6 December : The Wildlife of the Pennines (Cine Film)**

Gordon Yates

**Monday 13 December : Seagulls to Eagles – The Sequel**

Peter Smith

**Monday 20 December : MEMBER'S EVENING**

Bring your own images.

### **ROCHDALE FIELD NATURALISTS' SOCIETY**

[www.rochdalefieldnaturalistsociety.co.uk](http://www.rochdalefieldnaturalistsociety.co.uk)

Indoor Meetings are held on the second Thursday of the month, September to April, at Cutgate Baptist Church, Edenfield Road, Rochdale.

Enquiries: 01706 630707 and 814884. Charges: Members £1.00, Non-members £2.00.

All Excursions depart from the cul-de-sac at Manchester Road, Rochdale. Time: Coaches 0900hrs, Cars 1000hrs.

Coaches return at 1700hrs except during the months of November, December, January and February when return is at 1600hrs.

Queries: Field excursions – contact Barbara Waddington on 01706 658260 / Coach bookings – contact Fred Royle on 01706 644394 Coach Price: Members £12, Non-members £14.

**Saturday 30 October : Moore Nature Reserve, Warrington – Car Trip**

S. Allen & E. Clutterbuck

**Thursday 11 November : Plant Galls**

An illustrated lecture by Norman Bamforth

**Saturday 13 November : Loggerheads Country Park, near Mold – Coach Trip**

E. & D. Clutterbuck

**Thursday 9 December : Sights and Sounds of British Wildlife**

An illustrated lecture by David Tolliday

**Thursday 13 January 2011: Arctic and Hebridean Odyssey**

A film by Gordon Yates

**Thursday 10 February : Home and Away (Norwegian and Scottish wildlife)**

(Peter Hill Memorial Lecture) An illustrated lecture by Mick Durham

**Saturday 27 November : Roddlesworth, near Darwen – Car Trip**

A. Cross

**Saturday 11 December : Old Moor RSPB Reserve – Coach Trip**

P. & M. Culkin (Entrance fee)

**Saturday 15 January 2011: Clumber Park, Worksop – Coach Trip**

R. & K. Cowley

**Saturday 29 January : Clegg Hall/Hollingworth Lake – Car Trip**

P. & D. Francis

**Saturday 12 February : Leighton Moss RSPB Reserve, Silverdale – Coach Trip**

P. & B. Waddington (Entrance fee)

**Saturday 26 February : Tandle Hill, Thornham – Car Trip**

R. & P. Maddock

**Thursday, 10 March : Thomas Beaumont – Nature Photographer**

An illustrated lecture by Michael Newton

**Saturday 12 March : Blacktoft Sands RSPB Reserve, Goole – Coach Trip**

J. Taylor (Entrance fee)

**Saturday 26 March : Anglezarke, Chorley – Car Trip**

F. Royle

**SADDLEWORTH NATURALISTS**

All events listed are indoor meetings held at 7.30pm at the Brownhill Visitors' Centre at Dobcross.

**Wednesday 10 November : Wildlife of Tenerife**

Nick Martin

**December** - No meeting

**Wednesday 12 January 2011: Wildlife Spectacles of Mexico**

Tim Melling (RSPB)

**Wednesday 9 February : The Rochdale Hedgehog Rescue Society**

Sue Lewis

**Wednesday 9 March : My Wildest Dreams**

Jane Downall

**Wednesday 13 April : Annual General Meeting**

Plus members' digital pictures and light refreshments.