



# C R S NEWSLETTER

## Beetle recording in Leicestershire

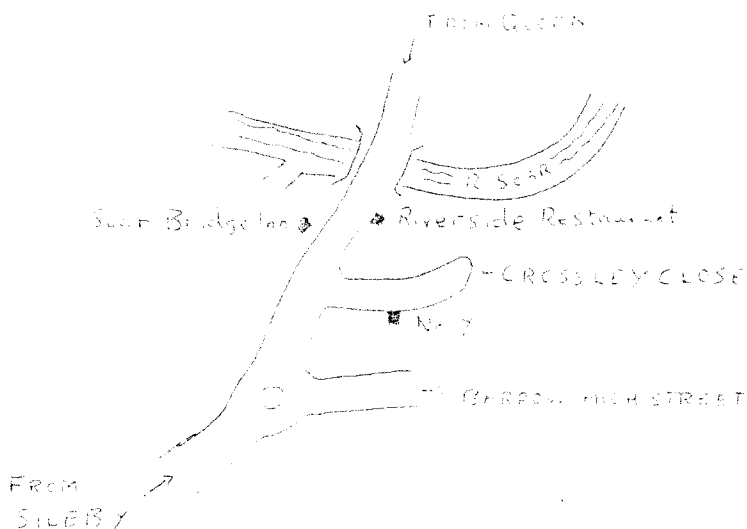
Produced by the Leicestershire Coleoptera Recording Scheme

No.1

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This is the first newsletter of the newly formed Leicestershire Coleoptera Recording Scheme. Because the scheme will be new to many people I have set out its aims below. Anyone can participate, whether they are experienced with beetle identifications or not.

This scheme is one of a number organised by the Leicestershire Biological Record Centre, which is based at New Walk Museum in Leicester. In order to get the scheme off the ground I have organised an informal meeting for anyone interested at my house in Barrow-upon-Soar on Saturday, 24th March. At this meeting I will hand out record cards and discuss a few administrative matters. Afterwards we will start the field meeting programme with a trip to the River Soar at Barrow.



Meet at 7, Crossley Close, Barrow-upon-Soar at 10.00am, Saturday 24th March. My telephone number is Quorn 412376.

If you cannot make this meeting, but you are still interested in taking part please contact me or just turn up at one of the field meetings.

Aims of the Leicestershire Coleoptera Recording Scheme

1. To collect records of beetles from Leicestershire into a single, readily accessible data bank.
2. To foster the recording of information on beetles in Leicestershire.
3. To publish a list of beetles recorded in Leicestershire.
4. To publish an atlas showing the modern distribution and status of species of beetles in Leicestershire.
5. To provide information and advice on the scientific interest of sites in Leicestershire with special regard to beetles.

Field Meetings

I have organised an initial series of field meetings for 1984 to be held on Saturdays at monthly intervals. I hope that these meetings will serve not only to accumulate records, but also to bring Coleopterists together for exchange of ideas and techniques in an informal atmosphere.

The meetings will begin at 10.00am and will include a lunchtime pub visit. There will be an opportunity to continue with afternoon sessions if desired.

Programme:

24th March : River Soar, Barrow and Pillings Lock : an area containing many old pollarded willows and marshy areas by the river. Meet at 7, Crossley Close, Barrow-upon-Soar, OS 129, SK 573173 (see map above).

28th April : The Wailes, Frisby-on-the-Wreake : a chance to look for water beetles (nets will be provided) and also terrestrial beetles in the surrounding marsh and hedgerows. Meet on the back road between Frisby and Rotherby, OS 129, SK 686172. Visit by courtesy of the Leicestershire and Rutland Trust for Nature Conservation.

12th May : Spring Wood and Staunton Harold Reservoir : a promising woodland site with nearby reservoir margins on the Derbyshire border. Meet at the car park on the road between Calke and the B587, OS 128, SK 378220. Visit by courtesy of the Derbyshire Naturalists Trust.

23rd June : Croxton Park : old parkland with ancient oaks, and lots of dead timber in the north-east of the county. Meet at the park entrance on the A607 between Waltham and Croxton, OS 130, SK 825285. Visit by courtesy of the Belvoir Estate.

21st July : Stanford Reservoir : a reservoir with a good variety of marginal habitats in the Northamptonshire border. Meet in the reservoir grounds on the track by the dam leading off the side road to Stanford, OS 140, SP 595803.  
Visit by courtesy of the Severn Trent Water Authority.

25th August : Misterton : two areas of marshland near Lutterworth. Meet on the farm access road labelled Oback Farm off the Lutterworth to Gilmorton road, OS 140, SP 555847.  
Visit by courtesy of the Severn Trent Water Authority.

22nd September : Launde Big Wood : a large and varied wood in East Leicestershire. Meet on the road between Loddington and Launde Abbey, OS 141, SK 795035.  
Visit by courtesy of the Leicestershire and Rutland Trust for Nature Conservation.

20th October : Grace Dieu Wood : a wood in Charnwood Forest. Meet at the Whitwick turn off the A512, OS 129, SK 430180.  
Visit by courtesy of Squire de Lisle.

17th November : Luffenham Heath : an area of mixed habitats including limestone grassland. Meet at crossroads on A6121 north-east of South Luffenham, OS 141, SK 946024.  
Visit by courtesy of Luffenham Heath Golf Club.

### Identifications

Many groups of beetles provide identification problems, even for experienced Coleopterists. I will check any identifications that are in doubt, and in those groups, which I am not competent to deal with, I will send the specimens to acknowledged authorities.

We also have the option of holding Saturday identification workshops in the museum, if there is a demand. We can discuss this further at the first meeting, but perhaps you can let me know if you think any particular families should receive this kind of detailed approach.

### Newsletter

This is the first of an occasional series. It will be produced whenever the need arises to pass out information on the scheme and future events, and to keep people informed of local news and results. I will continue to produce the newsletter, but it would be nice to receive contributions from anyone if they have anything, major or minor, to say.

Derek Lott

Leicestershire Museums Service