

The Great North Pennines Bug Hunt

Four fun outdoor trails for all ages



Limited
edition artwork
on reverse
side

NORTH PENNINES

Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization



North Pennines
UNESCO
Global Geopark

These four art trails have been created as part of the North Pennines AONB Partnership's Cold-blooded and Spineless project that celebrates the fascinating world of invertebrates.

Each trail features unique artwork created by local artists. Discover for yourself what wonderful small creatures thrive in the undergrowth, slither in the soil and fly amongst the flowers...

Why celebrate invertebrates?

Invertebrates make up 96 percent of all animals on the planet! These include insects, molluscs, arachnids, crustaceans and myriapods. Insects have three pairs of legs, a head, thorax and abdomen. Anything with more than six legs is not an insect.

Abdomen Thorax Head



Invertebrates are beautiful and mysterious creatures. They help us by:

- **pollinating** fruit and vegetables
- **recycling** nutrients for healthy soil and clean water
- **providing** a source of food for birds, mammals, fish and people



Trail	Starting point	Postcode	Parking
1 Bowlees Riverfly Trail	Bowlees Visitor Centre, Upper Teesdale	DL12 0XE	A voluntary donation is welcome.
2 Allenheads Woodland Minibeasts	Allenheads Heritage Centre	NE47 9HN	Limited spaces in centre of village. Free.
3 The Creepy Crawl	Millshield picnic site or the Visitor Centre at Derwent Waterside Park	DH8 9TT	2hrs £1.50 4hrs £3.50 All day £5
4 Bug Corner	Durham Dales Centre	DL13 2FJ	Free, a 4 hr maximum stay.

Cold-blooded and Spineless, funded by the National Lottery Heritage Fund, has brought together artists, scientists, schools and North Pennines communities, to highlight the important role of bugs in the landscape.

We have identified 20 new Special Invertebrate Sites (SIS). These are home to some of our most important invertebrate species and habitats. Two places featured in this leaflet are SISs. These are Pow Hill Country Park, home to beautiful creatures like the violet oil beetle, and Low Force footpath, beside the river Tees, with flower-rich banks supporting abundant bees and hoverflies.

For more information go to:

www.northpennines.org.uk/our-work/cold-blooded-and-spineless/

Don't forget to record what you see! Sharing your sightings of invertebrates helps towards their conservation on a local and national scale. Try and get a photograph to support your record, and submit it at: www.northpennines.org.uk/wildwatch

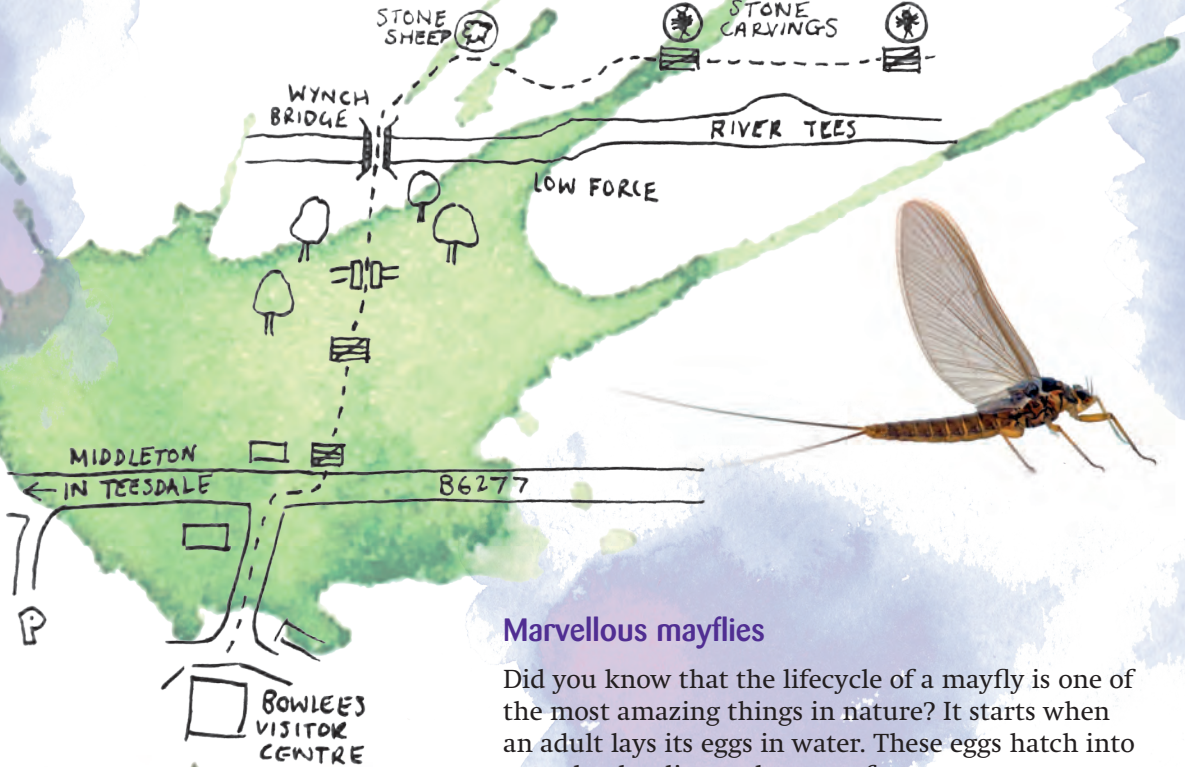
Bowlees - riverfly trail

On the river bank

Starting at Bowlees Visitor Centre, can you see the riverfly tiles on the wall of the building?

Take a rubbing or a photo so you know what riverflies to look for along the trail.

The tiles show both young and adult riverflies. Some mayflies have three tails and stoneflies have two tails.



Marvellous mayflies

Did you know that the lifecycle of a mayfly is one of the most amazing things in nature? It starts when an adult lays its eggs in water. These eggs hatch into nymphs that live underwater for up to two years. They can shed their skin as many as 50 times before they emerge from the depths into the beautiful mayflies we see fluttering over our rivers in spring.



There are four stone carvings along the path from Low Force to High Force. We've helped you find them by showing part of one of the carvings above.

Allenheads - woodland minibeast trail

Before you start...

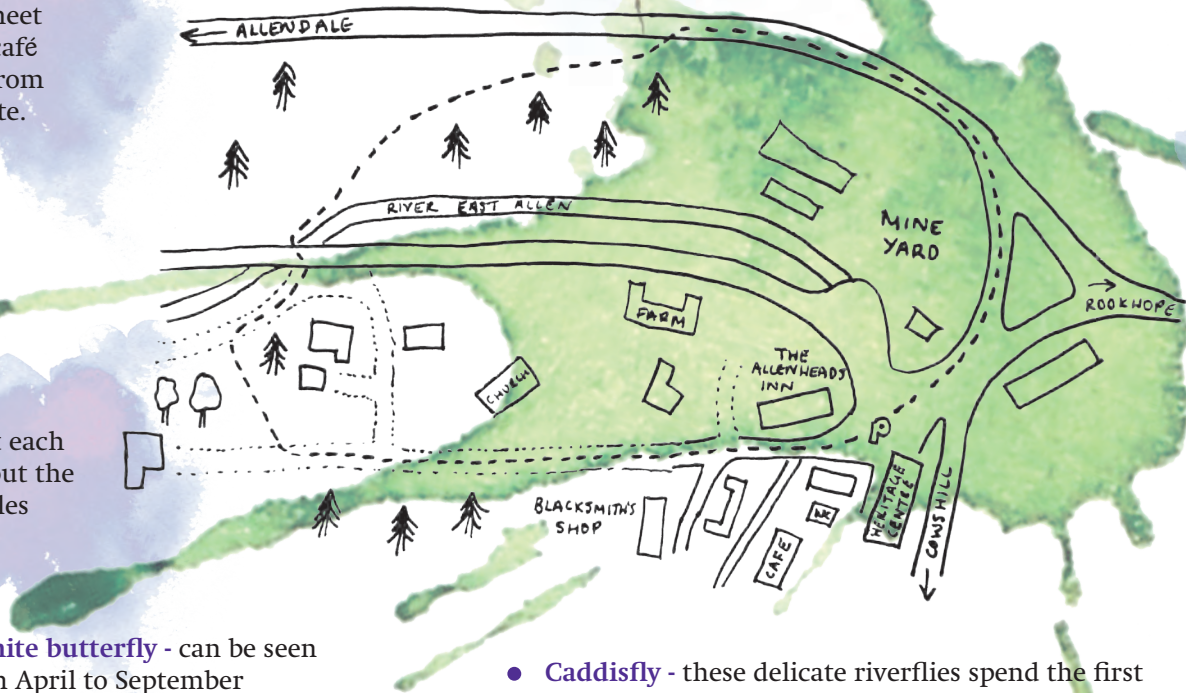
Before you start your trail, collect an activity sheet from The Hemmel café and take rubbings from the tiles on this route.

What to spot

Discover facts about each insect as you hunt out the beautiful ceramic tiles created by artist Louise Hick on this woodland walk.

- **Green-veined white butterfly** - can be seen on the wing from April to September
- **Larch ladybird** - this is a striped, not a spotty, ladybird
- **Frog hopper** - these minibeasts jump incredibly fast, accelerating at 4000 metres per second as they move from plant to plant
- **Silver-ground carpet moth** - this nocturnal flyer is on the wing from May to July
- **Funnel-web spider** - this eight-legged beast looks after its babies in a distinctive shaped web
- **Common black ant** - the farmer of the invertebrate world, these efficient insects have been known to farm aphids (greenfly)
- **Red-breasted carrion beetle** - one of nature's bin men, this macabre beetle is attracted to the bodies of dead animals

Trail artist Louise Hick



- **Caddisfly** - these delicate riverflies spend the first stages of their life cycle underwater (to see more from these minibeasts have a look at the Bowlees riverfly trail)
- **Hoverfly** - see these fast-moving pollinators hovering throughout the woods
- **White-tailed bumble bee** - this early riser is one of the first bees to appear in Spring



Derwent Waterside Park - the creepy crawl

Places to explore

This trail runs from Millshield to the dam head and you can explore it in either direction. Pow Hill Country Park is a Special Invertebrate Site close to the creepy crawl.

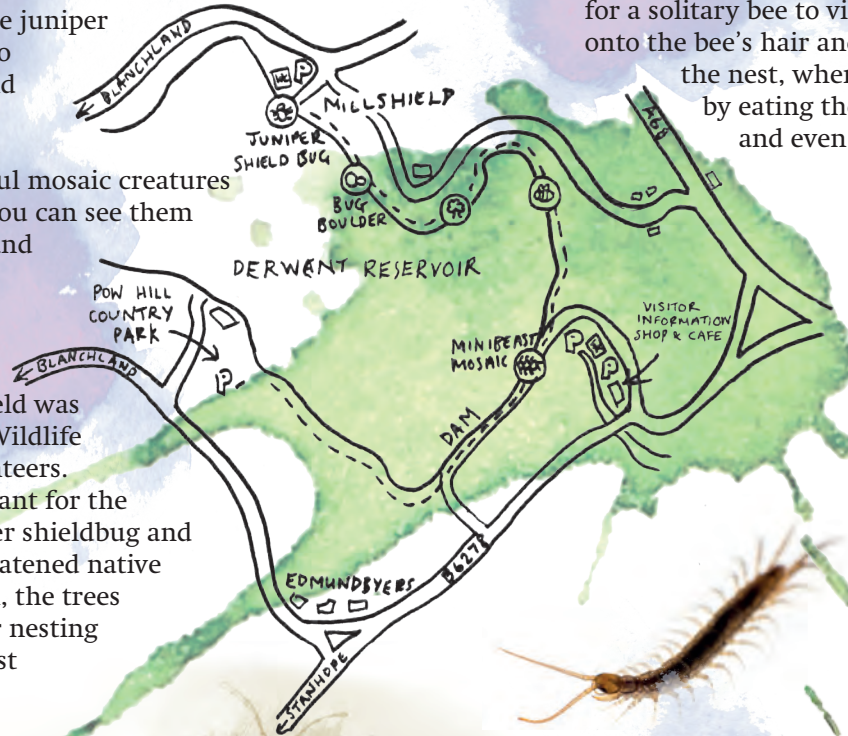
See if you can find the juniper shieldbug carved onto a boulder at Millshield picnic spot.

Hunt out the colourful mosaic creatures along the footpath. You can see them crawling over rocks and over the dam wall of the reservoir.

The juniper tree plantation at Millshield was created by Durham Wildlife Trust and their volunteers. Juniper is the food plant for the nymphs of the juniper shieldbug and is a valuable but threatened native species. When grown, the trees will provide cover for nesting birds such as goldcrest and song thrush.






Expert beetles

Violet oil beetles may look harmless but they expertly take advantage of the hard work of solitary bees. Oil beetle larvae, called triungulins, hatch out at the base of flowers and climb to the flower head, waiting for a solitary bee to visit. They then latch onto the bee's hair and hitch a lift back to the nest, where the beetle develops by eating the bee's food supplies and even their young.



Trail features

Look out for these points along the trail:

-  juniper shieldbug
-  bug boulder
-  tree stump 'Isopad'
-  'Six legs stretch'
-  mosaic



Juniper shieldbug



Bug Corner - a garden for minibeasts

What can you find?

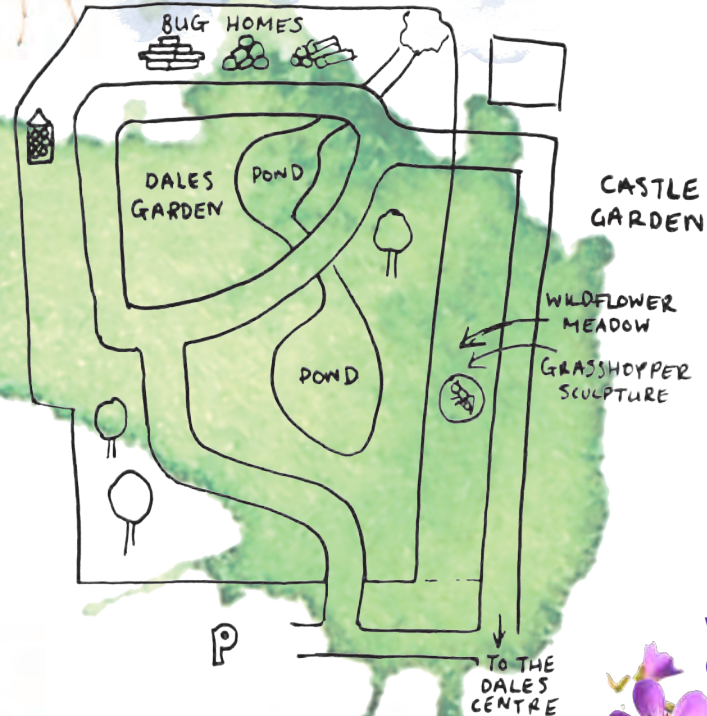
In the grounds of Durham Dales Centre in Stanhope we have created a haven for bugs. Starting at the giant grasshopper, see what minibeasts you can find hiding in the homes we have built. Find the ceramic bug tiles we have created with the children of Weardale. How many can you count?

Bugs love wildflowers

Can you find the wildflower meadow?

Underneath the grasshopper, volunteers have planted wildflowers, grown from seeds collected in local places. Can you find a Wood Crane's-bill flowering? Meadows normally flower in June and July.

This wildflower meadow will naturally develop and improve to make Bug Corner a better home for bugs in years to come.



Feeling inspired?

Why not build a bug hotel at home? Use ideas you have seen in Bug Corner to make a better habitat for bugs in your own garden. For more information visit our website: www.northpennines.org.uk

Wood Crane's-bill



Trail artists Hannah Harbon and Graeme Hopper

The North Pennines is one of England's finest landscapes – explore flower-rich haymeadows, wide open moorlands, intimate woods, tumbling rivers and dramatic waterfalls. Discover fascinating geology and mining heritage, experience truly dark skies and encounter special plants and wildlife. In recognition of this it is designated as an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB). It is also a UNESCO Global Geopark, reflecting its world-class geology and the way this is used locally to support education, tourism and conservation.

The North Pennines AONB Partnership's Cold-blooded and Spineless project has:

- **added** 7000 new invertebrate records to national databases
- **discovered** unrecorded species in the North Pennines
- **established** 20 new Special Invertebrate Sites
- **improved** or created 50 homes for bugs
- **involved** over 15 schools in learning about minibeasts
- **celebrated** why bugs are brilliant with 1000 children
- **delivered** 60 identification workshops to members of the public

We are grateful for the help and enthusiasm of everyone involved in the project.

Cold-blooded and Spineless is a project led by the North Pennines AONB Partnership and funded by the National Lottery Heritage Fund.



The arts trails have been supported by:



Colour juniper shield bug sketch ©Ashley Wood, Stonefly sketch ©Peter Graham, moth and ladybird sketches ©Mark Rowney, Shield bug sketches ©Peter Graham, Violet oil beetle ©John Walters, Invertebrate images ©Nat Wilkins.



'Night Meadow I'

Mark Rowney