

# Spider Recording Scheme News

Spring 2024, No. 108



Scheme Organiser & News Editor: Richard Gallon; rgallon47@gmail.com

SRS website: <http://srs.britishspiders.org.uk>

CUK: fah

## Editorial

by Richard Gallon

The BAS now has a dedicated SRS/HRS iRecord data entry form (Fig. 1). This is a major BAS development allowing arachnologists and the general public to more easily submit their records to the schemes. The intuitive form has been developed for spider, harvestmen and pseudoscorpion recording. There is even an option to include SRS habitat data (Phase-2) with your records which will greatly improve the usefulness of records submitted to us via iRecord.

The form allows you to enter standard data like date, grid reference, site name, SRS habitat data, and then progresses to a tabular species entry form so that you can enter a species list from a site very efficiently. You can also include multiple photographs of the species you have recorded which will help our Area Organisers verify your records.

The iRecord record entry form is at:

<https://irecord.org.uk/enter-srs-records>

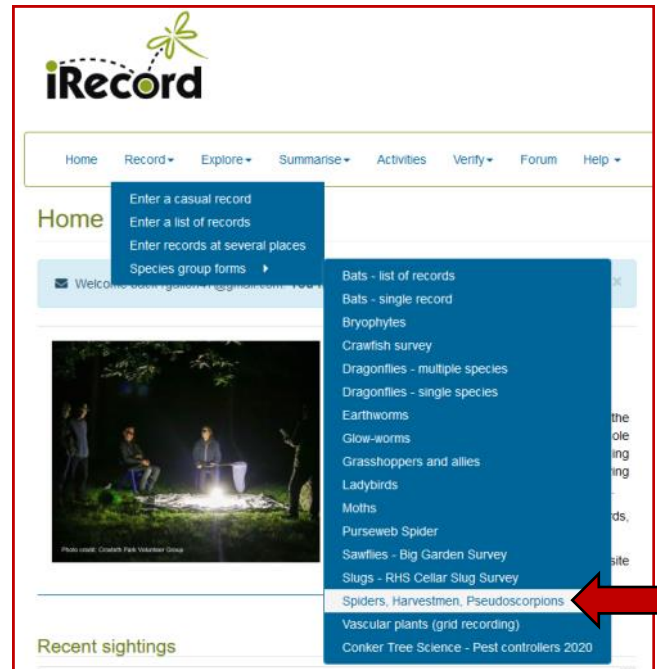


Figure 1. Dedicated SRS/HRS iRecord form can be accessed from the “Record” > “Species group forms” menus in iRecord.

The screenshot shows the 'BAS recording schemes record entry form' on the iRecord website. At the top left are the iRecord and British Arachnological Society logos. The navigation menu includes Home, Record, Explore, Summarise, Activities, Verify, Forum, and Help. On the right, there are links for 'Login as >>' and 'My account Log out'. The breadcrumb trail is 'Home / BAS recording schemes record entry form'. The main heading is 'BAS recording schemes record entry form'. Below this is a descriptive paragraph: 'British Arachnological Society. Submit your UK spider, harvestmen and Pseudoscorpion records directly to the national recording schemes here. Distribution maps for spiders and harvestmen are available on the Spider Recording Scheme website.' The form includes several input fields: 'Date:' with a date picker (dd/mm/yyyy) and a 'Vague date mode' toggle; 'Recorder Name:' with a text field containing 'Gallon, Richard' and a lock icon; a blue box with the text 'Please provide a grid reference and site name for the records. [More help]'; 'Grid reference:' with a dropdown menu set to 'British National Grid'; 'Site name:' with a text field and a lock icon; 'Vice county:' with a dropdown menu and a lock icon; and a 'Search for a place:' section with a search bar and a map of the United Kingdom and surrounding regions. A red arrow points to a link labeled '[Show optional SRS habitat fields]' at the bottom left of the form.

## First Scottish Records for *Holocnemus pluchei* (Scopoli, 1763) and *Lessertia denticelis* (Simon, 1884)

by Mike Davidson

You wait "ages" for another new Scottish spider and then two come along almost at once! The new species were both found in buildings and both are associated with cellars and similar habitats. *Holocnemus pluchei*, the Marbled Cellar Spider, was found during a journey between Aberdeenshire and Perth (22/12/2023), when I stopped for refreshments at the Brechin Castle Garden Centre cafe, in Angus (NO577599). Encouraged by Geoff Oxford's exploits, I did my usual search of the garden centre. In a covered, but partly open, plant sales area I found large amounts of spider silk on the walls but I couldn't initially find the culprit. Easing boxes of artificial ivy away from the wall I found a group of what I initially took for harvestmen, with their long legs looking very much like a *Leiobunum*. These distinctively marked pholcids seemed to be behaving quite differently from *Pholcus phalangioides*, which are usually found in their webs. There was a well-established population of *H. pluchei* with adult males, females (with their confusingly swollen palps) and juveniles. The dark ventral side helped to distinguish them from *Pholcus*. I suspect many more of them were hiding behind the various wall display racks, presumably waiting for darkness to fall.

A visit to Inverurie (17/01/2024), in Aberdeenshire, included calling in at the local Marks & Spencer store (NJ774217). There, in the "customer facilities", I noticed a very small spider creeping along the wall much like a pale *Oonops*, but with longer legs. This turned out to be a male *Lessertia denticelis*, one of the linyphiids. This is known to inhabit damp environments such as caves, mines and sewers. So had it just arrived in the latest delivery from M&S central – or had it crept out of the drains, the basement or come from the adjacent culverted stream in Burn Lane?

While unsuccessfully looking for a common name for this spider (the Toothy Culvert Spider perhaps?) I came across a reference to a population in the Stockholm metro tunnels which features in an art tour! <https://stockholmartwalk.se/guide-to-the-art-of-stockholms-subway/the-art-at-kungstradgardens-metro-station/lessertia-denticelis/?lang=en>. Something for M&S and the inhabitants of Inverurie to think about.

E-mail: mike.davidson55@btinternet.com

## *Pellenes tripunctatus* Range Extension in East Kent VC15

by Mike Waite

Although based in Surrey, family duties regularly take me to East Kent where I try to pursue some recording whenever I can. A quick side-step off the M20 brings me to a favoured site on the White Cliffs above Folkestone's Warren, where one may gingerly descend the cliff a little way to access some undisturbed dry grassland and chalky scree (Fig. 1). My two most recent visits have both yielded some interesting spiders. In 2022, it was an adult female *Marpissa nivoyi*, but in August 2023 even more exciting was a sub-adult female *Pellenes tripunctatus* (Figs. 2–3). Both were collected from a loose, partly-

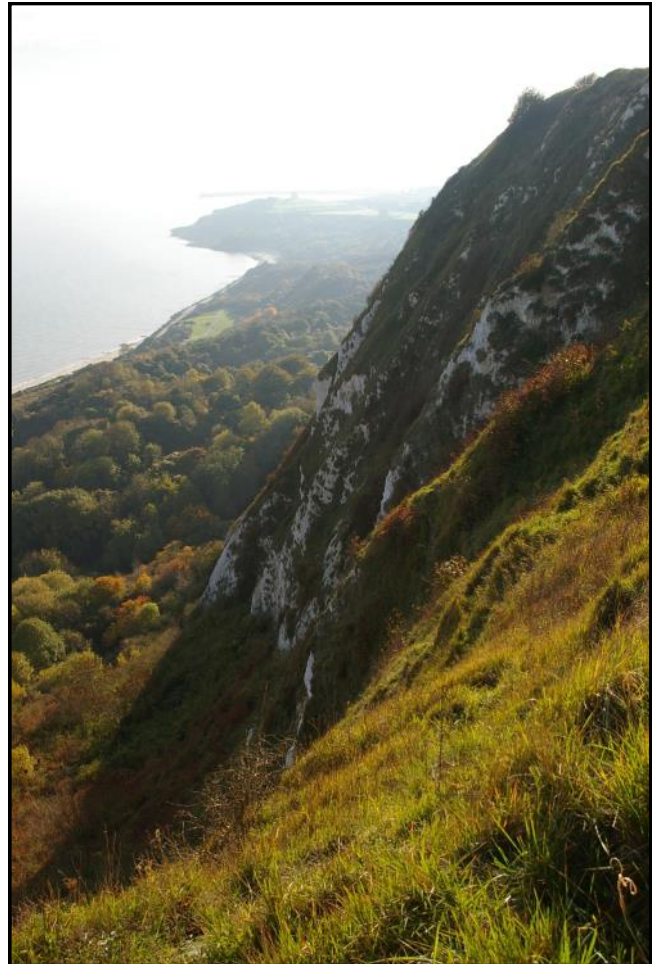


Figure 1. Abbots Cliff, Capel-le-Ferne.  
© Mike Waite.

vegetated minor chalk-fall. In the south-east *Pellenes* has a single record away from its Rye Harbour-Dungeness-Romney Warren stronghold, being an old, imprecisely dated record from 'Folkestone', attributed to W. S. Bristowe. So, my record is certainly confirmation for the continuity of that, and is moreover an eastern modern range extension of some 25 kms. Other finds at the Abbots Cliff site have included regular *Alopecosa barbipes* and an untypically pale *Xerolycosa nemoralis*.

E-mail: Mike.Waite@surreywt.org.uk



Figure 2. *Pellenes tripunctatus* immature female, Abbots Cliff. © Mike Waite.



Figure 3. *Pellenes tripunctatus* immature female, Abbotts Cliff. © Mike Waite

### ***Alopecosa fabrilis* Confirmed Extant for Dorset VC09**

by Mike Waite

Survey work has continued apace for the Great Fox-spider *Alopecosa fabrilis*. Having last spring had the identity confirmed of the juvenile spider collected at Great Ovens Heath, Wareham in 2022, the search for adults resumed in autumn 2023. Accompanied by the ARC Trust Reserve Manager, nocturnal head-torching soon revealed two sub-adult females and a male in early September. These were the first of such recorded since 1999. Back in Surrey, a minor range extension was confirmed within the golf course adjacent to the military training site at Hankley Common. Important conversations with some key stakeholders have recently confirmed the basis of a targeted species action plan for the spider, to kick off hopefully later this year.



Figure 1. *Alopecosa fabrilis* sub-adult female. © Mike Waite

E-mail: Mike.Waite@surreywt.org.uk

### ***Hahnia nava* in Garden Gravels in Lincolnshire**

by Jon Daws

*Hahnia nava* is a species I occasionally come across whilst collecting in open habitats, usually in ones or twos but rarely in numbers (the exceptions I have experienced have been when pitfall trapping in an old brick pit and when this species is ballooning). When I moved into my new home in Hogsthorpe, Lincolnshire at the end of 2021 it was the first time I had had a gravel drive. Around the edge of the bungalow was a 20 cm wide trough of gravel. The gravel was twenty millimetres plus in diameter so allowed plenty of air pockets for spiders to hide within.

My first inadvertent survey of this habitat was when I was replacing some of the old stone that had become covered in soil and leaf mould. From amongst the debris several species of immature spider emerged including *Amaurobius similis*, *Dysdera crocata* and *Eratigena duellica*, as well as a few adult *Phrurolithus festivus* and *Hahnia nava*. I initially thought that the *H. nava* were probably aeronauts and that I had had a lucky encounter, but I went on to record this species on several occasions over several seasons either in the gravel around the bungalow or in the stone at the edge of the driveway. This species was also recorded on a couple of occasions from the interface between the edge of the curbs surrounding the buried septic tank and the mown lawn.

Armed with this information I set off to see whether other people's gravelled front gardens also contained *H. nava*. Two random gardens were selected (one in Sutton on Sea, one in Mablethorpe), at both I knocked at their doors and explained I was looking to see if a very small spider that I had found in my gravel driveway was also in theirs. The householders both agreed that I could spend half an hour rummaging through their gravel (as long as I put it back as I found it). At both sites *H. nava* were present as well as immature *P. festivus*, with both species preferring the areas that were only one or two stones deep and being absent from deeper areas of stone. A third site was visited on the way home, in the village of Huttoft, where the surround to a school car park had been laid to large gravel. Half an hour of grubbing through the stones only produced several immature *P. festivus*.

*Hahnia nava* is known to inhabit stony and sparsely vegetated ground, so the species inhabiting gravel driveways should not come as a surprise. What would be interesting is to see if *H. nava* is present in gravel driveways across the country?

E-mail: jon.daws1962@icloud.com

### ***Cryptachaea blattea* New to Lincolnshire**

by Jon Daws

On the 03/01/2024, while conducting a torchlight search for *Steatoda nobilis* in one of several churches in Louth (TF333871), I also collected a few interesting looking spiders I came across. A couple of days later I got the specimens under the microscope and was surprised to find a male *Cryptachaea blattea* amongst the half dozen spiders collected from the walls of the church. A quick check of the SRS website confirmed it as a new vice county record.

## ***Steatoda nobilis* in Lincolnshire**

by Jon Daws

Since February 2017, when I found my first Lincolnshire *Steatoda nobilis* in the back garden of my home in Chapel St Leonard's (TF557730), I have noticed a slow but steady increase in sightings of this species locally. Initially this was just the odd isolated specimen, but as the years went by more of them were seen on my torchlit dog walks. For me an eye opener occurred in November 2021 when I moved house. Whilst packing up garden plant pots and wall art, over half a dozen female *S. nobilis* were discovered hiding separately behind metal butterflies along the fence line and underneath large short-legged wooden plant holders.

At the new property in the village of Hogsthorpe (TF535718) I discovered, whilst unpacking some solar lights, that I had inadvertently brought at least one female *S. nobilis* with me from my previous address. In late summer 2022 a female *S. nobilis* was seen inside my garage window, by torchlight, a place it still occupies today (January 2024). Torchlight surveys of the small garden revealed several further females as well as over a dozen medium sized immature specimens. As the year progressed into autumn there was a small influx of wandering males into the kitchen from the conservatory. This prompted me to have a concerted look for this species on my torchlit dog walks, I also slightly varied the route each night in order to take in other parts of the village. I discovered that *S. nobilis* was present throughout the whole of the village and was the second most frequent species seen after *Zygiella x-notata*, with *Araneus diadematus*, *Nuctenea umbratica* and *Amaurobius similis* coming distant thirds.

In late November 2023 to January 2024, five torchlight surveys each of just over three hours in length were conducted to see how widespread *S. nobilis* is locally. The initial survey concentrated on local tetrads which yielded good numbers of this species in built up environs, then progressed to hectares again yielding more specimens. In Lincolnshire this species was known from eight tetrads in eight hectads; this small survey (as well as a few of my old records) added a further 21 tetrads and 12 new hectads to its known distribution.

From this small snapshot it can be seen that this species has successfully colonised the built up environs of Lincolnshire over the last decade. It is probably a lot more common than present records suggest south of a line from the top of North Yorkshire to the Lake District with plenty of outlying populations further north. This species is more easily found at night by torchlight, when it emerges from its retreat. Females may live for several years with both sexes perhaps taking two years to mature (in the autumn/early winter there are lots of medium sized immature specimens that will not mature until the following year). *Steatoda nobilis* has probably been spread across the UK by people either in containers, bulk deliveries of outside goods or (as in my case) moving house. Once a small population has been established at a new location, then the spider will rapidly spread to adjacent buildings, so whole villages, towns and cities are quite rapidly colonised. I have no evidence that this spider balloons, but even if it only does this over short distances, isolated properties within a mile or so of a colonised village or town will stand a high probability of acquiring *S. nobilis*.

My small surveys have shown how widespread this species is in Lincolnshire and I'm sure that *S. nobilis* is possibly as common in your part of the country, so go and

have a look! Even if you don't find this species you may find something even more interesting!

E-mail: jon.daws1962@icloud.com

## **Spiders New to Cornwall (VCs 1 & 2), for the Spider Recording Scheme in 2023**

by Tylan Berry

*Maro minutus* – a handful of adult spiders, both male and female, were found by sieving damp moss and broadleaf litter at a small wet flush in a patch of woodland surrounded by culm grassland at the Greena Moor Nature Reserve in January (Fig. 1).



Figure 1. *Maro minutus* adult male. 5 p coin for scale. © Tylan Berry.

*Xysticus ulmi* – A single immature female was found in mire vegetation at Crowdy Marsh on Bodmin Moor in June 2022, and raised to maturity for positive identification in March 2023. Adults have subsequently been found at two further sites on the Moor: in sedges at Redmoor Marsh and in sallow at Witybrook Marsh (J. McGill).



Figure 2. *Xysticus ulmi*. © Tylan Berry.



Figure 3. *Altella lucida* adult female. © Tylan Berry.



Figure 4. *Altella lucida* habitat – steep cliff scree. © Tylan Berry.

*Altella lucida* – Two adult females (Fig. 3) were found on the cliffs at Rumps Point in May in damp depressions in the soil under slightly embedded stones at an area of hot, southwest facing clifftop scree (Fig. 4). The site is vastly different to the only known historic site for the species, at Morden Bog in Dorset, where the spider was found twice in the 1970s under dried algal mats. There is similar habitat to that at Rumps Point further along this stretch of the north coast of Cornwall. Targeted searches for it at areas such as Trevoise Head may reveal its presence in places where it has possibly avoided detection in the past.

*Piratula uliginosa* – A single female was found amongst Greater Tussock Sedge at Redmoor Marsh in June and, quite unusually for this genus, a further three adult females were found in December at the same site. Similarly to the situation with *P. tenuitarsis*, which is only currently known from a single mire site in Cornwall, it would be very surprising if *P. uliginosa* is restricted to Redmoor Marsh as there is ample similar habitat across Bodmin Moor and the Mid-Cornwall Moors.

*Dolomedes fimbriatus* – There have been unconfirmed records of this enigmatic species at one or two wetland sites in Cornwall, but no specimens have ever been photographed or collected for verification. In recent years there has been a large amount of survey effort afforded to it at sites across Bodmin Moor and the Mid-Cornwall



Figure 5. *Dolomedes fimbriatus* sub-adult male. © Tylan Berry.

Moors that are similar to those that hold other southwestern populations, such as Yarnar Wood in Devon and Shapwick Heath in Somerset. However, the spider has remained absent, or extremely elusive, across Cornwall.

After many discussions with peers from the local recording community, in October 2022 it came to light that a local recorder may have seen the spider in 1998 at Retallick Moor, an isolated area of wet heath and mire communities in Mid Cornwall. Even more exciting was that the record was accompanied by a photograph that was instantly recognisable as a *Dolomedes* sp.! A week later I visited the site with Cerin Poland and, in an area surrounding a small pool, we found a handful of sub-adults (Fig. 5) alongside one or two much younger individuals in marginal vegetation. We undertook a return visit in July 2023 with the original finder, Steve Jones, and found a handful of adult female spiders with nurseries in Purple Moor Grass tussocks and Bog Myrtle bushes. A single adult female was taken for identification and verification on a subsequent visit in September, which confirmed the species as *D. fimbriatus*.

It is remarkable that the species has remained present at this isolated site for 25 years and has shown no signs of spreading out to any of the nearby wetland habitats within the Mid-Cornwall Moors. Future survey work will be carried out along suitable dispersal corridors to establish whether the spider is truly confined to this small, isolated fragment of wetland.

*Enoplognatha mandibularis* – a single immature specimen was collected under a stone in Long Rock car park in 2013 (G. Lyons) but died in captivity prior to reaching maturity and was not recorded to species level at the time. A return visit to the site in October 2023 produced further adult specimens of both sexes that were living under stones and amongst large boulders in the rock armour along the beach. This is the first time the species has been recorded outside of accidental imports in the UK and the spider is surprisingly numerous at the site. It is present in Marram Grass at coastal dune areas on the coast of Guernsey so may also be present in similar locations across the south coast of the UK.

*Badumna longiniqua* – Since its initial discovery in a Plymouth house in 2021 (A. Cundell), the spider has been found to be strongly established across the Egguckland district in Plymouth. Where it occurs here, it is often the dominant species present. As recently reported (Gallon,



Figure 6. *Badumna longinqua* adult female.  
© Tylan Berry.

2023), populations have now been found in Neath, Newcastle, Sunderland and a site in Sussex, and then in October 2023 it was reported to be established along a road between Redruth and Cambourne in Cornwall (L. Fox). Since that discovery it has also been found in Newquay.

The species is synanthropic and lives in very similar habitats to *Amaurobius similis*, seemingly preferring to make its web on metal signposts, lamp posts, traffic lights etc. and fencing – both metal and wooden. A cursory observation of the Neath, Plymouth and Cornish populations is that they seemed to shun exposed external stone walls, though they have been found in dense Ivy and Cypress vegetation. The web is similar to those made by *Amaurobius* spp., but often has a linear, laddered appearance and can become quite large in an undisturbed setting. It is likely that this species is overlooked in similar situations across the country.

*Anyphaena numida* – An adult female appeared inside a house in St Austell in December. Its origin is a bit of a mystery as this is a huge range extension from the known locations in the London area, though new sightings have also very recently come from Sussex, Oxfordshire and Berkshire. Whether the species is established in the St Austell area is yet to be seen, but the fact that adult females have been found in so many new locations recently could be an indication that this species can easily disperse as adults, possibly using human transport links.

#### Reference

Gallon, R. 2023. *Badumna longinqua* (L. Koch, 1867) an Australian spider established outside in Britain. *S.R.S. News No. 107 In Newsletter of the British Arachnological Society* 158: 3–4.

E-mail: tylan\_berry@msn.com

## Further Records of *Sibianor larae* Logunov 2001 (Araneae, Salticidae) from England

by Richard I. Wilson

In the spring 2023 Newsletter, I provided details of historical (1990) and recent (2021) records of the small jumping-spider *Sibianor larae* from Thorne Moors Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), Yorkshire. In the article, under the heading, ‘Further Work’, I referred to an additional survey that had been completed within the Humberhead Peatlands National Nature Reserve (NNR) during 2022 (within Thorne Moors SSSI, Hatfield Moors SSSI and Crowle Moors SSSI), but no results were available at the time of writing (Wilson, 2023).

### Humberhead Peatlands NNR

Since submitting the article, the specimens collected within the NNR during 2022 have been identified and a report submitted to the Thorne and Hatfield Moors Conservation Forum who commissioned and funded the survey work. I am pleased to report that of the 77 species recorded from Thorne Moors SSSI during 2022, an immature specimen of *S. larae* (with characteristic red patella) was recorded on the 27th May 2022, in the Cottage Dike area (SE732155) affected by the April 2022 fire (see Fig. 1). However, no adult specimens were collected within this sector of the NNR. Surveys were also conducted on the Crowle Moors section of the NNR, though only between September and December 2022. Recording effort was hampered by rising water levels, limiting the recording to 16 species of spider; no specimens of *S. larae* were collected.

Surveys were also completed on Hatfield Moors SSSI, the southern sector of the NNR. An objective was to confirm the presence of *S. larae* here, based on the suspicion that my 2000 record attributed to *S. aurocinctus* (Wilson, 2000) was in fact, *larae*. The survey effort paid off with a single male *S. larae* collected on the 22nd June 2022, this time by sweeping Heather (*Calluna vulgaris*) in a relatively dry area of heathland within a birch woodland clearing known as Jack’s Piece (SE708068). This record strongly suggests that the 2000 record of *S. aurocinctus* was probably *S. larae*, but in the absence of the retained specimen surviving, we cannot be certain.

### Misson Carr SSSI, Nottinghamshire

During 2023, Adrian Dutton, a Nottinghamshire-based entomologist specialising in Coleoptera (beetles) contacted me to verify a distinctive jumping-spider, which



Figure 1. Immature *Sibianor larae* collected from Thorne Moors in May 2022. © Richard Wilson.

proved to be a female *Sibianor laeae*. The specimen was collected on the 8th June 2023 during a multi-visit invertebrate survey at Misson Carr SSSI (SK713973), a nature reserve managed by the Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust, which is located about 6.6 km south of Hatfield Moors SSSI and just over 5 km east south-east of Doncaster (Finningley) Airport (see Fig. 2).

Misson Carr is located at the southern end of what was historically a more extensive area of the Humberhead Peatlands. The habitat within which *laeae* was collected was specifically rough grazing pasture transitioning to fen woodland, with a similar geology (peat over sand) to Hatfield Moors. This transitional habitat is crossed with wet ditches and becomes wetter elsewhere within the reserve (see Fig. 3).

Confirming the record extends the range of this jumping spider south by approximately 8 km and represents the first record for Nottinghamshire.

### Further Locations?

Given this extension south, I considered the potential for other Nottinghamshire sites and elsewhere in the English East Midlands where *S. laeae* could be present. There is only one other hectad where a *Sibianor* species has been identified in the region (Fig. 4), that being a male *Sibianor aurocinctus* collected and identified on an unspecified date in 1995 by a Ms. Amanda Borrows from Kirkby Moor SSSI Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust reserve (TF225624), a distance of just over 60 km to the south-east of Misson Carr and in VC54 (North Lincolnshire). Kirkby Moor SSSI has been designated for its heathland overlying sands and gravels, which grades from dry to wet heath with *Sphagnum* from south to north.

My experience of locating the 1990 Thorne Moors specimen (see Wilson, 2023) encouraged me to contact Imogen Wilde, the Lincolnshire Area Organiser (AO) to explore the possibility of locating this specimen, if it exists. I am grateful to Imogen for her reply, and forwarding on my enquiry to Paul Scott (Curator, Sir Joseph Banks Society Museum, Horncastle). Paul responded quickly, writing that no specimen appears to be present within Annette Binding's (a previous Lincolnshire AO) partially curated collection, which is held at the Horncastle Museum. This appeared to be the end of the matter until further exploration of the Lincolnshire Naturalists' Union (LNU) archives revealed two interesting articles. Lincolnshire's spider recorder in the mid-1990s was Roy Kent, and in two articles in the LNU's *Transactions*, he probably refers to this specimen. In the first article, Roy refers to a letter he received from Amanda Borrows concerning two spiders she had noted during her travels and the possibility that one could be extremely important. However, he didn't mention the species, or family (Kent, 1995). The following year, Roy wrote "...that Amanda's possible sighting of a very rare spider reported last year [1995] could not be confirmed, but she did manage a county first with a record of *Theridion blackwalli* from Kirkby Moor." (Kent, 1996). Given the reference to it being a very rare spider and its location being Kirkby Moor, is it coincidental that Lincolnshire's singular record of *S. aurocinctus* was collected by Amanda Burrows in 1995 from this site, or is it one and the same specimen? Whilst Roy didn't mention *S. aurocinctus* in either article, it seems very plausible to me that we are talking about the same individual. That Roy, for reasons unsaid, concluded that the record was not assignable to a species, it seems reasonable to conclude at this stage that the 1995 *S. aurocinctus* record on the SRS database has been mapped in error. This seems a reasonable explanation for why a specimen has not been

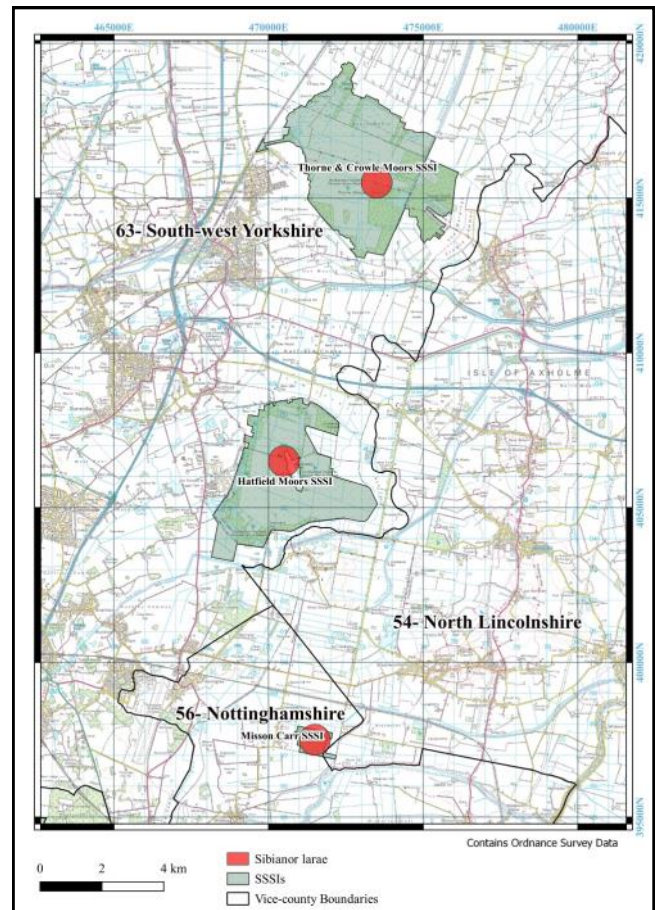


Figure 2. Location of *Sibianor laeae* records (monads) from Humberhead Peatlands NNR (Yorkshire) and Misson Carr SSSI (Nottinghamshire).

located in the Horncastle Museum's collections. In conclusion, in the absence of any further evidence, it is of the author's view that the Lincolnshire record of *S. aurocinctus* should probably be deleted, removing the species from the county list.

There are no other records of *Sibianor* in the Midlands south of north Nottinghamshire other than Wayne Rixom's *S. aurocinctus* specimen from 24th June 1997, and an undated record from 1992 (Fig. 4), collected from wet heathland in Sutton Park SSSI, north of Birmingham (Rixom, 1994). Having liaised with Peter Harvey, at the moment, it seems improbable that a Sutton Park specimen will become available to re-check, and the best approach would be to target survey for this species in the appropriate habitat, in or in close proximity to Bracebridge Pool (the 1997 specimen collected from SP095983). Recent invertebrate work in 2018 by Steven Falk and Chris Kirby-Lambert didn't record the spider (Steven Falk, telephone conversation on 19th November 2023).

Finally, for the sake of completeness, in Wilson (2023; page 14), I made reference to *S. aurocinctus* collected from Caldervan in Scotland; and that the PM was assumed to be the initials of Peter Merrett. I can confirm that this is the case as Isobel Baldwin submitted a brief note, stating that the specimen was collected by Dr. Mark Shaw, "...in a sphagnum and litter habitat below *Myrica gale* and *Betula sp.* when he was collecting *Hymenoptera*. The specimen has been seen by Dr Peter Merrett to whom thanks are due for confirming the identification." (Baldwin, 1985).



Figure 3. Habitat within Misson Carr SSSI where *Sibianor larae* was collected. © Adrian Dutton.

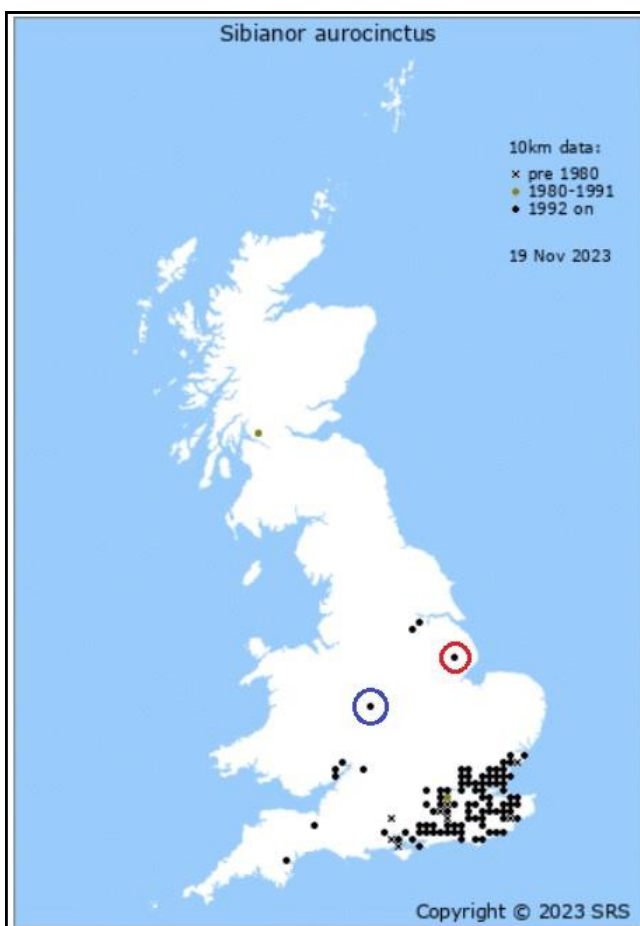


Figure 4. Current distribution of *Sibianor aurocinctus* with Kirkby Moor (red circle) and Sutton Park (blue circle) highlighted. © Spider Recording Scheme.

#### Acknowledgements

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Helen Kirk of the Thorne and Hatfield Moors Conservation Forum for organising access to both Thorne and Hatfield Moors and arranging funding.

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E-mail: riwspider@yahoo.co.uk

**We hope to see lots of SRS recorders at Gregynog in May/June!**

