**Rutland Natural History Society**

**Annual Report, Plant Galls, 2022 Recorder: Roy Lemmon**

The number of plant galls recorded were fewer than in previous years and while there could be several reasons for this, it is likely that conditions for observation and reporting played a considerable role. 2022 was the warmest year since records began with July and August especially so, and this made going out into the field a less attractive proposition than formerly.

It may also have been that the increasing temperatures are affecting the organisms that cause galls, but this is something that could prove much more difficult to assess. This very point was raised in the last issue of the journal ‘Cecidology’, and it will be interesting to see what members of the British Plant Gall Society come up with. It has been noticeable of late that the numbers and frequency of Spangle galls on Oak have been much reduced recently in the County.

The format of the Report has been changed slightly this year. Instead of listing all the occurrences individually, this information has been presented as a number, indicating how many sites in which the organism has been recorded. All our results for some years now have been entered on the NatureSpot website and, when accepted, these are then passed on to iRecord, which is a national database. Our results can therefore be found on either site. Any queries on specific records, however, can be made to the Society’s Recorder. (See contact details in the Society’s magazine, Fieldfare).