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Editors Note

We now have a six-strong editorial committee so as to share the work and bring fresh ideas to the newsletter. We will rotate the writing of the introductory 'Editorial' – Penny Lee volunteered for the first one. They will also encourage (arm-twist?) members to write reports of our meetings and will commission or write other articles. Many thanks to the editorial committee for comments and proofreading on this issue, and to members who contributed articles and photographs. Photos without a credited author were taken by the editor.

Richard Aisbitt

Editorial

It would be impossible to summarise 2018 without mention of the weather. It was a record-breaking and unforgettable year with the so-called "Beast from the East" bringing us heavy snowfalls on strong easterly winds in late February and by contrast relentless hot and dry weather during most of the summer.



Bluebells - Pat Woodruffe

The drought caused a lot of our flora to shrivel and we had to cancel two of our field trips as a result – these visits are re-scheduled for 2019. However, in spite of the weather, we held an interesting and varied programme and a successful residential trip to Shropshire. Many thanks to Martin for all the hard work which goes into arranging the programme and those members who agreed to lead trips, write them up and submit photographs to illustrate the events in this issue of the Newsletter.

2019 will be the final year for collecting records for the BSBI 2020 Atlas Updating Project. Our field meetings during 2018 included three dedicated recording days: around Warminster, Chippenham and Shalbourne.

Other field meetings included woodland sites at Fonthill Abbey Estate, Longleat and Chappetts Copse (for magnificent Sword-leaved Helleborines). We found some respite from the drought at Bradford-on-Avon along riverine habitat and classic downland at Pewsey with characteristic diminutive chalk grassland species and a good range of orchids. There was an annual trip to the New Forest at Pigbush with its mix of wet and dry heathland and summer would not be complete without a pilgrimage to somewhere like North Meadow.

Colour in the Margins, which is a collaborative project involving RSPB, Plantlife and Kew Millennium Seedbank, involved some of our membership during 2018 and will continue in future.

We have also held an interesting and sociable winter programme of events which have usually involved retiring afterwards to a warm pub nearby and eating hearty food!

We look forward to welcoming all members, whatever their level of experience to the events planned for 2019.

Penny Lee

Wiltshire Botanical Society Committee

Richard Aisbitt	Chair, Newsletter, Co-Recorder	01793 694680	richard@theaisbitts.co.uk
Anne Appleyard		01980 610385	anneappleyard@tiscali.co.uk
Martin Buckland	Meetings Secretary	01380 698395	martinbuckland8@gmail.com
Paul Darby		07919 810458	pauljohndarby45@yahoo.co.uk
Sue Fitzpatrick	Treasurer	01722 410807	susan@fitzpatrick7.plus.com
Dave Green		07900 248992	d.green7@btinternet.com
Penny Lee		07948 336660	firefly.101@virgin.net
Sharon Pilkington	BSBI Recorder for Wiltshire	01373 827074	sharon.pilkington1@btinternet.com
Alison Robinson	Secretary	01793 731947	alisonrobinson300@gmail.com
Pat Woodruffe	Annual Residential Trip Organiser	01794 884436	pmw.bentley@waitrose.com

Cover photo - Fritillary *Fritillaria meleagris* - Martin Buckland

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Sunday 29th April 2018

Fonthill Abbey Estate

Leader: Penny Lee

A bumper 22 members and visitors attended this meeting. This is the third time in recent years that we have started the season here, with kind permission of the Estate, however the visit was not perhaps the best beginning for plants with the weather cold and windy and the season in general was rather late. As proof shuttlecocks of opening Broad Buckler ferns *Dryopteris dilatata* showed scorching at the ends of the fronds; a sign of the previous months snow and icy weather perhaps.

Having previously covered the estate land to the north, Penny took us south and out along the main drive and here we were delighted with the site of hundreds of Common Dog-violets *Viola riviniana* in carpets on the mowed lawns. As expected we found Bluebells *Hyacinthoides non-scripta* amongst the trees and Great Wood-rush *Luzula sylvatica* in numbers indicated at least the slight acidity of local soils. On a bank Great Wood-rush was found on top whilst Hairy Wood-rush *Luzula pilosa* was found on the sides making comparison easy. The site was still early for many flowering plants but Opposite-leaved Golden-saxifrage *Chrysosplenium oppositifolium* provided plentiful colour in many places proving how wet the land stood.

A brief stint down a side ride caused a stir when a morel fungus was found, possibly *Morchella esculenta*, this being a first for many people and candidate for many cameras.

Lunch was a reasonably quick affair as the cold wind still blew and we carried on. Moschatel *Adoxa moschatellina* was in flower as was Woodruff *Galium odoratum* and that chickweed impersonator, Three-nerved Sandwort *Moehringia trinervia* was found.

On the way back another wood-rush made up a trio of finds as Field Wood-rush *Luzula campestris* was identified

Our thanks to Penny Lee for organising and leading this trip.

Martin Buckland



The morel



Botanists at work - Pat Woodruffe

Sunday 13th May 2018

Chippenham Area BSBI Atlas Recording

Organiser: Martin Buckland

Attendees split into three groups and headed off to under recorded areas near Kington Langley.

Notes from Richard Aisbitt

Alison and I covered just ST9376. There were lots to see and lots of footpaths to cover. We set out on a sunken track that turned out to be an overgrown sequence of mud and ponds, discovering a parallel footpath only later; challenging, but we were intrepid!

Highlights, lowlights and interesting: Royal Fern *Osmunda regalis* was probably planted, Fringe cups *Tellima grandiflora*, Star-of-Bethlehem *Ornithogalum umbellatum*, subsp. *campestre* as far as I could see. Japanese Knotweed *Fallopia japonica*, Toad Rush *Juncus bufonius* as a lush agricultural weed, Butcher's-broom *Ruscus aculeatus*. 134 taxa.

Notes from Sue Fitzpatrick

The square where we parked had a diverse grassy area and although not in the main targeted area for the day we just had to register what we saw and clocked 79 records without effort. In the designated ST9275 we got 173 records; surprisingly diverse as large swathes of it were herbicided stubble fields, where Pat and I cursed Martin for sending us there. We spent more time exploring its less-disrupted parts than the other target ST 9175, where we got 86 species, but much of this had been covered previously so we thought our time would be more profitable in the other squares.

So, overall a good varied day out.

Notes from Sharon Pilkington

'Our' area looked pretty boring on the OS map - lots of fields and a fragment of village - but it turned out to be more interesting than I expected. A lot of the footpaths followed ancient hedgerows and sunken green lanes with nice woodland plants and we had lunch in a lovely damp semi-improved meadow with Bluebell *Hyacinthoides non-scripta* and Pignut *Conopodium majus* around the edges and lots of Creeping-Jenny *Lysimachia nummularia*, Sharp-flowered Rush *Juncus acutiflorus* and Greater Bird's-foot-trefoil *Lotus pedunculatus* within. Jasmine also spotted Downy Oat-grass *Avenula pubescens* just coming into flower when we sat down to eat our sandwiches - very pretty.

Martin cunningly devised a circular route that took us through two monads and we recorded 163 species in one and 157 in the other. Back in Kington Langley we found some interesting grots near the houses, including Lesser Chickweed *Stellaria pallida* which is a Wiltshire rarity and Grey Field-speedwell *Veronica polita* growing as usual in pavement cracks. Also in the village but in a different square we found Strawberry Clover *Trifolium fragiferum* and Spreading Meadow-grass *Poa humilis* on a mown verge. A very good day - many thanks Martin



Star-of-Bethlehem



Fly Orchid & cork marker



Sword-leaved Helleborine

Saturday 26th May 2018

Chappetts Copse, West Meon

Leader: Martin Buckland

Seven botanists attended this meeting across the border into Hampshire. The trip was planned to coincide with the peak flowering of our main target for the day, Sword-leaved Helleborine *Cephalanthera longifolia*; we were not to be disappointed. From the gathering point everyone spread out immediately searching the local environment well before the meeting's start time and who could blame them for a few Swords flowered at the ride edge. In addition, we knew that Bird's-nest Orchid *Neottia nidus-avis* also flowered here and indeed one was found within half of a metre of a parked car. Walking into the wood on the opposite side produced many more including one that must have been 40 cm tall.

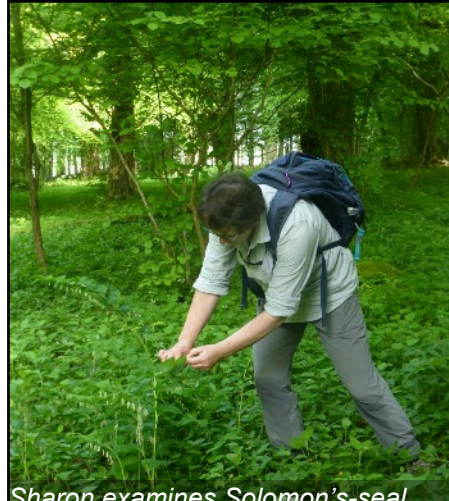
As we entered Chappetts Copse the area was quite dense and sheltered but venturing on, areas of well managed copse opened to us and a few more Swords tempted us still further. Some yellow topped markers drew us to young plants of Fly Orchid *Ophrys insectifera* until one good observer found a single plant with a couple of flowers on nearby. Then came, Wow! In an area cleared of all shrubs was a low landscape made up of much Sanicle *Sanicula europaea* and Woodruff *Galium odoratum* and standing proud of it all were hundreds of Sword-leaved helleborines. Not one of us had seen anything like it before; it was simply stunning. On our way through we passed a few plants that we were sure were Broad-leaved Helleborines *Epipactis helleborine* but too early to be in flower. Close to these we pored over a hybrid helleborine. There are known plants here of *C. x schulzei* (Sword x White Helleborine *C. longifolia* x *C. damasonium*) and this was a likely candidate, although no Whites were seen on the day.

Chappetts Copse is undoubtedly the best site in the British Isles to see Sword-leaved Helleborines and the site and flowers owe much to one man, the late Richard Hedley. He became a voluntary warden of Chappetts Copse when the Sword-leaved Helleborine numbered but a few dozen and he seized the opportunity to improve the population. He studied the flowers and their pollinators and discovered a solitary bee that was necessary for the Sword's pollination. The helleborine needs uncluttered ground free from coarse and smothering vegetation and enough open space to allow for free movement of the pollinators. As a result, he organised winter work parties to keep areas free from overbearing vegetation.

(We commented it was almost like the area is mown). This clearly works as the Swords now number around 4000 individuals.

At lunch, we were addressed by a lady out for a bike ride. She had heard we had come 'all the way from Wiltshire' and explained that today was her birthday and she had ridden to the reserve to say 'hello' to her father. He was Richard Hedley. His daughter was next on her way to see her mother, so we asked her to give our best wishes and to say what a wonderful site we had visited; this was truly providential.

Martin Buckland



Sharon examines Solomon's-seal



Bird's-nest Orchid

Sunday 3rd June 2018

Cricklade and North Meadow

Leader: Sharon Pilkington



The meadow - Steve Beal

The northern extremes of Wiltshire have a different feel to the rest of the county. The low-lying clay vales, formed under the influence of the River Thames, are a land of meadows and pastures; none more famous than North Meadow National Nature Reserve (NNR) at Cricklade. Sitting on alluvial gravels, sandwiched between the Rivers Thames and Churn, it provides a classic example of a habitat rarely seen in Wiltshire – floodplain meadows. Many botanists make the annual spring pilgrimage to see the nation's largest population of Fritillary *Fritillaria meleagris*, but an early summer visit held many more delights.

On a hot day in June Sharon Pilkington expertly guided us through one of Wiltshire's most famous sites. A late, wet spring had left the meadow flooded later than normal (well into March), restricting the growth of fritillaries. It's not clear how depressed the population was as compared to previous years, but based on the number of seed pods, likely a lot. We all agreed there was no cause for concern though, these bulbous geophytes can stay dormant in the soil for years, and will be back again.

We got off to a good start with a new record for the site. A quick scan along the banks of the R. Churn revealed Fat Duckweed *Lemna gibba* (split distinctly from its near relative Common Duckweed *L. minor* by its widely spaced cells).

After discussions on the best way to identify Amphibious Bistort *Persicaria amphibia* the group began quartering the meadow. The classic floodplain species were all in abundance: Great Burnet *Sanguisorba officinalis*, Meadow Foxtail *Alopecurus pratensis*, Pepper-saxifrage *Silene acaulis*, Common Birds-foot-trefoil *Lotus corniculatus*, Common Knapweed *Centaurea nigra*, Selfheal *Prunella vulgaris*, Ragged-Robin *Silene flos-cuculi* and Common Meadow-rue *Thalictrum flavum*. A few Yellow-rattle *Rhinanthus minor* were even revealed after some searching.

The low-lying wet areas towards the central meadow proved particularly fruitful. One of Wiltshire's rarer plants, Tubular Water-dropwort *Oenanthe fistulosa*, was having a good year – no doubt due to the extended inundation in the spring. Nestled within stands of Common Spike-rush *Eleocharis palustris*, the early vegetative growth was difficult to spot, but once trained more and more and more became apparent.

After some appreciation of the patch-forming Brown Sedge *Carex disticha* and Slender-tufted Sedge *C. acuta*, the wet hollows started to cause concern. With lunch fast approaching, and the only shade on the opposite side of the marsh, choices had to be made. Those with wellies trampled through; the adventurous shed their footwear; whilst the athletic practised their long jump skills. Soon enough heads were bobbing in the tall grass, and everyone was enjoying their lunch.

The afternoon took on a different mood – the search for urban grots in downtown Cricklade! First a chance to marvel at the brightly coloured latex of the Papaveraceae – bright orange in Greater Celandine *Chelidonium majus* and yellow in.... (oddly enough) Yellow-juiced Poppy *Papaver lecoqii*.

For those not skilled in the dark arts of urban botany, here was a chance to learn. Rule #1: get on your knees and rifle through someone's lawn! Most people are placated if you introduce yourself with a cheery smile.

With a little searching it became apparent that austerity in North Wiltshire is having unexpected benefits – the lack of street cleaning is giving chances to all manner of interesting species. The undoubted highlight (although slightly under-appreciated at the time) was the abundance of Knotted Hedge-parsley *Torilis nodosa*. This unassuming umbel (quite different to its familiar relative Upright Hedge-parsley *T. japonica*) is an increasingly common sight in urban areas. Possibly under-recorded in Wiltshire, new dots on the Atlas map await for those willing to dig around in street gutters. Other notables included: Fern-grass *Catapodium rigidum* (always a pleasure to see), Water Bent *Polypogon viridis* (an adventive gradually expanding out of its London headquarters), Spreading Meadow-grass *Poa humilis* and the chance to discuss the subtle differences between Cut-leaved Crane's-bill *Geranium dissectum* and Small-flowered Crane's-bill *G. pusillum*. Finally the day ended with the discovery of a wonderful display of Round-leaved Crane's-bill *Geranium rotundifolium* – right by the cars no less!

Steve Beal



Ragged-Robin - Steve Beal

Thursday 14th June 2018

Milk Hill and Walkers Hill (Pewsey Downs NNR)

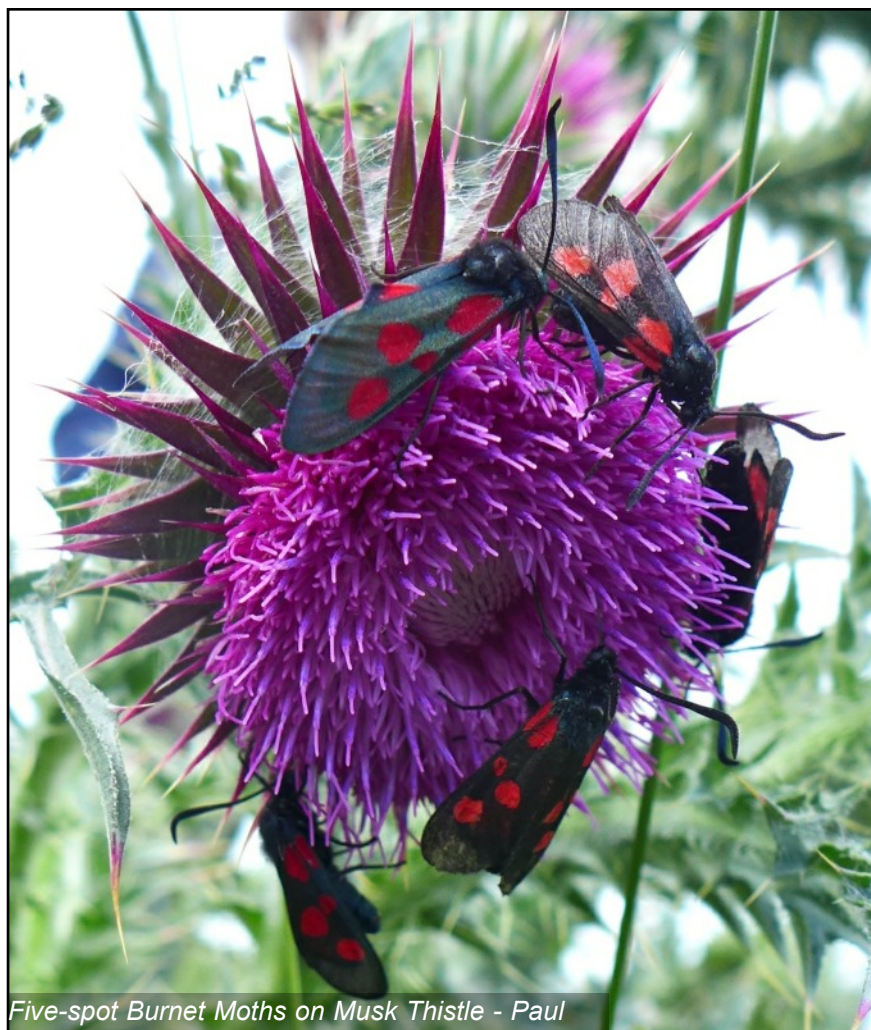
Leaders: Jane Brown and Paul Darby

A fine, if blustery day greeted us as we set out up the Tan Hill Way to the Wansdyke. There are panoramic views to Silbury Hill from here, and we narrowly avoided stepping on several Bloody-nosed Beetles *Timarcha tenebricosa* which seem to like being on the path! After a short distance, we turned south towards Milk Hill and the other parts of Pewsey Downs National Nature Reserve (NNR). There are equally stunning views from here of the Pewsey Vale. The quality of the chalk flora improves as you walk eastwards towards Walkers Hill, and ant-hills are a strong feature, typically with Wild Thyme *Thymus polytrichus*, Squinancywort *Asperula cynanchica* and Common Rock-rose *Helianthemum nummularium*. Musk Thistle *Carduus nutans* in full flower was frequently encountered, occasionally with numbers of nectaring Five-spot Burnet Moths *Zygaena trifolii*, a fine sight indeed! Also seen: Garden Chafers *Phyllopertha horticola* and a bright green beetle similar to the Green Tortoise Beetle *Cassida viridis*, but more likely the related *Cassida rubiginosa*. Towards and around Walkers Hill, Lesser Butterfly-orchids *Platanthera bifolia*, Chalk Fragrant-orchids *Gymnadenia conopsea*, and a few Bee Orchids *Ophrys apifera* were seen. Battered specimens of Marsh Fritillary *Euphydryas aurinia* butterflies were obviously coming towards the end of their lives. This NNR is often taken for granted just because it is 'on our doorstep'. It offers much for botanists and all other lovers of the outdoors. Visit whenever you can!

Paul Darby



?Green Tortoise Beetle - Paul Darby



Five-spot Burnet Moths on Musk Thistle - Paul



Bee Orchid - Richard Gosnell

Sunday 15th July 2018

Longleat Forest

Leader: Jenny Bennett

Starting our walk along the edge of Shearwater Lake we were met with several clumps of Skullcap *Scutellaria galericulata*. Quite dominant, it seemed to be left alone by the local wildfowl. On the tracks and paths, Slender Rush *Juncus tenuis* seems to prefer these open and often trampled sites as long as it remains fairly damp I guess. Another moisture lover, growing quite prostrate was Water-purslane *Lythrum portula*; found in the centre of the path it was strange to think this is a relative of Purple-loosestrife *L. salicaria*.



Much Wavy Hair-grass *Deschampsia flexuosa* was seen giving away the local soil's acidity. This is a common grass of hill and moorland on soils with low pH. A surprise in the centre of a path was a single plant of Pale Flax *Linum bienne*. A plant doing very well was Trailing St John's Wort *Hypericum humifusum* with growth quite wide and plentiful when compared to nearby Slender St John's-wort *H. pulchrum* that was poor and shrivelled.

Part of a pathway had been made up with limestone scalplings and it just shows that nature will fill a niche if it finds it and so it was that here were many plants of Small Toadflax *Chaenorhinum minus* which is something you would associate with a chalky arable margin perhaps.

Walking downhill through a cutting with a steep bank one side of us and a drop the other, someone made a comment that this was like walking through a scene from Harry Potter. Well not so much Diagon Alley as Fern Alley. Those who have watched the films will appreciate the pun. There were ferns everywhere and quite a selection too, and when field guides come out, you know we might be onto 'winners'. As you would expect there was Hard-fern *Blechnum spicant* present on acidic soils, Male Fern *Dryopteris filix-mas* and Lady Fern *Athyrium filix-femina* and some fantastic and beautiful specimens of Golden-scaled Male-fern *Dryopteris affinis* subsp. *affinis*. One fern however caught attention and



was different in that the indusia were thin and see through, the sporangia black and shrivelled to a cone and the pinnules had square ends and not round. This turned out to be the same species but subsp. *borreri*. Our fun didn't stop there. A fern growing low down and with perhaps a slightly distorted appearance had a feel of something different: sori at the edge of the pinnules and a very distinctive citrus scent when the leaves were crushed. This was none other than Lemon-scented Fern *Oreopteris limbosperma*.

The finds were not complete. Other interests were Trailing Tormentil *Potentilla anglica* that was very common here, Bristle Club-rush *Isolepis setacea* and Green-ribbed Sedge *Carex binervis*.

Were we finished with ferns? Also recorded were Hart's-tongue *Asplenium scolopendrium*, Intermediate Polypody *Polypodium interjectum*, Broad Buckler-fern *Dryopteris dilatata* and not to be outdone, Narrow Buckler-fern *D. carthusiana*.

Everyone who attended thoroughly enjoyed themselves and I would like to add my personal thanks to Jenny Bennett for not only leading us but for the many preparatory visits she undertook to ensure a good day.

Martin Buckland

Sunday 19th August 2018

Bradford-on-Avon: River Avon and Canal

Leader: Sharon Pilkington

It had been some while since we had been together because of the long drought when hardly anything was to be seen that was not shrivelled and pale straw colour. A river walk – up to the town bridge then downstream, returning by the canal was wondrously lush, green and peaceful. Balm for the senses.

There were many treats. First was Loddon Pondweed *Potamogeton nodosus*, with its distinctive elliptical leaves. It is a rarity, but plentiful here. Clumps of Branched Bur-reed *Sparganium erectum* and Common Club-rush *Schoenoplectus lacustris* protected it from too fast a flow of water. Richard had brought his most cunningly wrought little grapnel so we were able to handle another treat, Greater Duckweed *Spirodela polyrrhiza* with its dark undersides and long roots. He also hoicked out some submerged leaves of Yellow Water-lily *Nuphar lutea* which were floppy and lettuce-like.

A patch of muddy shore by the Town Bridge was especially rich. There was Stinking Tutsan *Hypericum hircinum* (non native), Trifid Bur-marigold *Bidens tripartita*, and Water Chickweed *Myosoton aquaticum* among many others. Some of us also saw the flash of the local Kingfisher *Alcedo atthis*. On the site of the old tannery nearby grew an immense double-trunked London Plane *Platanus x hispanica* tree. There was a contented little discussion on its ancestry and possible history: perhaps one of the first ones planted?

Walking back, under the railway bridge we saw the rotting wooden stumps of the original I. K. Brunel bridge – luckily Nigel was with us, a Bradford native, who could feed us snippets of history which enhanced our day.

Soon we were finding plenty of Small Teasel *Dipsacus pilosus* and Greater Burdock *Arctium lappa* which were target species for some of us, very pleasing. Gypsywort *Lycopus europaeus* was unusually frequent and well grown, sometimes forming large shrub-like clumps. It was, we learned, the source of a black dye that supposedly was used for gypsy cloaks. We also saw a splendid clump of Flowering-rush *Butomus umbellatus* in full flower – others had gone over. Richard's grapnel came in use again to bring to handsome Perfoliate Pondweed *Potamogeton perfoliatus* which was growing with some Arrowhead *Sagittaria sagittifolia* (not in flower) At one stage we were shaded by a long line of very large trees on the opposite bank of the river. At first glance, Ash? But with dangly inflorescences or fruits; Martin identified them as Caucasian Wingnuts *Pterocarya fraxinifolia*, commenting that they are uncontrollably vigorous and sucker like mad. Not one for a bungalow's garden, then.

Walking back beside the canal there was not anything new except small patches of Orange Balsam *Impatiens capensis*, non native but not nearly so invasive as the Himalayan Balsam and, Sharon said, grew by the canal but never the river.

Before dispersing we went in to the mighty tithe barn, built in the days of the enormously wealthy Abbesses of Shaftesbury, before the dissolution.

It emerged that Greater Dodder *Cuscuta europaea* had been one of Sharon's main targets for the day but even with diligent searching we never found it and she was disappointed. None of the rest of us minded much; we had had a lovely day, doubly precious after the long brown drought.

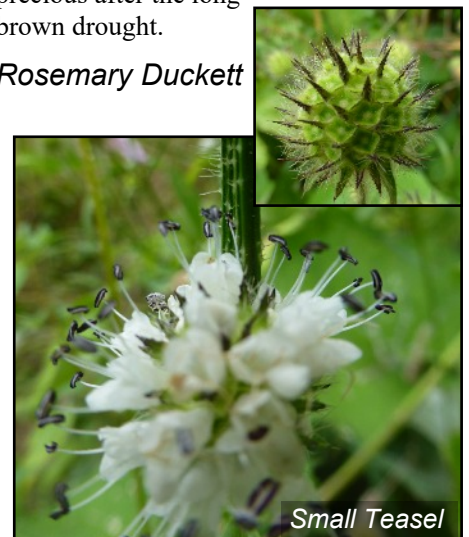
Rosemary Duckett



Loddon Pondweed



The tithe barn



Small Teasel

Saturday 25th August 2018

Shalbourne BSBI Atlas Recording

Leader: Richard Aisbitt

Just four of us, Martin Buckland, Sue Fitzpatrick, Ness Williams and I met on the village green. We could have split two and two to cover more ground, but opted for companionship.

We started in Shalbourne village, with clumps of flowering Sowbread *Cyclamen hederifolia* on the roadside verges, garden escapes, but well-established. Heading down a damp, sunken lane led us to a small stream. Heading left and upstream along wooded banks, we passed thickets of Wild Plum *Prunus domestica*, with fruits to prove it. Many rural streams like this one are fenced, excluding grazing animals, and become deeply shaded with little aquatic vegetation. Returning to take the downstream turn, we passed old cress beds. I remember visiting on the 1970s when they were producing watercress, but they are now converted to lakes and well fenced. Later research revealed that Green Figwort *Scrophularia umbrosa* has been recorded there and at intervals further down the stream as far as the Berkshire border. This is its only site in Wiltshire: another visit needed.

Returning through the village, we headed east in a loop through farmland, finding a stubble field with unexpected agricultural weeds including Field Pansy *Viola arvensis* and Scented Mayweed *Matricaria chamomilla*, but notably Corn Spurrey *Spergula arvensis*, thinly scattered in Wiltshire, but here in quantity.

A chance encounter in Shalbourne alerted us to a flowery roadside verge north of the village. I visited it on my way home and it is now being considered for listing under the Wiltshire Protected Road Verges scheme.

Richard Aisbitt

Sunday 2nd September 2018

Pigbush, New Forest

Leaders: Dave Green and Pat Woodruffe

Seventeen of us met on this bright, sunny morning to see some of the many interesting plants which the New Forest has to offer but which are scarce or absent from Wiltshire.

We started by moving south onto heathland which supported, in just one small area, a population of a few dozen Marsh Gentians *Gentiana pneumonanthe*. Despite their name, the plants were growing on a gentle slope and not in the wettest parts. They are annuals and I understand that they can be very numerous in an area after a controlled burning of the heather and gorse. It was in the wetter parts that we found several other specialists; both Round-leaved and Oblong-leaved Sundews *Drosera rotundifolia* and *D. intermedia* growing on the exposed damp soil while in the very wettest parts (still soggy even after our dry summer) we found White and Brown Beak-sedges *Rhynchospora alba* and *R. fusca*.



Coral-necklace



Photo - Pat Woodruffe

Moving down the slope towards Shepton Water, we encountered some good patches of Coral-necklace *Illecebrum verticillatum* in full flower and living up to its common name. Although known from Cornwall since 1666, the first records from The New Forest were made in 1925 and it seems possible that it was introduced at a time when a lot of new planting was being carried out by the Forestry Commission. Currently, this is its stronghold in UK but it is spreading quite rapidly to other sites, although it has declined in Cornwall. As we walked up the slope, towards Rowbarrow, another interesting plant was seen: Marsh Clubmoss *Lycopodiella inundata*. Some plants were bearing cones, a testimony to its perceived position in the evolutionary chart between the ferns and conifers.

We may have found only a handful of species but by now lunch time was approaching, especially as many had made very early starts from home. We walked into woodland where there were a number of very old oaks and one provided a most convenient spot, with ample seating, for our stop. A little further along were some others whose size, I think, did not signify their age. They were reminiscent of how the Savernake Big-belly Oak might have looked many moons ago. We took a path which led us round, over Bishop's Dyke and back down to Shepton Water. This area provided many more finds including Pillwort *Pilularia globulifera*, Floating Club-rush *Eleogiton fluitans*, and Hampshire-purslane *Ludwigia palustris*. The last of these is a New Forest speciality which is very conspicuous in late summer when the leaves turn red. We found it in the stream and around the edges and it is regarded as a non-fussy plant growing in a range of wet places where it can be submerged, floating or on muddy banks. Also in the stream we found both Water-plantain *Alisma plantago-aquatica* and Lesser Water-plantain *Baldellia ranunculoides* growing together and, not far away, some bladderwort *Utricularia* sp., which was not in flower, so making identification difficult.

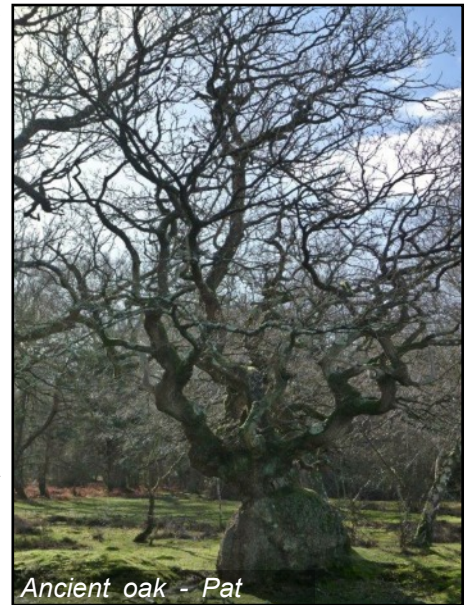


Lesser Water-plantain - Pat Woodruffe

Finally, as we climbed back up towards the car park, we found ourselves on a dry, sandy track with two species of centaury, Common Centaury *Centaureum erythraea* and Lesser Centaury *C. pulchellum*, Small Cudweed *Filago minima* and Sand Spurrey *Spergularia rubra*.

My thanks to Dave Green, whose leadership skills always turn a visit like this one into something special. I should also like to thank Sue Fitzpatrick who accompanied me on two recces, one last winter, when the site was much wetter, and one recently to see what the summer drought had left for us find.

Pat Woodruffe



Ancient oak - Pat



Marsh Gentian - Pat Woodruffe



Sprawling oaks - Pat Woodruffe



Hampshire-purslane - Pat



Bladderwort - Pat Woodruffe

Warminster Area BSBI Atlas Recording

Organiser: Sharon Pilkington

As usual, we split into groups to cover more ground, and brief reports from each group are given below.

Notes from Penny Lee and Rosemary Duckett: After a brief rendezvous at Shearwater car park, we headed off to explore the area around Temple. It is a small hamlet which is part of the village of Corsley, which nestles under Cley Hill and abuts Longleat Safari Park.

Fifteen years ago and more I used to walk around this area every week with my youngest daughter and dogs whilst her older sister had a music lesson in the cottage next to the magnificent veteran Yew tree. It was a pleasure to return there again.

We walked up tracks to find the usual common, rank vegetation and quite a number of ruderals such as Black Nightshade *Solanum nigrum* and Charlock *Sinapis arvensis* - nothing too interesting.

We sheepishly passed the no-go signs towards the Safari Park having seen a small pond on the map in our square but this was rather overgrown with Bulrush *Typha latifolia*, Yellow Iris *Iris pseudacorus* and Great Willowherb *Epilobium hirsutum*. I'm sure we might have found the odd remnant of something more interesting had we had permission to be there with waders.

We passed through what must be wonderful Bluebell *Hyacinthoides non-scripta* woods had it been spring, however we could only see the dry stems and seed pods. We suddenly found more interesting species such as Greater Bird's-foot-trefoil *Lotus peduncularis*, Slender St John's-wort *Hypericum pulchrum* and Wood Sorrel *Oxalis acetosella*, Hard-fern *Blechnum spicant*, Rowan *Sorbus aucuparia* and Downy Birch *Betula pubescens* indicating the wetter more acidic soil type here.

Out of the woods we found fields which were the remains of arable deserts but were excited to find an un-cultivated strip with Corn Spurrey *Spergula arvensis* in it. Sadly, this had recently been doused with Glyphosate - let's hope the seeds were still viable! We also found this again in the corner of another arable field - this time alive and plentiful in a field of young rapeseed. We wandered the lanes of Temple and found a small stream running parallel with Water-cress *Nasturtium officinale* and Common Water-starwort *Callitriche stagnalis* and Fool's Water-cress *Apium nodiflorum* and an old brick wall with a big population of Wall-rue *Asplenium ruta-muraria*. We totalled 209 species.

Sarah Grinsted and Sharon Pilkington used their red passes to head off onto Salisbury Plain, although their hopes of getting into the Warminster small arms ranges were dashed by military training. Avoiding the bullets, they tackled two and a half 1km squares nearby. Both were predominantly characterised by reversion grassland of moderate diversity but they found some species-rich areas of chalk grassland too, which added greatly to the number of species recorded. In total they found 150 species in ST8847 and 138 in ST8846, whilst a short-cut back to the cars added 73 more from a third monad.

Whilst nothing particularly special was found, highlights of the day included Sherard's Downy-rose *Rosa sherardii*, Clustered Bellflower *Campanula glomerata*, Corn Mint *Mentha arvensis*, Long-stalked Crane's-bill *Geranium columbinum* and Strawberry Clover *Trifolium fragiferum*. A couple of stunning freshly-minted male Adonis Blue *Polyommatus bellargus* butterflies were also seen in the chalk grassland. Disturbed ground along the garrison fence yielded a few surprises including Spotted Medick *Medicago arabica*, Dwarf Spurge *Euphorbia exigua* and Lesser Hawkbit *Leontodon saxatilis*.

Martin Buckland, Paul Darby and Richard Aisbitt started along the village roadsides of Corsley Heath, finding two alien fleabanes (Canadian and Guernsey: *Conyza canadensis* and *C. sumatrensis*) and then explored the network of surrounding footpaths. These were sometimes blocked or unclear. One started off along a stream crammed with watercress, with occasional sluices to keep the level up: obviously used as a watercress bed in the past. We followed the stream, but the path apparently wandered off to the right. We ended up climbing a chest-high stone wall to get back on the road.

Among more usual suspects, we found a few less common grasses: Fern-grass *Catapodium rigidum*, Cockspur *Echinochloa crus-galli*, Wood Melick *Melica uniflora* and Small Sweet-grass *Glyceria declinata*.

A huge, sound, ancient, multi-stemmed Yew *Taxus baccata* tree stood in the garden of Temple Farm. It was on private land so we couldn't measure it, but an internet search revealed that it was well-known and called the Longleat Yew, 12 metres in girth and 24 metres tall.



Sherard's Downy-rose - Sharon Pilkington

Thursday 20th September 2018

Mouldon Hill Country Park, Swindon

Leader: Richard Aisbitt

Swindon is a long way for many and the weather forecast was uncertain. There was also a rival meeting to look for arable plants in the south of the county. Just three of us met, but we made some interesting finds and could have left our waterproofs at home.

The first oddity was Bloody Crane's-bill *Geranium sanguineum* flowering on a rubble pile beside the car park. No doubt a garden escape, this attractive plant had only two recent records in Wiltshire and is more at home on limestone pavement. We moved onto a strip of rubble on the end of the Swindon and Cricklade Railway line. Here we found a number of unexpected plants: Fern-grass *Catapodium rigidum*, Hairy Bindweed *Calystegia pulchra* with pink-striped trumpets, Dwarf Mallow *Malva neglecta*, Snapdragon *Antirrhinum majus* in various colours, Potato *Solanum tuberosum*, Lesser Swine-cress *Lepidium didymum*, Narrow-leaved Bird's-foot-trefoil *Lotus tenuis* (like the common one, but with narrow leaves ... found on nearby Shaw Ridge Forest), Annual Clary *Salvia viridis* (the bedding plant with pink and lilac bracts) – mostly either garden escapes or colonisers of bare ground.

Further on, on the railway track proper, we found Small Toadflax *Chaenorhinum minus* in the ballast between the rails.

Walking round the lake, we only found the common waterside plants: Gypsywort *Lycopus europaeus*, Water Mint *Mentha aquatica*, Hard Rush *Juncus inflexus*, Common Reed *Phragmites australis*, Yellow Iris *Iris pseudacorus* and a few others. A walk over the hill (rock type: coral rag) led us to bare, stony, brashy soil which would have been flower-rich before the scorching summer. Blue Fleabane *Erigeron acris* was one survivor. The real treat was thousands of Ivy Bees *Colletes hederæ* beside the footpath. They nest and breed as solitary bees, although they congregate in large numbers. The adults emerge in September when Common Ivy *Hedera helix* comes into flower, burrowing into soft earth to lay eggs that they provision with ivy pollen. They were first seen in Britain in 2001 and have spread rapidly since then. Do they sting? They can, but were far too busy mating and burrowing to bother about us.

Richard Aisbitt



Ivy flowers - food for Ivy Bees



Dwarf Mallow - Pat Woodruffe



Ivy Bees

Thursday 20th September 2018

Colour in the Margins

Organiser: Rob Blackler

Red Hemp-nettle *Galeopsis angustifolia* is a BAP (Biodiversity Action Plan) species because it has declined so drastically in the last 50 years. It only survives on a few sites in the UK now including Salisbury Plain and on shingle at Dungeness. The Cholderton Estate is another site where it is found although not every year sees it flourish there. Its demise is a consequence of modern agricultural practice: high nitrogen input, more competitive arable crops, broad spectrum herbicides and also the switch from spring ploughing to autumn ploughing. It prefers soil disturbance early rather than late in the season; the plants can continue to produce viable seed late into the season if stubble is left. Currently some Stone Curlew *Burhinus oedipnemos* plots are also seeing Red Hemp-nettle as their management suits both species as well as a suite of other rare arable plants. Luckily this plant has a persistent seed bank and can survive in the soil for many years until suitable disturbance.



Red Hemp-nettle - Penny Lee

Sue, Pat and I joined Rob Blackler, other RSPB staff, Plantlife staff and a 3-strong team from Kew Millennium Seed Bank along with Nick Adams and Simon Smart at a Stone Curlew plot on the Cholderton Estate.

The weather couldn't have been worse for a seed collecting day with heavy rain on arrival followed by strong winds. The day was part of the Colour in the Margins project which is being run jointly by RSPB, Plantlife and the Millennium Seed Bank.

Before starting, after explanations about the protocol of seed collecting, we all had to walk the site to estimate the population of the target species Red Hemp-nettle. Following that, we each had to pick a random plant and count the number of calyces of that plant. Finally, we had to determine how many calyces contained mature dark brown seeds – not many as this year they seemed to be maturing late. From this information the Kew team could then estimate 20% of the seeds mature on the day and work out how many we could collect.

This was not the ideal job, given the weather, fiddling in the cold! We had to collect the individual calyces containing mature seeds without them blowing away or spilling before they were able to be stowed in their special cloth collecting bags.

Having been on the Kew Millennium Seed Bank “behind the scenes” previously through my job, it was especially interesting for me to see the processes in the field. It is normal practice to collect a herbarium specimen with each species from which seed are collected. It gives a real purpose to making a herbarium specimen perfect for posterity.

The seeds collected are sent to a drying room on arrival at Wakehurst Place – I well remember the strange atmosphere of the room where the seeds are temporarily stored and where the relative humidity is only 15%.

The seeds are then sorted, they are removed from their calyces, their embryos are checked and then a small sample is germinated so they can test their viability. The seeds then go into cold storage. 50% of this batch of seed will stay in the Millennium Seed Bank and 50% will be distributed to the Colour in the Margins project for reintroductions at suitable sites.

Plantlife are finding that there is some genetic difference between different populations around the countryside probably due to population isolation. They are also looking at plant associations and soil pH and texture to help find the most suitable donor sites.

This was a fascinating day finding out more about the Colour in the Margins project and the work of the three organizations involved.

The Kew team were off to the Outer Hebrides the following week in search of particular rare pond plants which was going to involve snorkelling. What a job they have to procure all the British native seeds – they are up to 97% of the species so far.

Penny Lee



Autumn colour - Richard Gosnell

Saturday 3rd November 2018

Tree Walk, Everleigh Ashes

Leader: Paul Darby

It was a lovely autumn morning, especially out of the chilly wind, for our joint meeting with the SPTA Bulford Conservation Group. Fifteen or so members of the Wiltshire Botanical Society and several members of the conservation group, with some being members of both, enjoyed a walk through Everleigh Ashes with plenty of tree spotting along the way.

The mild dry autumn meant that bare twigs were in short supply, and most trees still had some leaves, so we did not practice using the FSC's *Winter Trees: A photographic guide to common trees and shrubs* by Dominic Price and our old 'youngest' member Leif Bersweden, too much apart from confirming Goat Willow *Salix caprea*. There were also some flowers to be seen along the way, such as Fragrant Agrimony *Agrimonia procera* (likes an acid soil), Red Campion *Silene dioica*, Musk Mallow *Malva moschata* and Herb-Robert *Geranium robertianum*.

The Spindle bushes *Euonymus europaeus* were also spectacular, with their odd colour combination of deep pink berries and the visible orange seeds. As someone who does not get out as much as she'd like and is still classifies herself as quite a learner in all things botanical, these berries were a new experience for me.

We spent an enjoyable time in the wood admiring a magnificent old/ancient oak, which must have grown up before the surrounding trees, and seeing the dormouse boxes. There was plenty for everyone to see in this varied woodland habitat.

Fourteen of the group enjoyed a generous lunch at The Ship in Upavon.

Alison Robinson



Stinking Hellebore - Richard Gosnell



Western Red-cedars (and Judy) - Richard Gosnell

Three Days in Shropshire

Around a dozen of us gathered in Shropshire, mostly self-catering at Ryton Grange: picturesque and comfortable, if not quite as grand as its name. Pat Woodruffe had organised accommodation. Dave Green had reconnoitred the sites and led us expertly on excursions over the three days. Shropshire has a great variety of terrain, geology and industrial history which made for botanical variety even in the parched summer of 2018.

There follows a selection of photographs taken by participants, hopefully sorted into their correct days and correctly identified.

July 3rd: Llanymynech Rocks



Saint Dave preaches to the converted - Neville Diserens



Llanymynech viewpoint - Richard Aisbitt



Below the rocks - Pat Woodruffe



5-spot Burnet Moth
- Paul Darby



Yellow-wort - Neville Diserens



Imperforate St John's-wort?
- Pat Woodruffe



Hawksbeard sp. - Pat Woodruffe



Miners - Pat Woodruffe

July 3rd: Montgomery Canal



Swan family parts duckweed - Richard Aisbitt



Carreghofa Locks - no Floating Water-plantain - Pat Woodruffe



Beautiful Demoiselle - Pat Woodruffe



Greater and other duckweeds - Pat Woodruffe



Vyrnwy Aqueduct - Jean Smith



Moorhen - Neville Diserens



Frogbit - Pat Woodruffe



Inside Ryton Grange - Richard Aisbitt

July 4th: Snailbeach Mine and the Stiperstones



Harebells - Paul Darby



The spoil heap - Jean Smith



A Stiperstone (and Dave)- Richard Aisbitt



Winding gear - Richard Aisbitt



The lake at Snailbeach - Jean Smith



Water Scorpion in the lake - Neville Diserens

July 5th: Crose Mere



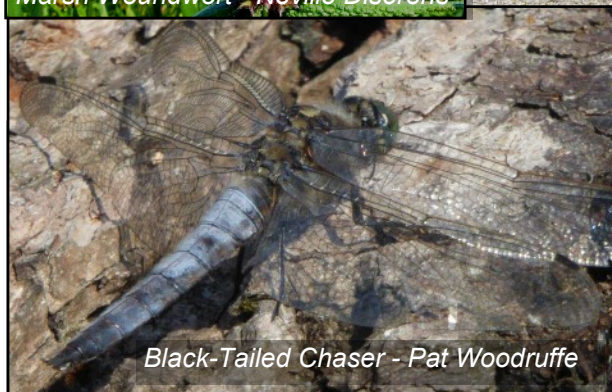
Lake edge - Jean Smith



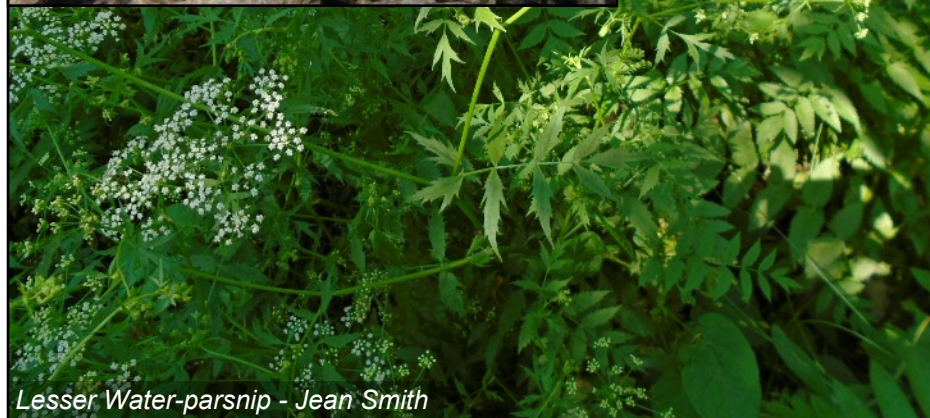
Marsh Woundwort - Neville Diserens



"The Bog" - Richard Aisbitt



Black-Tailed Chaser - Pat Woodruffe



Lesser Water-parsnip - Jean Smith



Yellow Loosestrife - Neville Diserens






Which *Centaurea*? Probably *nigra* - Penny Lee

Recording *Centaurea* spp. in Wiltshire

Ambiguity can arise when recording knapweeds *Centaurea* spp in Wiltshire. As well as Greater Knapweed *Centaurea scabiosa* and Common Knapweed *Centaurea nigra*, we also have Chalk Knapweed *Centaurea debeauxii* which is an indicator of quality calcareous grassland. By way of explanation see the table below for some aid in identifying the difference but beware as those differences are not completely clear-cut. If in doubt whether your plant is *C. debeauxii* or *C. nigra*, record as *Centaurea nigra* agg. The best diagnostic feature is the width of the capitulum (measure across the part where the phyllaries are rather than across the 'petals'). Although an additional characteristic in *C. nigra* is a markedly swollen stem just below the capitulum - which is barely developed in *C. debeauxii* - this is not considered to be a reliable feature.

Penny Lee

Stace, C New Flora of the British Isles (2019)

Species	Capitulum	Involucre bract	Florets	Leaves
<i>Centaurea scabiosa</i> Greater Knapweed	30 - 60mm; globose		Ray and disc florets	Usually deeply lobed, rarely simple and entire
<i>Centaurea nigra</i> Common Knapweed	>15mm; globose Peduncle markedly swollen below capitulum		Usually only disc florets but can also have ray florets	Leaves usually simple and entire but can be lobed
<i>Centaurea debeauxii</i> Chalk Knapweed	< 14mm; linear/lanceolate. Peduncle slightly swollen below capitulum		Usually with ray and disc florets	Usually simple and entire but can be lobed

Plant Records 2017

Explanatory notes

The following list is the author's selection of records that add to the species lists for each of Wiltshire's 50 odd 10 kilometre squares. They are for species found for the first time during 2017: new species records found in 2018 will follow in the next newsletter.

The selection includes any species that is new to the county or vice-counties, those of national importance and many other species of interest. Much of 2017's recording stretched into areas not previously covered well and so many very common species such as Field Maple *Acer campestre*, Creeping Thistle *Cirsium arvense* and Yorkshire Fog *Holcus lanatus* entered the new 10 km list. These, together with some garden escapes have been removed from this edition to save space in this publication. However the remaining records still represent approximately half of those eligible and is otherwise simply the author's own personal choice. The full list is available to view on the WBS website.

In this list, 'new' refers to records gathered since the early 1980's and the publication of the 1993 Wiltshire Flora. In addition, the word 'recent' refers to this period also.

The information contains both scientific and common names based on the New Flora of the British Isles 3rd edition. (Stace 2010); together with site, brief information and the initials of the recorder. First County or Vice-county records appear in bold italics. For interest some species may have the IUCN threat criteria attached.

Martin Buckland



Common Broomrape:
see *Orobancha minor* - VC7, Stock Wood,
Dave Green - Photo Pat Woodruffe

Initials of Recorders

AA – Anne Appleyard
AL – Adam Lucas
ARM – Tony Mundell
BCG – Bulford Conservation Group
DG – Dave Green
DH – Darrell Harrison
DLe – David Leadbetter
DP – David Pickering
HCr – Helena Crouch
IL – Irene Lucas
JBe – Jenny Bennett
JBr – Jane Brown
JRM – John Moon
MBu – Martin Buckland
MWR – Martin Rand
NJS – Nicholas Self
PD – Paul Darby
PLe – Penny Lee
PM – Peter Marren
PMW – Pat Woodruffe
PSk – Paul Skelton
PXW – Paul Wexler
RAi – Richard Aisbitt
RDu – Rosemary Duckett
SFi – Sue Fitzpatrick
SG – Sarah Grinstead
SJJ – Steve Jackson
SPi – Sharon Pilkington
U3A – University of the Third Age
VSI – Victoria Sloan
VW – Vanessa Williams

Qualifying initials

CCDA – Cross Country Driving Area (Army)
CWP – Cotswold Water Park
DIO – Defence Infrastructure Organisation
SPTA – Salisbury Plain Training Area
IUCN – International Union for the Conservation of Nature
NS – Nationally scarce
CR – Critically endangered
EN – Endangered
VU – Vulnerable
NT – Near Threatened

VC7

Alisma lanceolatum (Narrow-leaved Water-plantain); South of Bewley Crescent, Lacock on River Avon; in Wiltshire & Berkshire Canal near Tacklemore Wood where locally common, DG.

Althaea officinalis (Marsh-mallow); Great Cumberwell landfill site, over 15 clumps within a 50m radius, DG.

1st Wiltshire record.

Amaranthus hybridus (Green Amaranth); Great Cumberwell landfill site. Only the second record for VC7, DG; determined by F.Verloove.

Amaranthus hypochondriacus (Princes'-feather); Great Cumberwell landfill site, DG.

1st Wiltshire record.

Anemanthele lessoniana (New Zealand Wind-grass); Bradford-on-Avon, one clump in road verge, HCr & DG.

1st Wiltshire record. Bittlesea Farm near Bradenstoke, two plants in kerb and pavement. 2nd VC7 record, DG.

Anisantha diandra (Great Brome); Great Chalfield, two areas, one of which had a large population in an arable field. DG. Inwood, growing with *Bromus secalinus* (Rye Brome) at edge of arable field. DG.

Anthemis arvensis (Corn Chamomile) [GB:EN Eng:EN]; Freeth Farm, Compton Bassett, many plants at edge of arable crop. MBu & DG. **1st VC7 record.** Before the Wiltshire Flora the original record was 1955 when found at Calne Sandpits with only nine others recorded up to 1969. It has only been documented within 200 GB 1km squares since 2010.

Asplenium adiantum-nigrum (Black Spleenwort); Greatfield, garden wall. MBu.

Aster novae-angliae (Hairy Michaelmas-daisy). Ashley Wood dumped at industrial area. DG.

1st Wiltshire record.

Aster novi-belgi (Confused Michaelmas-daisy); Stock Wood, DG.

Aster* x *salignus (Michaelmas-daisy); Dance Common, Cricklade, dense patches. RAi.

Aster* x *versicolor (Late Michaelmas-daisy); Tockenham Wick, a single plant in road verge. DG and MBu.

Avena sterilis (Winter Wild-oat); Chittoe Heath; occasional throughout fringes of maize crop. DG & MBu. Only the second recent Wiltshire record.

Barbarea intermedia (Medium-flowered Winter-cress); Great Cumberwell landfill site, DG.

Bolboschoenus maritimus (Sea Club-rush); Castle Eaton; continuous stands but possibly introduced into large pond in arable area, RAi.

Briza maxima (Greater Quaking-grass); Bradford-on-Avon, outside gardens, an annual occurrence for many years. HCr & DG.

Bromus secalinus (Rye Brome); Clyffe Pypard Wood, in adjacent arable field, MBu. Draycott Park, 20 plants in arable field; Rodbourne Bottom, two arable sites both DG.

Calystegia pulchra (Hairy Bindweed); Many more records of this recent 'discovery'. Found growing quite frequently in a hedge along the A3102 near Chittoe Heath, MBu & DG. Also, four sites at Cricklade, variously along old rail track, cycle way and South Meadow Lane, all RAi. In Swindon it was found scrambling over bramble patches at Quarry Wildlife Garden LNR, RAi.

Cannabis sativa (Hemp); Great Cumberwell landfill site. A single plant representing only the third County record, DG.

Carduus tenuiflorus (Slender Thistle); Bishopstone Chalk East; hundreds on south facing slope within rabbit disturbed ground, RAi. Also recorded at Kingsdown as relic of game crop and near Upper South Wraxhall, DG. These records represent four of only six recent records for this species.

Carduus* x *stangii (*C. crispus* x *nutans*); Woodborough Hill, several plants by adjacent farm buildings, WBS. **1st VC7 record**; Nightingale Wood, Swindon, edge of car park, RAi, AA and SFi. 2nd VC7 record. Both these records are post Wiltshire Flora. There is only one other VC7 pre-flora record; from Shire Hill in 1947.

Carex pallescens (Pale Sedge); Alderton Grove, 50 plants up against hedgerow, DG. Inwood, a large population growing on the north side of a ride. DG.

Carex pilulifera (Pill Sedge); Draycot Park, north; many clumps in acid grassland. DG.

Carex spicata (Spiked Sedge); Cricklade; Meysey Hampton, in a rough herb-free meadow, both RAi.

Carex* x *pseudoaxillaris (*C. otrubae* x *remota*); south of Lacock around the edge of large pond. DG; determined by M. Porter, BSBI Referee.

Carum carvi (Caraway); [NS GB:EN Eng:CR] Chittoe Heath; 8 large plants in a market garden as an apparent spontaneous weed. Only the 5th recent VC7 record and 8th overall; the first in 1957. DG & MBu.

Ceratophyllum demersum (Rigid Hornwort); Cricklade, RAi.

Chenopodium murale (Nettle-leaved Goosefoot); [GB:VU Eng:EN] Great Cumberwell landfill site, DG; determined by Dr J. Akeroyd, BSBI Referee. This represents only the sixth record for VC7, the first found within SU27 in 1949 by J.D.Grose.

Cicerbita macrophylla (Common Blue-sow Thistle); Holy Trinity churchyard, Bradford-on-Avon, DG. Marston Meysey, a roadside patch RAi.

Conyza sumatrensis (Guernsey Fleabane); Bradford-on-Avon, 3 or 4 plants in a school car park, HCr & DG. Broad Blunsdon, 1 plant in gravel beside roadway, RAi. Royal Wootton Bassett, 1 plant at wall-pavement angle in accumulated dirt, MBu.

Crataegus x media (*C. monogyna* x *laevigata*); Hedington area, JBr.

Cytisus scoparius (Broom); Alderton Grove, two 10k square sites with 2 and 4 plants, DG.

Danthonia decumbens (Heath-grass); Broughton Gifford, DG.

Echlinochloa crus-galli (Cockspur); Draycot Park, DG; Cricklade, in an abandoned arable field, RAi. Great Wood, Tockenham, in wheel ruts made by forestry vehicles, DG & MBu.

Echium vulgare (Viper's-bugloss); Stock Wood, a single plant, DG.

Epilobium obscurum (Short-fruited Willowherb); Several records, Highworth, RAi; Seagry Wood north, DG & MBu; Hullavington; Littleton Drew; Luckington north and south; Widley's Copse and Winsley all DG.

Erysimum cheiranthoides (Treacle-mustard) [Eng:NT]; four records of this scarce archaeophyte. Cricklade, several plants in an abandoned arable field; Dunfield, a single at edge of wheat field, both RAi. Freeth Farm, Compton Bassett, a single plant at edge of arable field, MBu & DG.

Euphorbia lathyrus (Caper Spurge); Highworth, one on track to allotments, RAi.

Euphorbia oblongata (Balkan Spurge); Seend Cleeve, on roadside next to gardens, DG.

Euphorbia stricta (Upright Spurge); Durett Farm, Bromham, a single garden escape on roadside, DG.

Fagopyrum esculentum (Buckwheat); Chapel Plaister, seeded as part of pheasant crop; Great Cumberwell landfill site, a single plant; both DG.

Fumaria muralis* ssp. *boroei (Common Ramping-fumitory); Great Cumberwell landfill site, one large plant, DG.

Fumaria officinalis* ssp. *wirtgenii (Common Fumitory); Aldbourne, edge of oilseed rape field, RAi.

Fumaria vaillantii (Few-flowered Fumitory) [GB:VU Eng:EN]; Holy Trinity Church, Bradford-on-Avon, a single plant on newly imported soil, DG. **1st VC7 record.**

Galinsoga quadriradiata (Shaggy Soldier); Freeth Farm, Compton Bassett, a single plant on trackway, MBu & DG.

Gaudinia fragilis (French Oat-grass); Gastard, DG.

Geranium pusillum (Small-flowered Cranesbill); Highworth and Rowborough Farm, South Marston, both RAi.

Geranium rotundifolium (Round-leaved Cranesbill); Ditteridge Village, 5 plants, DG. Rixon Gate, CWP lake 82, SPi.

Glyceria declinata (Small Sweet-grass); Ramsbury, PM.

Glyceria notata (Plicate Sweet-grass); Sevenhampton, in a spring near church, RAi.

Helleborus niger (Christmas-rose); Burton, on dumped soil in woodland, DG. **1st Wiltshire record.**

Hieracium argillaceum (Southern Hawkweed); Holy Trinity churchyard, Bradford-on-Avon, DG.

Holcus lanatus (Yorkshire-fog); Meysey Hampton, RAi.

Hyoscyamus niger (Henbane) [GB:VU Eng:VU]; Bromham, to south, plants at edge of footpath/arable field. DG.

Hypericum maculatum* ssp. *obtusiusculum (Imperforate St John's-wort); Alderton Grove, large number of patches in marshland. DG. **1st VC7 record.**

Inula helenium (Elecampane); Sherston, a large clump on verge at road bend. A local claimed that the clump has existed 60 years, AL.

Ipomoea purpurea (Morning-glory); Great Cumberwell landfill site, a single plant, DG. **1st Wiltshire record.**

Lactuca virosa (Great Lettuce); Gastard, three plants growing together in hedgerow, DG. A350 Melksham, one small plant in pavement crack, SPi.

Lamium galeobdolon* ssp. *argenteum (Garden Yellow-archangel); Several records, Ashley Wood; Box village; Bradford-on-Avon and Inwood; all DG. Broad Blunsdon and Marston Meysey, both RAi.

Lathraea squamaria (Toothwort); Lackham, growing below lime; PXW.

Lathyrus latifolius (Broad-leaved Everlasting-pea); Chittoe Heath, covering a large area of grass verge next to a derelict market garden. DG & MBu.

Lathyrus nissolia (Grass Vetchling); Hannington, two sites totalling 13 plants in grassy tracks; Rowborough Farm, South Marston, a few plants trackside near mainline railway and near Nightingale Wood, Swindon, on a wide verge north side of A420, scattered individuals between SU21248735 and SU21408737; all RAi. Also, Monkton Farleigh, DG.

Lemna gibba (Fat Duckweed); Broad Blunsdon, in a small pond but also on wet footpath; Cricklade, in the Thames and on banks, a pond (canal cut-off by A419), railway path and South Meadow Lane; the Thames at Hannington Wick; all RAi.

Lepidium campestre (Field Pepperwort) [Eng:NT]; Great Cumberwell landfill site, 3 plants, DG.

Linaria x dominii (*L. Purpurea x repens*); Cricklade rail path, colonised on sleeper ballast; both parent species nearby. RAI.

Lysimachia punctata (Dotted Loosestrife); Castle Eaton, possibly introduced on banks of large pond in arable area and a 1m patch on the bank of the River Thames, both RAI.

Malva neglecta (Dwarf Mallow); Rowborough Farm, South Marston, within farmyard, RAI.

Malva trimestris (Royal Mallow); Great Cumberwell landfill site, a single plant, DG.

1st Wiltshire record.

Medicago arabica (Spotted Medick); Hullavington, Kingston St Michael and Winsley, all DG.

Myosotis discolor (Changing Forget-me-not); Lay Wood, Devizes, MBu.

Myosotis ramosissima (Early Forget-me-not); Marston Meysey; Stanton Fitzwarren, both RAI.

Nasturtium microphyllum (Narrow-fruited Water-cress); near Nightingale Wood, Swindon, RAI.

Nepeta cataria (Cat-mint) [GB:VU Eng:VU]; Freeth Farm, Compton Bassett, single plant adjacent to farm buildings, DG & MBu.

Nicandra physalodes (Apple-of Peru); Great Cumberwell landfill site, a single plant, HCr & DG.

1st VC7 record.

Onopordum acanthium (Cotton Thistle); Durllett Farm, Bromham, 9 plants at edge of arable field, DG.

Orobanche minor (Common Broomrape); Stock Wood, DG.

Papaver dubium (Long-headed Poppy); Freeth Farm, Compton Bassett, MBu & DG.

Petroselinum segetum (Corn Parsley); Winsley, 50 plants growing over a 100m stretch of lane verge from ST79896020 to ST79996020. HCr & DG.

Phalaris paradoxa var. praemorsa (Awned Canary-grass); Freeth Farm, Compton Bassett, abundant on the edge of three arable fields centred on SU02217296. DG & MBu.

Phuopsis stylosa (Causican Crosswort); Bradford Leigh, growing at base of hedge, DG.

1st VC7 record.

Physalis peruviana (Cape-gooseberry); Wootton Meadows, Royal Wootton Bassett, a single plant on waste ground adjacent new house builds, MBu.

1st Wiltshire record.

Picris hieracioides ssp. **villarsii** (Hawkweed Ox-tongue); Great Cumberwell landfill site, HCr and DG; determined.

1st Wiltshire record.

Poa compressa (Flattened Meadow-grass); The Street, Crudwell, numerous plants on top of long roadside wall, SPi. Woodshaw, Royal Wootton Bassett, common in cracks between slabs of swale, MBu.

Poa humilis (Spreading Meadow-grass); The Abbey, Bradenstoke, on wall; Draycot Park, population on bridge over motorway, both DG.

Polypodium x mantoniae (*P. interjectum x vulgare*); Pewsey Wharf; a patch beside gardens above the canal, RAI & Kennet U3A. **1st VC7 record.** Strangely this is not actually a new 10k record having been recorded nearby at Jones' Mill by Jack Oliver in 1994; however that was across the water in VC8. These two records constitute the only ones in Wiltshire.

Polypodium vulgare (Polypody); Highworth, many plants rooted under stone slabs of low lean-to church roof, RAI.

Polypogon viridis (Water Bent) New Road, Royal Wootton Bassett, in accumulated soil at edge of pavement where turning traffic sweeps dirt around, MBu. Manor Garden Centre, Swindon where it was frequent in cracks and edges and their most common weed, RAI.

Author's note: SPi mentioned that this plant had been recorded at a garden centre in Trowbridge; I had seen it at a centre in Devizes. As these two are linked with Manor Garden I sent RAI along and guess what... ?

Potamogeton berchtoldii (Small Pondweed); Freeth Farm, Compton Bassett, DG & MBu.

Potamogeton nodosus (Loddon Pondweed) [NR GB:VU Eng:VU]; south of Lacock; a single small population the 'size of a coffee table' on the west bank of the River Avon, DG.

Potamogeton pectinatus (Fennel Pondweed); Castle Eaton, in a rectangular pond in an arable area. Meysey Hampton, within a large pond margin, both RAI.

Potentilla x mixta (*P. anglica x reptans*); Alderton Grove where abundant, DG. Freeth Farm, Compton Bassett, DG & MBu.

Pseudofumaria alba (Pale Corydalis); Highworth, 8 plants on face of stone wall by Brewery Street Car Park, RAI.

1st Wiltshire record.

Pyracantha coccinea (Firethorn); Juggler's Lane, Yatesbury; bird-sown individual with no other plants near. MBu.

1st VC7 record.

Pyrus communis (Pear); Durllett Farm, Bromham; Seend Cleeve, both DG.

Quercus x rosacea (*Q. petraea x robur*); Bittlesea Farm, a large standard tree at Horse Lays Wood, DG.

Ranunculus penicillatus ssp. *pseudofluitans* Along the Avon throughout ST8887, DG.

Reseda alba (White Mignonette); Great Cumberwell landfill site, a single plant, DG. **1st VC7 record.**

Rosa micrantha (Small-flowered Sweet-briar); Bishopstone, within a roadside hedge, RAi.

Rosa rugosa (Japanese Rose); Westbrook, a garden throw-out in clearing at edge of quarry, DG.

Rosa sherardii (Sherard's Downy-rose); Bittlesea Farm, a single bush in a hedge; Seend Cleeve, at the roadside near gardens both DG.

Rosa spinosissima (Burnet Rose); Winsley, originally planted in churchyard but spreading by rhizome and seed, HCr & DG. **1st VC7 record.**

Rosa stylosa (Short-styled Field-rose); Staverton, a single bush, DG.

Rosa tomentosa (Harsh Downy-rose); Freeth Farm, Compton Bassett, DG & MBu.

Sagina filicaulis (Slender Pearlwort); Berwick Bassett, MBu.

Sagittaria sagittifolia (Arrowhead); Hannington Wick, RAi. Lacock, in bushes by lake, DG.

Scandix pecten-veneris (Shepherd's-needle); East of Hebden Farm, Alderton, by a pond, 30-40 flowering DG.

Schedonorus giganteus (Giant Fescue); Meysey Hampton, RAi.

Schoenoplectus tabernaemontani (Grey Club-rush); Kingshill Farm, Cricklade, within pond, RAi.

Sedum dasyphyllum (Thick-leaved Stonecrop); Sopworth, churchyard walls, DG.

Senecio cineraria (Silver Ragwort); Great Cumberwell landfill site, DG. **1st Wiltshire record.**

Silene armeria (Sweet-William Catchfly); Great Cumberwell landfill site, 2 plants, DG. **1st Wiltshire record.**

Silene chalcidonica (Maltese-cross); Great Cumberwell landfill site, a single plant, HCr & DG. **1st Wiltshire record.**

Sisymbrium erysimoides (French Rocket); Urban Malmesbury, around 6 plants in pavement-wall angle, WBS. **1st Wiltshire record.**

Sisyrinchium striatum (Pale Yellow-eyed Grass); Bradford-on-Avon, a single plant on a wide verge is only the second record for VC7, HCr & DG.

Solanum rostratum (Buffalo-bur); Great Cumberwell landfill site, a single plant, HCr & DG. **1st VC7 record.**

Thlapsi arvense (Field Penny-cress); Allington Down, a single plant, JBr.

Torilis arvensis (Spreading Hedge-parsley) [NS Eng:EN GB:EN]; Woodborough, a single plant at the edge of an arable field represents only the second recent record, WBS.

Trifolium micranthum (Slender Trefoil); Highworth, in churchyard mown grass, RAi.

Tulipa sylvestris (Wild Tulip); Luckington, 2/300 plants, mostly single leaves with just 22 in flower adjacent to a limestone quarry DG. **1st VC7 record.** (Last record was in period 1950 to 1969).

Ulmus minor (Small-leaved Elm [sensu Stace]); Alderton, a single roadside tree, DG.

Verbena bonariensis (Argentinian Vervain); Great Wood, Tockenham, growing in ruts made by forestry vehicles, MBu & DG.

Veronica agrestis (Green Field-speedwell); Poulton Down, Ogbourne St. Andrew; Sevenhampton and Wanborough, all RAi. Upper Minety, a small number of plants in flower and fruit, SPi & RAi.

Veronica austriaca (Large Speedwell); Great Cumberwell landfill site, a single plant represents only the second VC7 record, DG.

Veronica catenata (Pink Water-speedwell); Castle Eaton, Cricklade, Hannington, Highworth, Inglesham and Water Eaton, RAi.

Veronica polita (Grey Field-speedwell); Blunsdon St. Andrew churchyard, RAi.

Vicia tetrasperma (Smooth Tare); Draycot Park north; Hannington; Highworth and Marston Meysey, all RAi.

Vulpia bromoides (Squirreltail fescue); Nightingale Wood at a trackside, RAi.

Zannichellia palustris (Horned Pondweed); Berwick Bassett, farm pond, MBu.

VC8

Aconitum napellus (Monk's-hood); Upper Chute, two sites of single plants, AA & SFi.

Agrimonia procera (Fragrant Agrimony); Tilshead, RAi, AA, SFi & PMW.

Alopecurus aequalis (Orange Foxtail); Wexcombe, in a dried pond, JBr. **1st VC8 record.** Only the 5th County record.

Alyssum alyssoides (Small Alison); Allington, escaped into village, AA & SFi. **1st Wiltshire record.**

Amsinckia micrantha (Common Fiddleneck); Codford, many plants beneath a dead sapling planted at the roadside, ARM.

Anchusa officinalis (Alkanet), Ludwell, SJJ.

Anemanthele lessoniana (New Zealand Wind-grass); Limpley Stoke north, regenerating garden throw-out, HCr & DG. **1st VC8 record.**

Anemone x hybrida (Japanese Anemone); Brixton Deverill, naturalised in village, AA & SFi. **1st VC8 record.**

Anisantha diandra (Great Brome); Berwick Down and Winterbourne Stoke Down, SPi & VSL; Mere Downs, SPi & JBE; Tunball Lane, Tidcombe, RAI, MBu & SPi.

Arctium minus* spp. *minus (Lesser Burdock); Codford St.Mary and Sherrington, SJJ; Seniors Farm, Semley, VW.

Aster novi-belgii (Confused Michaelmas-daisy); Barford St.Martin, SFi; Tilshead, RAI, AA, SFi & PMW.

Aster x salignus (Common Michaelmas-daisy); Win Green, AA & SFi.

Aurina saxatilis (Golden Alison); Devizes, growing in cracks in roadside wall, MBu. **1st Wiltshire record.**

Betula celtiberica (Iberian Birch); Furzley Common, WBS. **1st Wiltshire record.**

Betula x aurata (*B. pendula* x *pubescens*); Haydown Hill, Fosbury, RAI, MBu & SPi.

Bromus hordeaceus* spp. *hordeaceus (Soft-brome); Abbot's Pond, East Knoyle; Rising Sun pub, Shaftesbury and Wallmead Farm all VW.

Bromus secalinus (Rye Brome) [NS GB:VU Eng:NT]; Berwick James, a few plants at interface of wheat and fodder maize, SPi & VSL; Green Lane, Devizes, in corner of wheat field and within set-aside crop, MBu. Despite its national status this is being recorded increasingly.

Calystegia pulchra Lots more of this 'new' plant; Amesbury, three sites, SPi; **1st VC8 record.** Langford Lakes, two sites, SPi; Barford St.Martin, three sites, SFi; Salisbury, two sites, SFi; Burton near Mere and Mere Downs both RAI, JBE, MBu & SPi; Castle Hill, Salisbury, SFi; Countess Amesbury, SPi & MBu; Market Lavington, MBu; Normanton Down A303 and Wellhead Drove, Westbury both SPi.

Cardamine impatiens (Narrow-leaved Bitter-cress); [NS GB:NT] SU1546 SPTA(E) Figheledean, JRM. **1st VC8 record.** Only the third County record; the last being by J.D.Grose in 1954!

Carduus x stangii (*C. crispus* x *nutans*); Corton; Sherrington, both SFi; Tidcombe, a patch of several plants, AA & SFi. These represent the 2nd to 4th recent records of only five ever; the original at Win Green in 1946!

Carex divulsa* ssp. *divulsa (Grey Sedge); Burton, RAI, JBE, MBu & SPi; Charlton All Saints, two sites and Homington, two sites, all SFi.

Carex divulsa* ssp. *leersii (Grey Sedge); Brunton and Upton Lovell, both SFi.

Carex pilulifera (Pill Sedge); Coulston, on road verge; Marston, cut short but in numbers on greensand verge, both SPi.

Catapodium maritimum (Sea Fern-grass); Netherhampton, at road side with *Plantago coronopus*, SFi.

Ceratophyllum demersum (Rigid Hornwort); Marston village pond, SPi; Worton Common, MBu.

Chenopodium bonus-henricus (Good King Henry); Seniors Farm, Semley, VW.

Chenopodium hybridum (Maple-leaved Goosefoot); Normanton Down, SPi.

Cicerbita macrophylla (Common Blue Sow-thistle); Burbage, Suddene Farm, entrance to buildings, JBr & PD.

Clematis tangutica (Orange-peel Clematis); Great Cheverell, naturalised in Buddleja scrub on railway embankment, SPi. **1st Wiltshire record.**

Clinopodium ascendens (Common Calamint); Upton Scudamore, DG.

Conyza floribunda (Bilbao's Fleabane); Churchfields, Salisbury 2 sites; Langford Lakes Reserve; Salisbury 2 sites, all SFi.

Crepis biennis (Rough Hawk's-beard); The Slay, Tidcombe, RAI, MBu & SPi.

Dactylorhiza x grandis (*D. fuchsii* x *praetermissa*); A303 Countess Cutting, Amesbury, SPi.

Dittrichia graveolens (Stinking Fleabane); Parkhouse Cross, MWR.

Dryopteris borreeri (Borrer's Scaly Male-fern); Coulston and Coulston Hill, Earlstoke, SPi.

Echinochloa crus-galli (Cockspur); Brixton Deverill, AA & SFi; Collingbourne Kingston 3 sites and Everleigh, all SFi. All typically found at field margins.

Epilobium obscurum (Short-fruited Willowherb); Amesbury and Wilsford Down, both SFi; Kingston Deverill, AA & SFi; Limpley Stoke north, HCr & DG.

Epilobium roseum (Pale Willowherb); Limpley Stoke, number of plants along damp footpath, DG.

Euphorbia oblongata (Balkan Spurge); north Limpley Stoke, regenerating garden throw-out, HCr & DG. **1st VC8 record.**
A species increasingly recorded in GB.

Fumaria officinalis* spp. *wirtgenii (Common Fumitory); Conholt Bottom, Conholt. Many plants in field margin, RAi, MBu, & SPi.

Galinsoga quadriradiata (Shaggy Soldier); Cheverell Wood, numerous plants at edge of former arable field now ryegrass sown, MBu.

Galium palustre* ssp. *palustre (Common Marsh-bedstraw); Nursteed, Devizes, MBu.

Galium uliginosum (Fen Bedstraw); Berwick St.James, River Till, SPi.

Geranium nodosum (Knotted Crane's-bill); Market Lavington, garden escape into local footway. MBu. **1st Wiltshire record.** A surprise to the recorder as it seeds freely in his own garden.

Geranium rotundifolium (Round-leaved Crane's-bill); Potterne, growing in soil-filled cattle grid. MBu.

Groenlandia densa (Opposite-leaved Pondweed) [GB:VU Eng:VU]; Westbury, a small colony in chalk stream where it emerges from road culvert, SPi.

Helleborus niger (Christmas-rose); Kingston Deverill, several escapes, AA, SFi, IL & VW. **1st VC8 record.**

Hypericum hircinum (Stinking Tutsan); Limpley Stoke north, regenerating garden throw-out, HCr & DG. A species increasingly being recorded in GB.

Impatiens parviflora (Small Balsam); Ludwell, SJJ.

Jasminum officinale (Summer Jasmine); Tilshead, suckering out of garden onto trackside, RAi, Aa, SFi & PMW.

1st Wiltshire record.

Juncus tenuis (Slender Rush); Hatts Farm, VW.

Lactuca virosa (Great Lettuce); Hilperton Marsh, three plants in roadside hedge, DG.

Lamiastrum galeobdolon* ssp. *argentatum (Garden Yellow-archangel); Idmiston, escaped into village, SFi; Newton Tony centre; Perham Down east, both JRM.

Lamium hybridum (Cut-leaved Dead-nettle); Little Abbots, Wilcot, JBr.

Lathyrus nissolia (Grass Vetchling); St. Marys School, Shaftesbury, VW.

Lemna gibba (Fat Duckweed); 18 records received; Barford St Martin; Salisbury, both SFi; Great Cheverell; Marston; Hurst Farm, Worton Common, all SPi; Fosbury Hillfort, Knolls Down, RAi, MBu & SPi; Mere, WBS; Tidcombe; Upper Chute both AA & SFi; River Till, Winterbourne Stoke, SPi & VSL; Worton Common, MBu; flat forms at Coulston and Langford Lakes, both SPi.

Lemna minuta (Least Duckweed); Allington, Boscombe, Collingbourne Kingston and Everleigh; all SFi; Brixton Deverill, AA & SFi. Interestingly all above found in cattle troughs.

Lemna turionifera (Red Duckweed); Normanton Down, well coloured plants floating in unused trough between arable fields, SPi. Only the 3rd VC8 record ever; the 1st at Stourhead in 2013, also by SPi.

Lepidium campestre (Field Pepperwort) [Eng:NT]; Battlesbury Hill, Warminster, SPi.

Lythrum portula (Water-purslane); Coulston, plentiful in damp grassland and road verge by stream, SPi.

Malva trimestris (Royal Mallow); Dilton Marsh, one plant in lush *Lolium multiflorum* ley and still in flower on 11th November, DH. **1st VC8 record.**

Neotinea ustulata (Burnt Orchid) [NS GB:EN Eng:EN]; SPTA(C), three sites, all PSK.

Nicandra physalodes (Apple-of-Peru); Pewsey, single plant in semi-abandoned plot and assumed from bird seed, PD.

Nonea lutea (Yellow Nonea); Codford St.Mary; growing on pavement / grass verge near housing, SJJ. Only the 2nd VC8 record.

Oxalis stricta (Upright Yellow-sorrel); Great Cheverell, SPi.

Papaver dubium (Long-headed Poppy); SPTA: Copehill Down; SPTA: Cow Down, both SG & SPi; Winterbourne Stoke; Winterbourne Stoke Down, both SPi & VSL.

Papaver hybridum (Rough Poppy); Chitterne, three sites, all within field edges or headlands, all SFi.

Papaver lecoqii (Yellow-juiced Poppy); Easton, a single plant in headland, SFi.

Persicaria bistorta (Common Bistort); Long Hill Mere, RAi & PLe.

Plantago coronopus (Buck's-horn Plantain); Nursteed, Devizes, at edge of road verge where winter salt affects soil, MBu.

Poa compressa (Flattened Meadow-grass); SPTA Tilshead Down, small number of plants in ballast, edge of track, SG & SPi.

Polypogon viridis (Water Bent); Salisbury, 3 sites of which 2 near new house builds, all SFi.

Potamogeton lucens (Shining Pondweed); Sherrington, two sites, both SFi.

Rorippa palustris (Marsh Yellow-cress); Midford Brook, DG.

Rosa x irregularis (*R. arvensis* x *canina*); Dean Hill SSSI, both parents close, SFi & PMW. **1st Wiltshire record.**

Rosa micrantha (Small-flowered Sweet-briar); Chitterne; near Parsonage Down, Winterbourne Stoke, both SFi.

Rosa x toddiae (*R. canina* x *micrantha*); Figsbury Ring, 3 sites, AA & SFi.

Rosa rubiginosa (Sweet-briar); Market Lavington, MBu.

Rosa sherardii (Sherard's Downy-rose); Collingbourne Kingston, woodland edge, SFi.

Rosa spinosissima (Burnet Rose); Brixton Deverill, 2 sites, both planted and suckering profusely, both SFi.

Rubus tricolor (Chinese Bramble); Limpley Stoke north, regenerating garden throw-out, HCr & DG.

Sagina filicaulis (Upright Pearlwort); Barford St. Martin, SFi; Tilshead Down, SG & SPi.

Salix x calodendron (Holme Willow); Amesbury; Sherrington; Upton Lovell all SFi; Brixton Deverill, AA & SFi.

Salix x reichardtii (*S. caprea* x *cinerea*); Langley Wood, Salisbury, AA, SFi & PMW.

Sambucus ebulus (Dwarf Elder); Seniors Farm, Semley, a single plant, VW.

Sedum spurium (Causican-stonecrop);

Senecio squalidus (Oxford Ragwort); East Knoyle, RDu, PLe & DP.

Setaria pumila (Yellow Bristle-grass); Cheverell Wood, at edge of former arable field now sown with ryegrass, MBu; Codford, pavement weed, ARM.

Sorbus torminalis (Wild Service-tree); SPTA near Netheravon, 4 sites with a total of 7 trees planted but with at least 6 more regenerating or younger plants of differing ages, all SFi.

Stellaria alsine (Bog Stitchwort); Fosbury Hillfort, Knolls Down, RAi, MBu & SPi; Midford Brook, DG.

Taraxacum pulchrifolium (a dandelion); Downton, roadside verge, DLe; determined by A.J.Richards. **1st Wiltshire record.**

Trachystemon orientalis (Abraham-Issac-Jacob); Barford St Martin; Castle Hill, Salisbury; Chitterne; Idmiston; Upton Lovell, all escapes and naturalising, all SFi.

Trifolium striatum (Knotted Clover); Pewsey, a few plants on a verge, JBr & PD.

Triticum durum (Pasta Wheat); Tidcombe, 2 sites both volunteers growing in verges either side of bridleways, AA & SFi. **1st Wiltshire record.**

Verbena bonariensis (Argentinian Vervain); Castle Hill, Salisbury, near deserted barn, SFi; Upper Chute, escape, AA & SFi.

Veronica catenata (Pink Water-speedwell); Codford, in winterbourne, SFi.

Veronica polita (Grey Field-speedwell); Amesbury, SPi; Wilsford Down, Winterbourne Stoke, SPi & VSI.

Vicia tetrasperma (Smooth Tare); Botley Down near Oxenwood, AA & SFi.

Vinca difformis (Intermediate Periwinkle); Seend Cleeve, well established on verge by track adjacent housing, SPi. **1st Wiltshire record.**

Vulpia bromoides (Squirreltail Fescue); The Slay, Tidcombe, RAi, MBu & SPi.

Vulpia myuros (Rat's-tail Fescue); Berwick St James, weed in field margin; Winterbourne Stoke Down, arable weed; both SPi & VSI.

X Schedolium loliaceum (*Schedonorus pratensis* x *Lolium perenne*); Parsonage Bank, Parsonage Down SSSI, SPi & VSI.

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Subscriptions became due in January; please get your payment to Sue Fitzpatrick. The rates are:

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We hope that you will renew and take part in the society's activities.