

Saturday 11th to Saturday 18th June (R)

Crawfordjohn, Lanarkshire (vc77)

South Scotland Recording Week

Leader Angus Hannah

The main purpose of this meeting is to continue with Atlas recording in vc77 during the vacancy following the death of the vc recorder Peter Macpherson. We are targeting a number of under-recorded hectads in upper Clydesdale, ranging from agricultural and pastoral country with some areas of former coal and lead mining to remote hills and lochs.

Two cottages have been booked at Mountherrick. Additional accommodation is available at the hotel in nearby Crawfordjohn.

Bookings and enquiries to Angus Hannah, e-mail butesedge@yahoo.co.uk (01700 503879)

Thursday 23rd to Monday 27th June 2016 (R)

Ullapool, Wester Ross (v.c.105)

Leader Duncan Donald

The Ullapool area has been known for its outcrops of carbonate bedrock ("Durness limestone") since at least 1767. As well as updating some records from Ullapool itself (e.g. *Alchemilla glaucescens*), I should be grateful for help in re-surveying nearby, under-recorded areas for the Atlas 2020 project: upper Strath Canaird (NC10/NC20) [target species *Epipactis atrorubens*, Dark red Helleborine]; Beinn Eilideach (NH19L/R) [*Arctostaphylos alpinus*, Alpine Bearberry, *Polystichum lonchitis*, Holly Fern & *Salix myrsinites*, Whortle-leaved Willow]; Meall Dubh (NH29A) [*Polystichum lonchitis*]; and Glens Achall & Doucharry (NH29) [*Asplenium viride*, Green Spleenwort, *Goodyera repens*, Creeping Ladies' Tresses, *Melica nutans*, Mountain Melick, *Pseudorchis albida*, Small White Orchid & *Sorbus rupicola*, Rock Whitebeam]. There is also a 'wanted' list for Knockan Crags.

Ullapool is a popular tourist haunt in its own right and as a ferry terminal connecting with the Outer Hebrides. There is a wide range of accommodation available [details will be sent to intended participants], as well as lots of places to eat out. Early booking is advisable.

To book to attend the meeting, please contact Duncan Donald, 16 Midtown of Inverasdale, Poolewe, Wester Ross IV222 2LW; croft16@btinternet.com; tel. 01445 781717.

Saturday 25th June 2016 (alpine)

Joint BSS/BSBI alpine meeting, Cam Chreag, Tyndrum (v.c.88)

Leader John Holland

Cam Chreag (884 m) is a Corbett located at the head of Gleann a'Chlachain approximately 6.0 kilometres north east of Tyndrum in the north west corner of the Loch Lomond and the Trossachs National Park. Cam Chreag forms part of the Beinn Heasgarnich Special Area of Conservation. The site has areas of species-rich calcareous grassland, flushes and cliff ledge communities. The route

will take us up through Gleann a'Chlachain where more than 200 hectares of open mountain woodland and scrub have been planted in recent years.

Meet 10:00am at the walkers' car park at SRUC Auchtertyre Farm and Strathfillan Wigwams (NN 353 290), which is off the A82 about 3km south of Tyndrum.

Contact John Holland for further details and to confirm a place (booking is essential as numbers will be limited), tel. 01838 400524 (day) or 01567 820509 (evening), e- mail john.holland@sruc.ac.uk.

Saturday July 2nd

Joint with BSS Dingwall, Easter Ross (v.c.106)

Leaders: Brian Ballinger and Mary Dean

This meeting will be mainly devoted to the flora of this small town and immediate surroundings, looking at churchyards, walls, railways, waste ground etc. The aim is to update records for the BSBI and to contribute to the Botanical Society of Scotland's urban flora project.

We may see *Dactylorhiza* species near the built up area. We will also explore the banks of the River Peffery and the shore, hoping to update *Zostera* (Eelgrass) records and possibly re-find *Eleocharis parvula* (Dwarf Spike-rush). Another aim is to relocate some locally scarce species not seen since 2000 in this area.

Contact: Brian Ballinger brian@garrickwood.org.uk or 5, Shaftesbury Park, Dundee DD2 1LB

Saturday 9th July (R)

Doone Ponds (v.c.87)

Leaders: Liz Lavery and Jane Jones

Doone Ponds is a small wooded area with several small ponds in the village of Doone situated about 6 miles north-west of Stirling. It belongs to Stirling Council and is well used by the local community for short walks. For its size, the area has produced some interesting records including *Ranunculus lingua* (Greater Spearwort), *Pyrola minor* (Common Wintergreen), *Epipactis helleborine* (Broad-leaved Helleborine) and *Pilularia globulifera* (Pillwort). However, many of these records were pre 2000 so this meet aims to try and find some of these rarities again for Atlas 2020.

Bookings to:- Liz Lavery, Burach, Carnbo, Kinross, KY13 0NX.

Email:- lavery@carnbo.freeserve.co.uk

Saturday 16th July

Ben Vorlich and Inveruglas, Dunbarton (v.c.99)

Leader: John Holland

We aim to record the mountain flora of the Ben Vorlich ridge. Many existing records are more than 30 years old and include plants not known elsewhere in the vice-county. We hope to see *Silene acaulis* (Moss Champion), *Saussurea alpina* (Alpine Saw-wort), *Polystichum lonchitis* (Holly Fern) and

many other typical mountain plants. The starting point is Inveruglas on Loch Lomond, and it is hoped that less fit participants will record the lower slopes and loch-side with ancient oak woodland.

Contact John Holland for further details, tel. 01838 400524 (day) or 01567 820509 (evening), email john.holland@sruc.ac.uk

Saturday 23rd and Sunday 24th July

Moffat Hills (v.c. 72) mapping *Carex vaginatum* and monad recording for Atlas 2020

Leader Chris Miles

NTS are interested in mapping the extent of *C. vaginatum* on their Grey Mare's Tail (GMT) property. This has a small number of records across the Moffat Hills and we aim to add to these. In addition the hills have the best collection of montane species in the south of Scotland and we will extend the more detailed recording of these at the monad scale.

Meet at 10:30 a.m. at the GMT car park on Saturday 23rd. We may meet at another location on the Sunday. This event requires a good level of fitness and appropriate clothing for high hill conditions.

Please contact Chris Miles at chris.miles01@btinternet.com to confirm your attendance and for any other information.

Monday 25th and Tuesday 26th July

Roxburghshire & Selkirkshire (v.c.79/80) Atlas Recording

Leader Jeff Waddell

The purpose of the meeting will be to improve both the hectad and tetrad recording coverage in vc80 and vc79. Recording will be targeted at tetrads with few or no botanical records, selected on the basis of promising looking habitats after analysis of OS maps and aerial photography. It is therefore difficult to say what species we might encounter! But survey work in a similar format in 2015 found new populations of nationally rare and scarce species, as well as others uncommon in Scotland, such as *Chara rudis*, *Sedum villosum*, *Andromeda polifolia* and *Paris quadrifolia*.

This meeting follows directly after the Grey Mare's Tail weekend, and it is hoped some members may attend both. It will be based in Hawick, which is centrally located to access some of the more interesting parts of the two vice counties. I am hoping for a good turn out so we can split into groups and cover as many tetrads as possible over the two days. Everyone is welcome to attend including beginners and improvers. I would also be very pleased to host recorders capable of recording critical groups to improve the taxonomic coverage.

To book and for accommodation and other advice/enquiries please contact Jeff Waddell jeffwaddell11@yahoo.co.uk

Sunday 31st July to Sunday 7th August

Mainland, Shetland (V.C. 112)

Atlas 2020 Recording Week

Leaders: Jim McIntosh & Paul Harvey

Last year we held a really enjoyable Atlas Recording week on Shetland based on Unst, from where we covered the three northernmost British isles: Unst, Fetlar and Yell. This year we plan to return with an even bigger group to Shetland and will be based at Scalloway, which is ideally positioned to cover the Mainland of Shetland and some of the remaining nearby islands for Atlas 2020. The meeting will provide a great opportunity to help improve field identification skills and to see nice plants in nice places and have a lot of fun in the process! A reasonable level of fitness will be required but a range of different ability routes will be on offer every day. At some point mid week we plan take some time off, to give you a chance to explore other aspects of Shetland.

We will be based at Port Arthur House which is the student accommodation block for the North Atlantic Fisheries College, Scalloway, which is part of the University of the Highlands and Islands. Accommodation is mostly in comfortable single en-suite study rooms with four twin en-suites as well. Catering arrangements have yet to be finalised but are likely to be a mixture of specially cooked family style dinners and eating out in local restaurants.

For **further details and booking** please contact Jim McIntosh, BSBI Scottish Officer
jim.mcintosh@bsbi.org.

Saturday 13th August (R)

Balquhiddier (v.c.87)

Leaders: Jane Jones and Liz Lavery

Balquhiddier is famous for the grave of Rob Roy in the local church yard. However, on the botanical side, there is a decided lack of records for the local area post 2000. The aim of the day would be to rectify this situation, exploring the village, Stronvar Marshes SSSI at the eastern end of Loch Voil and if time allows walking along the south shore of the loch. The SSSI supports an exceptionally rich assemblage of aquatic and emergent plants. The flora includes five plant species which are nationally scarce in their distribution: *Carex aquatilis* (water sedge), *Elatine hexandra* (six-stamened waterwort), *Lysimachia thyrsiflora* (tufted loosestrife), *Nuphar pumila* (least water lily) and *Subularia aquatica* (awlwort).

Bookings to:- Jane Jones, Cuilvona Cottage, Loch Ard Road, Aberfoyle, FK8 3TQ.

Email:- jane@cuilvona.plus.com