



*Dryas octopetala* on Cronkley Fell

# *Flora of North- west Yorkshire*

*A botanical newsletter for VC65*

Issue 13, Spring 2021

Welcome to this our rather reduced 13th newsletter for v.c.65 which is intended to keep you up-to date with botanical activities in North-west Yorkshire. For geographical details of the vice county please visit our website at: <https://bsbi.org/north-west-yorkshire> and click on 'A brief tour of v.c.65'.

2020, I am not sure what to say about this last year, it was a disaster in so many ways with the Coronavirus Pandemic. We only managed one or two Field Meetings socially distanced, well sanitized, and masked. Despite this we did manage to collect a few new records, see the Notable Finds section. With the Covid situation still ongoing the Field Meetings are not starting till the 23<sup>rd</sup> February.

Just after the New Year I received the sad news of the untimely death of Major (rettd.) Tony Crease on the 4<sup>th</sup> January, 2021. He managed Foxglove Covert, a wonderful Nature Reserve on army land at Waithwith on the outskirts of Catterick Garrison. He will be a real miss on the Reserve and in the Ornithological world.

## **Botanical Correspondence in 2020**

Many thanks to the following people who sent records in for 2020. Nick Morgan appears to have done the 'Flora of Ainderby Steeple and area' during this last year, well done Nick, I think you should produce a booklet ! His records have made an excellent start to the next decade's recording including some species new to v.c.65 (see the Notable Records section).

Other records were received throughout the year from Jenny Selly, John Lonsdale, Deborah Millward and Helen Proctor, Judith Allinson and friends from Mid-West Yorkshire, Guy Wilson, Chris Weaver and Pandora Soresby and Dr. Roger Key and his wife Rosy. Some of their records are in the **Notable Finds of 2020** Section below.

## **Recording Method**

We record in Monads (1x1km squares) but if we stray over the 1 km border into another Monad in the same tetrad (2x2 km squares on the even numbered grid) we just record the extras. If however you cross the Tetrad border into another Tetrad you must make another complete list. That way if we ever decide to record at Monad level for a finer resolution, the records are already in the correct format. The 2020 Atlas unlike previous versions, will be in Tetrads not Hectads (10x10 km squares).

If you do send in records, a list on excel or word will suffice, it needn't be in alphabetical order, even handwritten lists sent by post are fine. If you need recording cards just let me know, I can supply hard copies or email templates for you to print your own. Please remember to put in Recorders names, the date you recorded, GR of Monad ie. NY81.11 or for notable plants perhaps an eight or ten figure GR. If you record Orchids could you send a picture too, this helps reduce erroneous records (please do not pick a specimen). We can supply lists of species for each Hectad and lists of old records to re-find. We have produced an excel spreadsheet with all the tetrads and number of species recorded in each, if you would like a copy please ask me, it helps to highlight under-recorded Tetrads.

## Notable Finds in 2020

***Alchemilla monticola*** (Velvet Lady's Mantle) this was found on 16<sup>th</sup> September at a new site in Deepdale Woods near Barnard Castle by Linda Robinson and Tim Laurie (NZ04.16)



***Alchemilla monticola***

***Alchemilla speciosa*** (a Lady's Mantle) this garden escape was seen on 1<sup>st</sup> September near a farm gate in Thornton Rust by Linda Robinson and Deborah Millward. First record for v.c.65 and probably a first for the UK. (SD97.88)

***Ambrosia artemisifolia*** (Annual Ragweed) this was reported by Guy Wilson from Cowling on July 23<sup>rd</sup>, it is thought to be a bird seed alien and a first record for the v.c.(SE23.87)

***Anthriscus caucalis*** (Bur Chervil) this southern species was found near Snape on 12<sup>th</sup> November, the first record in the v.c. since 1957. Found by Dr. Roger Key and his wife Rosy. (SE28.85)

***Campanula persicifolia*** (Peach-leaved Bellflower) two sites for this were recorded on a verge near Morton-on-Swale and one along the railway on the east side of Yafforth crossing near Ainderby Steeple in July by Nick Morgan, only the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> records in v.c.65.(SE33.91 & SE34.92)



***Campanula persicifolia*** (Pic Nick Morgan)

***Campanula trachelium*** (Nettle-leaved Bellflower) found on 16<sup>th</sup> July near Ainderby Steeple by Nick Morgan, only the third record for the v.c. (SE33.91)

***Crocus speciosus*** (Bieberstein's Crocus) found on a verge near in Ainderby Steeple by Nick Morgan on 8<sup>th</sup> October, this autumn flowering Crocus and probable garden escape is a first record for v.c.65 (SE33.92)

***Galium parisiense*** (Wall Bedstraw) was found on 28<sup>th</sup> July near Thornton Rust sheepfold, a first record in v.c.65, by Deborah Millward and Helen Proctor. (SD97.88)

***Genista tinctoria***, (Dyer's Greenweed) a new site at Thornborough Henge was found on 24<sup>th</sup> July by Martin Hammond. (SE28.79)

***Orobanche reticulata*** (Thistle Broomrape), a new site found by Pandora Soresby in 2019 and seen again by Pandora and Chris Weaver at the new extension to the Nosterfield Nature Reserve on 8<sup>th</sup> July (SE27.80) See picture on next page.

***Paris quadrifolia*** (Herb Paris) was found by Jenny Selly in May at two new sites at the upper end of Deepdale Beck. Well spotted Jenny, not easy to see among the Wild Garlic and other spring flowers(NZ01.16 and NZ00.16).

***Polemonium caeruleum*** (Jacob's Ladder) this probable introduction was refound in May by a stream at Mickleton by John Lonsdale, it had been previously recorded from here by John in 2013. (NY97.22)



***Orobanche reticulata***

***Polypogon viridis*** (Water Bent) this was found in paving opposite the George Hotel in Piercebridge by Linda Robinson and Tim Laurie on 20<sup>th</sup> August. Only the second record for v.c.65. (NZ21.15)

***Rubus laciniatus*** (Cut-leaved Blackberry) this garden escape was found near Kirkby Fleetham by Linda Robinson and Jim Parkin on 14<sup>th</sup> March. (SE28.94)

***Scilla mischtschenkoana*** (White Squill) a good clump was found on a verge near Kirkby Fleetham by Linda Robinson and Jim Parkin on March 14<sup>th</sup> a first record for this garden escape in v.c.65 (SE28.94)

***Senecio inaequidens*** (Narrow-leaved Ragwort) this rapidly spreading alien was found on a track near Mellwaters Farm, Bowes, a first record for the v.c. by Linda Robinson and Tim Laurie on August 19<sup>th</sup> (NY96.12).

***Trachystemon orientalis*** (Abraham-Isaac-Jacob) this was found on a wooded verge at Pooles Waste near Thrintoft by Linda Robinson and Jim Parkin on March 14<sup>th</sup> (SE30.04).

### Recording plans for the future

Most of the records for Atlas 2020 are in the BSBI Database which should be published later this year. Unfortunately I didn't manage to get all the really old records in but have worked on this over the summer and have now inputted the records from Henry Slater's 1883 Flora of Ripon, Henry Baines' 1840 Flora of Yorkshire, John Percival's 1888 Flora of Wensleydale, William Robinson's 1833 Guide to Richmond and other old records from the file, about 3000 extra records.

I have made a start on a Check List of North West Yorkshire now that the pressure of the Atlas is off. There is still plenty of recording to do, looking through all the ancient records has produced a list of species and sites to search and check to see if anything is still around

The Rare Plants Register will be compiled alongside the Check List, this will include the 126 native and archaeophyte taxa listed below:-

*Actea spicata* - Baneberry  
*Alchemilla acutiloba* – Starry Lady's Mantle  
*Alchemilla glaucescens* – Silky Lady's Mantle  
*Alchemilla glomerulans* – Clustered Lady's Mantle  
*Alchemilla minima* – Least Lady's Mantle  
*Alchemilla subcrenata* – Large-toothed Lady's Mantle  
*Alchemilla wichurae* – Rock Lady's Mantle  
*Allium oleraceum* – Field Garlic  
*Alopecurus magellanicus* – Alpine Foxtail  
*Anacamptis morio* – Green-winged Orchid  
*Anthemis arvensis* – Corn Chamomile  
*Asplenium trichomanes* subsp. *pachyrachis* – Maidenhair  
 Spleenwort  
*Bartsia alpina* – Alpine Bartsia  
*Blysmus compressus* – Flat Sedge  
*Bromopsis benekenii* – Lesser Hairy-brome  
*Cardamine impatiens* – Narrow-leaved Bitter-cress  
*Carex capillaris* – Hair Sedge  
*Carex digitata* – Fingered Sedge  
*Carex ericetorum* – Rare Spring-sedge  
*Carex muricata* subsp. *muricata* – Large-fruited Prickly-  
 Sedge  
*Carex vaginata* – Sheathed Sedge  
*Chenopodium bonus-henricus* – Good King Henry  
*Circaea alpina* – Alpine Enchanter's-nightshade  
*Clinopodium calamintha* – Lesser Calamint  
*Cochlearia micacea* – Mountain Scurvygrass  
*Cochlearia pyrenaica* – Pyrenean Scurvygrass  
*Coeloglossum viride* – Frog Orchid  
*Crepis mollis* – Northern Hawk's-beard  
*Cynoglossum officinale* – Hound's Tongue  
*Cypripedium calceolus* – Lady's Slipper Orchid  
*Dactylorhiza traunsteinerioides* – Pugsley's Orchid  
*Daphne mezereum* - Mezereon  
*Draba muralis* – Wall Whitlow Grass  
*Dryas octopetala* – Mountain Avens  
*Dryopteris submontana* – Rigid Buckler Fern  
*Epipactis atrorubens* – Dark-red Helleborine  
*Epipactis phyllanthes* – Green-flowered Helleborine  
*Equisetum pratense* – Shady Horsetail  
*Equisetum variegatum* – Variegated Horsetail  
*Eriophorum gracile* – Slender Cottongrass

*Erophila majuscula* – Hairy Whitlowgrass  
*Euphorbia exigua* – Dwarf Spurge  
*Euphrasia officinalis* subsp. *monticola* – Montane Eyebright  
*Euphrasia officinalis* subsp. *pratensis* – Rostkov's Eyebright  
*Filago vulgaris* – Common cudweed  
*Fumaria purpurea* – Purple Ramping-fumitory  
*Galeopsis angustifolia* – Red Hemp-nettle  
*Galeopsis speciosa* – Large-flowered Hemp-nettle  
*Genista anglica* – Petty Whin  
*Gentiana verna* – Spring Gentian  
*Gentianella campestris* – Field Gentian  
*Glebionis segetum* – Corn Marigold  
*Gnaphalium sylvaticum* – Heath Cudweed  
*Groenlandia densa* – Opposite-leaved Pondweed  
*Gymnocarpium robertianum* – Limestone Fern  
*Helianthemum oelandicum* subsp. *levigatum* – Subspecies of Hoary Rockrose  
*Hordelymus europaeus* – Wood Barley  
*Hornungia petraea* - Hutchinsia  
*Hymenophyllum wilsonii* – Wilson's Filmy-fern  
*Hyoscyamus niger* - Henbane  
*Hypericum montanum* – Pale St. John's-wort  
*Imperatoria ostruthium* - Masterwort  
*Juncus alpinoarticulatus* – Alpine Rush  
*Juncus compressus* – Round-fruited Rush  
*Kobresia simpliciuscula* – False Sedge  
*Limosella aquatica* - Mudwort  
*Linum perenne* – Perennial Flax  
*Luronium natans* – Floating Water-plantain  
*Lysimachia thyrsoiflora* – Tufted Loosestrife  
*Melampyrum sylvaticum* – Small Cow-wheat  
*Meum athamanticum* - Spignel  
*Minuartia hybrida* – Fine-leaved Sandwort  
*Minuartia verna* – Spring Sandwort  
*Myosotis alpestris* – Alpine Forget-me-not  
*Myosotis stolonifera* – Pale Forget-me-not  
*Myosurus minimus* - Mousetail  
*Myriophyllum verticillatum* – Whorled Water-milfoil  
*Neotinea ustulata* – Burnt Orchid  
*Noccea caerulea* – Alpine Penny-cress  
*Oenanthe fistulosa* – Tubular Water-dropwort  
*Ophrys insectifera* – Fly Orchid  
*Orobanche alba* – Thyme Broomrape  
*Orobanche rapum-genistae* – Greater Broomrape  
*Orobanche reticulata* – Thistle Broomrape  
*Papaver argemone* – Prickly Poppy  
*Persicaria minor* – Small Water-pepper  
*Pilularia globulifera* - Pillwort  
*Polemonium caeruleum* – Jacob's-Ladder  
*Polygala amarella* – Dwarf Milkwort  
*Polystichum lonchitis* – Holly Fern

*Potamogeton coloratus* – Fen Pondweed  
*Potamogeton friesii* – Flat-stalked Pondweed  
*Potentilla crantzii* – Alpine Cinquefoil  
*Potentilla fruticosa* – Shrubby Cinquefoil  
*Potentilla tabernaemontani* – Spring Cinquefoil  
*Primula farinosa* – Bird's-eye Primrose  
*Pseudorchis albida* – Small-white Orchid  
*Ranunculus arvensis* – Corn Buttercup  
*Ribes alpinum* – Mountain Currant  
*Ribes spicatum* – Downy Currant  
*Rosa agrestis* – Small-leaved Sweet-briar  
*Rumex pseudoalpinus* – Monk's Rhubarb  
*Saxifraga hirculus* – Marsh Saxifrage  
*Saxifraga hypnoides* – Mossy Saxifrage  
*Scandix pecten-veneris* – Shepherd's-needle  
*Scheuchzeria palustris* – Rannoch Rush  
*Sedum villosum* – Hairy Stonecrop  
*Sesleria caerulea* – Blue Moor-grass  
*Silene gallica* – Small-flowered Catchfly  
*Silene noctiflora* – Night-flowering Catchfly  
*Sium latifolium* – Greater Water-parsnip  
*Sorbus rupicola* – Rock Whitebeam  
*Spergula arvensis* – Corn Spurrey  
*Spiranthes spiralis* – Autumn Lady's-tresses  
*Stachys arvensis* – Field Woundwort  
*Stellaria palustris* – Marsh Stitchwort  
*Teesdalia nudicaulis* – Shepherd's Cress  
*Teucrium scordium* – Water Germander  
*Tilia platyphyllos* – Large-leaved Lime  
*Turritis glabra* – Tower Mustard  
*Utricularia australis* - Bladderwort  
*Valerianella dentata* – Narrow-fruited Cornsalad  
*Vicia orobus* – Wood Bitter-vetch  
*Viola tricolor* – Wild Pansy  
*Woodsia ilvensis* – Oblong Woodsia

Some of these species are long extinct (e.g. *Cypripedium calceolus*, *Eriophorum gracile*, *Scheuchzeria palustris*, *Woodsia ilvensis*), a couple of these have been reintroduced recently and some like *Vicia orobus* only present at one site near Sedbergh have been seen post 2000 but now appear to be extinct. Others are relatively common in VC65 (e.g. *Minuartia verna*, *Primula farinosa*, *Sesleria caerulea*).

### Facebook

We now have a Facebook Site if you are on Facebook look up **North West Yorkshire Botany**, you are welcome to become a member of the group. Whilst it is not directly associated with the BSBI it was set up with a view to getting a 'not too serious' look at our work out there, and hopefully getting some records back, this has worked well

and we have had more records coming in to date. We have also gained a few new members. We are not too fussy about our borders, there are posts from just outside our area, Judith Allinson has been putting on some very informative posts from the Settle area, her excellent blog is well worth reading, many thanks Judith.

### Field Meetings 2021 – COVID permitting

All Field Meetings start at 10.30am. unless stated otherwise. If you intend to come along to meetings please try and let Linda Robinson know, contact details at end of Newsletter.

**Tuesday 23<sup>th</sup> February** – Cover Bridge to check out *Galanthus elwesii* and hunt for old record of *Corydalis solida*, may see early *Gagea lutea*. Meet in car park opposite the Pub at SE144.871.

**Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> March** – Jervaulx Abbey to try and retrace a record of *Helleborus viridis* from the 1960's in SE18 Jervaulx and Eelmire, also checking out the *Myosotis ramosissima* recorded from there. Will be walking footpaths around the area and recording all the spring flora. Meet in the car park at Jervaulx Abbey Tea Shop at SE168.856.

**Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> March** – Piercebridge, looking for *Gagea lutea* in NZ21C, last recorded in this tetrad by Henry Baines in 1840 and a look downriver into NZ21H to update the record by Darlington Field Club in 2016. Meet in the car park near the track to the old Roman Bridge at NZ213.155.

**Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> April** – Coverham Abbey and Pinkers Pond, to see if we can trace *Viola canina* and other spring species. Meet on the verge beside Pinkers Pond at SE114.868.

**Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> April** – Garsdale to check out an old record of *Primula farinosa*. Meet near Hind Keld West, possible parking on the unfenced verge at SD711.913.

**Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> May** – Check out old records of *Potentilla crantzii* and *Persicaria vivipara* on Green Scar Crags above Widdale. Meet at Newby Head Gate at SD790.834.

**Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> May** – Look for old record of *Gentiana verna* from the bank opposite Grains o'the Beck Farm between

Brough and Middleton. Park above cattle grid west of and above Far Beck Bridge at NY863.206.

**Friday 28<sup>th</sup> May** – Aislabeck Quarries above Richmond to try and trace a few old records. Park near Gingerfield Lodge at NZ157.020.

**Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> June** – Burnt Orchid monitoring in Low Wanless fields. Meet down near Low Wanless Farm at SE063.896.

**Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> June** - Gunnerside, a visit to check and update a record of Bird's Nest Orchid and check on Small White Orchid site. Meet in Gunnerside village and park where you can near SD950.981

**Friday 18<sup>th</sup> June** – Hudswell Bank to check out old record of Small White Orchid. Meet in Hudswell near road junction at NZ156.002.

**Wednesday 23<sup>th</sup> June** – Meeting in conjunction with the YNU. Visit to the Fotheringholme SSSI, also expect to help with the Small White Orchid monitoring. Meet at Eskeleth Bridge where there is limited parking at SD999.036.

**Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> June** - Trip up to Stag's Fell, above Hardraw, to check out an old 1990's record of Holly Fern. Meet near cattle grid at Hungry Well car park and view point at SD866.929

**Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> July** – – Trip to Tanfield to check out some old records of *Blysmus compressus* and *Atropa belladonna*. Meet in Tanfield centre, not sure about parking around SE269.788

**Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> July** – Hurst, to investigate the old mine workings up towards Fremington Edge and hunt for old record of *Armeria maritima*. Meet in Hurst on the roadside up near Hall Farm. (NZ043.023)

**Friday 30<sup>th</sup> July** – Jervaulx to walk down to the shingle banks on the Ure to see if we can spot an old record of *Galeopsis angustifolia*. Meet at Jervaulx opposite the entrance in the car park at SE168.856.

**Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> August** – Bedale Beck to check out old record of *Sagittaria sagittifolia*. Not sure about parking but if we could meet up at the start of the footpath down the beck below the Station at SE267.883.

**Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> August** - Meeting to check out and old record of *Calla palustris* in a pond near Hallbank, Garsdale and update other records. Meet near the byway open to all traffic near Benson Bank Farm, not sure of parking round there so please be careful. Around SD671.911.

**Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> August** – Downholme Bridge towards Marrick Park. Meet on the roadside at the start of the bridleway at Sour Nook near Downholme Bridge at SE109.992.

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