

# DERBYSHIRE FLORA GROUP NEWSLETTER

EDITED: Dr ALAN WILLMOT (County Recorder)

Number 29 – WINTER 2019/2020

## 1. EDITORIAL

This is the last year of recording for the Atlas 2020 scheme so I have included some notes on the final results of the survey. As there is no replacement project as yet announced, there is no call for new records. However, I am sure there will ultimately be a 2040 Atlas so I am happy to receive any records people may care to make. I also include details of new county records from last year and of the outdoor programme for the forthcoming year.

Note I am still using Stace 3 terminology here but after this will be using the new set of names in Stace 4, see section 4 on new names.

## 2. RECENT PLANT RECORDS vc57

All these are first county records for Derbyshire (vc57) and were recorded in 2019. I include photos where they have been provided and would encourage everybody to send me a photo of any plant they feel might be a first county record.

### ***Campanula lactiflora* (Milky Bellflower)**

Brian Gough recorded this garden ornamental as an escape in Turnditch (SK2946) by the B5024 in June.

### ***Cardamine occulta* (Asian Bittercress)**

This is a species which is currently thought to be spreading through the country but is so recent that it has not even made it to Stace 4 as yet. It was recorded by M Lacey at Dunstan Garden Centre (SK3674) growing as a weed under tables in April. It generally appears intermediate between *Cardamine flexuosa* and *C. hirsuta*, though nearer to the former. It is best told by hairless upper leaf surfaces,

more prominently lobed terminal leaflets and less hairy stem. It appears to be a plant of open disturbed areas which are often moist. Please keep a look out for it.



*Cardamine occulta* Dunstan Garden Centre  
April 2019 M Lacey.

### ***Datura ferox* (Longspine Thorn-apple)**

This rare relative of the more common Thorn-apple was recorded by M Lacey on a muck heap at Hall Farm, Sutton Scarsdale (SK4369) in September. It is easily told by its large robust spines which are well shown in the photo below taken by Mick.



*Datura ferox* Hall Farm Sept. 2019 M Lacey

***Euphorbia dulcis* (Sweet Spurge)**

Brian Gough found this as a garden escape at the base of a hedge in Oak Lane Turnditch (SK2947) in June.

***Galium murale* (Small Cleavers)**

Whilst visiting the Woodlands pub in Allestree (SK3339) in May, I noticed a small plant on the pavement which I thought might be *Sherardia arvensis* (Field Madder). When I got home, I realised it was not this species but a bedstraw which keyed out as Tiny Bedstraw. Luckily, I did the keying out in Stace 4 as the plant is not in the Stace 3 key. N.B. Leaves only 4mm.



*Galium murale* Allestree May 2019, A Willmot

***Geranium x monacense* (Munich Crane's-bill)**

Claire and Mary Smith discovered this garden throwout in Crich Lane Park, Belper (SK3548) during July. It is of garden origin from the cross of *G. phaeum* (Dusky Crane's-bill) with *G. reflexum* and was var. Muldoon.

***Hieracium sylvivagum* (Wandering Hawkweed)**

This hawkweed, an introduction from Europe, was recorded from the viaduct in Miller's Dale (SK1473) by Gordon Hanson during June.

***Lepidium virginicum* (Least Pepperwort)**

Mick Lacey found this rare casual of roadsides and waste ground in Clay Cross (SK3964) during June.



*Lepidium virginicum* Clay Cross, M Lacey

***Oenothera stricta* (Fragrant Evening-primrose)**

This attractive evening-primrose was noticed by Mick Lacey at Staveley (SK4573) in May. It has a distinctive appearance with a slender stem and flowers that redden as they wither. It is indigenous to Chile and appears to have been introduced first as an ornamental garden which then escaped into the wild. In Staveley it was found on the site of a new industrial

estate which was awash with imported soil and sand.



*Oenothera stricta* Staveley, M Lacey

***Petrorhagia saxifraga* (Tunicflower)**

This was first recorded from pavement cracks in Church Street, Ashbourne (SK1746) by Claire and Mary Smith in August. It was then recorded by Mick Lacey in Chesterfield (SK3672) in September, picture below.



***Phalaris minor* (Lesser Canary-grass)**

Another casual of disturbed ground, this was found by Mick Lacey on a building site by the new Aldi Bakewell (SK2069) in June. It looks like a rather poorly-grown specimen of the more common *P. canariensis* but requires microscopic examination to be certain.



*Phalaris minor* Bakewell, M Lacey

***Physalis peruviana* (Cape-gooseberry)**

This was recorded by John Atkin on wasteland at Callywhite Lane, Dronfield (SK3678) in August.



**Scilla bithynica (Turkish Squill)**

This squill often naturalises itself when planted in gardens and churchyards. However, it was probably only a garden throwout when found by Mick Lacey on Markham Industrial Estate (SK4573) in March.



*Scilla bithynica* Markham, M Lacey

**Sedum kamtschaticum (Kamchatka Stonecrop)**

It is strange that once someone submits a first record for a plant somebody else almost simultaneously, but independently, submits another record. Such is the case with this stonecrop. David Blowers submitted a record for this on a bridge over a brook at Little Hayfield (SK0389) for August 2019. I took this for a first county record but when I submitted the record to the BSBI it turned out that Mick Crawley had recorded it already for Bakewell Road, Matlock (SK2960) in June 2019.



*Sedum kamtschaticum* Little Hayfield, D Blowers

**Triteleia laxa (Triplet Lily)**

One of the most enjoyable aspects of being a county plant recorder is I keep being introduced to plants of which I have never heard. Such is the case with this striking lily found by Mick Lacey on a grassy bank at Markham (SK4573) in June. Presumably a garden throwout, it is native to western parts of North America. In Britain it is only naturalised at one site, which is on sand-dunes in Lancashire.



*Triteleia laxa* Markham, M Lacey

***Urtica membranacea* (Membranous Nettle)**

This was noted as growing in a large planter with an olive tree outside a restaurant in Hathersage (SK2381) by John Hodgson. It is not clear if this nettle was imported with the olive tree from the continent or if it was simply a contaminant from a garden centre.

***Verbascum speciosum* (Hungarian Mullein)**

This mullein is often considered the finest species for use in gardens. It is easy to see why from this photo taken at Clay Cross (SK3964) by Mick Lacey in June. A native of south-eastern Europe, it is found casual or naturalised in central or southern Britain.



*Verbascum speciosum* Clay Cross, M Lacey.

***Vicia bithynica* (Bithynian Vetch)**

This, the last of Mick Lacey's introductions found in 2019, was recorded as growing on the site of the old brickworks on Barrow Hill (SK4175) in May.



*Vicia bithynica* Barrow Hill, M Lacey.

***Vinca difformis* (Intermediate Periwinkle)**

Continuing the theme of plants I had never heard of before I was sent a record. I thought I was familiar with periwinkles until I received this record from Claire & Mary Smith. They recorded this from Alsop Station car park (SK1554) in April. It is similar to *V. minor* (Lesser Periwinkle) in habit but more robust.

**3. PROGRESS WITH RECORDING FOR ATLAS 2020**

In this the final recording year for Atlas 2020 we have added over 22,000 new records for Derbyshire (vc57) to the national database known as the DDb. By targeting our efforts over the year to the hectads that were yellow (i.e. data deficient) last year, we managed to

turn 9 of the 10 remaining yellow-hectads green (Figure 1). This means that for all but one square 75% of all plants ever recorded for the area had been seen since 2000. This 75% level is considered a reasonable compromise between insufficient recording and exhaustion, as one can always do another recording day in an area. The one area we failed to turn green was SK14. This is the Ashbourne square where Miss Hollick, the county recorder for many years, used to live. She was the daughter of the town doctor and frequently accompanied him on his visits around the area. This would have given her unparalleled access to the area and explain why she recorded so many plants in the region.

As this is the last year for recording for the scheme, I have added some summary stats for each of the 42 hectads that have concerned us. Note that for each hectad these figures only refer the parts of the area within Derbyshire (vc57). Hectad SK26, the region between Matlock Bath and Bakewell, has the highest number of species ever recorded at 1344. It is also the hectad with the highest number of plants seen since 2000 at 1111. The area with the lowest number of species seen since 2000 is SK03 with 98 plants. This is just parts of a couple of fields on the flood plain of the River Dove below Rocester. It is also the square with the highest percentage refind since 2000 at 96%. This is because so few plants were recorded there before 2000.

One-point worth discussing about these results is the origin of the “newly found species since 2000”. Logically these can include species that were present there before 2000 but overlooked until recently, plus species which have newly colonised the area since 2000. I have not examined the data intensively but my impression is that the majority of plants here belong to the latter category. These include species such as Water Bent (*Polypogon viridis*) and Argentine Fleabane (*Conyza bonariensis*). However, this categorisation as “overlooked” compared to “new arrival” is not as simple as it first seems. This is because what has been recorded has changed over the years. People are much more likely now to record introduced plants

than they were. No doubt this and other problems will be discussed further in the analysis of the Atlas 2020 results to be published in 2022.

#### 4. NEW NAMES

We have been using the Stace 3 names for the last few years of the Atlas 2020 project but the actual Atlas will be published using the names in the fourth edition of Stace’s *New Flora of the British Isles*. As any future BSBI project will use these new names, it is a good idea to begin to get familiar with them now. Details of all names changes between Stace 3 and Stace 4 are given on a downloadable file on the BSBI website. No doubt recording cards with the new names on will be available some time and I will pass examples out as soon as I get any.

#### 5. OUTDOOR MEETINGS 2020

The outdoor programme for the year is appended to this newsletter. Please note that this is the revised programme with the Deep Dale near **Taddington** on 16<sup>th</sup> May.

#### 6. ENQUIRIES

Any enquiries concerning the identification and recording of higher plants in Derbyshire can be directed to me as below. It is always useful to include photographs with any possible new county records or queries if you can.

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SJ99 82%	SK09 75%	SK19 80%				
SJ98 77%	SK08 76%	SK18 78%	SK28 78%	SK38 82%	SK48 81%	
	SK07 76%	SK17 76%	SK27 79%	SK37 81%	SK47 82%	SK57 83%
	SK06 81%	SK16 77%	SK26 82%	SK36 79%	SK46 83%	SK56 79%
		SK15 75%	SK25 78%	SK35 76%	SK45 83%	
		SK14 71%	SK24 76%	SK34 78%	SK44 85%	
	SK03 96%	SK13 77%	SK23 75%	SK33 76%	SK43 82%	SK53 87%
		SK12 76%	SK22 75%	SK32 75%	SK42 82%	
		SK11 85%	SK21 76%	SK31 75%		

**Fig.1 HECTAD STATUS FOR 2020 ATLAS AS AT 21<sup>ST</sup> JAN. 2020**

With percentage refinds for hectads (n.b. only parts in vc57)



Hectads with the required number\* of well recorded tetrads\* but less than 75% of species refunded.



Hectads with the required number\* of well recorded tetrads\* and 75% of species refunded.

\*Five well recorded tetrads are required for a complete hectad but fewer for a marginal one.

Hectad	Total No. of species recorded all years	Percent of total No. recorded since 2000	No. of species not refound since 2000	No. of species refound since 2000	No. of newly found species since 2000	Total No. of species recorded since 2000
SJ98	648	77%	149	383	116	499
SJ99	532	82%	94	312	126	438
SK03	102	96%	4	3	95	98
SK06	648	81%	118	418	112	530
SK07	1045	76%	250	679	116	795
SK08	894	76%	208	560	126	686
SK09	761	75%	183	456	122	578
SK11	220	85%	31	104	85	189
SK12	213	76%	49	108	56	164
SK13	725	77%	163	470	92	562
SK14	1050	71%	296	602	152	754
SK15	905	75%	224	563	118	681
SK16	885	77%	197	592	96	688
SK17	1076	76%	252	728	96	824
SK18	915	78%	200	606	109	715
SK19	470	80%	94	306	70	376
SK21	820	76%	191	488	141	629
SK22	943	75%	234	543	166	709
SK23	803	75%	194	488	121	609
SK24	1100	76%	259	640	201	841
SK25	1087	78%	238	721	128	849
SK26	1344	82%	233	761	350	1111
SK27	1088	79%	219	712	157	869
SK28	889	78%	188	568	133	701
SK31	410	75%	101	210	99	309
SK32	1062	75%	260	654	148	802
SK33	1110	76%	263	677	170	847
SK34	972	78%	210	598	164	762
SK35	1040	76%	246	670	124	794
SK36	1110	79%	231	680	199	879
SK37	1233	81%	227	728	278	1006
SK38	840	82%	145	501	194	695
SK42	482	82%	86	257	139	396
SK43	1093	82%	188	696	209	905
SK44	980	85%	141	607	232	839
SK45	845	83%	141	517	187	704
SK46	924	83%	150	630	144	774
SK47	964	82%	173	607	184	791
SK48	723	81%	134	459	130	589
SK53	514	87%	63	273	178	451
SK56	788	79%	160	490	138	628
SK57	981	83%	163	640	178	818

**Table 1  
NEAR FINAL  
RESULTS FOR  
ATLAS 2020  
FOR  
DERBYSHIRE**



## DERBYSHIRE FLORA GROUP OUTDOOR MEETING PROGRAMME 2020

All meetings are held on Saturdays and start at 10.30 am. They usually end around 4.30 pm. Carry lunch.

		Venue	Meeting Point & Reason	Leader
28	March	Brailsford	Far end of Brailsford Church car park (SK245413); Daffodils, spring bulbs & general flora.	CS
25	April	Priestcliffe Lees	Miller's Dale Station car park (SK138732); general limestone wood & grassland flora.	PA
16	May	Deep Dale near Taddington	White Lodge car park (SK170705); general limestone wood & grassland flora.	AW
6	June	Rowarth	Car park Goddard Lane, Rowarth (SK011892); meadow, marsh & riverside flora.	DB
27	June	Wensley	Roadside parking opposite school at Cross Green (SK268615); wood, grass & streamside flora.	BG
18	July	Ringwood Lake	Car park at Ringwood Lake (SK417738) on corner of Chesterfield Rd & Inkersall Green Rd; woodland & pond flora.	KB
15	August	Bailey Brook	Roadside parking on Greenacre Avenue (SK441470); scrub, grassland & ruderal flora	BG
12	September	Blackamoor	Layby at SK283809 on NW side of A625 (extra parking at SK277805); general moorland flora	KB
3	October	Trent & Mersey Canal	Car park in Willington (SK295286); waterside & ruderal vegetation.	AW

N.B. Some of these meetings start from "Pay & Display" car parks where change is not usually available.

Meetings organiser: Dr Alan Willmot, 2 Kedleston Close, Allestree, Derby, DE22 2RA.

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Home phone: 01332 550373

Email: alanwillmot@outlook.com

Meeting leaders:

BG: Brian Gough

CS: Claire Smith

DB: David Blower

KB: Ken Balkow

PA: Penny Anderson

Anyone interested in botany is welcome to come on these meetings but please contact the organiser if you have not attended one of the events before.

A. Willmot 24th Jan 2020 Floravc57/Meetings/Meets2020