

## Recording in 2012

Monthly field meetings were organised in support of the third year of recording for the proposed flora of Co. Down, and to make records under the new date-class. Thanks go to Margaret Marshall and Roger Field who sent records to me.

Visits were made along the inner Ards peninsula and Holywood in mid-April to record *Cochlearia* spp. While at Holywood, *Tragopogon pratensis* was noted adjacent to the railway line. In late April, five attended the first of the monthly field meetings at Killough where *Raphanus x micranthus* was found.

At the very successful (we won!!) Bioblitz at Crawfordsburn Country Park in mid-May, 317 plant species were recorded by 8+ recorders.

In early June, *Raphanus x micranthus*, *Crepis vesicaria* and *Veronica agrestis* were found beside the new tarmac path next to the shore at Annalong. Also in early June, *Thalictrum minus*, *Blysmus rufus*, *Cynoglossum officinale*, *Anacamptis morio*, *Coeloglossum viride* and *Dactylorhiza incarnata* ssp. *coccinea* were seen at Killard NNR.

The second attempt to record filmy ferns in Tollymore Forest Park was again thwarted due to high water levels, but was compensated by the first record since 1900 of *Neottia nidus-avis* at this site (and the first since 1983 in Co. Down). Putative *Asplenium trichomanes* ssp. *trichomanes* were also noted.

A meeting with the Belfast Naturalist's Field Club in late August at the Quoile produced *Agrimonia procera*, *Glyceria maxima* and, on the old steam-boat quay, *Sherardia arvensis*. *Hypericum maculatum* was found in an area sown as a wild flower meadow.

In September, *Polygonum rurivagum* was noted at Scarva and *Medicago arabica* at Killough (last record at Ardglass Harbour, Meikle, 1946). Following a tip from Ian Rippey, a visit was made to Murlough NNR in late September and records for *Agrimonia procera* made. Previous records for this species at Murlough were made by Praeger, 'pre-1938'.