

FLINTSHIRE FIELD MEETINGS 2022

All meetings aim to improve scientific understanding of the flora of the county as well as improving our plant identification skills, and of course, having fun!

All meetings start at 10am and we expect to finish around 4pm, unless otherwise specified.

Joining instructions are available from me, Gail Quartly-Bishop at gailqb@hotmail.com; please don't hesitate to email if you have any questions.

April 9th - Gronant Dunes

A trip to the seaside to look for early flowering plants such as *Myosotis stricta*, *Cochlearia anglica*, dandelions and *Mibora minima*. Meet at 10am at Gamfa Wen car park (CH8 9RT). This is a pay car park (£4 all day) open 8am – 7pm.

Recent study of scurvygrass (*Cochlearia*) on the Dee Marshes has revealed a more complicated picture than we expected, so if tides allow I would like to go and have a look. There are lots of other early flowering plants in the dunes and I would particularly like to look for species which haven't yet been recorded here, but do occur in neighbouring counties in similar habitats. This includes the forget-me-not *Myosotis stricta* and early sand-grass *Mibora minima*. Finally, the new dandelion handbook has been published and it would be fun to have a go at identifying some of the dandelions we find in the dunes, if time allows.

May 14th - Halkyn Mountain

Halkyn Mountain to look for *Botrychium lunaria*, *Antennaria dioica*, *Thlaspi caerulescens*, *Sagina nodosa*, *Scutellaria minor*, *Cirsium acaule* etc. Meet at 10am at the entrance to Pen-yr-Henblas quarry SJ192727. Limited parking, please car share if you can.

TBC June 25th - orchids at Pantymwyn Pastures

Pantymwyn Pastures to study the fragrant orchids and decide which species we have in the county, also to admire the butterfly-orchids if they are still in flower and look for *Alchemilla xanthochlora* and *Campanula trachelium*. The site is also known for its green-winged orchids and there are records of other interesting plants nearby e.g. *Bromopsis erecta*. Meeting place to be decided.

July 9th - Babell Racecourse

People often refer to Graeana wetland as "Babell Racecourse", but I want to visit the racecourse proper and nearby woodlands, where there are records of butterfly-orchids and *Serratula tinctoria*. Meeting place to be decided.

TBC August 6th - Hendre area

Hendre Big Wood to look for *Monotropa hypopitys*, last seen there in 1996. Also *Bidens cernua*. Meeting place to be decided.

TBC September 10th - Prestatyn Hillside

Prestatyn Hillside to look for *Sorbus* spp, wild juniper, *Potentilla tabernaemontani*, *Serratula tinctoria*, *Silene nutans*. Meeting place to be decided.