

DERBYSHIRE FLORA GROUP NEWSLETTER

EDITED: Dr ALAN WILLMOT (BSBI County Recorder)

Number 37 – WINTER 2023/2024

1. EDITORIAL

All our planned meetings took place this year for which we must thank the leaders and the lack of covid. These outings plus the efforts of individuals added some 20,500 new records for Derbyshire in 2023. We also added a further 10,500 new records for earlier years of which around 6,500 came from D.C. Wood co-recorder for Nottinghamshire (vc56) and an environmental consultant. Amongst these records there were a number of New County Records (NCRs) and several second records after a considerable number of years (Section 4). I have divided the NCRs into what I think of as “Near-natives” (Section 2) and Non-natives or introductions (Section 3).

2. NEAR-NATIVE NCRs 2023

By “Near-native” I mean species which are native nearby in England and which have not obviously been deliberately introduced.

2.1 *Althaea officinalis* (Marsh-mallow) I recorded a single plant of this next to a fishing pond in Swadlincote Woodlands (SK3020) on 26th September.

2.2 *Cicuta virosa* (Cowbane) Daniel Lusher-Sellors found this growing in large quantity in two new balancing ponds at Mackworth (SK3136) on 24th June. I subsequently found one plant growing on the banks of the River Derwent in Derby (SK3536) on 11th July.

2.3 *Poa bulbosa* (Bulbous Meadow-grass) This was noted by Brian Gough on a WFS meeting to Dove Dale growing abundantly in thin soil over limestone near the Main car park (SK1451) on 13th May.



Cicuta virosa Mackworth D Lusher-Sellors

3. INTRODUCED NCRs 2023

3.1 *Brassica carinata* (Ethiopian Rape) This was reported by Mick Lacey from the Lees Wood area (SK3476) on 4th May.



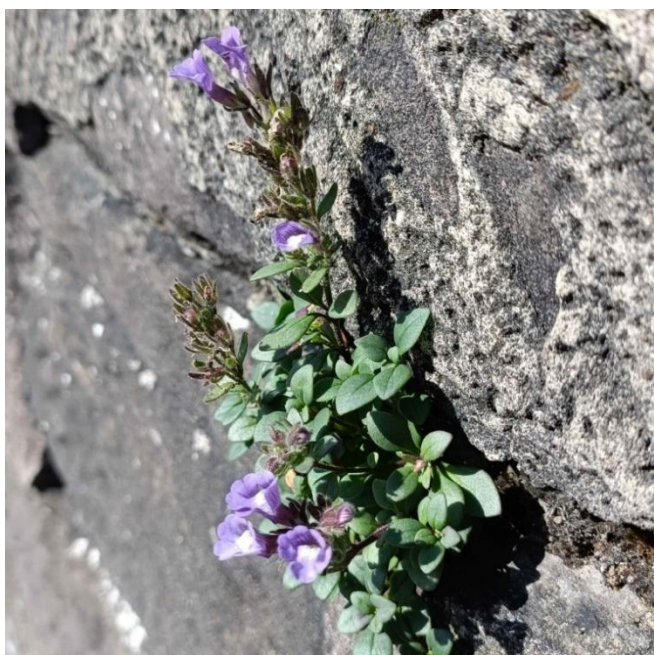
Brassica carinata Lees Wood M Lacey

3.2 *Campanula pyramidalis* (Chimney Bellflower) This was recorded growing on a wall round the walled garden at Calke Abbey (SK3722) by Darren Giddins 9th September.

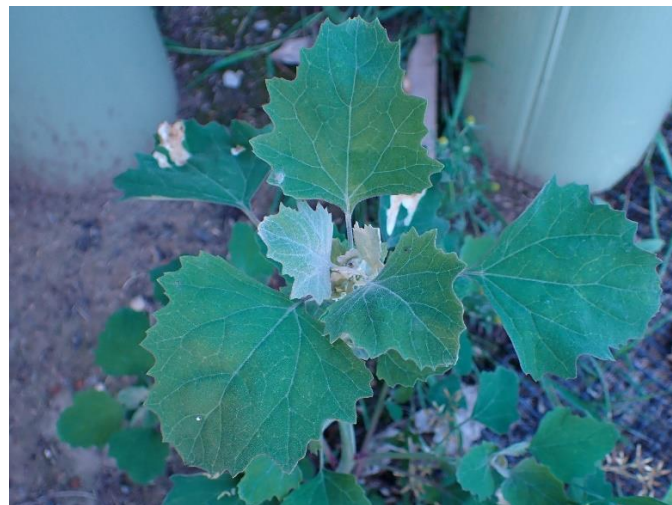


Campanula pyramidalis Calke D Giddins

3.3 *Chaenorhinum origanifolium* (Malling Toadflax) This was spotted on a wall at North Mill Belper (SK3448) by P. Precey 19th July.



3.4 *Chenopodium opulifolium* (Grey Goosefoot) This species was noted on the banks of the River Derwent near Cromford (SK3255) by Mick Lacey 29th June.



Chenopodium opulifolium Cromford M Lacey

3.5 *Cotoneaster congestus* (Congested Cotoneaster) This plant was recorded in the Shipley Lake area (SK4444) by Brian Gough 21st April. There were new plants established by runners from planted specimens.

3.6 *Cyrtomium fortunei* (Fortune's Hollyfern) A specimen of this fern was found growing along the Woodland Walk at the Crich Tramway Village by Darren Giddins on 19th August.



3.7 *Dittrichia graveolens* (Stinking Fleabane) This was found growing abundantly alongside the M1 at junction 30 (SK4776) by Mick Lacey 17th September. I assume this is spreading so please look out for it on major roadsides but mind the traffic.



Dittrichia graveolens Junct 30 M Lacey

3.8 *Eragrostis pilosa* (Jersey Love-grass) This was found growing in an imported Olive plant pot at Hudson's Plant Centre Duffield (SK3244) in September by Claire and Mary Smith.

3.9 *Oxyria digyna* (Mountain Sorrel) This was recorded as a pavement weed in Chesterfield (SK3770) by Fiona Keeler 12th September.



Oxyria digyna Chesterfield F Keeler

3.10 *Phleum phleoides* (Purple-stem Cat's-tail) This was spotted by Mick Lacey in the Highwayman Pub area (SK3071) by Mick Lacey 12th June.

3.11 *Polystichum munitum* (Western Sword-fern) This was found the Limb Valley area of Sheffield (SK3082) by Andrew Watchorn 19th April.



Polystichum munitum Limb Valley A Watchorn

3.12 *Taraxacum chloroticum* (An introduced Dandelion) This was collected from Bakewell (SK2168) by Mick Lacey on 5th April.

4 SECOND RECORDS in 2023

These are since at least 1990.

4.1 *Anthriscus caucalis* (Bur Chervil) Mick Lacey found this in the Fisherman's Carpark at Ogston Reservoir (SK3759) on 16th May. This was the first record since 1990.



4.2 *Lathyrus hirsutus* (Hairy Vetchling)

This was found by Claire and Mary Smith near Puddingpie Hill (SK3071) on 9th July. This was the first record since 1969 flora and only the third ever.



Lathyrus hirsutus Puddingpie Hill C Smith

4.3 *Matteuccia struthiopteris* (Ostrich Fern)

This was recorded by myself in Ashwood Park Buxton (SK0673) on 18th July. It was introduced initially but is now established. This is the first record since at least 1986.

4.4 *Taraxacum* species (Dandelions)

Amongst other Dandelions, Mick Lacey recorded four species in 2023 none of which had been recorded locally in recent times. *Taraxacum exacutum* was last recorded around 1979; *T. exsertum* was last recorded around 1980; *T. gelertii* was last noted about 1918; and *T. pachymerum* was last seen around 1979.

5. OUTDOOR MEETINGS 2024

I have already circulated the list of meetings for 2024 but have repeated them below for anyone how missed the first circulation.

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.

Dr Alan Willmot
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Allestree Derby DE22 2RA

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DERBYSHIRE FLORA GROUP OUTDOOR MEETING PROGRAMME 2024

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

	Month	Venue	Meeting Point for general botanising and recording.	Leader
23	March	Monsal Dale	White Lodge Car Park off A6 at SK170706 for limestone woodland and grassland flora	AW
13	April	Duffield	Meet in car park off Makeney Road Duffield near St Alkmund's church at SK348428 for urban riverside and railway floras	CS
11	May	Dovedale	Meet in the Dovedale NT car park off Thorpe Road at SK146509 for general limestone flora and <i>Poa bulbosa</i> .	CS
1	June	Barrow Hill	Meet at informal car park on Station Road SK416753 for Brown Fields site flora.	KB
22	June	Wensley	Meet on road opposite the works on Oldfield Lane SK262622.	BG
20	July	Bradford Dale	Meet in Moor Lane car park at SK194644 off Moor Lane north-west of Youlgrave for general limestone flora.	AW
17	August	Willington	Meet in car park at SK295286 next to canal at Willington for brown field sites flora	CS
14	Sept.	Codnorpark Reservoir	Meet in car park next to reservoir at SK433515 off Coach Road Ironville.	BG

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

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:

AW: Alan Willmot

BG: Brian Gough

CS: Claire Smith

KB: Ken Balkow

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 13th January 2024 Floravc57/Meetings/Meets2024