

Upper Teesdale Special Flora and Conservation Trust

Dr. Margaret Bradshaw has studied the Vegetation and Special Flora in Upper Teesdale since the 1950's. Her long-term records show the changes in population size and distribution of this unique flora. Margaret now 96, set up the 'Upper Teesdale Special Flora and Conservation Trust' so that this vital work will continue. An initial project funded by Margaret from 2017 to 2019 shows a decline in the number of rare plants and their distribution in selected areas studied that includes parts of v.c.65. The detailed and accurate figures collected paint a depressing picture. There are fewer plants in fewer areas. Something is wrong, badly wrong. The findings emphasise how vital on-going survey work is to discover what is happening to the very special flora in all parts of Upper Teesdale. Old and new records are needed to inform future land management and conservation effort to help the flora to survive

To fund further survey work over the next five years the Trust needs to raise £100,000 and is looking for donations. If you feel you could help with a one off donation or even better a regular, monthly or annual donation please email teesdaleflora@gmail.com or take a look at their Facebook page 'Friends of Teesdale Flora' where you can contribute.