

Vc95 Field Meeting Report: Logie Steading, 17th May 2023

Eight of us had a very enjoyable afternoon walking from Logie Steading through woodland by the River Findhorn and back by Logie Pond. The aim of the meeting was to find the *Convallaria majalis* (Lily-of-the-valley) and *Carex hirta* (Hairy Sedge).

The **Lily-of-the-valley** is an uncommon species in vc95, probably non-native at all sites. It was first found at this location in 1987 by David Law and is probably a garden escape from Logie House. We soon found a very large patch under beech trees with several plants flowering nicely.

Carex hirta (Hairy Sedge) is a native species that is very rare in vc95. Since 2000 it has only been recorded from three sites. This site was first found in 1966 by the late Mary McCallum Webster and wasn't recorded again until 2003. We found it growing over a large area in species rich wet woodland and was just coming into flower.

Another rare species in vc95 that we also needed to re-find was *Scutellaria galericulata* (Skullcap) that David Law had found by Logie Pond again in 1987. We found David's site by the pond where it grows with *Cardamine amara* (Large Bitter-cress) and *Primula florindae* (Tibetan Cowslip). We also found it in a new location in the wet woodland not far from the Hairy Sedge.

We recorded 148 species with a variety of native and non-native species. We found one new species for vc95 *Primula japonica* (Japanese Cowslip) growing by a small ditch, but also by this ditch we had the very invasive *Lysichiton americanus* (American Skunk-cabbage) hopefully this won't spread to the River Findhorn.





***Convallaria majalis* (Lily-of-the-valley)**, above top showing site, left showing flowers.

***Carex hirta* (Hairy Sedge)**, above right showing how hairy the sedge is. Below left showing group looking at the sedge.

***Primula japonica* (Japanese Cowslip)**, below right showing plant.



