



Rubus chamaemorus

Flora of North-west Yorkshire

A botanical newsletter for VC65

Issue10, Spring 2018

Welcome to this our tenth newsletter for v.c.65 which is intended to keep you up-to date with botanical activities in North-west Yorkshire. For geographical details of the vice county please visit our website at: <https://bsbi.org/north-west-yorkshire> and click on 'A brief tour of v.c.65'.

Last year I managed to spend a lot more time recording in v.c.65, house refurbishments are now pretty much finished, just a few odds and ends left to sort.

A lot of time has been spent inputting records, but the hard copy records I was given when I started this job have not quite made it on to Mapmate yet. They are on excel files and almost ready to upload, the main problem has been getting the blanks filled in. Some are pretty impossible to get on to Mapmate because the information given along with the species is just a site name eg. 'Above Marsett' and no date and sometimes no finder either. Just a wee bit frustrating.

Field Meetings in 2017

We are at last beginning to get a good tetrad coverage of v.c.65 but there are still lots of old records that have never been re-found. The Field Meetings this year are trying to remedy this. There are still empty tetrads where *Gagea lutea* might still be found, so the first two Field Meetings are *Gagea* hunts. The lack of footpaths is another issue because we have to find owners and get permissions. There is a list of old records later in the Newsletter, feel free to have a hunt yourselves.

Sadly we lost one of our Recorders this year, Robert Starling a member of the Craven Conservation Group who comes out with us occasionally died a few months ago, we send our condolences to his family.

A few more people have been joining me on the field meetings, Chris Weaver and Durham based Steve Gater have accompanied me quite a few times this year as well as other recording friends Jim Parkin, Trevor Lowis, Julie Clarke, Brian Burrow, David Tennant, Angela Horsley, Dee Halladay, Peter and Judith Cox, Dave Barlow, Nick Morgan, Allison Pierre, Mike Canaway and the Fern Group which includes Dr. Alison Evans and Bruce Brown, also Mike and the Craven Conservation Group which includes Karen Bullimore, Tony Moverley, Judith Allinson, Helen Sergeant and the late Robert Starling. A couple of new volunteers came along to two of the meetings Yan-Yee Lau and Tara Challoner. Many thanks to you all, we hope you enjoyed the Field Meetings as much as we did.

A special thankyou to Helen Proctor from Sussex who comes on holiday in the area and records solidly during her time here, she has contributed some excellent records.

Records have also come in from other members of the public whilst spending time in the area, thanks to Dr. Marie Addyman, David Turnbull and Peter Brocklebank.

Special thanks must go to Tim and Eileen Laurie and Deborah Millward, they have showed me so many sites over the years, without your guidance and help the records would be very much poorer.

Recording

We have been recording in monads (1x1km squares) but if we stray over the 1 km border into another monad in the same tetrad (2x2 km squares on the even numbered grid) we just record the extras. If however you cross the tetrad border into another tetrad you must make another complete list. That way if we ever decide to record at monad level for a finer resolution, the records are already

in the correct format. The 2020 Atlas unlike previous versions, will be in Tetrads not Hectads (10x10 km squares) so we still have quite a bit of work to do. If you do send in records, a list on excel or word will suffice, it needn't be in alphabetical order, even handwritten lists sent by post are fine. If you need recording cards just let me know, I can supply hard copies or for you to print off yourselves. Please remember to put in Recorders names, the date you recorded, GR of monad ie. NY81.11 or for notable plants perhaps an eight or ten figure GR. If you record Orchids perhaps you could send a picture too, this helps reduce erroneous records. We can supply lists of species for each hectad and lists of old records to re-find. We have produced an excel spreadsheet with all the tetrads and number of species recorded in each, if you would like a copy please ask L.R., it helps to highlight under-recorded tetrads.

Notable finds in 2017

Alchemilla monticola - checking on an old record of Stuart Hedley's. Around 5 plants found on a verge near the dismantled railway line at the Huland Quarry entrance by Dr. Margaret Bradshaw, Angela Horsley, Tim Laurie and myself on 15th July. (NZ01.14)

Alchemilla wichurae - found on a verge above Garsdale Station, it is the first record from this area, found by myself on 17th August (SD78.90)

Andromeda polifolia - found on Stainmore, below Collinson Hill where old moor grips have been blocked up thus improving the habitat. Tim Laurie and myself found 3 good populations on 19th July. (NY92.10)

Aquilegia vulgaris - found among rocks at Low Force, not sure whether or not it is of garden origin, it was not flowering, found by Trevor Lewis and myself on 1st September. (NY90.27)

Aubretia deltoidea - found naturalised on walls around the town of Leyburn by Helen Proctor on 19th March. (SE11.90)

Blysmus compressus - good populations found by Tim Laurie and myself along the track to Aysgarth Moor on 1st July. (SD97.87)

Bromus secalinus - found by Deborah Millward at Snape on 9th September. (SE27.84)

Colchicum autumnale - found in Middleham on the wide verge near the car park at the Busks and near the gate to the river by Deborah Millward, Helen Proctor and myself on the 18th March. (SE12.88)



Colchicum autumnale

Cornus sanguinea - planted in a hedgerow on Ings Lane near Snape on 16th of September by myself. (SD28.84)

Cymbalaria pallida - found along the footpath near the Caravan Park at West Witton by Brian Burrow, Yan-Yee Lau, Julie Clarke, Deborah Millward and myself on 29th April. (SE05.88)

Daphne laureola - found at Snape by Deborah Millward near recently felled woodland and bog plantation on 9th September. (SE27.84)

Epilobium roseum - found on paving below steps in Gunnerside village on the New Year Plant Hunt by Deborah Millward and myself on 2nd January 2018. (SD95.98)

Festuca altissima - found in the Rawthey Gorge below Bluecaster by Mike Canaway during reconnaissance for the Rawthey Field Meeting on 12th August. (SD71.97)

Frangula alnus - found along Ings Lane, Snape in woodland on 16th September by Chris Weaver, Deborah Millward and myself. (SE28.84)

Galanthus woronowii - found along the lane to Moor House Farm at Scruton on 11th March by Judith and Peter Cox and myself. (SE29.91)

Gentianella amarella subsp. *septentrionalis* - this uncommon subspecies was found on Redmire Moor and Carperby by David Tennant and Brian Burrow on 10th August. (SE05.93 & SD98.89)

Geranium pratense (double flowered variety) – found by Dr. Marie Addyman a few years ago and now in our records, on the footpath near the Church at Grinton, first record of this ‘flore plena’ variety of *G. pratense* for v.c.65.

Glyceria maxima - one populations found in a backwater on the River Wiske downstream from Kirby Wiske by Chris Weaver, Tara Challoner and myself on 25th June. (SE37.84)

Groenlandia densa - found a good population just above the bridge over the River Wiske at Kirby Wiske by Chris Weaver, Tara Challoner and myself on 25th June. (SE37.84)

Hieracium bakeranum - the last three plants on the entire planet were seen by Mark Lynes above Wynch Bridge on the banks of the Tees on 12th August, later seen by Trevor Lewis and myself on the 1st September. (NY89.28)

Humulus lupulus - seen on a roadside verge above West Witton by Brian Burrow, Yan-Yee Lau, Julie Clarke, Deborah Millward and myself on 29th April. (SE06.88)

Hymenophyllum wilsonii - seen during a visit to Cautley Spout by Mike Canaway, Bruce Brown, Dr. Alison Evans and Tony Moverley on 24th June. (SD68.97)

Lepidium draba – found by Helen Proctor on 16th May, just south of Leyburn, first record since 2000 and in a new hectad (SE11.89)

Leycesteria formosa - found alongside the footpath below Middleham on 18th March by Helen Proctor, Deborah Millward and myself. (SE12.88)

Nuphar lutea - seen in the River Wiske near the bridge at Newby Wiske and in the river below Kirby Wiske by Chris

Weaver, Tara Challoner and myself on 25 July. (SE37.87 & SE37.84)

Orthilia secunda - seen at Cautley Spout waterfall by Mike Canaway, Bruce Brown, Dr. Alison Evans and Tony Moverley on 24 June. (SD68.97)

Phalaris arundinacea var. *picta* - the variegated form of this grass was seen naturalised above West Witton by Brian Burrow, Yan-Yee Lau, Julie Clarke, Deborah Millward and myself on 29 April. (SE06.87)

Potentilla x italica - this hybrid was found along Flouts Lane above Aysgarth by Tim Laurie and myself in two tetrads on 1st July. (SD97.87 & SD98.87) This needs confirmation.

Primula farinosa - new tetrad record found in a flush on the flanks of Great Shunner Fell above Hardraw by David Turnbull on the 25th May. (SD84.96)

Sagittaria sagittifolia - found in the River Wiske near the bridge in Kirby Wiske and more downriver, seen by Chris Weaver, Tara Challoner and myself on 16th September. (SE37.87 & SE37.84)

Silaum silaus - one plant seen on the verge below Boldron by Angela Horsley, Tim Laurie and myself on 18th July. (NZ02.14)

Thalictrum flavum - found on the edge of the River Wiske below Kirby Wiske, spotted by Chris Weaver, Tara Challoner and myself on 25th June. (SE37.84)

Verbascum nigrum - seen by Peter Brocklebank along an enclosed track near Skelton, probably of garden origin one plant in flower on 2nd November. (NZ09.01)

Recording plans for the future

We are working on a check list for v.c. 65 which should get published in the next year or so and we are still in the process of producing a Rare Plants Register, we now have quite a good coverage of the County. This year we are focusing our recording efforts on species that are either nationally rare or scarce and have been recorded in the County in the past. Currently this includes the 126 native and archaeophyte taxa listed below:-

Actea spicata - Baneberry

Alchemilla acutiloba – Starry Lady’s Mantle

Alchemilla glaucescens – Silky Lady's Mantle
Alchemilla glomerulans – Clustered Lady's Mantle
Alchemilla minima – Least Lady's Mantle
Alchemilla subcrenata – Large-toothed Lady's Mantle
Alchemilla wichurae – Rock Lady's Mantle
Allium oleraceum – Field Garlic
Alopecurus magellanicus – Alpine Foxtail
Anacamptis morio – Green-winged Orchid
Anthemis arvensis – Corn Chamomile
Asplenium trichomanes subsp. *pachyrachis* – Maidenhair
 Spleenwort
Bartsia alpina – Alpine Bartsia
Blysmus compressus – Flat Sedge
Bromopsis benekenii – Lesser Hairy-brome
Cardamine impatiens – Narrow-leaved Bitter-cress
Carex capillaris – Hair Sedge
Carex digitata – Fingered Sedge
Carex ericetorum – Rare Spring-sedge
Carex muricata subsp. *muricata* – Large-fruited Prickly-
 Sedge
Carex vaginata – Sheathed Sedge
Chenopodium bonus-henricus – Good King Henry
Circaea alpina – Alpine Enchanter's-nightshade
Clinopodium calamintha – Lesser Calamint
Cochlearia micacea – Mountain Scurvygrass
Cochlearia pyrenaica – Pyrenean Scurvygrass
Coeloglossum viride – Frog Orchid
Crepis mollis – Northern Hawk's-beard
Cynoglossum officinale – Hound's Tongue
Cypripedium calceolus – Lady's Slipper Orchid
Dactylorhiza traunsteinerioides – Pugsley's Orchid
Daphne mezereum - Mezereon
Draba muralis – Wall Whitlow Grass
Dryas octopetala – Mountain Avens
Dryopteris submontana – Rigid Buckler Fern
Epipactis atrorubens – Dark-red Helleborine
Epipactis phyllanthes – Green-flowered Helleborine
Equisetum pratense – Shady Horsetail
Equisetum variegatum – Variegated Horsetail
Eriophorum gracile – Slender Cottongrass
Erophila majuscula – Hairy Whitlowgrass
Euphorbia exigua – Dwarf Spurge
Euphrasia officinalis subsp. *monticola* – Montane
 Eyebright
Euphrasia officinalis subsp. *pratensis* – Rostkov's
 Eyebright
Filago vulgaris – Common cudweed
Fumaria purpurea – Purple Ramping-fumitory
Galeopsis angustifolia – Red Hemp-nettle
Galeopsis speciosa – Large-flowered Hemp-nettle
Genista anglica – Petty Whin
Gentiana verna – Spring Gentian
Gentianella campestris – Field Gentian
Glebionis segetum – Corn Marigold
Gnaphalium sylvaticum – Heath Cudweed
Groenlandia densa – Opposite-leaved Pondweed
Gymnocarpium robertianum – Limestone Fern
Helianthemum oelandicum subsp. *levigatum* – Subspecies
 of Hoary Rockrose
Hordelymus europaeus – Wood Barley
Hornungia petraea - Hutchinsia
Hymenophyllum wilsonii – Wilson's Filmy-fern
Hyoscyamus niger - Henbane
Hypericum montanum – Pale St. John's-wort
Imperatoria ostruthium - Masterwort
Juncus alpinoarticulatus – Alpine Rush
Juncus compressus – Round-fruited Rush
Kobresia simpliciuscula – False Sedge
Limosella aquatica - Mudwort
Linum perenne – Perennial Flax
Luronium natans – Floating Water-plantain
Lysimachia thysiflora – Tufted Loosestrife
Melampyrum sylvaticum – Small Cow-wheat
Meum athamanticum - Spiguel
Minuartia hybrida – Fine-leaved Sandwort
Minuartia verna – Spring Sandwort
Myosotis alpestris – Alpine Forget-me-not
Myosotis stolonifera – Pale Forget-me-not
Myosurus minimus - Mousetail
Myriophyllum verticillatum – Whorled Water-milfoil
Neotinea ustulata – Burnt Orchid
Noccea caerulea – Alpine Penny-cress
Oenanthe fistulosa – Tubular Water-dropwort
Ophrys insectifera – Fly Orchid
Orobanche alba – Thyme Broomrape
Orobanche rapum-genistae – Greater Broomrape
Orobanche reticulata – Thistle Broomrape
Papaver argemone – Prickly Poppy
Persicaria minor – Small Water-pepper
Pilularia globulifera - Pillwort
Polemonium caeruleum – Jacob's-Ladder
Polygala amarella – Dwarf Milkwort
Polystichum lonchitis – Holly Fern
Potamogeton coloratus – Fen Pondweed
Potamogeton friesii – Flat-stalked Pondweed
Potentilla crantzii – Alpine Cinquefoil
Potentilla fruticosa – Shrubby Cinquefoil
Potentilla tabernaemontani – Spring Cinquefoil
Primula farinosa – Bird's-eye Primrose
Pseudorchis albida – Small-white Orchid
Ranunculus arvensis – Corn Buttercup
Ribes alpinum – Mountain Currant
Ribes spicatum – Downy Currant
Rosa agrestis – Small-leaved Sweet-briar
Rumex pseudoalpinus – Monk's Rhubarb
Saxifraga hirculus – Marsh Saxifrage

Saxifraga hypnoides – Mossy Saxifrage
Scandix pecten-veneris – Shepherd's-needle
Scheuchzeria palustris – Rannoch Rush
Sedum villosum – Hairy Stonecrop
Sesleria caerulea – Blue Moor-grass
Silene gallica – Small-flowered Catchfly
Silene noctiflora – Night-flowering Catchfly
Sium latifolium – Greater Water-parsnip
Sorbus rupicola – Rock Whitebeam
Spergula arvensis – Corn Spurrey
Spiranthes spiralis – Autumn Lady's-tresses
Stachys arvensis – Field Woundwort
Stellaria palustris – Marsh Stitchwort
Teesdalia nudicaulis – Shepherd's Cress
Teucrium scordium – Water Germander
Tilia platyphyllos – Large-leaved Lime
Turritis glabra – Tower Mustard
Utricularia australis - Bladderwort
Valerianella dentata – Narrow-fruited Cornsalad
Vicia orobus – Wood Bitter-vetch
Viola tricolor – Wild Pansy
Woodsia ilvensis – Oblong Woodsia

Some of these species are long extinct (e.g. *Cypripedium calceolus*, *Eriophorum gracile*, *Scheuchzeria palustris*, *Woodsia ilvensis*), a couple of these have been reintroduced recently and some like *Vicia orobus* only present at one site near Sedbergh have been seen post 2000 but now appear to be extinct. Others are relatively common in VC65 (e.g. *Minuartia verna*, *Primula farinosa*, *Sesleria caerulea*). Because we are running out of time for the 2020 Atlas we have thrown down the gauntlet to anyone interested, a botanical challenge to try and trace the species listed below, along with the best Grid References we can give you, good luck !



Actaea spicata

Botanical Challenge

(No prizes just the kudos and your name against the record)

***Actaea spicata* (Baneberry)**

Whitfield Gill at SD935.919 (Field Meeting in 2018)
 Low Wood, Bishopdale at SD954.822
 Deepdale, Jervaulx at SE15.84 (Field Meeting in 2018)
 Whey Gutter, behind Buckden Pike at SD974.779

***Bartsia alpina* (Alpine Bartsia)**

probably extinct in v.c.65.
 River Tees at Wynch Bridge at NY90.27 (last seen 1906)
 Cronkley Fell at NY84.27 (last seen 1968)
 Black Ark, Cronkley at NY84.27 (last seen 1882)
 Wether Fell above Marsett at SD87.86 (last seen 1989)

***Cardamine impatiens* (Narrow-leaved Bitter-cress)**

Sedbergh at SD69 (last seen 1989) possibly still around.

***Carex digitata* (Fingered Sedge)**

Field Meeting in 2018.
 Magdalen Wood at SE236.773 (last seen 1977) so could still be there !

***Circaea alpina* (Alpine Enchanter's-nightshade)**

Rawthey Gill at SD72.96 (last record in 1974) so probably still around. We have found the hybrid. Field Meeting in 2018

***Clinopodium calamintha* (Lesser Calamint)**

Tanfield hectad (last seen in 1863) probably extinct but Field Meeting to Tanfield in 2018

***Daphne mezereum* (Mezereon)**

Clints Bank, Richmond at NZ10, not 100% sure where this is but arranged a Field Meeting at Clints near Marske

***Epipactis phyllanthes* (Green-flowered Helleborine)**

Richmond, Easby area at NZ182.005 (last seen 1987) probably still around so Field Meeting in 2018.

***Galeopsis angustifolia* (Red Hemp-nettle)**

Applegarth above Richmond at NZ12.01 (last seen 1969) may still be around so Field Meeting in 2018

***Hyoscyamus niger* (Henbane)**

May still be around, Field Meeting to Tanfield in 2018

***Luronium natans* (Floating Water-plantain)**

Semerwater at SD91.87 (last seen in 1969) possibly still around

***Myosurus minimus* (Mousetail)**

Hutton Moor, Ripon at SE37 (last seen possibly 1969) may still be around.

***Oenanthe fistulosa* (Tubular Water-dropwort)**

Tarn Dub, Upper Teesdale NNR at NY8535.2873 (last seen 1985) supposed to have gone.

***Ophrys insectifera* (Fly Orchid)**

Aysgarth at SE08, not been seen since 2000 (Aysgarth is visited annually)

***Orobanche reticulata* (Thistle Broomrape)**

Good Grid References all along the banks of the Ure near Boroughbridge thanks to Dr. Michael Foley and

Mike Porter. Field Meeting been arranged in 2018.

Potamogeton coloratus (Fen Pondweed)

St. Trinians Pond, Easby at NZ10, (last seen in 1831) but there is a Field Meeting to the area later this year.

Ranunculus arvensis (Corn Buttercup)

Richmond NZ179.016 (last seen in 1970) possibly still around

Leyburn Station SE11.90 (last seen in 1899) you never know ?

Skeebly NZ19.02 (last seen in 1833)

Scruton SE39 (last seen in 1974) possibly still around

Rumex pseudoalpinus (Monk's Rhubarb)

Lune Valley, Howgill Head, SD62.97 (last seen in 1986) so probably still around

Scandix pecten-veneris (Shepherd's-needle)

Sedbergh SD65.92 (last seen in 1898) bit like a needle in a haystack !

Silene gallica – Small-flowered Catchfly

Carlton Moor SE03.84 (last seen in 1856) probably gone

Sium latifolium (Greater Water-parsnip)

Crakehall Fishing Pond SE245.911 (last seen in 1999)

Field Meeting arranged in 2018

Turritis glabra (Tower Mustard)

West Tanfield, SE26.78 (last seen in 1981) Field Meeting in 2018

Facebook

We now have a Facebook Site if you are on Facebook look up **North West Yorkshire Botany**, you are welcome to become a member of the group, whilst it is not directly associated with the BSBI it was set up with a view to getting a 'not too serious' look at our work out there, and hopefully getting some records back, this has worked well and we have had more records coming in during 2017 and gained a few new members.

Field Meetings 2018

All Field Meetings start at 10.30am. If you intend to come along to meetings please try and let Linda Robinson know, contact details at end of Newsletter.

17th March (Saturday) – *Gagea* hunt, walk along the Ure above Masham, following the riverside where there is suitable habitat. Meet in the car park west side of Masham Bridge at SE225.812.

28th March (Wednesday) – *Gagea* hunt, walk along the Ure below Masham, meet at junction of Thorpe road with the footpath down to the river at Limehouse Hill at SE230.775.

14th April (Saturday) – Clints Bank Wood to hunt for *Daphne mezereum*. Meet at car park at Bridge outside Marske at NZ103.004.

22nd April (Sunday) – Spring flowers, Coverham, meet at junction of footpath north of Bird Ridding Farm and walk the circular route past Tugill Park at SE096.863

5th May (Saturday) – Hunt for last year's heads of Thistle Broomrape and this year's spring flora along the banks of the Ure at Boroughbridge. Meet on Skelton road and park under the Motorway Bridge at SE390.673.

19th May (Saturday) – Gayle, south of Hawes, junction of Gaudy Lane and follow becksides footpaths to Aysgill Force Waterfall, meet at SD864.889

30th May (Wednesday) – Hunt for *Actaea spicata* in Whitfield Gill. Meet above Askrigg at Lead Green at junction of Low Straights Lane at SD949.917.

3rd June (Sunday) – Deep Gill above East Witton to look for old record of *Actaea spicata* in monad SE15.84. Meet near the Church at SE146.860.

11th June (Monday) – Magdalen Woods to hunt for *Carex digitata*, *Clinopodium calamintha* plus other old records. Meet at West Tanfield near dismantled railway on Westwood Lane at SE262.785.

27th June (Wednesday) – Hunt for *Circaea alpina* in Rawthey Gorge below Needle House, park near cattle grid at the end of the metalled road at SD729.971.

3rd July (Tuesday) – Pillmoor Carr and Copt Hewick Common. Meet at the end of the track to the Carr at SE330.730.

11th July (Wednesday) – Hunt for *Alchemilla's* above Garsdale Station, meet at Layby above at SD789.903.

15th July (Sunday) – The Trough, Sleightholme, to hunt for and old record of *Draba muralis*. Meet at the cattle grid near Blea Scar at NY967.112.

11th August (Saturday) – Easby Abbey and environs, looking for an old record of *Epipactis phyllanthes* last seen in 1983. Meet at NZ186.002 where there is hopefully a car park.

25th August (Saturday) – Applegarth above Richmond looking for *Galeopsis angustifolia* in NZ12.01. Meet at the Bridleway entrance below Clapgate Bank at NZ114.019.

2nd September (Sunday) – Crakehall Pond to check a relatively recent (1999) record of *Sium latifolium*. Meet near the Pub in Crakehall opposite the Church at SE244.899.

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