

BSBI CHESHIRE RECORDING NEWSLETTER – 2013

April saw us searching in the Bridgemere area in SJ74H. 117 additions were made including *Vinca minor*, *Lamium argenteum* and *Prunus cerasifera* which seems commoner than previously thought. A brief excursion into SJ74G gave 11 more with *Cardamine amara* the best. SJ47X hosted a trip round Helsby Hill with sweeping views across the Mersey and 136 hits. *Geranium rotundifolium* was thriving, and *Cerastium semidecandrum* huddled down on the “summit” rocks. *Amelanchier lamarckii* was naturalised in the woods. In June the characteristic rain hit us at Carrbrook in SD90V, but eased off for most of the time. Among 158 records, a good colony of *Erinus alpinus* on an old wall was a first for VC58. *Anisanthra diandra* further illustrated its current spread, and *Asplenium ceterach*, always nice to see, was on another old wall.

By way of contrast, the day in Frodsham was very hot and sunny. Addition totals were SJ57E 45, 47Z 63, 47Y 26, and 57D 31. Highlights included *Tragopogon pratensis* ssp *pratensis*, *Bromus secalinus*, *Bromus commutatus* in both downy and glabrous forms, *Lemna gibba*, *Carduus tenuiflorus* and *crispus*, nice juicy greengauges, and *Rubus laciniatus*, another spreader. The day at Cotebrook (SJ56S) saw the weather back to the 2012 normal but a few *Cicerbita macrophylla* and *Campanula persicifolia* brightened things. *Stachys x ambigua* helped the 180 total.

Off to SJ55Q and only myself and Dave Morgan turned up, so progress was quicker than normal! We made 111 records of which 54 were new including yet more *Bromus secalinus* and *commutatus*. Coughing cows were a minor diversion. A final excursion near Nantwich (SJ65R) gave 150 new records including *Spirodela polyrhiza*, *Setaria verticillata* in a grain field, and *Ranunculus hederaceus* in a pond.

Peak District Rangers found *Huperzia selago* on Shining Tor, making up for the only other known plant, which was lost when the footpath was repaired. Several more colonies were found later. Derek Todd added both *Pulmonaria rubra* and *Hieracium scotostictum* to the Cheshire list. Other additions were *Nectaroscordum siculum* by Julie Clarke, *Astrantia major* by Stewart Hinsley, and *Euphorbia coralloides* by John Hawksford. I found the only recent record for *Arenaria leptoclados* when following a footpath diversion in Delamere. Martyn Stead found a colony of *Torilis nodosa*, long extinct in Cheshire, so we hope it survives! Tim Rogers found a colony of *Brachypodium pinnatum* which might be native.

The *Pilosella* on the Trans-Pennine Trail, Dunham Massey has been redetermined as *P. caespitosa* (not *praealta* ssp *thaumasia*), which Pauline Grimshaw also found in Haughton Green.

The *Bolboschoenus* at Marbury is *laticarpus* not *laticarpa* as reported last year.

CHESHIRE PLANT RECORDING MEETINGS FOR 2013

Meetings begin at 2pm unless otherwise stated and last until 5-6pm. It is usually a gentle stroll and all are invited but these days it is at your own risk.

Sunday 14th April 2pm Audlem

Park in carpark at SJ659437. We will visit a wood at Field's Farm.

Saturday 11th May 2pm Matley

Park in road at SJ978970 for a circuit to the west.

Sunday 9th June 11am Bridgemere. Bring packed lunch.

Park on verge at SJ707456 for a circuit to the south.

Saturday 22nd June 11am Hatherton. Bring packed lunch.

Park in layby at SJ682462 to head south

Sunday 14th July 11am Delamere Forest

Park in the carpark at SJ542715 with the aim to visit Black Lake.

Don't forget a packed lunch again.

Sunday 11th August 2pm Broadbottom

Park in small layby at SJ994943 heading south and east.

Saturday 31st August 2pm Duddon

Park on verge at SJ509646 to explore N of Duddon.

Saturday 14th September 2pm Mossley

Park in layby at SD984028 for a visit to SD90Q and R.

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Pilosella caespitosa at Dunham Massey.



Pilosella caespitosa at Houghton Green showing spreading hairs on the stem.



Erinus alpinus, NCR in Carrbrook. It was very wet!



Huperzia selago on Shining Tor.



Alnus cordata x *glutinosa* at Ringway, new to Cheshire and second UK record.