

Developing a Local Network

Why do you do what you do?

Who was it that ignited your interest?

In what ways could you be that person for others?

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Finding people:

Local BSBI members

Local BSS members or Plantlife volunteers

Local natural history societies or interest groups

Local Biodiversity Officer

Locally-based professionals (e.g. SNH; conservation projects)

Countryside Ranger Service

Schools (via Science Adviser/development person, or Secondary Science Depts.)

Local environmental initiatives (e.g. Community Woodlands; volunteer groups)

Follow-up of individuals who have recently contributed records

Neighbouring VCRs

Use BSBI news to appeal for help (e.g. holidaying botanists)

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Keeping people:

Develop a programme of fieldwork

Share information

Develop dynamic team ethos

Hold a meeting (and make it exciting!)

Circulate an occasional newsletter

Encourage email correspondence

Offer to identify plants from photos

Accept and encourage all offers of records

Offer some basic training outings for beginners and improvers

Keep BSBI page fresh and interesting

Encourage individual skills to emerge

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The Lanarkshire experience:

Network currently has 60 people

Known as 'Team 77'

28 active in fieldwork in 2017 (and some others sent in records)

Busy programme of outings (37 in 2017 – weekends or evenings)

Just one actual 'meeting' – annually at close of season

Photo project

Skills emerging (e.g. fieldwork planning; website; editorial work)

Specialist fieldwork (e.g. *Lactuca serriola*; *Saxifraga tridactylites*)

Anyone can engage at their chosen level and pace

15,120 records made in 2017

Currently on track to meet Atlas 2020 thresholds in all 35 hectads

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Michael Philip (VCR, Lanarkshire)

email: botany@opus44.co.uk

Correspondence welcome on any matter.
Newsletter or Programme available on request.

Better still, come and join us on an outing!