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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“Keep me informed”
Correspondence
Active fieldwork
Leadership role
Assistance with data
Administration
Skills development
Photography
Sending in records
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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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Correspondence welcome on any matter.
Newsletter or Programme available on request.

Better still, come and join us on an outing!