

2016 Scottish Vice-County Reports

Dumfriesshire (vc72) Chris Miles

Good progress was made with Atlas 2020 with 4732 records gathered from 25 monads and 18 tetrads. In the latest recording period, of the hectads with over 200 species recorded (range from 268-703), 20 have more than 70% of the species re-recorded. Of the 18 with less than 70% only 3 of these are less than 60%. These 18 will be the priority for recording in the three remaining seasons with the aim of getting as many hectads as possible above 70%.

A field meeting in the Moffat Hills on 23/24 July was attended by 8 people. Some of the specialities found in new sites are highlighted in the field meeting report. Some good sites were found or revisited included a valley mire with calcareous flushes, unusual for Dumfriesshire, supporting *Carex diandra* (Lesser Tussock-sedge), *Dactylorhiza incarnata* subsp. *incarnata* (Early Marsh-orchid), *Eriophorum latifolium* (Broad-leaved Cottongrass), and *Utricularia minor* (Lesser Bladderwort). The re-find of the small population of *Persicaria vivipara* (Alpine Bistort) in the ravine at Dalveen was the first record here since 1984.

I finished the [Rare Plant Register](#) for Dumfriesshire which was published on the BSBI web pages in July. I made two recording visits to a square for the National Plant Monitoring Scheme and volunteered to be mentor for this scheme. I attended the Edinburgh and Shrewsbury recorders' meetings and I volunteered to help develop recommendations for the BSBI review attending a residential weekend in January 2017.

Kirkcudbrightshire (vc73) David Hawker

5000 records for 2016 from 62 monads were entered to the MM database with 10 NCRs, mostly casuals/aliens, except possibly for *Imperatorium obstruthium* (Masterwort); plus the 2nd records of *Carex strigosa* (Thin-stalked Wood-sedge) last seen in 1976 and *Foeniculum officinale* (Fennel). And a late submission of 3850 records from 2015 also added.

The Kirkcudbright Botany Group numbering 49, held 11 field meetings in its 3rd season, with one cancelled due to sensitive breeding birds on site. Of the 1550 records, the highlights were re-discovering *Ruppia maritima* (Tasselweed) at one of its few VC sites, and new locations for *Saussurea alpina* (alpine saw-wort), *Saxifraga hypnoides* (Mossy Saxifrage), *Sedum rosea* (Roseroot), all CRPR species. Meetings reports are available from me. A sedge id day in June was attended by 15 members, with demand for more similar days! The 2017 programme is now out.

The third SCM cycle on a coastal SSSI, resulted in four of the five species monitored in Favourable condition, the 5th species *Mertensia maritima* (Oyster-plant) being a temporary, sporadic plant here.

I continue to serve on the MOD Kirkcudbright Conservation Group and up-dated their site RPR files of 32 species to 2016 – the above-mentioned SSSI sits almost wholly within their area. I have belatedly begun work on the CRPR. I responded to consultation documents on expansion of the Solway SPA/SSSI and the draft Forestry Guidance.

Wigtonshire (vc74) Alan Silverside

A quietly satisfactory year though with no real surprises. As previously, recording concentrated on unrecorded monads in the poorest recorded hectads. There remain 5 hectads, all fragmentary and marginal, still with under 200 species, which will be the principle targets for 2017 recording.

An old walled garden with weedy paths provided the first recent record of *Veronica polita* (Grey Field-speedwell), last recorded in the county in 1990, the second recent record of *Mimulus moschatus* (Musk), recorded from the same site in 1977, and *Fumaria officinalis* ssp. *wirtgenii* (Common Fumitory), in a glasshouse, seemingly new to Wigtownshire.

Much still needs to be done and help with recording will be gratefully received.

Ayrshire (vc75) Dave Lang

Progress continues as quickly as it reasonably can with Atlas 2020 coverage. For a variety of reasons, we had a few more bodies available to us in 2016 than we normally do (or are likely to have in future years) and as a consequence we were able to schedule two Atlas recording trips per month in 2016 and know that at least one or two people would be available for each. We continue to record at tetrad level – but have certainly noticed that having two groups of two or more individuals covering different parts of the tetrad leads to a significantly larger species total at the end of the day. Meeting the full recommended level of vice county coverage for the 2020 Atlas remains highly unlikely – but I am well aware that we are far from unique in that respect.

The VC75 Ayrshire Rare Plant Register was finally published on-line in 2016. Consideration will be given to updating this to a flora at the end of the Atlas 2020 project. Another priority for the near future is likely to be the setting up of a website for Ayrshire.

Despite the increase in recording intensity – and indeed a number of interesting refinds or hectad firsts – the most interesting records that came to light this year in fact came from the discovery of an old (2010) FCS Montane Scrub Survey of the south-eastern boundary of the VC. This included first Ayrshire records for *Salix lapponum* (Downy Willow) and *Saussurea alpine* (Alpine Saw-wort).

Lanarkshire (vc77) Michael Philip

2016 has been a most exciting year! My predecessor's (the late Dr. Peter Macpherson) eagerly-awaited 'The Flora of Lanarkshire' was published and launched in September. Together with his herbarium, which is currently being catalogued at Glasgow's Kelvingrove Museum, this provides the vice-county with better resources than ever.

The major piece of field-work in 2016 was a week-long Field Meeting in the south of Lanarkshire, organized in June by Angus Hannah (VCR Clyde Islands). Just over 4,200 records were made in some 30 hitherto under- or un-recorded tetrads. This was a major contribution to the 7,800 records that were added to the DDb for 2016 for Lanarkshire.

I was appointed as VC Recorder late in the year (November) and my immediate priority has been to gain a detailed understanding of the current status of Atlas coverage, and begin to build a team of field botanists to help with recording in the vice-county.

The Lanarkshire page on the BSBI website is now live, and contains a detailed report on the June Field Meeting.

As the new season approaches, an extensive programme of outings is being planned with training resources and events provided for beginners and improvers - including some schools who would like to get involved.

Peeblesshire (vc78) Luke Gaskell

4730 records were made and digitised this season bringing the total contributed for Peeblesshire via MapMate to 36600 (and via all sources to 53,300) since 2000.

This year I have concentrated on the poorly recorded South West of the county spurred on by Andy Amphlett's record density maps. It is unsurprising that this part of the Vice-county needs more attention as it takes a long time to get there and can be relatively unrewarding as it is mostly acid hill and forestry. However much of the area is rather beautiful and I have enjoyed tracing the remains of the big sheep farms which thrived here during the enlightenment. The current poor returns from sheep and consequent expansion of tree planting, along with wind turbines and grouse moor management, is rapidly changing this landscape and its flora. Some of the more interesting records were exhibited at the SAM.

A small number of excellent records have been sent in: *Cornus suecica* (Dwarf Cornel) at a new site and *Hymenophyllum wilsonii* (Common Filmy-fern), a 2nd VC record, both reported by Dr David Long. *Persicaria vivipara* (Alpine Bistort) in a new 10k Square by Graham Pyatt and *Platanthera chlorantha* (Greater Butterfly-orchid) a 2nd VC record, recorded by Alison McArthur.

I have also been surveying the urban flora of the towns along the upper Tweed, both in Peeblesshire and in neighbouring VCs. It is noticeable that urban areas now have a more diverse flora, excluding casuals, than the surrounding farmland. This type of data could be used to show that urgent action is needed to protect and enhance remaining habitats.

Selkirkshire (vc79) Rod Corner & Jeff Waddell

2016 was a better than average year with 1,484 records collected in total. Michael Braithwaite collected just under half of these, mostly on his A7 roadside survey. His highlights included *Carduus crispus* (Wetted Thistle), *Colchium autumnale* (Meadow Saffron), *Sagina filicaulis* (Upright Pearlwort), *Cymbalaria pallida* (Italian Toadflax) and *Philadelphus coronarius* (Mock Orange).

Sarah Eno was the second most prolific recorder noting over 350 records including several quality ones: *Antennaria dioica* (Mountain Everlasting), *Vicia sylvatica* (Wood Vetch) and *Melica nutans* (Mountain Melick) near Meerlees on the Tima Water and *Agrimonia procera* (Fragrant Agrimony) near Tinnis in the Yarrow valley. Rod Corner teamed up with Sarah to visit Clearburn Loch for a very productive recording session. *Carex appropinquata* (Fibrous Tussock-sedge) was rediscovered in quantity at its second vice county site and the nationally rare *Hierochloa odorata* (Holy Grass) was found to be present in three distinct monads.

Other recorders included Martin Moncrieff recording over 100 species around Stantling Craig Reservoir, the most notable of which was *Polygonatum x hybridum* (Garden Solomon's-seal). Luke Gaskell also investigated ruderals associated with the new railway in both Selkirkshire and Roxburghshire and found *Hirschfeldia incana* (Hoary Mustard) and *Senecio inaequidens* (Narrow-leaved Ragwort) in Vc79. Douglas Methven worked the riverbanks around Selkirk and found *Persicaria amplexicaulis* (Red Bistort) a new county record and two sites for *Centaurea cyanus* (Cornflower) associated with the flood defence works.

Roxburghshire (vc80) Rod Corner & Jeff Waddell

In total 7,804 records were collected from Roxburghshire, just under half by Michael Braithwaite, mostly in connection with the publication "Flora of Hawick's Road and Rail

Routes Compared". The records included many garden escapes, hybrids and difficult-to-identify taxa. Highlights included: *Poterium sanguisorba* subsp. *sanguisorba* (Salad Burnet) and *Trichophorum x foersteri* (Hybrid Deer-grass). Michael's survey greatly improved tetrad coverage of roadside halophytes including *Atriplex prostrata* (Spear-leaved Orache).

Jeff Waddell targeted thirteen poorly recorded tetrads, most of which were recorded by an informal group of beginner and improver botanists lead by him, producing c. 2,500 records.

Four tetrads were targeted in the Rule Water Valley, the most notable find here was *Oenanthe crocata* (Hemlock Water-dropwort) in two tetrads. New colonies of *Scirpus sylvaticus* (Wood Club-rush) and *Astrantia major* (Astrantia) were also of interest here. *Agrimonia procera* (Fragrant Agrimony) and *Centaureum erythrea* (Common Centaury) were found in the Newcastleton area. Jeff snuck in evening recording sessions after work in three tetrads on the long days of midsummer and found an arable field with tens of thousands of plants of *Galeopsis speciosa* (Large-flowered Hemp-nettle).

Late in the season tetrads around Hownam were visited, producing choice calcicoles including *Scabiosa columbaria* (Small Scabious), *Origanum vulgare* (Wild Marjoram) and a new colony of *Dianthus deltoides* (Maiden Pink). Jeff Waddell followed up old records of *Goodyera repens* (Creeping Lady's-tresses) in the Scots Pine plantations east of Jedburgh.

Rod Corner continued work on his flora and a rare plant register and found time to do some new fieldwork in Roxburghshire. Highlights included *Persicaria hydropiper* (Water-pepper) on the Kershope Burn and *Vaccinium uliginosum* (Bog Bilberry) at Holm Hill. Rod also attended the local records centre (TWIC) assessment meetings for notifying wildlife sites.

Many recorders were active in the county under their own initiative producing valuable records. Roger Manning recorded *Allium scorodoprasum* (Sand Leek) on a road verge near Crookhouse and *Malva neglecta* (Dwarf Mallow) in a churchyard. Martin Moncrieff refound *Bidens cernua* (Nodding Bur-marigold) at Folly Loch and *Solanum nigrum* (Black Nightshade) in his garden. Luke Gaskell turned up good species by the new railway: *Galinsoga quadriradiata* (Shaggy Soldier), *Hirschfeldia incana* (Hoary Mustard) and *Senecio inaequalis* (Narrow-leaved Ragwort).

Roxburghshire (vc80) Michael Braithwaite, BSBI Emeritus Recorder

Recording: 4,485 records, all at 100m scale or finer, were made by me and input into MapMate. Almost all related to the A7 trunk road project. Referee assistance received from Rod Corner.

Publications: *Floras of Hawick's Road and Rail routes compared*, a comparison of my 2016 survey of a 20-mile section of the A7 trunk road with my 2015 survey of the old railway, was published by the Hawick Archaeological Society. A PDF was uploaded to the BSBI website.

An article on Road and Rail project was published in BSBI News with emphasis on a maritime ecotype of *Elytrigia repens* (Common Couch) discovered to be widespread along the A7 with an associated gall.

An article was published in BSBI News on *How many species do we overlook when recording?*

Berwickshire (vc81) Michael Braithwaite, BSBI Emeritus Recorder

Recording: 170 records were made by six recorders and were entered in MapMate. These included two localities for *Neottia nidus-avis* (Bird's-nest Orchid), last seen 1985 and thought to be extinct, which was found by Nigel Picton and Ron McBeath. Robin Cowe found anthocyanin-free specimens of *Corallorhiza trifida* (Coralroot Orchid) confirmed by Richard Bateman.

Data validation on DDb: Minor follow-up work after a major exercise in 2015.

Archiving: I have begun indexing in Excel the metadata with Berwickshire paper records (the data at the top of field cards). I have also begun scanning associated route maps, site reports and similar material and also selected literature of a more general nature.

Publications: I published an autobiographical article on 'The making of a botanist' in the *History of the Berwickshire Naturalists' Club* and an article on 'Anthocyanin-free specimens of *Corallorhiza trifida*' in *BSBI News*.

Training: I have supplied limited support to Robin Cowe and Martin Moncrieff.

Talk: I gave a short talk to the Scottish Annual Meeting on 'How I became a botanist'.

East Lothian (vc82) Helen Jackson

2016 began well editing printouts of other people's digitised records – some 4,600 – so they could be entered into MapMate. My thanks to Andy Amphlett for preparing records for MapMate.

I retired after 30 years as the Wild Flower Society's Scottish Branch Secretary, which should leave me freer in the spring in future.

In June I enjoyed a week helping with recording in Wigtonshire but then, due to circumstances beyond my control, was unable to do more until October. My most notable East Lothian find in 2016 was *Datura stramonium* (Thorn-apple).

I am very grateful for all the records received. These included *Veronica scutellata* (Marsh Speedwell) at Aberlady Bay (last recorded there 1972) and *Gentianella campestris* (Field Gentian) at Longniddry Bents (previously pre-1934) from Abbie Marland, and from Stuart Maxwell a detailed record of *Blackstonia perfoliata* (Yellow-wort) confirming Jackie Muscott's unexpected 2014 record of this new-to-the-Lothians species.

I was unable to attend the Scottish Annual Meeting for the first time in more than 40 years, but enjoyed the BSBI Christmas Lunch – where two people offered help recording in 2017!

Midlothian (vc83) Barbara Sumner

2016 has so far yielded 7411 records from roughly 96 monads in 15 hectads. A further 1000-1500 records are expected. Grateful thanks to all surveyors.

New VC records were mostly garden escapes or planted species, including *Agapanthus praecox* (African Lily), *Astilbe x arendsii*, *Echinops exaltatus* (Globe-thistle), *Galanthus elwesii* (Greater Snowdrop), *Geranium x cantabrigiense* (Cambridge Crane's-bill), *G. himalayense* (Himalayan Crane's-bill), *G. versicolor* (Pencilled Crane's-bill), *Helianthus x laetiflorus*, *Houttuynia cordata* (Fish-plant), *Lysimachia ciliata* (Fringed Loosestrife), *Ostrya carpinifolia* (Hop Hornbeam), *Pinus radiata* (Monterey Pine), *Scilla bithynica* (Turkish Squill), *Thuja occidentalis* 'spiralis' (Northern White-cedar 'spiralis') and *Taxus baccata* f. *fasciculata* (Irish Yew).

Some rarities were re-found, e.g. *Lysimachia vulgaris* (Yellow Loosestrife) and *Scutellaria galericulata* (Skullcap) on the Penicuik Estate. It was a good year for *Saxifraga hirculus*, (Marsh Saxifrage) with 16 plants seen in bud or flower in August. *Oxyria digyna* (Mountain Sorrel), thought to be extinct in VC 83, caused excitement when found at Silverburn, near the Pentland Hills, but it was only a garden escape!

Edinburgh continues to receive more attention than the rest of the vice-county. Records would be welcome from more remote areas, e.g. W and E of Cobbinshaw Reservoir, W of Little Vantage, and areas in the Moorfoot Hills. Please contact the VC recorder if you would like to survey a monad for the Atlas 2020 project.

The VC recorder continues to represent the BSBI on steering groups for Local Biodiversity Sites in the Lothians, and for the Edinburgh LBAP.

West Lothian (vc84) Jackie Muscott

Only a very little recording was undertaken in West Lothian in 2016 due to ill-health. However, volunteer Katherine White digitized the 2015 record cards using MapMate and synched some 4,400 records to the DDb. She is currently working on the 2016 data.

Jackie retired as recorder at the end of the year, and the vacancy is currently being advertised in BSBI News.

Fife & Kinross (vc85) Sandy Edwards

I was unable to record in May and June due to a knee injury so fewer tetrads were recorded in 2016 than previously. However, a lot of progress was made with DDb validation. Records were received on card from four contributors and via MapMate from a fifth. A handful of individual notable records were also received from others. All these records have been thoroughly checked and George Ballantyne, joint Recorder, kept informed.

During 2016 I tutored for a Wildflower Families Workshop, for four students on the FSC on-line plant identification course (with probably two more this year) and for a St Andrews University field meeting at Kindrogan. I lead the PSNS Field Meeting at Cleish and enjoyed the Shetland recording week. An NPMS survey was undertaken at Tentsmuir. I also participated in BSBI and PSNS committee meetings.

Significant finds in Fife in 2016:

- *Linnaea borealis* (Twinflower) NCR (See SAM poster)
- *Crepes biennis* (Rough Hawksbeard) (2nd record)
- *Dianthus deltoides* (Maiden Pink) (2nd record)
- *Setaria viridis* (Green Bristle-grass) (2nd record)
- *Rosa multiflora* (Many-flowered Rose) NCR
- *Sedum villosum* (Hairy Stonecrop) (Refound, very rare in vc85)
- *Ranunculus sardous* (Hairy Buttercup) (3rd record)
- *Crambe maritima* (Sea Kale) (2nd record)
- *Fumaria capreolata* (White Ramping-Fumitory) (3rd Record)

Stirling (vc86) Philip Sansum

Recording in 2016 ranged across 18 of Stirlingshire's 24 10km squares but much of this was casual and measurable progress with Atlas 2020 was limited to work in three or four hectads. A worthwhile plant recording day at RSPB Fannyside Lochs (NS87) was held with RSPB staff and Glasgow Botany Group in late summer and some useful plant recording has been undertaken in conjunction with volunteer surveying of other wildlife on the RSPB reserve at Inversnaid (NN30). Overall there was a modest accrual of 3094 records of 487 species (all digitised and captured at monad level or better). In 2017 there should be greater emphasis on the least worked hectads, potentially with help from Glasgow Botany Group.

Submission of records to the VCRs remains quite a rarity so it was pleasing to receive a very good dataset of some 400 observations from the Fintry Hills made by a new member. Members' contributions are needed to support the Atlas project, especially since the county is now down to one VCR.

Perhaps the most important record of the year was of a new site for *Hypopitys monotropa* (Yellow Bird's-nest) discovered by Niall Traynor at Skinflats. Other NCRs were *Catapodium rigidum* (Fern-grass), *Veronica peregrina* (American Speedwell), *Carex x fulva*, *Nepeta x faassenii* (Garden Cat-mint), *Cochlearia danica* (Danish Scurvygrass), *Hieracium diaphanoides* and *Chelone obliqua* (Rose Turtlehead - an alien native to the south-eastern USA and probably the first Scottish record). A second site, and 1st since 1982, for *Carex spicata* (Spiked Sedge) was also notable.

West Perthshire (vc87) Liz Lavery & Jane Jones

Between us we have entered over 7500 records. Jane visited about 35 tetrads 10+ monads, some of those with Liz. The highlight of the year for Jane was finding a new site for *Lycopodiella inundata* (Marsh Clubmoss). For Liz it was when she was shown *Pseudorchis albida* (Small-white Orchid) discovered by John Snodin and Roy Sexton, the first confirmed record for our vice-county. Accounts of both are in the SAM abstracts. It was also pleasing when Jane found *Pimpinella major* (Greater Burnet-saxifrage) near Callander when all we had was two old records from 1898 and 1961 just giving the 10km square.

We had two successful meets at Doune and Balquhidder, the latter much helped by the presence of Steve Longster and Henry Lima. We also led a PSNS excursion to Silver Glen, Alva in May. We managed to get into areas which hadn't been explored for a long time – if ever and hopefully we will continue this in 2017. We have begun the big task of verifying records, this is also an opportunity to tidy up and check our paper records, especially the older ones. Liz has continued to work with TWIC surveying potential LNCS (Local Nature Conservation Sites) for Clackmannanshire Council. We would welcome help from hill walking members /

Rough Crew with recording in the remote far north-west of the county and in the interior of the Ochil Hills.

Mid-Perthshire (vc88) Alistair Godfrey & Jim McIntosh

We have added 7,000 records to the DDb for 2016 so far, but there are still more to digitise. Of the 251,317 all-time records for Vc88 in the DDb, 41% are now post 1999. Tetrad coverage is improving; six were surveyed that had no previous records (ever).

A highlight of the summer was the *Euphrasia* recording meeting based at Killin. Thanks to expert guidance from Chris Metherell, our knowledge of the genus and status of the taxa in Perthshire has been raised considerably. We were assisted by Dan Watson and his team who also provided records for the Ben Lawers NNR.

Tim Rich had paid a visit and has updated records for *Hieracia*. He determined a new hectad record for *Hieracium holosericeum* (Shaggy Hawkweed) made by one of the Recorders.

Interesting finds made by JM included *Chaenorhinum minus* (Small Toadflax), *Poa compressa* (Flattened Meadow-grass), *Valerianella locusta* (Common Cornsalad) and *Veronica peregrina* (American speedwell) all in Crieff. A cluster of more southerly species was found on a road verge near Madderty – including *Chaerophyllum temulum* (Rough Chervil) and *Trisetum flavescens* (Yellow Oat-grass). And a new population of *Carex acutiformis* (Lesser Pond-sedge) was found while (successfully) updating an old record of *Carex diandra* (Lesser Tussock-sedge) at Ochtermuthill.

Recording was carried out in two SSSIs; one to monitor orchids, the other a training session run by the Perthshire Society of Natural Science. Eight training sessions were run, one jointly with or attended by members of the BSBI. Two excursions were run to support the Urban Flora of Scotland project and to encourage identification; one led by David Chamberlain on bryophytes and the other led by Richard Brinklow on lichens.

East Perthshire (vc89) Martin Robinson

3,850 records were made in 2016, mostly at minimum monad level. 37 monads were covered in 20 tetrads. About 1,700 of these were within the Cairngorms National Park, including eight sites for *Salix lapponum* (Downy Willow), six for *Carex vaginata* (Loose-sheathed Sedge), five for *Carex capillaris* (Hair Sedge), three for *Equisetum hyemale* (Dutch Rush) and single sites for *Sagina x normaniana* (Scottish Pearlwort), *Orthilia secunda* (Serrated Wintergreen), among other notable species. A large stand of *Carex aquatilis* (Water Sedge) was found at

Dalnaspidal, Drumochter, but by far the best was the discovery of a strong new site for *Saxifraga hirculus* (Marsh Saxifrage) in the extreme north of the vice-county. Growing beside it was a large colony of *Pyrola rotundifolia* (Round-leaved Wintergreen).

39 new records from 2016 will be added to the RPR at the next revision, alongside 11 updates. One species, *Asplenium scolopendrium* (Hart's-tongue Fern) will drop out.

Most of the records were made by myself and Les Tucker, with a couple of squares also being covered by Faith Anstey. There were three visits by the Perth Society of Natural Science, one of which was held jointly with the BSS for their Urban Plants Project.

Site Condition Monitoring carried out for the Cairnwell SSSI by Eric Meek et al showed that it was still in good condition, though two of the main species, *Astragalus alpinus* (Alpine Milk-vetch) and *Minuartia rubella* (Mountain Sandwort), had declined considerably. I carried out SCM at Loch Moraig SSSI, and found all the target species to be in favourable condition.

Angus (vc90) Robin Payne, Theo Loizou & Mark Tulley

We held a four-day field meeting, based in Glen Esk during August organised by Robin Payne. Seven people attended. This helped towards the year's total of 56 tetrads surveyed. There are still many more to do by 2020. A Bioblitz organised by enthusiasts at Easthaven was supported by two of us in July. Perth and Dundee naturalists' organisations continue with separate programmes of field trips and winter talks. Mark Tulley led a local wild-flower group on 6 flower walks in Tayside.

One of the most significant new finds in 2016 was the rediscovery of *Hymenophyllum wilsonii* (Wilson's Filmy fern) which was thought to be extinct in Angus. Its re-discovery will no doubt prompt recorders and other botanists to search for it in other areas where it has been recorded before. The orchid *Epipactis helleborine* (Broad-leaved Helleborine) which was also thought to be extinct in Angus has recently been reported (personal communication, Brian Allen, Nov. 2016) in Angus.

About 5500 records were inputted into Mapmate and the DDb during 2016 and there were visits to areas such as Glen Ogil, Glen Moy and Glen Lethnot where botanical records are few.

Theo Loizou with the help of other botanists completed Site Condition Monitoring of vascular plants at Rescobie and Balgavies Lochs SSSI. All of the Nationally Scarce and Nationally Rare plants associated with this site appear to be thriving except *Corallorhiza trifida* (Coralroot Orchid). This elusive orchid was detected in 2016 but only three spikes in total were found.

Kincardine & North Aberdeenshire (vc91 & 93) David Welch

Greater emphasis was given to tetrad recording this year than previously. Lists have now been accumulated for some 70 tetrads in my two counties, with help from Eric Meek and others.

Finds of NCRs were fewer than usual and mainly aliens e.g. *Acaena novae-zelandiae* (Pirri-pirri-bur), *Fargesia spatheca* (a bamboo), and *Rubus parviflorus* (Thimbleberry). A notable exception was Aileen Meek spotting *Fumaria bastardii* (Tall Ramping-fumitory) in a school “wild” garden where she was supply teaching.

I lead my usual one-day outing for the SWT NE Scotland group, this year to the Morpie district in south Kincardineshire. Good colonies of *Scirpus sylvaticus* (Wood Club-rush) were seen along the North Esk, and we found rarities for our region *Amsinckia micrantha* (Common Fiddleneck), *Geranium pusillum* (Small-flowered Crane`s-bill) and *Veronica agrestis* (Freen Field-speedwell) in weedy places. David Elston and Judith Cox scrambled up a sandstone outcrop to check the continued existence of *Hieracium oxybeles* (Pointed-leaved Hawkweed), this site being much disjunct from other Scottish occurrences.

My every-other-year monitoring of a *Saxifraga hirculus* (Marsh Saxifrage) colony in the Hill of Towanreef SAC found good flowering.

Several revisits to sites of balsam poplars were made, stimulated by Andy Amphlett`s new key; only *Populus balsamifera* (Western Balsam-poplar) was present.

I also went back to the strange dewberry in the dunes at Fraserburgh that I wrote about in BSBI News 131, arguing that it was a hybrid of *Rubus caesius* (Dewberry) and *Rubus saxatilis* (Stone Bramble). This year a handful of flowers with white petals had been produced, and a single drupe with one drupelet had formed, adding to the evidence of sterility. My article drew no further records of this hybrid occurring in the UK.

South Aberdeenshire (vc92) Ian Francis

Good progress was made with atlas 2020 this year, and just under 12,000 plant records were submitted for 2016 and added to the BSBI DDb. Coverage of South Aberdeenshire for the atlas period is now becoming more even, but there are still some clearly under-recorded (and blank) areas in terms of any level of coverage, though the concentrations of intensive recording are also clear. Field work for the remaining seasons will target the less recorded areas and also attempt to boost records of aquatic plants. Botanical effort in VC92 also contributed towards the BSBI Cairngorms plant recording project, co-ordinated by Andy Amphlett. Around 15 local botanists contributed to recording this year and one early season

vice-county newsletter was produced, to try to stimulate further recording. This was uploaded to the BSBI web page and the vice-county information updated.

Eric Meek made an enormous contribution and found the new vice-county records *Betonica officinalis* (Betony), *Fumaria bastardii* (Tall Ramping-fumitory), *Geranium phaeum* (Dusky crane's-bill), *Juncus conglomeratus* x *effusus* = *J. x kern-reichgeltii*, *Ranunculus penicillatus* (Stream Water-crowfoot), *Rubus laciniatus* and *Senecio smithii* (Magellan Ragwort).

Banffshire (vc94) Andy Amphlett

In terms of recording and other activities in support of BSBI, it was a busy year, just not in vc94! Over the year, I collected just under 13,000 records; 84% from vc96 but only 3% from vc94. In all, just over 1000 records were added for vc94. Records on the DDb for vc94 have almost all been checked and validated, and all record entry is up to date.

Over the last 3 years my recording focus has been on vc96 and the Cairngorms National Park. The 3-year CNP project is now completed and a final report written. While I will continue to record in vc96 in 2017, I intend to make time available to fill some gaps in vc94 coverage. However, at the hectad scale post 2000 recording in vc94 (number of hectad 'smarties') is greater than any of the preceding date classes, so vc96 will have to be the greater priority.

Moray (vc95) Ian Green

Atlas 2020 recording went very well in 2016. Approximately 22,000 records were added to the DDb. This included several significant contributions from local botanists. All hectads in the vc were visited (apart from a few with little ground) and within them, a good number of tetrads and monads were recorded.

I am currently working on an Atlas flora for the vc and aim to record all tetrads, and most monads by the end of 2019.

I lead one local botany meeting to look at *Gagea lutea* (Yellow Star-of-Bethlehem) near Forres. Here we found the *Gagea* to be common in the area. The Inverness Botany Group also had a couple of meetings in the vc.

Twenty-one new species, subspecies, varieties or hybrids were added to the vc in 2016. The most interesting being 14 plants of *Asplenium ceterach* (Rustyback) growing on the railway bridge at Boat o' Brig.

Easternness (vc96) Adam Fraser

Progress continues with Atlas coverage, amassing nearly 16,000 records in 2016 from just over 20 recorders. A huge thanks to all contributors! A significant proportion of records in 2016 were within the Cairngorm National Park, contributing to the recording project led by Andy Amphlett.

Plans for the coming year include more atlas recording, there remains a significant amount to do to achieve sufficient coverage for the atlas. Several more remote areas including Glen Affric and the central Monadhliath will be targeted using small groups of volunteers to record intensively for long weekends, making use of bothies and estate accommodation to assist with the practicalities of reaching some of the further flung corners of the VC.

2016 saw 8 NCRs including discovery of *Gagea lutea* (Yellow Star-of-Bethlehem), *Betonica officinalis* (Betony) and *Persicaria minor* (Small Water-pepper). Data validation has also been a priority task over the past year, and with assistance from Andy Amphlett VC96 now has a near complete set of validated records!

Westernness (vc97) Ian Strachan & Ian Bonner

Another busy year of recording, mainly for Atlas 2020, with around 9,000 records made – covering a remarkable 33 hectads and 112 tetrads (49 with at least 50 taxa). Joint Recorder Ian Bonner had a productive period of recording in early summer based at Kingairloch and Salen, with help from Richard Marriott, Liz MacDonald and IS. More than 2500 records were gathered from under-recorded hectads especially in Ardgour, Morvern and Moidart. A highlight was a new site for *Rhynchospora fusca* (Brown Beaked-sedge) near Inversanda. Other areas surveyed by IS included Glen Roy/Monadhliath, Loch Loyne, and Cromra as part of the Cairngorms National Park project. Several local botanists have contributed many other valuable records, with c. 2000 from Locheil Estate of especial note (Matt Harding).

With Dan Watson (NTS) and Matt, IS took part in the final season of the North Face project on Ben Nevis, funded by Nevis Landscape Partnership (NLP). Finds included new locations for *Saxifraga cespitosa* (Tufted Saxifrage) a huge new population of *Poa flexuosa* (Wavy Meadow-grass), and records for two lady's-mantles, *Alchemilla wichurae* and *A glomerulans*, not seen on Ben Nevis for over 60 years.

Training activities: IS helped Faith Anstey with the 'plant families' training day at NTS Glencoe and used this experience to lead a botanical 'Citizen Science' day in Glen Nevis and a similar session for trainee rangers there, both organised and funded by NLP. He has also taken on a mentoring role for NPMS.

Plans for 2017 include Atlas fieldwork in Morvern, Ardgour and Knoydart and further work on an RPR.

Dumbartonshire (vc99) Pam Murdoch

This year I gave priority to tetrad coverage and managed at least 1 monad per tetrad for 22 tetrads with no post-2000 records. I brought 7 under-recorded monads up to scratch and also filled in various gaps with additional monads. Just over 5500 records with a few more from other people still to add in. I hope to complete coverage for the southern half of the vice-county this year. The northern half, more inaccessible and decidedly hilly is another matter! I have made a start and am most grateful to have received offers of help as, without them, I fear future coverage will be limited.

Interesting finds were few as good species were not the focus for the year. Alison Rutherford recorded *Polygonum oxyspermum* (Ray's Knotgrass), a new vc record. I confirmed and noted location details for 4 sites for *Asplenium ceterach* (Rustyback), good sites for *Scrophularia auriculata* (Water Figwort) and *Armoracia rusticana* (Horse-radish) both with very few records and a further site for *Parentucellia viscosa* (Yellow Bartsia) which seems to be turning up each year. *Senecio inaequidens* (Narrow-leaved Ragwort) is now widespread in Clydebank.

I have enjoyed several outings with the newly formed Glasgow Botany Group.

Clyde Isles (vc100) Angus Hannah

9333 records for vc100 were added to the DDb during the year, but fewer than half of these were made in 2016. The remainder were older records which had failed for various reasons to reach the DDb. Most records for the county have been validated.

Coverage across VC100 for Atlas 2020 is largely satisfactory, except for a few tetrads on Arran which deserve more attention. Work has continued on my forthcoming Flora of Bute, with a few critical groups still needing investigation. The *Taraxacum* workshop planned for May 2017 should go some way to filling one major gap.

Much of my recording effort in 2016 was devoted to VCs 75 and 77, where need was greater. This included running a week's residential field meeting in upper Clydesdale. I also taught three courses at the FSC centre in Millport.

The most exciting event of the year was the discovery on Bute of a fern previously unknown in the wild in the British Isles, and scarcely ever seen in cultivation. Provisionally determined as *Hypolepis ambigua*, the New Zealand endemic Pig-fern, it is now known to be well established and widespread on the island, and the full story to date is told elsewhere in the Newsletter. The lesson I learned from this discovery is that it is always worth going back to a previously well-recorded square, however dull it may have seemed on earlier visits. There is always something one has missed!

Kintyre (vc101) Pat & Dave Batty

We visited the last two unrecorded hectads, both of which were small remote coastal sites. One of them includes the cliffs at Largybaan, probably the best botanical site in the VC, where the *Oxytropis campestris* (Yellow Oxytropis) was extensively flowering on the cliffs. Other notable species were *Dryas octopetala*, (Mountain Avens) and *Crithmum maritimum* (Rock Samphire). We also tried to target early species such as *Valerianella locusta* (Common Cornsalad) and *Vicia lathyroides* (Spring Vetch).

One target species for the year was *Dactylorhiza traunsteineroides* (Narrow-leaved Marsh-orchid) and all sites were visited. There are two sites within forestry clearings and the rest are on open hill ground. It was recorded at all the sites but one in forestry had only one plant. At this site the open flushes were becoming overgrown, and even on the hill sites there is now less grazing.

A highlight of the year was visiting a remote forestry loch to find a bay full of flowering *Nuphar x spenneriana* (Hybrid Water-lily), covering an area of >25m x 50m.

A visitor on holiday found *Cichorium intybus* (Chicory) on an isolated roadside which is the first record since 1950.

As in other years we noted that habitats were generally under-grazed, especially upland ones, compared to fieldwork for Atlas 2000.

South EbuDES (vc102) Malcolm Ogilvie

Atlas 2020 recording made good progress this year. Simon Smart visited Jura twice, in mid-June and mid-September, adding ca. 1300 records to the DDb. Both were wild camping trips covering areas of Jura's remote west. Simon has been recording the recommended minimum number of 16 monads per 100 in a full hectad and, in 2016, recording a focal monad and then just extra species in the surrounding three squares in the tetrad. In two years, 62 of a minimum 75 monads have been recorded this way. Interesting records this year included *Carex pauciflora* (Few-flowered Sedge), *Elatine hexandra* (Six-stamened Waterword), *Festuca filiformis* (Fine-leaved Sheep's-fescue), *Sedum rosea* (Roseroot) and *Sparganium natans* (Least Bur-reed).

For the past three years, Kevin Walker, Pete Stroh, David Pearman, Owen Mountford and Simon Leach have been visiting Colonsay and Oronsay to gather records for the Atlas and to lay the groundwork for a flora of the islands. To date, just under 10,000 records have been

entered into the DDb, from 57 of the 81 monads which cover the islands. The 2016 data, still being entered, will boost the total records to ca. 14,000, and the visited monads to ca. 70.

Atlas recording on Islay by Oli Pescott continued with visits in April and June, extending his coverage of the under-recorded squares on the island.

My annual orchid monitoring showed a very mixed picture with some species flowering well, but only a single, non-flowering, plant of *Cephalanthera longifolia* (Narrow-leaved Helleborine), the worst showing since the discovery of the colony in 1998.

Mid-Ebudes (vc103) Lynne Farrell

1. Main Atlas 2020 recording was on Coll in August when over 15 tetrads were visited. *Euphrasia* specimens were collected and are with Chris Metherell for ID. Significant finds were a new site for *Hammarbya paludosa* (Bog Orchid) in a totally new area at the NE end of the island and the second Scottish record for *Trachyspermum ammi* (Ajoram) near the farmhouse by RSPB Totronald where they put out bird seed. Staffa was also visited in September to update records from 1999.

Plans for 2017 include recording Iona and Treshnish Isles plus other islets for which most previous records are from 1998. Most tetrads on Mull, Coll and Tiree have now been recorded post 2000 but there are a few more to visit on Coll and the remoter islands in order to obtain complete coverage.

2. Several National Plant Monitoring Scheme (NPMS) plots were set up on Coll and Mull, and John Bowler RSPB resident set up one plot on Tiree, so all three islands are now covered. Locals helped in recording on Mull and I hope will re-record in future.

3. Second, updated version of Rare Plant Register produced in May, whilst I was recovering from hip replacement.

4. *Hieracia* specimens taken to David McCosh for ID and records updated for this group. Michael Usher has a particular interest in this group and has been helping record during his annual Mull holiday.

5. Increase in records and observations received from visitors to the islands, some of which are for exotic garden escapes and Mediterranean species! Global warming in VC 103?

North Ebudes (vc104) Stephen Bungard

About 12,000 records were made in VC104 in 2016. Records were made in the last tetrad in VC104 with 100% land and no records ever. There are still four tetrads with 20 - 80% land

and no records, mostly quite difficult to get to, plus more with <7% land, and then there are tetrads with earlier records but none since 1999 or earlier (nine with 100% land and five more with >20% land).

Visits were made to Harlosh Island, Tarner Island and Staffin Island. There were no previous records for Tarner or Staffin Islands and nearly all those for Harlosh Island were listed as NG23 and so do not show up on tetrad-based distribution maps.

Over 1,300 Skye records were extracted from the data collected for SNH's Scottish Saltmarsh Survey. The biggest effects were on *Carex oederi* (Small-fruited Yellow-sedge) and *Eleocharis uniglumis* (Slender Spike-rush), each with quite a few new sites.

Skye Botany Group met four times during the year and the Inverness Botany Group made an extended visit to Skye and Raasay. Monthly articles on the plants of Raasay were written for Am Bratach, the Raasay Community Newsletter.

Site Condition Monitoring of the Raasay SSSI was undertaken.

A number of non-native species were added to the VC104 list of which perhaps the most unexpected was the blue form of *Phyteuma spicatum* (Spiked Rampion) in the middle of the path up to the highest point of the Cuillins, Sgùrr Alasdair, though only at an altitude of 220m.

West Ross (vc105) Duncan Donald

A highlight was the 'weekend' Field Meeting based at Ullapool in June, reported elsewhere, but I'm also indebted to many other visitors for their invaluable records, often from distinctly under-worked areas. Jeff Banks visited Gruinard Bay and hinterland (NG98) twice, and made many useful updates in NG97. Brian Burrow submitted an extremely helpful list for *Hieracium* (Hawkweeds). Tain Field Club submitted many useful updated records from NG87 in July; then the Inverness Botany Group joined me in August to survey nearby in NG86/NG96. Peter Wortham has continued to explore marginal corners of the vice county, providing many updates - not least several *Sibbaldia procumbens* (Sibbaldia) sites. Notably, Ian Green visited several times, adding a staggering 3752 records drawn from 21 hectads: highlights include *Schedonorus arundinaceus* (Tall Fescue) in Glen Docherty (NH05) - its first vc record since 1893; a new, second site for *Juncus alpinoarticulatus* (Alpine Rush), from NH06; re-finding *Atriplex praecox* (Early Orache) in NH08, helped by Alan Leslie; many new [NCR] aliens in Ullapool, and a new site for Nationally Rare lady's-mantle *Alchemilla glaucescens* at Leckmelm (NH19). The gaps in coverage are shrinking – a process which will undoubtedly be assisted by holding Field Meetings in 2017 at Inverpolly, Poolewe and Torridon. In addition, I should always be happy to provide search-lists for any visitors seeking a challenge!

East Ross (vc106) Brian Ballinger

2016 has followed the usual pattern, with recording effort concentrated in the summer months, but also spread over the whole year. A small study suggested that there was some advantage in supplementary winter recording and another field survey indicated that there may be a gain from repeated visits to a site in the same season, even when the total amount of time spent is the same.

Peter Wortham has once more made a major contribution to the recording work. I am also grateful to Mary Dean and several other individuals and local societies including the Inverness Botany Group.

We now have more than 10 records from all but 33 of our approximately 1000 tetrads. However, a great deal remains to be done in recording and refinding species and we are well short of our targets in many places.

Mary Dean and I led a successful field meeting at Dingwall in collaboration with the Botanical Society of Scotland as part of the urban flora project. Four species of orchid were found in the town including *Neottia nidus-avis* (Bird's-nest Orchid).

Another new site for *Linnaea borealis* (Twinflower) was found by Forestry Commission staff north of Alness and there are now four known sites for this species, which was previously thought to be extinct in VC106.

In the coming year, we will concentrate on Atlas 2020 recording. In addition, another urban flora day is planned for Fortrose on the Black Isle.

East Sutherland (vc107) Mick Crawley

The great news this year was the discovery of a species new to Scotland. In June, I found *Myosurus minimus* (Mousetail) growing amongst the sheep pens at Lairg Auction Mart (NC 58353 03748). Specimens are deposited in the Natural History Museum and the Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh.

Progress on Atlas 2020 recording is steady, but there are still substantial areas (like the remote and hilly boundary between East Sutherland and West Sutherland) where energetic volunteers could make a huge contribution.

A volume of illustrations to accompany the Flora of East Sutherland will appear on the BSBI web site as soon as storage space is available.

West Sutherland (vc108) Ian Evans

A most successful year, with recording targeted on areas accessible from self-catering accommodation at Tongue on the north coast (more than 4 hours' round trip from home). In

three weeks, in June, July and August, we logged 3830 records from 33 monads in 10 hectads, from Talmine (NC5862) in the west to Melvich (NC8864) in the east and Strath Vagastie in the south (NC5430). Many of these monads were in areas never before surveyed, such as the Rabbit Islands in the mouth of the Kyle of Tongue (NC6063), but they also included ones on Ben Loyal and Beinn Stumanadh. Monads thoroughly surveyed yielded 49 to 198 species, from Ben Loyal and Armadale Bay respectively.

Significant finds included: the second Scottish record for *Eleocharis parvula* (Dwarf Spike-rush) by Clive Chatters and the first recent record for the Scottish mainland of *Ruppia cirrhosa* (Spiral Tasselweed), both in the Kyle of Tongue; a new site for *Mertensia maritima* (Oysterplant) at Armadale and *Solanum dulcamara* (Bittersweet) at Strathy.

A further 1270 records were made on fieldwork elsewhere in the vice-county, with contributions by Susan Erskine, Dawn Nelson and Ian Strachan, bringing the total to 5100. Special thanks to Gwen Richards for her help throughout the year, and to Gordon Rothero and Ro Scott for their contributions during the July week at Tongue. In 2017 we plan to survey Strath Halladale and adjacent areas on the eastern edge of the vice-county.

Caithness (vc109) Francis & Margaret Higgins

Although we have only recently been appointed as Joint Recorders for Caithness (succeeding Ken Butler) we have collected 2,000 odd records in each of the past two years – in more than 16 monads each year.

We have had a couple visits from Jim McIntosh, to help us get started recording and with data entry. Also, we attended the Recording Workshop at Strathpeffer last Spring and joined the BSBI Recording Week on Shetland in early August, where we learnt a lot and had a great time.

We have found several species that are rare in Caithness in 2016 - including *Carex remota* (Remote Sedge), in Srath Cùil, Berriedale and *Ajuga pyramidalis* (Pyramidal Bugle) on the cliffs at Badbea, south of Berriedale. We also found vegetative *Pyrola* on the Badbea cliffs – but were unsure whether it is *P. minor* (Common Wintergreen) or *P. media* (Intermediate Wintergreen). We plan to check for flowers this summer and failing that send a leaf off to RBGE for DNA testing. Another exciting discovery was a big colony of *Equisetum telmateia* (Great Horsetail) further north at Latheron, where it has been recorded previously.

One of the few *Goodyera repens* (Creeping Lady's-tresses) populations in Caithness may have recently been destroyed due to forestry felling at Langwell wood. We are anxiously awaiting any signs of recovery.

Outer Hebrides (vc110) Paul Smith

Good progress was made filling gaps for the Atlas, with the summer recording expeditions based on under-recorded hectads NB24, 34, 35 and also covering some unvisited parts of the

Lewis peatlands. There were interesting species, particularly *Juncus filiformis* (Thread Rush) and *Nitella confervacea* (a charophyte) from the chain of coastal lochs on the NW coast of Lewis. A boat-based field meeting covered an impressive 23 tetrads (many previously unvisited) round Scarp and Loch Resort in six days; there were surprisingly few unusual species, but *Centunculus minimus* (Chaffweed) and *Ruppia maritima* (Beaked Tasselweed) are uncommon on the extreme west of Lewis.

Vc110 is now well-covered since 2000 except for some outlying islands, though there are still gaps to fill. A spring *Taraxacum* visit and a blitz of *Hieracium* by Tim Rich added good records. A number of botanical visitors have also sent records, which are much appreciated. We continue with links to SNH and Outer Hebrides Biological Recording project, and the VCR led an OHBR meeting in the spring. Several interesting orchid records have been submitted through OHBR contacts.

4800 records were added in 2016, with a few records and some critical specimens awaiting processing. These records have been sent to BSBI central for uploading to the DDb. Vc110 is now very close to 200k records (ever), and this landmark will be surpassed easily in 2017.

Orkney (vc111) John Crossley

With help from others I had a productive recording year in 2016. 28 monads and hectads were visited and over 4000 records made. Attention again focussed on Orkney's outer isles, with a total of 16 visits to these (not 16 isles – some got more than one visit). Species counts are not usually very high in these places - in the region of 100 to 160 per tetrad – but the locations and surprise finds more than make up for that. These included an abundance of *Euphrasia marshalli* (Marshall's Eyebright) on one cliff-top and new sites for *Sparganium emersum* (Unbranched Bur-reed) and *S. natans* (Least Bur-reed), both scarce in the far north. Less welcome were NCRs for *Lagarosiphon major* (Curly Waterweed) and *Ceratophyllum demersum* (Rigid Hornwort). An aquatic *Ranunculus* (Water Crow-foot) has so far defied all attempts at identification.

Hectad recording coverage for Atlas 2020 is progressing well; remaining gaps should not be difficult to fill in the time left. Outer isles still need some attention and visiting botanists are very welcome to join recording visits there (and elsewhere in the VC).

A local Flora group was formed this year and met several times, mostly on summer evenings for the benefit of working people unable to commit to week-end outings. The most acclaimed venue was a saltmarsh with abundant flowering *Aster tripolium* (Sea Aster), which also yielded a distinctive-looking *Euphrasia* (Eyebright) that was later identified as the very rare hybrid *E. marshallii* x *E. scottica*, an NCR.

Shetland (vc112) Paul Harvey

The botanical highlight of 2016 was the BSBI Recording week held at Port Arthur House, Scalloway during July organised by Jim McIntosh. Never in the history of the BSBI has so much recording been done in a single week - 30 botanists collected just over 10,000 records of 484 taxa. 107 monads were surveyed in 35 hectads - mostly on the mainland but also including Bressay, Noss, Out Skerries and Whalsey. (Last year we visited the three Northern Isles on a recording week based on Unst.) All the records have been digitised and Walter Scott has kindly helped with the verification.

Notable finds included two more Mainland sites for *Hammarbya paludosa* (Bog Orchid) – after its discovery of the first ever Mainland site in 2015 by Rory Tallack; *Oxyria digyna* (Mountain Sorrel) on the foreshore in Scalloway (thought to be planted or brought in from a local garden); 430 plants of *Mertensia maritima* (Oysterplant) at Bardister; a new site for *Lycopodium clavatum* (Stag's-horn Clubmoss) at Sound of Scord and *Atriplex laciniata* (Frosted Orache) at Cunningsburgh – only the third site in Shetland.

Immediately following the recording week, BSBI volunteers helped Shetland Amenity Trust run a very enjoyable two-day plant id workshop for 20 local botanists.

In October, Paul Harvey & Alex Prendergast were official appointed as joint recorders. We would warmly welcome records from visiting botanists – please get in touch with us before your visit!