



Flora of North-west Yorkshire

A botanical newsletter for VC65

Issue 4. Spring 2011/12

Welcome to this our fourth newsletter for VC65 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: http://www.bsbi.org.uk/nw_yorkshire.html and click on 'A brief tour of v.c.65'.

Field Meetings in 2011

The Field Meetings in the v.c. were quite well attended, many thanks to members of Dr. Margaret Bradshaw's Botany Group, Mike Canaway and the Craven Conservation Group, Bruce Brown and the British Pteridological Society, Julie Clarke, Brian Burrow, Tim & Eileen Laurie, Simon Warwick and some of the Cumbria recorders, Marie Saag and Mary Smith.

Many thanks for your help.

Notable finds in 2011

Carex biigelowii – This was found on the summit of Great Knoutberry Hill on 15.6.2011 by Mike Canaway, Roger Neale & L.R. This was the confirmation of a pre-1986 record. (SD78.87)

Carex nigra (tufted form) – Possibly a 1st record for v.c.65 for this beautiful form of *Carex nigra* in the ephemeral Pinkers Pond near Middleham, found by Marie Saag, Simon Warwick and L.R. on 17.7.2011, confirmed by Mike Porter. (SE10.86)

Carex vaginata – The 3rd record of *Carex vaginata* in v.c.65 was spotted by L.R. on 22.6.2011 by L.R. in a flush on the southern slopes of Wold Fell, this was confirmed by Mike Porter. (SE78.84)

Centaurea nigra (rayed form) – Possibly a 2nd record for v.c.65, found by L.R. on 30.7.2011 on roadside near Burton Pasture, Waldendale. (SE01.84)

Dactylorhiza traunsteinerioides – one plant found on 3.6.2011 at Locker Tarn by Kevin Walker & Alan Gendle, first record since David Tennant's 1977 record. (SE00.91)

Dryopteris cambrensis ssp. *cambrensis* – found by Bruce Brown and Mike Canaway below Dent Head Viaduct on 30.7.2011. (SD77.84)

Epilobium alsinifolium – This was found in a calcareous flush on the lower slopes of Great Knoutberry Hill on 15.6.2011 by Mike Canaway, Roger Neale & L.R., the confirmation of an old pre 1986 record. Another flush with *Epilobium alsinifolium* was found nearby shortly afterwards by Brian Burrow. (SD78.87)

Gagea lutea - 2011 got off to a good start with an early email from Deborah Millward getting reports of thousands of heads of *Gagea lutea* on the banks of the Ure at Danby Low Mill. At the field meeting at Cover Bridge on 6th April these were visited and other old records confirmed at Tanfield on the riverbank lower down the Ure, Castle Bolton in a woodland well above the stream and Lord's Bridge near Wensley in an open riverbank pasture.

Gentiana verna – L.R. whilst tetrad bashing on 25.4.2011 found a new colony on the south side of the Brough to Middleton-in-Teesdale road. Over 60 plants were counted on a patch of limestone grassland. *Perscaria vivipara* was also an associate. (NY84.20)

Helleborus viridis - not just one or two plants but thousands were seen on 17.4.2011 in a pasture near Woden Croft near Cotherstone, the adjacent woodland

and the riverbank also had hundreds of plants. Recorders were members of Dr. M. Bradshaw's Botany Group, Doug McCutcheon, Brian Burrow & L.R. (NZ00.20)

Hordeum jubatum – possibly a second record for v.c.65 found by L.R. on 19.8.2011 on the roadside near the bridge at the bottom of West Stonesdale. (NY88.01)

Juncus bulbosus ssp. *kochii* – This was spotted by Mike Wilcox on a visit to Great Shunner Fell by Mike Wilcox, Jesse Tregale, Tim Laurie and L.R. on 20.7.2011. (SD84.96)

Juncus effusus (non-flowering form) – Patch 3m x 6m spotted up Hunder Rigg by L.R. on 29.8.2011. (NY91.16)

Polystichum x bicknelli – 1 plant found in Deepdale Woods by John Durkin, record received from John Durkin on 20.11.2011. (NZ03.16)

Rosa multiflora cultivar – found in small woodland south of West Burton on 30.7.2011 by L.R. determined by Roger Maskew. (SE01.86)

Rubia peregrina – this was spotted on the path up the limestone quarry above Pinker's Pond near Middleham on 17.7.2011 by Marie Saag, Simon Warwick and L.R. This is a first record for v.c.65, a lot further north than the northernmost record in the BSBI Atlas in N. Wales.

Salix caprea ssp. *sphacelata* – This record still needs confirmation. A few trees and bushes were spotted on 30.5.2011 along with normal *Salix caprea* on the scars at How Edge, near Ravenseat by Tim & Eileen Laurie and L.R. (NY86.02)

Sorbus rupicola – Tim & Eileen Laurie spotted two bushes of *Sorbus rupicola* on White Scar near Downholme, their find was confirmed by Dr. Tim Rich, this was last recorded in 1963. (SE11.99)

Trichophorum x foersteri - spotted on the saddle of Buttertubs Pass by Mike Wilcox, the 3rd record for v.c.65 on 20.7.2011. (SD86.95)

Trichophorum x foersteri – found on the moor between Tan Hill and Rogan's Seat by L.R. on 22.8.2011, determined by Jeremy Roberts. (NY89.05)

Hieracium sp, *Taraxacum* sp. – Brian Burrow has been working with Vince Jones, David McCosh and John Richards on the *Hieracium* & *Taraxacum* in Yorkshire.

Brian will be making the results available to us in the near future.

Threatened Plant Survey

We managed to do TPP Surveys on three sites for *Juncus compressus* in Dentdale and Widdale, we also managed Surveys on some of the Small White Orchid sites, Dr. Margaret Bradshaw gave us the data for the site down river from Wynch Bridge and Alan Gendle did the Survey form for Deepdale near Sedbergh where the Orchid had not been seen for the last 12 years and a null record was expected, however this year there were two spikes. As a result other old Small White Orchid sites in the v.c. will be visited annually in the future. The dry spring was blamed for the non-appearance of the Burnt Orchids in Leyburn Glebe and sheep blamed for the non-appearance of the Orchid up river from Masham. We received some old 1980's records of Burnt Orchids and Green Winged Orchids with Grid References from Mike Porter and Mike Foley and we are having a Field Meeting on 20th May to try and visit these sites. It was not possible to visit any *Sedum villosum* sites this year but hopefully this will be remedied in 2012.

There are a new group of species for the TPP in 2012, these are:-

Alchemilla wichurae

Anacamptis morio (*Orchis morio*)

Bupleurum tenuissimum

Fumaria parviflora

Hypochaeris glabra

Orchis anthropophora (*Aceras anthropophorum*)

Persicaria minor

Ranunculus arvensis

Tephrosia integrifolia subsp. *Integrifolia*

Vicia parviflora

Linda and Kevin will be visiting sites for any occurring in v.c.65 and if you would like to come along please get in touch with them or if you know any localities in v.c.65 for any of these we would very much appreciate the information.

Recording plans for the future

We are still dealing with the backlog of paper records that we inherited from Deborah; this is proving to be a big job as there are literally 1000s of records lurking in our files and card indexes. One of the card indexes has now been put on excel ready to be inputted on to MapMate and with L.R. being confined to barracks after a couple of operations this winter hopefully the other one will be done before the spring and added to the c.40,000 records or so already in the *Vascular Plants Database* at CEH Wallingford (formerly Monks Wood).

We are still in the process of producing a Rare Plants Register for the v.c., we are focusing our recording efforts on species that are either nationally rare or scarce (i.e. recorded in less than 100 10 × 10 km squares) or classified as threatened in the new Red Data List of the British flora published in 2005. Currently this includes the 126 native and archaeophyte taxa listed below:

<i>Actaea spicata</i>	<i>Hypericum montanum</i>
<i>Alchemilla acutiloba</i>	<i>Juncus alpinoarticulatus</i>
<i>Alchemilla glaucescens</i>	<i>Juncus compressus</i>
<i>Alchemilla glomerulans</i>	<i>Kobresia simpliciuscula</i>
<i>Alchemilla minima</i>	<i>Limosella aquatica</i>
<i>Alchemilla monticola</i>	<i>Linum perenne</i>
<i>Alchemilla subcrenata</i>	<i>Luronium natans</i>
<i>Alchemilla wichurae</i>	<i>Lysimachia thyrsoiflora</i>
<i>Allium oleraceum</i>	<i>Melampyrum sylvaticum</i>
<i>Alopecurus borealis</i>	<i>Meum athamanticum</i>
<i>Anthemis arvensis</i>	<i>Minuartia hybrid</i>
<i>Arabis glabra</i>	<i>Minuartia verna</i>
<i>Asplenium trichomanes ssp. pachyrachis</i>	<i>Myosotis alpestris</i>
<i>Bartsia alpina</i>	<i>Myosotis stolonifera</i>
<i>Blysmus compressus</i>	<i>Myosurus minimus</i>
<i>Bromopsis benekenii</i>	<i>Myriophyllum verticillatum</i>
<i>Cardamine impatiens</i>	<i>Oenanthe fistulosa</i>
<i>Carex capillaris</i>	<i>Ophrys insectifera</i>
<i>Carex digitata</i>	<i>Anacamptis morio</i>
<i>Carex ericetorum</i>	<i>Neotinea ustulata</i>
<i>Carex muricata ssp. muricata</i>	<i>Orobanche alba</i>
<i>Carex vaginata</i>	<i>Orobanche rapum-genistae</i>
<i>Chenopodium bonus-henricus</i>	<i>Orobanche reticulata</i>
<i>Chrysanthemum segetum</i>	<i>Papaver argemone</i>
<i>Circaea alpina</i>	<i>Persicaria minor</i>
<i>Clinopodium calamintha</i>	<i>Peucedanum ostruthium</i>
<i>Cochlearia micacea</i>	<i>Pilularia globulifera</i>
<i>Cochlearia pyrenaica</i>	<i>Polemonium caeruleum</i>
<i>Coeloglossum viride</i>	<i>Polygala amarella</i>
	<i>Polystichum lonchitis</i>

<i>Crepis mollis</i>	<i>Potamogeton coloratus</i>
<i>Cynoglossum officinale</i>	<i>Potamogeton friesii</i>
<i>Cypripedium calceolus</i>	<i>Potentilla crantzii</i>
<i>Dactylorhiza traunsteinerioides</i>	<i>Potentilla fruticosa</i>
<i>Daphne mezereum</i>	<i>Potentilla neumanniana</i>
<i>Draba muralis</i>	<i>Primula farinosa</i>
<i>Dryas octopetala</i>	<i>Pseudorchis albida</i>
<i>Dryopteris submontana</i>	<i>Ranunculus arvensis</i>
<i>Epipactis atrorubens</i>	<i>Ribes alpinum</i>
<i>Epipactis phyllanthes</i>	<i>Ribes spicatum</i>
<i>Equisetum pratense</i>	<i>Rosa agrestis</i>
<i>Equisetum variegatum</i>	<i>Rumex pseudoalpinus</i>
<i>Eriophorum gracile</i>	<i>Saxifraga hirculus</i>
<i>Erophila majuscula</i>	<i>Saxifraga hypnoides</i>
<i>Euphorbia exigua</i>	<i>Scandix pecten-veneris</i>
<i>Euphrasia rostkoviana ssp. montana</i>	<i>Scheuchzeria palustris</i>
<i>Euphrasia rostkoviana ssp. rostkoviana</i>	<i>Sedum villosum</i>
<i>Filago vulgaris</i>	<i>Sesleria caerulea</i>
<i>Fumaria purpurea</i>	<i>Silene gallica</i>
<i>Galeopsis angustifolia</i>	<i>Silene noctiflora</i>
<i>Galeopsis speciosa</i>	<i>Sium latifolium</i>
<i>Genista anglica</i>	<i>Sorbus rupicola</i>
<i>Gentiana verna</i>	<i>Spergula arvensis</i>
<i>Gentianella campestris</i>	<i>Spiranthes spiralis</i>
<i>Gnaphalium sylvaticum</i>	<i>Stachys arvensis</i>
<i>Groenlandia densa</i>	<i>Stellaria palustris</i>
<i>Gymnocarpium robertianum</i>	<i>Teesdalia nudicaulis</i>
<i>Helianthemum oelandicum ssp. levigatum</i>	<i>Teucrium scordium</i>
<i>Hordelymus europaeus</i>	<i>Thlaspi caerulescens</i>
<i>Hornungia petraea</i>	<i>Tilia platyphyllos</i>
<i>Hymenophyllum wilsonii</i>	<i>Utricularia australis</i>
<i>Hyoscyamus niger</i>	<i>Valerianella dentata</i>
	<i>Vicia orobus</i>
	<i>Viola tricolor</i>
	<i>Woodsia ilvensis</i>

Some of these species are long extinct (e.g. *Cypripedium calceolus*, *Eriophorum gracile*, *Scheuchzeria palustris*, *Woodsia ilvensis*) whereas others are relatively common in VC65 (e.g. *Minuartia verna*, *Primula farinosa*, *Sesleria caerulea*). We would welcome any recent records or help with checking out old sites for any of these species.

We have already made a start to record the flora of the entire county, at the tetrad scale, we hope to keep going over the next 18 years. Initially we intend to focus on hectads for which we have very few records. To this end we have planned a series of field trips to various parts of the county during next summer (see below). Please feel free to come along to these meetings or alternatively if you would like to concentrate on specific areas or hectads

closer to home then please feel free to get in touch to see how we can help. We can supply lists of species for each hectad, probably some old records and recording forms.

Contact details

Field Meetings 2012

All Field Meetings start at 10.30am

Sunday 20th May – Tracing old Green Winged Orchid and Burnt Orchid sites. Meet at car park opposite the Pub at Cover Bridge north of East Witton at SE145.871

Saturday 2nd June – Checking out old records of Small White Orchid up Gunnerside Pasture. Meet at junction of the Bridleway with road between Gunnerside and Ivelet at SD941.983

Saturday 16th June – Joint meeting with Craven Conservation Group.. Surveying the area at the head of Kingsdale, park near summit where the track joins from the NW near High Moss at SD723.823.

Sunday 24th June – Checking out old records of *Bartsia alpina* on Cronkley Pastures and Fell. Meet in Car Park at Forest in Teesdale at NY867.297

Saturday 30th June – Woodland and rich meadows near Crackpot, Swaledale, meet near Crackpot junction at SD973.966

Wednesday 4th July – Joint meeting with Craven Conservation Group. Exploring the area to the north of last year's outing on Great Knoutberry Hill. Meet where the Coal Road above Dentdale meets the track along the flank of Great Knoutberry Hill at SD779.880

Saturday 14th July/Sunday 15th July – BSBI Meeting to Nosterfield Reserve and Leyburn Glebe followed by a visit to How Edge Scars at Ravenseat, Upper Swaledale. Details in 2012 BSBI Handbook or email Linda Robinson at lindarobinson157@btinternet.com to book, alternatively ring Linda on 01768881714.

Sunday 29th July – Surveying the Leckby Carr area. Meet junction of Fleetham Lane and Whaites Lane almost opposite entrance to Leckby Palace Farm at SE411.740

Sunday 19th August – Search for Thistle Broomrape along the Ure and Swale near Boroughbridge. Meet to the west of Boroughbridge below railway bridge at junction of Moor Lane and Skelton Road and the field track at SE385.672

Linda Robinson, The Cottage, Melmerby, Penrith, Cumbria, CA10 1HN. Phone: 01768 881714 or 07951274951 Email: lindarobinson157@btinternet.com

Kevin Walker, 97 Dragon Parade, Harrogate, North Yorkshire, HG1 5DG. Phone: 01423 544902. Email: kevinwalker@bsbi.org.uk