

BSBI CHESHIRE RECORDING NEWSLETTER – 2012

The year started with a visit to Warburton's Wood with its rich spring flora. Only 74 taxa were recorded but 11 were new, including *Sorbus torminalis*. Next we went to Croxton Green in SJ55L and found 142 records. An old farm pond had *Veronica catenata*, *Nymphoides peltata*, and *Lepidium coronopus*. In June, lunch in a warm pub at Bate's Mill was very welcome as the rest of the day was spent in incessant rain, the towpath was mown and the meadows cattle chewed. It was surprising we added 42 new out of 140 in SJ56F, but *Hordeum secalinum* and *Sison amomum* were just hanging on and a pond had *Hydrocharis morsus-ranae*, *Potamogeton crispus* and *Eleocharis palustris*. *Spergularia marina* was a surprise in this rural a setting. The trip to Hilbre Islands was blessed with fine weather and we added 4 to Little Eye, 20 to Middle Hilbre and 20 to Hilbre. *Asplenium marinum* was abundant on the east cliffs with *Spergularia rupicola*. *Cerastium arvense* was flowering nicely and seen in 3 places. *Myriophyllum alterniflorum* was just hanging on despite the drought.

Searches for *Baldellia* proved in vain and it was not found at Bradley Green or Farndon. The former in SJ54C yielded 53 new out of 192 with a new site for *Carex muricata* ssp *pairei*, only the 2nd in VC58 and *Ranunculus peltatus*, *Lythrum portula*, and *Stachys x ambigua*. The *Carex* was also found in Mobberley later in the year. Farndon (SJ45H) was especially notable for some very delicious *Prunus cerasifera* fruits. 30 new taxa out of 180 included *Epilobium tetragonum*, *Galinsoga quadriradiata*, *Potamogeton berchtoldii*, with some helpful cows, but no *Baldellia*. *Ruscus aculeatus* was in a small copse. The day at Kelsall was not rich but 168 were added to SJ56E including *Polypogon viridis* which seems to be increasing, both *Polystichums* and a lonely *Cyclamen hederifolium*. It was hybrid day in SJ56J with *Rumex x pratensis*, *Potentilla x mixta*, *Crataegus x media*, and *Stachys x ambigua* in 157 new. Finally at Nantwich, SJ65Q yielded 143 all new with *Echinochloa crus-galli*, *Crataegus laevigata*, and a surprise colony of *Galium parisiense* new to VC58. Culinary delights this time were *Prunus domestica* ssp *insititia* var *damascena* (tasty) and var *nigra* (less tasty). SJ65V gave 124 records with 63 new. The most noteworthy item was the abundance of Gin/Vodka bottles on one roadverge!

Elsewhere, the first confirmed record for *Centaureum littorale* was made at Clifton limebeds by Kath Edwards. Sadly the site seems destined for landfill. David Bishop found *Apera spica-venti* at Didsbury. The *Bolboschoenus* at Marbury Big Mere proved to be *B. laticarpa* a newly-described taxon. *Juncus compressus* was thriving in Sale and *Vicia villosa* looks persistent on the verge at No Man's Heath.

CHESHIRE PLANT RECORDING MEETINGS FOR 2012

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 22nd April 2pm Bridgemere
Park in lay-by at SJ721447. Lanes and woodland flora.

Saturday 19th May 2pm Helsby
Park in small carpark at SJ490749 for a circuit to the east.

Saturday 16th June 2pm Carrbrook
Park on road by small reservoir SD988009 for a circuit to the north.

Sunday 22nd July 10.30am Frodsham
Park on the bridge over the M56 at SJ511779 to walk north and west round the marshes. Don't forget a packed lunch.

Saturday 4th August 2pm Cotebrook
Park in picnic site at SJ578650 heading south and west.

Saturday 25th August 2pm Chorley
Park in lane at SJ574513 to head west.

Saturday 8th September 2pm Nantwich
Park in lane at SJ664539 to walk south.

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Echinochloa crus-galli seen at Staveley.



Vicia villosa at No Man's Heath.



Galium parisiense at Staveley.



Pilosella x stolonifera at Sale.



Lathyrus nissolia at Ringway.