



New Flora of Attingham Park

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Introduction

The Flora of Attingham Park was based on a series of courses on botanical identification run by Franklyn Perring at the Shropshire County Council Adult Education College based at the park between 1969 and 1972. It was a modest publication, consisting of some 56 duplicated pages, stapled. It is not known how many copies were printed, but there cannot have been more than a few dozen. When one of these came up for sale in 2003, priced £30, Franklyn was amused, and resolved to produce a second edition, but unfortunately did not live to see the project off the ground.

In 2005, the Gateway Education and Arts Centre celebrated its 21st anniversary and asked each of its partners to come up with a project that celebrated continuity and partnership in adult education. We decided that it would be fitting to repeat the Flora project along the same lines as the original, under the aegis of the University of Birmingham, with a series of courses held in the grounds of the Park. Although the college has long since closed, the estate is still open to the public and the National Trust staff were very welcoming. At least twenty visits have been made to the park this summer by groups from the University of Birmingham and the Field Studies Council, with the intention of seeing how the estate has changed over the last thirty years or so, as measured through its flora and vegetation. The students/surveyors have been extraordinarily diligent, and have risen to the task most admirably. Although Attingham is by no means the most botanically exciting site in the world, it does have a reasonably rich flora for this part of the country, and it was an interesting opportunity to add to a long history of recording.

It was our intention to follow precisely the rationale of Perring, recording only wild plants and those that are commonly found growing in the wild, for the purpose of documenting the natural flora of the park, in so far as such a thing can be said to exist. We have therefore largely ignored the ornamental plants in the gardens around the House, but we have recorded the weeds in the borders and the plantation trees in the woods.

Background

The first known records for Attingham were by William Phillips (1822-1905), who produced a guide to the natural history of Shrewsbury in 1878. He recorded six species, five of which were on the banks of the Tern. In 1881 and 1882 William Beckwith (1844-1892) published several papers on the flora of Shropshire in the *Journal of Botany*, which included eighteen records for Attingham Park. Between them, Phillips and Beckwith found most of the characteristic species of the area. In the next few years several more records by both authors followed in the journal of the Botanical Exchange Club and the Caradoc & Severn Valley Field Club.

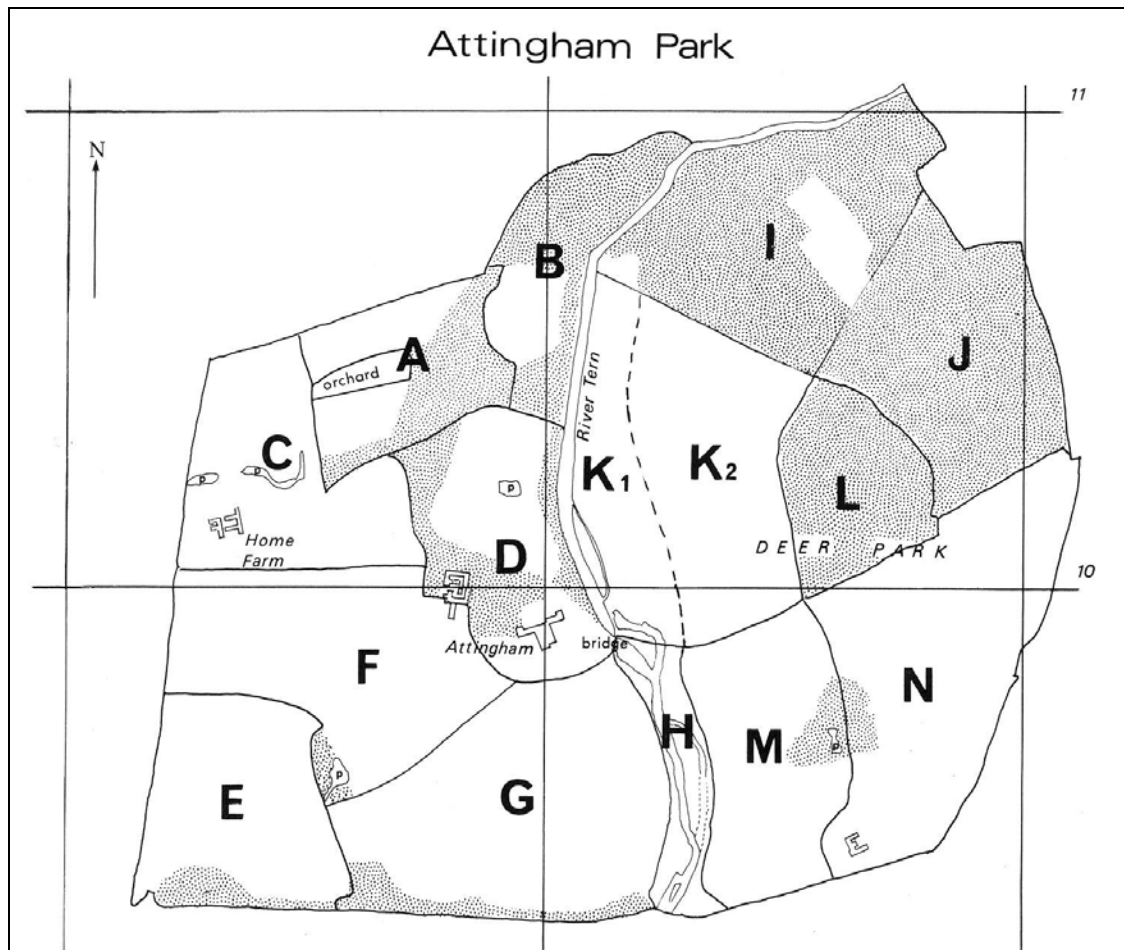
In 1898 Edwin Benson (1858-1940) collected a pondweed in the River Tern at Attingham, and the specimen is now in the herbarium of the Natural History Museum. It is likely that Benson was collecting for his brother Richard, and that there may be more specimens in existence.

The next surveyor to leave any record was Edward Rutter (1890-1963), who visited the park in 1955 and recorded eleven species. He was followed by Doris Pugh, who made just one record in 1964. After that we have Frank Perring's records, dating from July 1960 until August 1972. These are preserved on a card filing system, in our possession, and summarised in his Flora of 1975. His own copy of the Flora contains several subsequent annotations of his own and some additions by Peter Green, made perhaps in about 1980. These are all included below as records from Perring's Flora.

Between 1976 and 1978 Jennifer Roberts surveyed Attingham Park and its surrounds for Charles Sinker's Flora Project, making mostly tetrad records that can sometimes be attributed with confidence to the park. In 1989 Pat Parker surveyed the River Tern, adding a few species to the growing list. Rob Stokes recorded a few rarities in the early 1990s, and some general lists were made by us (Whild & Lockton) between 1995 and 2004. These are all included here as post-Flora records although, when the species has not been seen this year, the date of the last record is always given.

Changes

Perring recorded all species in each of fifteen compartments in the park, with scores for abundance in each. This was a tremendous amount of work, and the information is only summarised in the printed Flora. We used a simpler system, noting the compartment only for the rarer species, if at all. The only change that we can detect, therefore, is when a species is gained or lost (although it is sometimes possible to see from the comments when a very significant change in abundance has occurred).



Some 65 species, not including obviously planted ones, are included in the new Flora but not in Perring's. These can be broadly categorised into five groups that seem to reflect particular causes.

1. Spring ephemerals that Franklyn missed because his visits were only in the summer. These include such species as *Adoxa moschatellina*, *Cardamine amara* and *Saxifraga tridactylites*, which were probably there all the time.
2. Woodland species such as *Orchis mascula* and *Poa nemoralis*, which we feel could have colonised the woods on the estate as the canopy has developed during the last thirty years.
3. Invasive alien plants. 'Invasive,' in the botanical sense of the word, simply means any plant that is spreading: these plants are not a problem in any way, and none of them is so vigorous that they create management difficulties.
4. Dry heathland and grassland plants such as *Veronica officinalis* and *Ulex europaeus*, which seem to have arrived quite recently, possibly as a result of ongoing drainage of the whole site.
5. Rare species that may have been overlooked previously, or that were not in evidence in the 1970s (surviving in the seed bank, for example), including *Cicuta virosa* and *Fumaria purpurea*.

Some species do not fit any of these categories very well, and may have been recorded as a result of better taxonomic knowledge (some *Callitriche* and *Ranunculus* species, perhaps). The full list is given below.

Table 1: species recorded in the New Flora but not in the old Flora.

<i>Acer campestre</i>	<i>Erophila verna</i>	<i>Ranunculus aquatilis</i>
<i>Adoxa moschatellina</i>	<i>Fumaria purpurea</i>	<i>R. hederaceus</i>
<i>Buddleja davidii</i>	<i>Hordeum murinum</i>	<i>R. parviflorus</i>
<i>Callitriche obtusangula</i>	<i>Impatiens capensis</i>	<i>R. peltatus</i>
<i>C. platycarpa</i>	<i>I. glandulifera</i>	<i>R. penicillatus</i>
<i>Campanula rotundifolia</i>	<i>Juncus conglomeratus</i>	<i>Ribes nigrum</i>
<i>Cardamine amara</i>	<i>Lactuca serriola</i>	<i>Rorippa sylvestris</i>
<i>Carex caryophylla</i>	<i>Lemna gibba</i>	<i>Saxifraga tridactylites</i>
<i>C. disticha</i>	<i>L. minuta</i>	<i>Scutellaria galericulata</i>
<i>C. muricata</i> ssp. <i>lamprocarpa</i>	<i>Malus pumila</i>	<i>Senecio squalidus</i>
<i>C. pilulifera</i>	<i>Meconopsis cambrica</i>	<i>Sparganium emersum</i>
<i>C. spicata</i>	<i>Myosotis discolor</i>	<i>Stellaria neglecta</i>
<i>Cerastium semidecandrum</i>	<i>Ononis repens</i>	<i>Symphytum tuberosum</i>
<i>Cicuta virosa</i>	<i>Orchis mascula</i>	<i>Teucrium scorodonia</i>
<i>Conium maculatum</i>	<i>Papaver dubium</i>	<i>Thalictrum flavum</i>
<i>Cornus sanguinea</i>	<i>Petasites hybridus</i>	<i>Trifolium micranthum</i>
<i>Crepis vesicaria</i>	<i>Pilosella officinarum</i>	<i>Typha latifolia</i>
<i>Cymbalaria muralis</i>	<i>Poa humilis</i>	<i>Ulex europaeus</i>
<i>Dipsacus fullonum</i>	<i>P. nemoralis</i>	<i>Veronica hederifolia</i>
<i>Dryopteris affinis</i>	<i>Polystichum setiferum</i>	<i>V. montana</i>
<i>Elodea canadensis</i>	<i>Potamogeton berchtoldii</i>	<i>V. officinalis</i>
<i>E. nuttallii</i>	<i>Prunus avium</i>	

The apparent losses from the flora are perhaps more difficult to categorize. Many of them must have been overlooked by us in the current survey, but even if that is so they might well be rarer now than they were before. Others are probably genuine losses, although of course plants can often recolonise a site from the seed bank or from elsewhere. The following causes may account for some of the losses.

1. Arable fields have gone altogether from the area surveyed. This accounts for the disappearance of species such as *Agrostis gigantea* and *Lolium multiflorum*.
2. Wet grassland has been drained, and the wet margins of the river have been reduced by drainage, resulting in the loss of species such as *Alopecurus aequalis*, *Rumex maritimus* and *Veronica scutellata*.
3. There has been some continuing agricultural improvement of grassland, resulting in the reduction or loss of species such as *Hypericum maculatum* and *Leontodon saxatilis*.

Table 2: species recorded in the old Flora but not in the New Flora.

<i>Agrostis gigantea</i>	<i>Elymus caninus</i>	<i>Lamium purpureum</i>
<i>Alopecurus aequalis</i>	<i>Epilobium obscurum</i>	<i>Leontodon hispidus</i>
<i>Aphanes arvensis</i>	<i>E. parviflorum</i>	<i>L. saxatilis</i>
<i>Arctium nemorosum</i>	<i>E. roseum</i>	<i>Lolium multiflorum</i>
<i>Armoracia rusticana</i>	<i>E. tetragonum</i>	<i>Lythrum salicaria</i>
<i>Barbarea vulgaris</i>	<i>Eschscholzia californica</i>	<i>Mentha</i> × <i>piperita</i>
<i>Betula pubescens</i>	<i>Fallopia convolvulus</i>	<i>Mimulus guttatus</i>
<i>Brassica rapa</i>	<i>Festuca arundinacea</i>	<i>Odontites vernus</i>
<i>Bromus</i> × <i>pseudothominei</i>	× <i>Festulolium loliaceum</i>	<i>Ornithogalum angustifolium</i>
<i>Callitriche brutia</i>	<i>Fragaria vesca</i>	<i>Persicaria lapathifolia</i>
<i>Carduus crispus</i>	<i>Fumaria muralis</i>	<i>Potamogeton crispus</i>
<i>Carex acuta</i>	<i>F. officinalis</i>	<i>Potentilla anglica</i>
<i>C. acutiformis</i>	<i>Glyceria</i> × <i>pedicellata</i>	<i>Ranunculus fluitans</i>
<i>Ceratocarpus claviculata</i>	<i>Hieracium acuminatum</i>	<i>Rorippa microphylla</i>
<i>Chenopodium rubrum</i>	<i>Hypericum maculatum</i>	<i>Rubus caesius</i>
<i>Crocus nudiflorus</i>	<i>H. tetrapterum</i>	<i>Rumex maritimus</i>
<i>Dactylorhiza purpurella</i>	<i>Isolepis setacea</i>	<i>Salix alba</i>
<i>Dryopteris carthusiana</i>	<i>Juncus</i> × <i>surrejanus</i>	<i>S. purpurea</i>

S. ×mollissima
S. triandra
Schoenoplectus lacustris
Senecio aquaticus
S. sylvaticus
Sinapis arvensis
Sonchus arvensis
Spergula arvensis
Spergularia rubra

Stachys arvensis
S. ×ambigua
Tanacetum vulgare
Taraxacum laevigatum agg.
Thlaspi arvense
Torilis japonica
Tragopogon pratensis
Trifolium hybridum
Tripleurospermum inodorum

Tussilago farfara
Verbascum thapsus
Veronica agrestis
V. persica
V. polita
V. scutellata
Viburnum opulus
Vicia hirsuta
Viola arvensis

Dedication

This book is dedicated to all of our hard working surveyors and compilers, but above all, to two people who were Shropshire landmarks in their own rights. Franklyn Perring, a truly international botanist, had a soft spot for this county, running not only his Attingham Park Flora course here, but also driving the Shropshire Flora project with his incurable energy and enthusiasm.

John Pagett was in all senses of the phrase a life long learner, dedicated to the history and archaeology of the county and a real scholar with a terrier-like reluctance to let go of any unturned source of information. He brought this tenacity to local botany, producing beautifully lettered snippets of research for any project that we undertook. During the survey period, he was investigating possible canal embankments within the park but sadly this was not completed before his death earlier this year.

Both John and Franklyn will be missed by the botanists of Shropshire. This book is dedicated to both of them, and to their passion for the detail as well as the bigger picture.

Species List

A full list of all species recorded in the Park, with the original descriptions from Perring's Flora given in quotes after the species name, followed by our comments. A dagger (†) indicates that we have not refound a species that Perring recorded. An asterisk (*) draws attention to species we have found but Perring did not list. The use of two daggers (††) means that neither Perring nor we have found a plant that was previously recorded in the Park. Where we have made no comment, Perring's stands unchanged. The list is arranged in taxonomic order by family, following Stace (2003).

Equisetaceae

Equisetum fluviatile, Water Horsetail. 'Frequent by the R. Tern, K₁.' Much reduced: this year it was found in just one place, in the ditch 100m east of the river at SJ55191056 (K₁).

E. arvense, Field Horsetail. 'Scattered and locally abundant in meadows and ditches, and on the bank of the R. Tern, C, D, E, F, H, K₂ & N.' Much less common now, K₂.

Dennstaedtiaceae

Pteridium aquilinum, Bracken. 'Frequent to abundant in meadows and woodland, especially in the Deer Park, B, H, I, J, K₂, M & N.' Still there.

Aspleniaceae

Phyllitis scolopendrium, Hart's-tongue. 'Rare to occasional in woodland, A & B.' This year there were some small, dry plants on the north wall of the orchard, A, and there were numerous large plants along a dry ditch in the woodland in B.

Asplenium adiantum-nigrum, Black Spleenwort. 'Rare on an old wall, A.' Still there, on a north-facing wall of the orchard.

A. trichomanes, Maidenhair Spleenwort. 'Rare to frequent on old walls, A, C & D.' Still there.

Woodsiaceae

Athyrium filix-femina, Lady Fern. 'Occasional in woodland, F, I & J.' Also in B.

Dryopteridaceae

**Polystichum setiferum*, Soft Shield-fern. In woodland in compartment B, where it was found by Jane Ing in April 2005 – a new 10km dot on the national distribution map of this species.

Dryopteris filix-mas, Common Male Fern. 'Rare in meadows, often abundant in woodland, and as an epiphyte on pollarded willows by R. Tern, B, D, F, H, I, M & N.' Just as common now, if not even more abundant. Occurs on moss-covered trunks of fallen *Salix fragilis* in B and in woodland and around derelict buildings in A.

**D. affinis*, Scaly Male-fern. Much less common than the above, but growing with it, B.

†*D. carthusiana*, Narrow Buckler-fern. 'Rare in marshy area in L.'

D. dilatata, Broad Buckler-fern. 'Rare to abundant in woodland, occasional beside water, B, F, I, M.' No change.

Azollaceae

**Azolla filiculoides*, Water Fern. Recorded by Pat Parker in 1989 in a backwater of the R. Tern near the bridge, but never seen there again. *Azolla* was for a while regarded by conservationists as an invasive pest, carpeting the surface of ponds in the county for a year or two, but it soon went into decline and is currently rare.

Pinaceae

**Tsuga heterophylla*, Western Hemlock. In plantation woodland, I.

†*Picea sitchensis*, Sitka Spruce. 'Planted. Rare in woodland, B, C & N.'

Larix decidua, Larch. Planted. 'Rare to frequent in woodland, A, B, F, K₂, L & N.' Still there.

L. kaempferi, Japanese Larch. 'Planted. Occasional in woodland, J.' Still there.

Pinus sylvestris, Scots Pine. 'Planted. Widespread as isolated trees or in woodland, B, C, E, I, K₂, M & N.' Still there.

†*P. nigra*, Austrian Pine. 'Planted. Occasional in woodland, F.'

Cupressaceae

**Thuja plicata*, Western Red-cedar. Regenerating in forestry plantation, I.

Taxaceae

Taxus baccata, Yew. 'Planted, but self regenerating. Rare to occasional in woodland and on old walls, A, D & E.' Also found growing as an epiphyte on the old sycamore at SJ55091072 (B) during the current survey (pictured on the front cover).

Nymphaeaceae

Nuphar lutea, Yellow Water-lily. 'Frequent to abundant in R. Tern above the bridge.' Still

there, but much rarer. Also in a pond in the Deer Park in K₂, at SJ554100. First recorded by Beckwith in 1880.

Ranunculaceae

Caltha palustris, Marsh Marigold. 'Occasional beside R. Tern, B & H.' First recorded here by Phillips in 1878. This year it was abundant in the carr woodland at the north end of compartment B, which is fed by a small stream rather than the Tern itself. We found no plants by the Tern.

Anemone nemorosa, Wood Anemone. 'Occasional in woodland, D.' Ron Iremonger recorded both the white- and blue-flowered forms in the wood behind the stable block, D, in 2004. The latter was first recorded by Lady Trevelyan in 1979.

Ranunculus acris, Meadow Buttercup. 'Widespread and sometimes frequent in the farm meadows, C, D, E, F, G, K₁.' Still there, but only occasional.

R. repens, Creeping Buttercup. 'Widespread and often abundant in meadows, marshes and woodland, A-G, J, K₁, K₂, L, M & N.' No change.

R. bulbosus, Bulbous Buttercup. 'Rare to occasional in meadows, D, E, F, G, K₂, M.' Still widespread.

**R. parviflorus*, Small-flowered Buttercup. Not listed by Perring, but Doris Pugh had recorded it at Attingham Park in 1964 (Transactions of the Caradoc & Severn Valley Field Club, 1968). This year Mark Duffell found several plants in a border of the children's playground in A.

R. auricomus, Goldilocks Buttercup. 'Locally frequent in woodland, D.' Recorded by Ron Iremonger this year in this area.

R. sceleratus, Celery-leaved Buttercup. 'Occasional to frequent in ditches, in bare mud around ponds and on the banks of the R. Tern, B, C, F, G, H, K₁, K₂ & M.' Less common than formerly – we refound it only by ponds in C, I & M and on the banks of the Tern in D, where it was rare.

R. flammula, Lesser Spearwort. 'Rare to occasional in marshy areas in the Deer Park, K₂ & L.' Seen this year along the ditch in K₂ and in a pool in the Deer Park (K₂).

R. ficaria, Lesser Celandine. 'Rare to occasional in meadows and woodland, C, E & H.' Its abundance was surely underestimated by Perring, who recorded only during the summer months. It is now present in every compartment, often abundantly so, as in woodland in D, where Mark Duffell found both ssp. *bulbilifer* and ssp. *ficaria* growing together on 27th April 2005.

**R. hederaceus*, Ivy-leaved Crowfoot. Found by Mark Duffell & Hugh Cutler this year in ponds in woodland in F & M.

R. trichophyllus, Thread-leaved Water-crowfoot. 'Occasional in one pond in the Deer Park, L.' We found it only in a pond in K₂ (SJ554100), with *R. peltatus* and *R. aquatilis*; all three species flowering simultaneously on 22nd June.

**R. aquatilis*, Common Water-crowfoot. In the pond in the Deer Park, K₂.

**R. peltatus*, Pond Water-crowfoot. In the pond in the Deer Park, K₂.

**R. penicillatus*, Stream Water-crowfoot. Occasional in the Tern in D & H.

†*R. fluitans*, River Water-crowfoot. 'Abundant in R. Tern below the bridge, H.' First recorded here by Edward Rutter in 1955. Owing to taxonomic uncertainties, these could possibly be taken as records of *R. penicillatus*.

**Thalictrum flavum*, Common Meadow-rue. First recorded by Phillips in 1878 on the banks of the Tern. Beckwith (1880) described it as occurring on the banks of the river and in ditches. In 1883 he sent a piece of what he described as var. *sphaerocarpum* to Prof. James Traill at Aberdeen, but the unusual growth form was found to be caused by the cecid gall midge *Jaapiella thalictri*. Edward Rutter also recorded it at Attingham in 1955, but it was not seen again until this year, when Chris Walker rediscovered it along the ditch in K₂.

Berberidaceae

Mahonia aquifolium, Oregon Grape. 'Planted. Hedges and light woodland, A & D.' No obvious change. One plant survives in the dense shade under a cedar near the river.

Papaveraceae

Papaver somniferum, Opium Poppy. 'A rare relic of cultivation in abandoned gardens, A & C.' Still there.

P. rhoeas, Common Poppy. 'Occasional in arable fields and waste places, A & H.' There were no arable fields within the park in 2005, but *P. rhoeas* was present in the abandoned orchard in A.

**P. dubium*, Long-headed Poppy. This year Sarah Whild found a few plants on the wall of the orchard in A, and in D.

**Meconopsis cambrica*, Welsh Poppy. A few plants in wooded areas in A and amongst the ferns at the base of a wall in D.

Chelidonium majus, Greater Celandine. 'Rare to occasional at the base of old walls and by the

bridge over the R. Tern, A, C & H. The plant in the garden of A has double flowers.' Still present in the same areas in 2005, but no double-flowered forms were seen.

†*Eschscholzia californica*, Californian Poppy. 'Rare garden escape persisting in the old orchard, A.'

Fumariaceae

†*Ceratocarpus claviculata*, Climbing Corydalis. 'Rare in woodland, I.'

†*Fumaria muralis* ssp. *boraiei*, Common Ramping-fumitory. 'Rare in arable field, A.'

**F. purpurea*, Purple Ramping-fumitory. This was found in a flower bed outside the stable block at SJ54841004 (D) by Mark Duffell on 27/04/2005 (conf. S.J. Whild & T.C.G. Rich). It is considered to be a nationally scarce plant and is endemic to the British Isles and the Channel Islands.

†*F. officinalis*, Common Fumitory. 'Rare to occasional in gardens and bare places in woodland, A, D & F.'

Platanaceae

**Platanus* × *hispanica*, London Plane. One tree, presumably planted, in G.

Ulmaceae

Ulmus glabra, Wych Elm. 'Widespread tree of meadows and woodland which also occurs as an epiphyte on pollarded willows beside the R. Tern, A, B, D-I, K₁, K₂ & N.' Still widespread, but not seen growing epiphytically this year.

**U.* × *hollandica*, Dutch Elm. Several planted trees in D.

U. procera, English Elm. 'Occasional tree of meadows and woodland, D, E, H, K₁ & M.' There were still good stands in a wood in E and a hedge in C, and a few small, suckering plants in woodland in B.

†*U. minor*, Small-leaved Elm. 'A rare tree of meadows and woodland, A, B, G & N. Both pendulous and golden varieties occur, obviously of planted origin.'

Cannabinaceae

Humulus lupulus, Hop. 'Rare to frequent in woodland beside R. Tern, B, H, I & M. Appears native here.' No apparent change.

Urticaceae

Urtica dioica, Common Nettle. 'Frequent to abundant in meadows and woodlands and as an epiphyte on pollarded willows by R. Tern. All compartments except E.' If anything it is more

abundant now, especially along the Tern in D & B, where it could be described as dominant. It is now abundant in E.

U. urens, Small Nettle. 'A rare to occasional weed of bare ground and open places in meadows, C, G, L & M.' This year it was rare, under trees in D & F.

Juglandaceae

Juglans regia, Walnut. 'Planted in the orchard, A.' Still present in the orchard (Iremonger), and now also planted in woodland in D & F.

Fagaceae

Fagus sylvatica, Beech. 'Widely planted in meadows and woodland, A, B, C, E, G, I, J, K₂, L, M.' Still present; there is a fine specimen of *Fagus sylvatica* 'Purpurea' in D.

Castanea sativa, Sweet Chestnut. 'Widely planted in meadows and woodland on the west of R. Tern, A-E & G.' Also in K₂ & M this year.

Quercus cerris, Turkey Oak. 'Planted in the Park, E & F.' Also in D, G & H.

†*Q. ilex*, Evergreen Oak. 'Rare, planted in woodland, C.' According to the farmer, Sam Dixon, the only tree has been felled.

Q. petraea, Sessile Oak. 'Occasional in woodland, D.' Also recorded in E, I, M & N this year.

Q. robur, Pedunculate Oak. 'Widely planted in the Park but probably also a native of the woodland. All compartments except G.' No apparent change.

Betulaceae

Betula pendula, Silver Birch. 'Rare to occasional in woodland, B, C, D, I & J.' No obvious change.

†*B. pubescens*, Downy Birch. 'Frequent in woodland, D.'

Alnus glutinosa, Alder. 'A rare to frequent tree along the banks of the R. Tern, where it also occurs as an epiphyte on pollarded willows. Also around ponds in wet woodland elsewhere, B, D, F, H, I, K₁, K₂ & L.' Somewhat rarer now, as a result of Alder Pox, but still present in the same areas.

Carpinus betulus, Hornbeam. 'A fine specimen near the house. Planted. D.'

Corylus avellana, Hazel. 'Occasional in woodland an on banks of R. Tern, A, B, C & H.'

Chenopodiaceae

†*Chenopodium rubrum*, Red Goosefoot. Not listed in the original Fl. Attingham, but added as a footnote to Perring's own copy: 'rare weed of damp disturbed ground, K₁.' Not seen this year.

- C. album*, Fat-hen. 'An occasional to locally abundant weed of arable fields and waste places, also in disturbed woodland, A, C, F, J, K₁ & M.' Still present around Home Farm, but seemingly much scarcer elsewhere.
- Atriplex prostrata*, Spear-leaved Orache. 'Rare to occasional in arable fields and other bare areas. As an epiphyte on pollarded willows by R. Tern, A, C & H.' Now much rarer: seen only by a pond in C.
- A. patula*, Common Orache. 'Rare to occasional in arable fields and on bare ground in meadows and on river banks, A, B, F & G.' Still present in the vicinity of Home Farm (C), but not seen elsewhere during the current survey.

Portulacaceae

- Claytonia perfoliata*, Spring Beauty. 'Frequent in hedge bottoms and under the cedars, D. Rarely found further west in Great Britain.' It was first recorded here by Rutter in 1955, but this year it seems to have been rarer than previously, although it is still present under the cedars in D. The New Atlas shows a marked expansion towards the west, so Attingham Park is now well within its range.

Caryophyllaceae

- Moehringia trinervia*, Three-nerved Sandwort. 'Rare to occasional in woodland, B, F & I.' No apparent change.
- Stellaria media*, Common Chickweed. 'Frequent to abundant in bare places, meadows, woodlands and on river banks. All compartments except E & N.' No apparent change.
- S. pallida*, Lesser Chickweed. 'Frequent in dry grassland in the Deer Park, K₂, L & N. The first recent Shropshire record.' It was in fact the first county record when Perring discovered it in 1970, although it has since turned out to be widespread in short grassland. It was still in the same places this year, and on bare ground under a cedar by the Mile Walk in B.
- **S. neglecta*, Greater Chickweed. Edward Rutter found this in 1955, but it was not recorded again until 1995 (Whild & Lockton). It grows alongside the Mile Walk in D & B, and probably elsewhere. It tends to be recorded early in the year, when in full flower.
- ††*S. palustris*, Marsh Stitchwort. William Beckwith recorded this (as *S. glauca*) in a ditch in 1880. It has not been seen here since.
- S. graminea*, Lesser Stitchwort. 'Frequent to abundant in meadows and woodland, and in damp areas beside ponds, B, C, D, F, J, K₂, L, M

- & N.' Apparently far less common now than previously, although still present in the same areas, and on the river bank in I.
- S. uliginosa*, Bog Stitchwort. 'Occasional to frequent in marshes, on pond margins and along the banks of the R. Tern, B, C, F, H, J, K₁, K₂, L, M & N.' Seemingly less common than before, although still present in those areas and also recorded this year beside a pond in I.
- Cerastium fontanum*, Common Mouse-ear. 'Occasional to abundant in grassland everywhere, A, C, E, F, G & J.' Now present in every compartment, but rarely in any abundance.
- C. glomeratum*, Sticky Mouse-ear. 'Rare to frequent in bare ground and in meadows, B, C, F, G, J & K₂.' Still there.
- **C. semidecandrum*, Little Mouse-ear. Although it had been recorded by Edward Rutter as early as 1955, this species was not mentioned by Perring at all, presumably because, as a spring ephemeral, it would have died down by the summer. It was refound in 2004 by Sarah Whild, and was found to be widespread in short grassland in K₂ this year.
- Myosoton aquaticum*, Water Chickweed. 'Occasional along the banks of the R. Tern, but often a considerable distance from the water, B & D.' In 1889 Beckwith described it as 'by the old bed of the Tern, at its mouth.' It is now apparently much rarer, due to a combination of drainage and eutrophication. We found it only in one place on the banks of the Tern in I, SJ552108.
- Sagina procumbens*, Procumbent Pearlwort. 'Rare to occasional in bare ground, and in meadows, A, D, F, J, K₁, K₂ & M.' No obvious change.
- †*Spergula arvensis*, Corn Spurrey. 'An occasional to locally abundant weed of waste ground and cultivated areas, B, C & D.'
- †*Spergularia rubra*, Sand Spurrey. 'Rare in short grassland, D & K₂. A feature of the edges of lawns by the House.'
- Silene dioica*, Red Campion. 'Rare to frequent in meadows, woodlands and on woodland margins, A-F, H-J, K₁.' Still there.

Polygonaceae

- Persicaria bistorta*, Common Bistort. 'Occasional in a meadow and locally frequent in the orchard, A, D.' First recorded here by Rutter in 1955. There is now just a small patch by the Mile Walk in D.
- P. amphibia*, Amphibious Bistort. 'Occasional to locally abundant in ditches and on the banks of the R. Tern, F, H & K₁.' Rare along the margins

of the Tern in D & H this year, and in the dried up pond in D.

P. maculosa, Redshank. 'Occasional to abundant weed of arable fields, woodland and bare places in meadows.' Seen only in C this year.

†*P. lapathifolia*, Pale Persicaria. 'An occasional arable weed, C.'

P. hydropiper, Water-pepper. 'Occasional to frequent in damp areas in arable fields, around ponds, in ditches and beside R. Tern, B-E & G.' Also in H & M this year.

Polygonum arenastrum, Equal-leaved Knotgrass. 'Frequent in bare ground, G.' Collected this year by Home Farm (compartment C) by Jane Ing (det. Sarah Whild).

P. aviculare, Knotgrass. 'A widespread and locally frequent weed of bare ground, arable fields and disturbed areas in meadows and woodland, A, B, C, F, G, J, K₁, K₂ & M.' Seemingly much reduced – we recorded it only on bare ground in D this year.

†*Fallopia convolvulus*, Black Bindweed. 'A rare to occasional weed of arable fields, and of bare areas in meadows and woodland, A-D & J.'

Rumex acetosella, Sheep's Sorrel. 'A widespread and sometimes abundant species of meadow and open woodland, A, D, F, I, J, K₁, K₂ & M.' Probably more widespread than that now, but rarely abundant, and rare in farmed grassland areas such as F. In U1 grassland in the Deer Park (K₂) some of the plants are *R. acetosella* ssp. *acetosella* var. *tenuifolius*, a taxon not previously recorded in v.c. 40.

R. acetosa, Common Sorrel. 'Occasional to frequent in meadows, A-G, K₁, L & M.' Still there, but much reduced.

††*R. hydrolapathum*, Water Dock. Recorded in 1878 by William Phillips, by the Tern.

R. crispus, Curled Dock. 'Occasional to abundant in waste places and in meadows and woodland, A-D, F, G & K₁.' Much rarer now – seen only in C & H.

R. conglomeratus, Clustered Dock. 'Frequent to abundant beside R. Tern and rare on the margins of ponds, B, C, D, F, K₁.' No obvious change.

R. sanguineus, Wood Dock. 'Occasional to abundant around ponds, in meadows and on the banks of the R. Tern, A-D, F-H & K₁.' Still there and in E this year.

R. obtusifolius, Broad-leaved Dock. 'Occasional in waste places, meadows, and on the banks of the R. Tern, A, C-F, H & K₁.' Still there.

†*R. maritimus*, Golden Dock. 'Frequent on the west bank of the R. Tern above the bridge, B & D. Here near its western limit in Great Britain.'

Perring saw it there in 1972 and 1974, but was worried that drainage works in 1975 may have caused its demise. It has not been recorded since then. *Rumex maritimus* is now recorded much more widely in Britain, probably both through a genuine increase and better recording, so Attingham is now well within its known range.

Clusiaceae

Hypericum perforatum, Perforate St. John's-wort. 'Rare in a meadow, M.' Seen in I this year.

†*H. maculatum*, Imperforate St. John's-wort. 'Rare to occasional in meadows and woodland, B, F & I.'

†*H. tetrapterum*, Square-stalked St. John's-wort. 'Rare at the margins of ponds, C & F.'

H. humifusum, Trailing St. John's-wort. 'Rare in short grassland, D, F & K₂.' Quite widespread, but not abundant in U1 grassland in K₂ this year. Not seen in D or F.

Tiliaceae

Tilia × *europaea*, Lime. 'Frequently planted in meadows and woodland, A, D, E, I K1 & M.' Still present in the same places.

Malvaceae

Malva sylvestris, Common Mallow. 'Rare in a meadow, E.' Seen only in C this year

M. neglecta, Dwarf Mallow. 'Rare on bare ground around the Home Farm, C & F.' Still there.

Violaceae

Viola odorata, Sweet Violet. 'Rare in woodland, F.' Also in B.

V. riviniana, Common Dog-violet. 'Rare to frequent in meadows and woodland, B, D, E, G, I, L & M.' First recorded by Rutter in 1955, and still present and widespread: add K₂.

†*V. arvensis*, Field Pansy. 'Rare to occasional on bare ground, in arable fields, meadows and on woodland rides.'

Cucurbitaceae

Bryonia dioica, White Bryony. 'Rare to occasional in meadows and on woodland margins, A, B, D & F.' No change.

Salicaceae

††*Populus alba*, White Poplar. Recorded by Beckwith in 1880 'near Attingham Hall.' Not seen since.

**P.* × *canadensis*, Hybrid Black Poplar. One large tree by the Tern in H.

Salix fragilis, Crack Willow. 'Rare to frequent beside R. Tern and around ponds, C, D, H & I. A red-stemmed variety occurs.' On his own copy, Perring added '*russelliana*, *basfordiana* & *fragilis* all occur in H.' The common variety is *S. fragilis* var. *russelliana*, Bedford Willow, which is still common around the park, with fine specimens particularly in the carr in B and at the pond in I. Some of them support rich epiphyte communities.

S. ^x*rubens* nothovar. *basfordiana* (*S. alba* var. *vitellina* × *fragilis*). Added by Perring as an annotation in his own copy of the Flora for compartment H, where it is still frequent.

†*S. alba*, White Willow. 'Occasional to abundant along the R. Tern, B.' Franklyn later added H, K & M.

S. ^x*sepulcralis*, Weeping Willow. Perring initially listed this as *S. babylonica* but later changed it to *S. x sepulcralis* nm. *tristis*, 'planted by a pond, F.' There are some planted specimens of *Salix* ^x*sepulcralis* nothovar. *chrysocoma*, Golden Weeping Willow, by the Tern in K₁.

†*S. triandra*, Almond Willow. 'Rare in damp woodland, E & F.'

†*S.* ^x*mollissima*, Sharp-stipuled Willow. Perring added this in his own copy of the Flora, commenting that it occurred in H. It was the first record for the county for nearly a century.

†*S. purpurea*, Purple Willow. 'Frequent by the R. Tern below the bridge, H.'

S. viminalis, Osier. 'Locally abundant by R. Tern, rare elsewhere, B, F & H.'

S. caprea, Goat Willow. 'A rare tree of woodland, A & D.'

S. cinerea, Grey Willow. 'Rare in damp woodland around ponds, C, D, E, [H, added later] & K₂.' It also occurs by the pond in I.

Brassicaceae

Sisymbrium officinale, Hedge Mustard. 'Rare to occasional in waste places, arable fields and meadows, A, C, D, H, K₁ & K₂.' Seen only in B this year.

Alliaria petiolata, Garlic Mustard. 'Rare to occasional in meadows, woodlands, and on woodland margins, also as an epiphyte on pollarded willows by R. Tern, A, D, H, I, K₂ & M.' Still there.

Arabidopsis thaliana, Thale Cress. 'Locally abundant on walls, D.' Seen this year on disturbed soil in B.

†*Barbarea vulgaris*, Winter-cress. 'Occasional along the banks of the R. Tern and adjacent ditches, H, K₁ & K₂.'

Rorippa nasturtium-aquaticum, Water-cress. Perring recorded the aggregate as 'rare to locally abundant in ditches and at the margins of ponds, C, F, G, K₁, K₂ & N,' and noted that the species, *R. nasturtium-aquaticum*, was found in compartments C & F. This year it was frequent along the banks of the Tern in D and in a ditch in F.

†*R. microphylla*, Narrow-fruited Water-cress. 'F, G & K₁.'

R. palustris (*R. islandica*), Marsh Yellow-cress. 'Frequent to abundant on the margins of ponds and along the banks of R. Tern, B, C, H & K₁.' Only found in C this year.

**R. sylvestris*, Creeping Yellow-cress. Found for the first time by Jane Ing this year in compartment C (conf. S.J. Whild).

R. amphibia, Greater Yellow-cress. 'Abundant along the banks of R. Tern, B, D, H, I & K₁. Here at its western limit in great Britain.' Still there.

†*Armoracia rusticana*, Horse-radish. 'Frequent in orchards and old meadows, A & C. Relic of cultivation.'

**Cardamine amara*, Large Bitter-cress. Edward Williams recorded this species in an osier bed near Tern Bridge in about 1800. It was later recorded by Phillips (1878) and Beckwith (1880) on the banks of the Tern at Attingham Park. It is not listed in Perring's Flora, presumably because his fieldwork was conducted in high summer, by which time this vernal plant is long past flowering and has usually died down. In April 2005 it was abundant in the wet woodland by the Tern at SJ55151088 (B).

C. pratensis, Cuckoo-flower. 'Rare to frequent in damp places on river banks, in meadows and ditches, C, E, F, H, J, K₁, K₂, L & N.' Probably much less abundant now, but still widespread.

C. flexuosa, Wavy Bitter-cress. 'Occasional to frequent on the margins of ponds and in woodland, and as an epiphyte on pollarded willows by the R. Tern, B, C, F, H, I, J & M.' No change.

C. hirsuta, Hairy Bitter-cress. 'Occasional to locally abundant in bare ground and garden beds, B & D.' No change.

**Erophila verna*, Common Whitlowgrass. On bare ground by the derelict glasshouses in A.

Capsella bursa-pastoris, Shepherd's-purse. 'Frequent in meadows, arable fields and woodland. All except B & I.' Seemingly much less common than formerly. There are now no arable fields within the survey area, and it is found mainly along paths and in waste places.

†*Thlaspi arvense*, Field Penny-cress. 'Frequent in arable field, C.'

Coronopus didymus, Lesser Swine-cress. 'Locally abundant on bare ground, C, D & H.' No obvious change.

†*Brassica rapa*, Turnip. 'Rare on bank of R. Tern, B.'

†*Sinapis arvensis*, Charlock. 'Rare to occasional in arable fields, A, C, F & H.'

†*S. alba*, White Mustard. 'Rare to occasional in arable fields, A, C, F & H.'

Resedaceae

Reseda luteola, Weld. 'Rare to occasional in meadows, H, J & M.' This year it was seen only in K₂ & M.

Ericaceae

Rhododendron ponticum, Rhododendron. 'Frequently planted in woodland and naturalised, B, D, F, J & M.' Still there.

Primulaceae

Primula vulgaris, Primrose. 'Occasional to frequent in woodland, B & D.'

**P. × polyantha*, False Oxlip. Rare in woodland, B.

P. veris, Cowslip. 'Frequent in an area of grassland near the House, D.'

Hottonia palustris, Water-violet. 'Locally frequent in a stagnant pond, L.' Still there this year, just in the one pond, although in 1880 Beckwith recorded it as 'frequent near Attingham Park.'

**Lysimachia nemorum*, Yellow Pimpernel. Along a footpath in woodland in I.

L. nummularia, Creeping-Jenny. 'Rare to occasional along banks of R. Tern, D, H & K₁.'

Anagallis arvensis, Scarlet Pimpernel. 'An occasional to frequent weed of arable fields and bare ground, A, B & D.'

Grossulariaceae

Ribes rubrum, Red Currant. 'Occasional to frequent in woodland, A, F, I & J.'

**R. nigrum*, Black Currant. By a pond in I.

R. sanguineum, Flowering Currant. 'Planted in woodland by R. Tern, H.' Still there, close to the west bank of the Tern.

R. uva-crispa, Gooseberry. 'Rare in woodland, B.' No change.

Saxifragaceae

Saxifraga granulata, Meadow Saxifrage. First recorded by William Phillips in 1878, on the banks of the Tern. Beckwith (1880) described it as frequent on dry, sandy banks. Rutter saw it in

1955, and Perring described it as 'rare in a meadow' in compartment D in 1975. In 1996 it was still reasonably plentiful on the slopes beside the Mile Walk (Whild, Lockton & Thompson) but this year there was just one tiny patch of two or three plants beside the path at SJ54981021 (D).

**Saxifraga tridactylites*, Rue-leaved Saxifrage. On the roof of a building in A.

Rosaceae

†*Spiraea salicifolia*, Bridewort. 'Occasionally planted in woodland, B.'

†*S. alba*, Pale Bridewort. Not included in the original Flora, but added in the margin of Perring's own copy: 'occasionally planted, H.'

Filipendula ulmaria, Meadowsweet. 'Rare to frequent in marshy areas and beside R. Tern, and epiphytic on pollarded willows, B, D, F, H, I, K₁ & K₂.'

Rubus idaeus, Raspberry. 'Occasional in woodland, A, B, C, F, I & J.' Still there.

R. fruticosus agg., Bramble. 'Widespread in meadows and woodland, and as an epiphyte in pollarded willows beside R. Tern, A-D, F, H, I, J, K₁, M & N.'

†*R. caesius*, Dewberry. 'Occasional to frequent in meadows, B & D.'

Potentilla anserina, Silverweed. 'Rare to occasional in meadows and on the margins of ponds, A, C-F, J, K₁.' Also on the banks of the Tern in D.

P. erecta, Tormentil. 'Rare to occasional in meadows in the Deer Park, J, K₂, L, M & N.' Still there.

†*P. anglica*, Trailing Tormentil. 'Rare in woodland, B.'

P. reptans, Creeping Cinquefoil. 'Rare to occasional in bare ground and in meadows, B, D-G, J, K₁, L, M & N.' Seemingly rarer now, although a good patch occurs on the stone embankment to the river in D.

P. sterilis, Barren Strawberry. 'Rare in meadows, B, E, L.' No change.

†*Fragaria vesca*, Wild Strawberry. 'Occasional in hedge-bottoms and woodland, A & D.'

Geum urbanum, Wood Avens. 'Occasional to frequent in meadows and woodland, A-F, H, I, J & K₁.' No apparent change.

†*Aphanes arvensis*, Parsley-piert. 'Rare to occasional on bare ground, B & L.'

A. australis (as *A. microcarpa*), Slender Parsley-piert. 'Rare to occasional in dry grassland, D & K₂.' Still there.

Rosa canina, Dog Rose. 'Rare to occasional in meadows and woodland margins, B-F.' No obvious change.

Prunus spinosa, Blackthorn. 'Rare in hedges, A & E.' Also in M this year.

**P. avium*, Wild Cherry. Although not listed by Perring, it was first recorded here by Beckwith in 1880 and is still present in D, B & F.

Malus sylvestris, Crab Apple. 'Rare in a hedgerow, N.' Still rare, but scattered.

**M. pumila*, Apple. Established in E & I.

Sorbus aucuparia, Rowan. 'Rare in woodland, B.' Now planted in some abundance in C.

Crataegus monogyna, Hawthorn. 'Rare to occasional in meadows and woodland, and as an epiphyte in pollarded willows by R. Tern, A-F, H, I, K₁, M & N.' Still there.

**C. x lavalleyi*, Hybrid Cockspur-thorn. Several planted along the edge of the wood in E and planted as an ornamental in H.

Fabaceae

Robinia pseudoacacia, False Acacia. 'Rare to occasional in meadows and woodland, A & D.' Several trees and saplings in the same area, probably self-seeded from the original planted specimens.

Lotus corniculatus, Common Bird's-foot-trefoil. 'Rare to occasional in meadows, B, D, F, G, N.' Still widespread, most notably on the lawn in front of the house and along the top of the ha-ha. Also now in A, K₁ & K₂.

L. pedunculatus, Large Bird's-foot-trefoil. 'Rare to occasional in ditches, E, F, K₂ & L.' No change.

Ornithopus perpusillus, Bird's-foot. 'Rare in dry grassland, K₂.' No change.

Vicia cracca, Tufted Vetch. 'Rare in meadows, D & E.' Seen only in D this year.

†*V. hirsuta*, Hairy Tare. 'Occasional in arable fields and meadows.'

V. sativa, Common Vetch. 'Rare to frequent in meadows, C, F, K₂ & L.' Still there. All plants are *V. sativa* ssp. *nigra*, Narrow-leaved Vetch (listed by Perring as *V. angustifolia*).

Lathyrus pratensis, Meadow Vetchling. 'Rare to occasional in meadows and on ditch banks, A, D, F, K₂ & N.' No apparent change.

**Ononis repens*, Common Restharrow. First found by Hugh Cutler this year along the path by the Tern in D. William Phillips saw it at nearby Upton Forge in 1899, but it has not otherwise been recorded in this part of the county.

Medicago lupulina, Black Medick. 'Frequent to locally abundant in meadows and garden beds, D & F.' No apparent change.

Trifolium repens, White Clover. 'Frequent to abundant in grassland everywhere. All compartments except I.' No apparent change.

†*T. hybridum*, Alsike Clover. 'Rare in meadows, F.'

T. dubium, Lesser Trefoil. 'Rare to frequent in meadows, B, C, D, F, G, J, K₁, K₂, L, M & N.' Still there.

**T. micranthum*, Slender Trefoil. One patch in a lawn near the House; first recorded here by Rob Stokes in 1996.

T. pratense, Red Clover. 'Rare to frequent in meadows, C, D, E, F & G.' Perhaps less abundant than previously, but still present in the same areas.

††*T. medium*, Zigzag Clover. Recorded by Whild, Lockton & Thompson in 1996 near the Tern in B or D.

T. striatum, Knotted Clover. 'Occasional in sandy meadows, K₂.' Still present in short, sandy grassland in the Deer Park (K₂).

Laburnum anagyroides, Laburnum. 'A rare to occasional planted tree in woodland, A, B & H.' A single tree in H this year.

**Ulex europaeus*, Gorse. Rare, in K₂.

Lythraceae

Lythrum salicaria, Purple-loosestrife. 'Rare to occasional along the banks of R. Tern and in adjacent woodland, B, D, H & K₁.' No apparent change.

Onagraceae

Epilobium hirsutum, Great Willowherb. 'Occasional to locally abundant around the margins of ponds, and along the banks of R. Tern where it also occurs as an epiphyte on pollarded willows, B, C, E, F, H, I & M.' Still abundant along the Tern and occasional elsewhere.

†*E. parviflorum*, Hoary Willowherb. 'Rare to frequent in long grassland, around the margin of a pond and beside R. Tern, A, C, D & K₁.'

E. montanum, Broad-leaved Willowherb. 'Rare to occasional in bare ground, garden beds and woodland, B, D & I.' Still there.

†*E. tetragonum*, Square-stalked Willowherb. 'Rare on ditch bank, M. Rarely recorded in Shropshire.'

†*E. obscurum*, Short-fruited Willowherb. 'Rare to occasional around the margins of ponds and in wet ditches, C, E & M.'

†*E. roseum*, Pale Willowherb. 'Rare to occasional in meadows and garden beds and as an epiphyte on pollarded willows by R. Tern, D, G & H.'

E. ciliatum (*E. adenocaulon*), American Willowherb. 'Occasional to frequent as a garden

weed and on ditch banks. Also as an epiphyte on pollarded willows by R. Tern, A-D, H, K₁ & K₂. Still there.

Chamerion (Chamaenerion) angustifolium, Rosebay Willowherb. 'Often abundant in waste places and in woodland. Also occurs on walls and as an epiphyte on pollarded willows beside R. Tern, A, B, D, F, H, I & J.' Still there.

Circaea lutetiana, Enchanter's-nightshade. 'Rare to frequent in woodland, B, H, I & J.'

Cornaceae

**Cornus sanguinea*, Dogwood. Occasional in wet woodland, for example by a pond in I.

**C. sericea*, Red-osier Dogwood. Planted by the Tern in D & H and by a pond in F.

Viscaceae

††*Viscum album*, Mistletoe. Recorded by Beckwith in 1880 on Hawthorn.

Aquifoliaceae

Ilex aquifolium, Holly. 'Rare to occasional in woodland, A, C, D & H.' No apparent change.

Buxaceae

**Buxus sempervirens*, Box. Planted in woodland along the Mile Walk, B.

Euphorbiaceae

Euphorbia helioscopia, Sun Spurge. 'An occasional weed of gardens and arable fields, A, C.' This year it was near the gardener's cottage in D and by Home Farm, C.

E. peplus, Petty Spurge. 'An occasional garden weed, A & D.' Also in the gardens in G this year.

†*E. cyparissias*, Cypress Spurge. 'A rare arable weed, A. The only recent Shropshire record?' In the margin of his own copy, Perring wrote 'relic of cultivation experiment by Tom Pritchard, Nature Conservancy.'

Hippocastanaceae

Aesculus hippocastanum, Horse-chestnut. 'An occasional planted tree in meadows and woodland, C, D, E, G, I, K₂, M & N.' No apparent change.

**A. carnea*, Red Horse-chestnut. Planted in the gardens in G.

Aceraceae

**Acer campestre*, Field Maple. In woodland, B. Presumably planted but now established.

A. pseudoplatanus, Sycamore. 'Originally planted but now a well established weed tree regenerating vigorously in meadows and woodland; all compartments except K₁ & K₂.'

Oxalidaceae

Oxalis corniculata, Procumbent Yellow-sorrel. 'Rare in a garden bed, H. An infrequent alien in Shropshire.' This year it was abundant in grassland by the tea-rooms, D.

O. acetosella, Wood-sorrel. 'Rare in woodland, I.' Also in B this year.

Geraniaceae

Geranium dissectum, Cut-leaved Crane's-bill. 'Rare to occasional in arable fields and in meadows, A, C, D, E, F & K₂.' No apparent change.

G. pusillum, Small-flowered Crane's-bill. 'Rare in short dry grassland, B & C.' Seen this year in A, C & K₂.

G. molle, Dove's-foot Crane's-bill. 'Rare to frequent in meadows, dry grassland and woodland, C, D, F, J, K₁, K₂, L, M & N.' No apparent change.

G. robertianum, Herb-robert. 'Rare to frequent in meadows and woodland, A, B, D, H & M.' Still there.

Erodium cicutarium, Common Stork's-bill. 'Rare to occasional on bare ground, C & L.' Seen only in K₂ this year.

Balsaminaceae

**Impatiens capensis*, Orange Balsam. In the wet woodland in B, D & H: a new 10km square for an introduced species that was first recorded in the county in 1984. It is now well established along the rivers Tern and Roden, where it was found by Frank Perring at Market Drayton in 1988. It is a delicate plant, and is not considered by even the most ardent nationalist to be a threat.

**I. glandulifera*, Indian Balsam. Frequent along the banks of the Tern in D & H. This introduced species was first recorded in Shropshire in 1910, and is now common along all the larger rivers. It thrives in the eutrophicated, disturbed soils that typically occur after river engineering works.

Araliaceae

Hedera helix, Ivy. 'Rare to occasional in hedgerows and woodland, and in otherwise bare areas, A-F, H, I, K₁ & M.' Still in much the same places. All plants appear to be *Hedera helix* ssp. *helix* – the native form.

Apiaceae

- Hydrocotyle vulgaris*, Marsh Pennywort. 'Marshes and pond margin, K₂ & L.' Still present in the pond in K₂ at SJ554100.
- Sanicula europaea*, Sanicle. 'Rare to occasional in woodland, A, B & C.' Still present, but rare, in A & B.
- Chaerophyllum temulum*, Rough Chervil. 'Rare in woodland, C.' Still there.
- Anthriscus sylvestris*, Cow Parsley. 'Rare to occasional in meadows and woodland, A-E, H, J & K₁.' Now very rare in grassland, but abundant along the banks of the R. Tern in B, D & K₁.
- Conopodium majus*, Pignut. 'Rare to frequent in meadows and woodland, B-G, I & J.' It is now abundant in the meadow in D and occasional in woodland elsewhere.
- Aegopodium podagraria*, Ground-elder. 'Rare to occasional as a garden weed, on verges, in grassland and in woodland, A, D, F, H, K₁ & M.' Still there.
- Oenanthe fistulosa*, Tubular Water-dropwort. 'Occasional to locally abundant in ditches, E & F.' This is a plant that has declined dramatically in Shropshire. It occurs in the new pond in the Deer Park (K₂) at SJ554100, but possibly nowhere else in the park.
- O. crocata*, Hemlock Water-dropwort. 'Occasional to locally abundant in ditches and beside R. Tern, B, E, F, H, I & K₂.' Still present along the Tern in D and by a pond in F.
- O. aquatica*, Fine-leaved Water-dropwort. 'Rare to occasional in stagnant ponds in the Deer Park, L & M. Near its western limit in Great Britain here.' Seen only in one pond in M this year.
- **Conium maculatum*, Hemlock. Not listed by Perring, but first recorded by Whild & Lockton in 1997. It occurs by the Tern in I.
- Apium nodiflorum*, Fool's Water-cress. 'Occasional to abundant in ditches, E, F, G, K₁ & N.' Still there, and along the banks of the Tern in D.
- **Cicuta virosa*, Cowbane. Some 20 plants in a pond in I (SJ556107), where it has apparently been known for several years.
- Angelica sylvestris*, Wild Angelica. 'Rare to occasional in damp meadows, beside ponds and along the banks of R. Tern, where it also occurs as an epiphyte in pollarded willows.' Seemingly much rarer than before.
- Heracleum sphondylium*, Hogweed. 'Rare to locally abundant in meadows, woodland, and on the banks of the R. Tern, A, B, C, F, H, K₁ & M.' If anything, more widespread and abundant than previously.

†*Torilis japonica*, Upright Hedge-parsley. 'Rare on verges and in meadows, A & M.'

Gentianaceae

- ††*Centaurium erythraea*, Common Centaury. Jennifer Roberts recorded this species at Attingham Park in June 1976. There are no other records of it.

Apocynaceae

Vinca major, Greater Periwinkle. 'Established in woodland beside R. Tern, H.' Still there and in a cottage garden in D.

Solanaceae

- Solanum nigrum*, Black Nightshade. 'Rare weed of arable fields, gardens and waste places, A, G & M.' Abundant in gravel at the base of the stable block wall and under a tree in D, and along a track in K₂.
- S. dulcamara*, Bittersweet. 'Occasional to locally abundant in wet woodland beside ponds and R. Tern, B, C, D, F, H, I & M.' Also in E & N this year.

Convolvulaceae

- Convolvulus arvensis*, Field Bindweed. 'Rare to occasional in arable fields, A & C.' Only by the glasshouse this year, A.
- Calystegia sepium*, Hedge Bindweed. 'Rare to occasional in meadows, hedges and woodland, and on the banks of R. Tern, A, E, H & K₁.' Also on the banks of the Tern in D this year.

Boraginaceae

- Symphytum officinale*, Common Comfrey. 'Rare to occasional on banks of R. Tern and elsewhere in damp grassland, A, D, F & H. Both cream and carmine flowered forms occur.' Still by the Tern in B, I and K₁ in 2005.
- S. ×uplandicum*, Russian Comfrey. 'Rare in meadows and hedgerows, A, E & K₁.' Also in I this year.
- **S. tuberosum*, Tuberous Comfrey. Several patches in woodland in A, notably at SJ54621037, where it was found by Jane Ing this year. Undoubtedly planted, but seemingly well naturalised. Also in E & H.
- Anchusa arvensis*, Bugloss. 'Rare in bare ground, B.' It was recorded in the Deer Park, K₂, in 2004 (Whild & Lockton).
- Myosotis scorpioides*, Water Forget-me-not. 'Occasional to abundant on the margins of ponds, in ditches and along the banks of the R.

Tern, B, C, D, F, G, H, K₁ & K₂.' Also in E this year.

M. laxa, Tufted Forget-me-not. 'Rare to frequent on the edges of ponds and in ditches, C, K₁, K₂, L & N.' Also in M this year.

M. arvensis, Field Forget-me-not. 'Rare in bare ground, B.' Also in A this year.

**Myosotis discolor*, Changing Forget-me-not. First recorded here by Jennifer Roberts in 1978, on fieldwork for Sinker's Flora. This year it was occasional in short grassland in K₁.

Cynoglossum officinale, Hound's-tongue. 'Rare to occasional in dry grassland in the Deer Park, K₂, M & N.' First recorded here by Beckwith in 1880. In 2005 it was present mainly along the bank of the ditch in K₂.

Verbenaceae

††*Verbena officinalis*, Vervain. Recorded only by Beckwith in 1880.

Lamiaceae

Stachys sylvatica, Hedge Woundwort. Occasional to locally abundant by ditches and in woodland, A-F, H & N.' Still frequent throughout.

†*S. ×ambigua*, Hybrid Woundwort. 'This hybrid between *S. palustris* and *S. sylvatica* is frequent along both banks of the R. Tern east of the House, D & K₁.' Not seen there this year, despite searching for it.

S. palustris, Marsh Woundwort. 'Rare to occasional in marshy areas beside R. Tern, B & H.' This year it was seen by the Tern in D & H.

†*S. arvensis*, Field Woundwort. 'Rare in arable fields, C & D.'

Ballota nigra, Black Horehound. 'Rare to occasional in bare ground and meadows, A, C & M.' Still present in the same areas.

Lamium album, White Dead-nettle. 'Rare to frequent in gardens, meadows and woodland, A, D, E, F, H, I, K₁ & M.' This year it was frequent along the banks of the Tern in D and scattered elsewhere.

†*L. purpureum*, Red Dead-nettle. 'Occasional to frequent in arable fields, meadows, hedgerows and woodland, A, C, D & H.'

Galeopsis tetrahit, Common Hemp-nettle. 'Rare to occasional in meadows and woodland, B, D & I.' Still present in the same areas.

**Scutellaria galericulata*, Skullcap. In the ditch in K₂.

**Teucrium scorodonia*, Wood Sage. Occasional in B & I.

Ajuga reptans, Bugle. 'Occasional in meadows and woodland, B & I.' Still there.

Glechoma hederacea, Ground-ivy. 'Occasional to abundant in meadows and woodland, and as an epiphyte on pollarded willows beside R. Tern. All compartments except G, K₂ & N.' Still there.

Prunella vulgaris, Selfheal. 'Occasional to frequent in meadows and woodland, A-G, K₁, L & M.' No change.

Lycopus europaeus, Gipsywort. 'Rare to occasional beside ponds, in ditches and on the banks of R. Tern, B, C, D, F, H, K₁, M & N.' Still frequent along the Tern, and in a pond in K₂ this year.

††*Mentha arvensis*, Corn Mint. First recorded at Attingham by Jennifer Roberts in 1978, but also found by P.S. Green in about 1980, and added by Perring as an annotation to his own copy of the Flora at about that time.

M. aquatica, Water Mint. 'Occasional to frequent in ditches and along the bank of R. Tern, B, C, H, K₁, K₂ & M.' Still present, although perhaps less abundant than before.

†*M. ×piperita*, Peppermint. Written in by Perring on his own copy of the Flora, for compartment F.

Callitrichaceae

Callitriche stagnalis, Common Water-starwort. 'Rare to locally abundant around the margins of ponds, in ditches and beside R. Tern, B, C, F, K₁, K₂, M & N.' No apparent change.

**C. platycarpa*, Various-leaved Water-starwort. Most of the water-starwort in the Tern is probably this species, but fruits have not yet been found so it is impossible to be certain.

**C. obtusangula*, Blunt-fruited Water-starwort. Occasional in the Tern in D.

†*C. brutia*, Pedunculate Water-starwort. 'Occasional in ponds and ditches, K₂ & L. The specimen from the pond in L was subsp. *pedunculata*.'

Plantaginaceae

Plantago major, Greater Plantain. 'Rare to frequent in bare areas, short grassland and woodland, A-D, F, G, H, J, K₁, L & M.' No change.

P. lanceolata, Ribwort Plantain. 'Occasional to locally abundant in arable fields and meadows, A-D, F, G, H & J.' No change.

Buddlejaceae

**Buddleja davidii*, Butterfly-bush. Established on walls and disturbed ground in A.

Oleaceae

Fraxinus excelsior, Ash. 'Rare to occasional in meadows and woodland, A-E, H, I, K₁, M & N.' No change. Ash is naturally dominant in the

calcareous woodland in B, but is rare on the more acid soils east of the Tern.

Syringa vulgaris, Lilac. 'Occasionally planted in woodland beside R. Tern, B & H.' Still there.

Ligustrum vulgare, Wild Privet. 'Rare to occasional in woodland, C, H & J.' There is a bush immediately below the bridge in H; possibly planted here.

Scrophulariaceae

†*Verbascum thapsus*, Great Mullein. 'Rare in bare areas in dry grassland and on banks, B, F & M.'

Scrophularia nodosa, Common Figwort. 'Rare in dry grassland and open woodland, B, I, K₂, M & N.' Still there in 2005.

S. auriculata, Water Figwort. 'Rare to frequent in wet places at the edge of ponds, in ditches and along the banks of the R. Tern, where it also grows as an epiphyte on pollarded willows. C, D, E, F, H, I, K₁, K₂ & M.' Apparently much rarer now – seen only in the carr woodland at the north end of compartment B.

†*Mimulus guttatus*, Monkeyflower. 'A rare introduction established beside R. Tern, D.'

**Cymbalaria muralis*, Ivy-leaved Toadflax. A few plants on the stonework of the bridge over the Tern at SJ55220989. Not previously recorded in this area.

Digitalis purpurea, Foxglove. 'Rare to frequent in meadows, woodlands and on dry banks, A, B, I, K₂, L, M & N.' No change.

Veronica serpyllifolia, Thyme-leaved Speedwell. 'Rare to frequent in damp grassland, B, J, K₁, K₂, L & M.' No apparent change.

**V. officinalis*, Heath Speedwell. Found this year beside a path in the Deer Park, I & K₂.

V. chamaedrys, Germander Speedwell. 'Occasional to frequent in gardens, meadows and woodland; all compartments except K₁.' No change.

**V. montana*, Wood Speedwell. Found this year in woodland in B. It seems unlikely that Perring would have missed it, so either it has become more abundant or it has colonised as this largely planted woodland matures.

†*V. scutellata*, Marsh Speedwell. 'Rare in a ditch, K₂.' In his annotated copy of the Flora, Perring changed the description from 'ditch' to 'marshy area,' but we have not refound it in either.

V. beccabunga, Brooklime. 'Rare to frequent in ditches, on the margins of ponds and in other wet areas, B, C, F, G, H, K₁, K₂, M & N.' No obvious change.

V. anagallis-aquatica, Blue Water-speedwell. 'Occasional by R. Tern, B.' This year there were several plants beside the Tern in D, just above

the bridge, where the marginal vegetation is cut to improve the vista.

V. catenata, Pink Water-speedwell. 'Occasional to frequent in ditches and at the margin of ponds, and near R. Tern, B, C, F, G, K₁ & K₂.' In 1955 Edward Rutter made the first county record at Attingham Park. This year it was present in ponds in C & F.

V. arvensis, Wall Speedwell. 'Bare areas in gardens and meadows, C, D, F, J, K₂, M & N.' No apparent change.

†*V. agrestis*, Green Field-speedwell. 'Frequent in gardens, D.'

†*V. polita*, Grey Field-speedwell. 'Occasional in gardens, D.'

†*V. persica*, Common Field-speedwell. 'Rare to frequent in gardens, arable fields, on walls, bare places in meadows and woods, A, D, F & J.'

V. filiformis, Slender Speedwell. 'Locally abundant in lawns and meadows, D & H.'

**V. hederifolia*, Ivy-leaved Speedwell. First recorded here in 1995 (Whild & Lockton); presumably overlooked by Perring because it dies down in the summer. It is frequent in woods and on bare ground in A, B & D and presumably elsewhere.

†*Odontites vernus*, Red Bartsia. 'Rare on verge of road, C.'

Campanulaceae

**Campanula rotundifolia*, Harebell. A patch was found by Hugh Cutler this year, by the Mile Walk in compartment D. Not previously recorded in the park or in this tetrad.

Rubiaceae

Galium palustre, Common Marsh-bedstraw. 'Rare to frequent in ditches, around the margin of ponds, and beside R. Tern, C, F, I, J, K₁, K₂ & L.' No change.

G. verum, Lady's Bedstraw. 'Rare to frequent in dry grassland, D, G & M.' Abundant on the ha-ha in D and also in K₂ and N this year.

G. aparine, Cleavers. 'Occasional to frequent in meadows and woodland and as an epiphyte in pollarded willows beside R. Tern, A-I, K₁ & M.' Now abundant – locally dominant – beside the Tern in B & D and frequent elsewhere, A-N.

Caprifoliaceae

Sambucus nigra, Elder. 'Rare to frequent in meadows and woodland, A-F, I, J, K₁, L & M.' No change.

†*Viburnum opulus*, Guelder-rose. 'Occasional in woodland, B.'

Symphoricarpos albus, Snowberry. 'Planted near R. Tern, B.' Still there, and in H.
Lonicera periclymenum, Honeysuckle. 'Occasional in woodland, B & H.' Also in I.

Adoxaceae

**Adoxa moschatellina*, Moschatel. This is another spring plant that was overlooked during Perring's summer courses. It is abundant in woodland in B, where it was first recorded by Jennifer Roberts in 1978. It occurs as an epiphyte on a willow in B.

Valerianaceae

Valeriana officinalis, Common Valerian. 'Rare in marshes and wet places in woodland, B, D, H & I.' Still present; quite frequent along the banks of the Tern.

Dipsacaceae

**Dipsacus fullonum*, Wild Teasel. This was not listed by Perring in his original Flora, but he wrote it into his own copy in about 1980, when it was recorded by Peter Green. Jennifer Roberts had already clocked it for Sinker's Flora in 1978, however, and in 2005 it was locally frequent by the Tern in I. It seems unlikely that Perring would have missed it, so it is probably a genuine addition to the flora.

Asteraceae

Arctium minus, Lesser Burdock. 'Occasional in open woodland, on banks of R. Tern and as an epiphyte on pollarded willows there, B, C, D, F, H, I, J & M.' Also in E. Perring also noted the presence of *Arctium pubens* (= *A. minus* ssp. *pubens*) in D, but this is no longer recognised by taxonomists.

†*A. nemorosum*, Wood Burdock. 'Rare in bare ground, F.'

†*Carduus crispus*, Welled Thistle. 'Rare in woodland near R. Tern, B, H, K₁.'

Cirsium vulgare, Spear Thistle. 'Occasional to frequent in meadows throughout the Park and as an epiphyte on pollarded willows by R. Tern; all compartments except I & J.' No change.

C. palustre, Marsh Thistle. 'Rare to occasional in ditches and on margins of ponds, B, E, F & M.' No change.

C. arvense, Creeping Thistle. 'Frequent to abundant in arable fields and meadows; all compartments except H, I & L.' Less abundant than formerly, but still widespread.

Centaurea nigra, Common Knapweed. 'Rare to occasional in grassland and waste places, D & M.' No apparent change.

†*Cichorium intybus*, Chicory. Not listed in the Flora, but added to the list by Peter Green in about 1980; compartments A & D. Jennifer Roberts had also recorded it for Sinker's Flora project in 1978.

Lapsana communis, Nipplewort. 'Rare to occasional in meadows and woodland, B, D, H, I, K₁ & M.'

Hypochaeris radicata, Cat's-ear. 'Rare to frequent in short grassland and open woodland, A, C, D-G, K₁ & N.' No change.

Leontodon autumnalis, Autumnal Hawkbit. 'Rare in meadows, D, E, K₁ & M.' Seen only in C this year.

†*L. hispidus*, Rough Hawkbit. 'Rare on lawns, D.'

†*L. saxatilis*, Lesser Hawkbit. 'Rare in short, dry grassland, D, G & K₁.'

†*Tragopogon pratensis*, Goat's-beard. 'Rare in meadows, L & M.'

†*Sonchus arvensis*, Perennial Sow-thistle. 'Rare in bare ground, H.'

S. oleraceus, Smooth Sow-thistle. 'Rare in arable fields and on bank of R. Tern, A & H.' On the banks of the Tern in D this year.

S. asper, Prickly Sow-thistle. 'Occasional to frequent in waste places, arable fields, garden beds and open grassland, A-D, F, H & K₁.' Also seen in K₂ this year.

**Lactuca serriola*, Prickly Lettuce. In unused flower beds in A and by the Tern in D. It is an introduced species that was known as a casual in Shropshire as long ago as 1904, but only became established here in the late 1970s.

Taraxacum officinale agg., Dandelion. 'Rare to frequent in garden beds, arable fields and meadows and as an epiphyte on pollarded willows by R. Tern, A, C-H, M & N.'

†*Taraxacum laevigatum* agg., Lesser Dandelion. 'Rare to occasional in short, dry grassland, particularly in the Deer Park.'

Crepis capillaris, Smooth Hawk's-beard. 'Rare in bare ground and open grassland, C, F & K.' Still there.

**C. vesicaria*, Beaked Hawk's-beard. First recorded this year in A (SJ546103, Whild).

**Pilosella officinarum*, Mouse-ear-hawkweed. Not listed in Fl. Attingham, but added to the list by Peter Green in about 1980 (D). It is also in B.

†*Hieracium acuminatum* (as *H. strumosum*, det. P.D. Sell). 'Occasional in dry grassland, D.'

Gnaphalium uliginosum, Marsh Cudweed. 'Rare to frequent in bare ground, arable fields and

ditches, B, C, E, H & K₁.’ Seemingly much rarer now; seen only near the farm in C.

Bellis perennis, Daisy. ‘Occasional to frequent in short grassland, D-G, K₂ & M.’ No change.

†*Tanacetum vulgare*, Tansy. ‘Rare in meadows, E.’

Artemisia vulgaris, Mugwort. ‘Rare to occasional in meadows and woodland, B, D, F, H K₁.’ Less frequent now – by the Tern in K₁.

Achillea millefolium, Yarrow. ‘Occasional in meadows, waste places and on ditch banks, A, C, D, F, G, K₁ & M.’ No change.

**Leucanthemum vulgare*, Oxeye Daisy. In a wild flower area in D.

Matricaria recutita, Scented Mayweed. ‘Frequent to abundant in waste places, arable fields and open grassland on the Home Farm, A, C, D, F & G.’ Now quite rare – seen only near the farm in C.

M. discoidea, Pineapple Weed. ‘Occasional to locally abundant in waste places, arable fields and open grassland, A-D, F, G & K₁.’ Much rarer now, seen only in C this year.

†*Tripleurospermum inodorum* (as *T. maritimum* agg.), Scentless Mayweed. ‘Rare to occasional in open grassland and on the banks of R. Tern, B, K₁, L.’

Senecio jacobaea, Common Ragwort. ‘Occasional to frequent in meadows, B, C, D, G, J, K₁ & K₂.’ No obvious change.

†*S. aquaticus*, Marsh Ragwort. ‘Rare in a wet meadow, K₁.’

**S. squalidus*, Oxford Ragwort. Found this year by Pam Green near the farmhouse in C.

S. vulgaris, Groundsel. ‘Occasional to locally abundant, sometimes dominant in waste ground, garden beds, arable fields and open grassland, A-F, H, K₁, K₂ & M.’ Much less abundant now, but still widespread on the sides of tracks and on other disturbed soils.

†*S. sylvaticus*, Heath Groundsel. ‘Occasional in open grassland, B.’

†*Tussilago farfara*, Colt's-foot. ‘Rare to locally frequent in bare ground and meadows, A, D & F.’

**Petasites hybridus*, Butterbur. By a ditch in E.

†*Bidens cernua*, Nodding Bur-marigold. Recorded by Green in B in about 1980.

B. tripartita, Trifid Bur-marigold. ‘Rare to frequent on the margin of ponds and along bank of R. Tern, B, D, H & K₁.’ First recorded here by Rutter in 1955. Still there along the Tern.

Butomaceae

Butomus umbellatus, Flowering Rush. ‘Rare to frequent at the margin of a pond and on banks of R. Tern, D, H & K₁.’ Gone from the pond in D,

which was completely dry, but still quite frequent

Alismataceae

Sagittaria sagittifolia, Arrowhead. ‘Frequent in R.

Tern above the bridge, K₁. Near its western limit in Great Britain here.’ It was first recorded here by Beckwith in 1880, and is still present in some abundance immediately above the bridge, but it seems to have gone from other stretches. There are no recent records of it further west than this, and it appears to be in decline in Shropshire.

Alisma plantago-aquatica, Water-plantain.

‘Occasional in ditches and along banks of R.

Tern, B, F, H, K₁ & K₂.’ Also in a pond in I this year.

Hydrocharitaceae

**Elodea canadensis*, Canadian Waterweed. Rare in the Tern, D.

**E. nuttallii*, Nuttall’s Waterweed. Occasional in the Tern, D.

Potamogetonaceae

Potamogeton natans, Broad-leaved Pondweed.

‘Rare to occasional in ponds and in R. Tern, F, K₁ & K₂.’ Not seen in the Tern this year, but it is abundant in a pond in the Deer Park (K₂).

†*P. perfoliatus*, Perfoliate Pondweed. There is a specimen of this at the Natural History Museum, collected by E.B. Benson in the Tern at Attingham in 1898. It was also recorded by Pat Parker in 1989, just above the bridge (SJ552099).

**P. berchtoldii*, Small Pondweed. Found this year in a pond in F by Mark Duffell (conf. Lockton).

†*P. crispus*, Curled Pondweed. ‘Locally abundant in one pond, F.’

Potamogeton pectinatus, Fennel Pondweed.

‘Occasional in R. Tern, D.’ Still there.

Araceae

Arum maculatum, Lords-and-ladies. ‘Rare to occasional in woodland and shady grassland, C, D, F, I & M.’ Also in B this year.

Lemnaceae

**Lemna gibba*, Fat Duckweed. In 1989 Pat Parker first recorded it in the Tern at SJ552099.

Shropshire is on the edge of the range for this south-eastern species, which was not widely recorded here until the 1980s. It was still in the Tern this year.

L. minor, Common Duckweed. ‘Occasional to locally abundant in ditches and ponds, F, G, H,

K₁, K₂ & M.' Frequent along the margins of the Tern this year, in B, D, K₁ & I, and in ponds in C & I.

- **L. minuta*, Least Duckweed. In ponds in F & I.
L. trisulca, Ivy-leaved Duckweed. 'Rare in one pond, F.' Rare in a pond in K₂ this year.

Juncaceae

- Juncus bufonius*, Toad Rush. 'Rare to locally abundant in bare areas by ponds, in ditches and beside R. Tern, B, C, K₁ & K₂.' Seemingly much rarer now – only on disturbed ground in C.
- J. articulatus*, Jointed Rush. 'Rare to frequent in ditches and round ponds, F, K₁, K₂ & M.' Seen this year in the pond in K₂.
- †*Juncus* × *surrejanus* (*J. acutiflorus* × *articulatus*). 'Rare around the margin of a pond, C.' This is still the only Shropshire record of this hybrid rush.
- J. acutiflorus*, Sharp-flowered Rush. 'Rare to locally abundant in ditches and in damp grassland, F, K₂, M & N.' No obvious change.
- J. inflexus*, Hard Rush. 'Occasional to locally abundant in ditches, by ponds, and beside R. Tern, D, J, K₁, K₂, M & N.' Still there, and in a pond in C.
- J. effusus*, Soft Rush. 'Occasional to abundant in ditches, at the margin of ponds and on banks of R. Tern, C, D, F, I, J, K₁, K₂, L, M & N.' No apparent change.
- **J. conglomeratus*, Compact Rush. In a damp hollow in the Deer Park, K₂ (SJ55421015).
- Luzula campestris*, Field Wood-rush. 'Rare to occasional in meadows, E, F, G & K₂.' Also in M & N this year.

Cyperaceae

- Eleocharis palustris*, Common Spike-rush. 'Frequent in a ditch, K₂.' Seen only in the new pond at SJ554100 (K₂) this year.
- †*Schoenoplectus lacustris*, Common Club-rush. 'Occasional in R. Tern above the bridge.'
- †*Isolepis setacea*, Bristle Club-rush. 'Rare in a ditch, K₂.'
- ††*Carex paniculata*, Greater Tussock-sedge. Recorded by W.E. Beckwith in 1880, 'in ditches.' Not seen again at Attingham, although it is listed for the tetrad SJ50P in Sinker's 1985 Flora of Shropshire.
- C. otrubae*, False Fox-sedge. 'Rare in ditches and by ponds, E & F.' This year it was along the ditch in K₂.
- **C. spicata*, Spiked Sedge. This was first recorded at Attingham Park by Sarah Whild in 2004; it is

widespread in the grassland in K₂ in both SJ5509 and SJ5510.

- **C. muricata* ssp. *lamprocarpa*, Prickly Sedge. Found this year by Chris Walker in the grassland in K₂, where it is abundant.
- **C. disticha*, Brown Sedge. Not listed by Perring, but it was recorded by Beckwith in 1882, by the Tern, and was found by Chris Walker this year in the ditch in K₂.
- C. remota*, Remote Sedge. 'Rare to occasional in ditches and in damp woodland, B, C, H & K₂.' Still there; also by the pool in I.
- C. ovalis*, Oval Sedge. 'Rare to occasional in damp meadows, in ditches, and round the margins of ponds in the Deer Park, J, K₂, L & N.' No obvious change.
- C. hirta*, Hairy Sedge. 'Rare to frequent in damp meadows, ditches and around ponds, C, E, F, J, K₂, L, M, N.' Apparently much less widespread now, being common only in the Deer Park, K₂.
- †*C. acutiformis*, Lesser Pond-sedge. 'Occasional in a ditch, K₂.'
- ††*C. riparia*, Great Pond-sedge. Listed by Beckwith in 1882, but not recorded since then.
- C. pseudocyperus*, Cyperus Sedge. 'Rare to occasional in a ditch and at the margin of a pond, F & M.' Also in the ditch in K₂ this year.
- C. vesicaria*, Bladder-sedge. 'Rare at the margin of a pond, L.' Still there this year. Beckwith recorded it as long ago as 1882.
- C. flacca*, Glaucous Sedge. 'Rare in a ditch, K₂.' Still there this year.
- C. viridula* ssp. *oedocarpa* (*C. demissa*), Common Yellow Sedge. 'Rare in a ditch, K₂.' Found by Wlaker in the same place again this year.
- **C. caryophyllea*, Spring Sedge. Found by Sarah Whild this year on the ditch bank in K₂.
- **C. pilulifera*, Pill Sedge. Found by Sarah Whild this year on the ditch bank in K₂.
- †*C. acuta*, Slender Tufted-sedge. 'Occasional in one ditch, K₂.' It was first recorded here by Beckwith in 1882, who described it as 'by the Tern, near Attingham, in several places.' We did not find it there, and it seems to have disappeared from the catchment of the Tern altogether and is now found in Shropshire only along the Severn.

Poaceae

- Festuca pratensis*, Meadow Fescue. 'Rare in one ditch, K₂.' This year it was seen in pasture in D.
- †*F. arundinacea*, Tall Fescue. 'Rare in old garden area, A.'
- F. gigantea*, Giant Fescue. 'Occasional to frequent in woodland, B, D & H.' Still there.

- F. rubra*, Red Fescue. 'Occasional to frequent in meadows everywhere, A, C, E, F, G, J, K₂, M & N.' No obvious change.
- F. ovina*, Sheep's Fescue. 'Rare in open grassland, C.' Also in D & K₂ this year.
- †[×]*Festulolium loliaceum* (*F. pratensis* × *Lolium perenne*). Pencilled in later by Perring for K₁.
- Lolium perenne*, Perennial Rye-grass. 'Frequent to abundant in meadows throughout the Park, all compartments except C, H & I.' Also in C this year.
- †*L. multiflorum*, Italian Rye-grass. 'Rare in a meadow, E. Relic of cultivation.'
- Vulpia bromoides*, Squirrel-tail Fescue. 'Occasional to abundant in waste places and dry open grassland, D, F, K₂ & N.' Seen only in K₂ this year.
- Cynosurus cristatus*, Crested Dog's-tail. 'Occasional to abundant in meadows, A-D, F, G, J, L, M & N.' Still there.
- Poa annua*, Annual Meadow-grass. 'Frequent to abundant in waste places, open grassland and in woodland. All compartments except E, I & K₁.' Still there.
- P. trivialis*, Rough Meadow-grass. 'Frequent to abundant in meadows and woodland throughout the Park; all divisions.' Apparently no change: this is the only species that is recorded in all compartments.
- **Poa humilis*, Spreading Meadow-grass. Frequent in grassland. Much of what was previously recorded as *P. pratensis* turns out probably to have been *P. humilis*.
- P. pratensis*, Smooth Meadow-grass. 'Frequent to abundant in meadows, A, C, F, G, J, K₂, L & N.' *Poa pratensis sensu stricto* was recorded by Hoare & Knowles only in K₂ this year.
- **P. nemoralis*, Wood Meadow-grass. A few plants in woodland near the glasshouse in A.
- Dactylis glomerata*, Cock's-foot. 'Occasional to abundant in meadows and woodland, and as an epiphyte on pollarded willows by R. Tern. All compartments except I, K₁ & K₂.' Still common.
- Glyceria maxima*, Reed Sweet-grass. 'Abundant on both banks of R. Tern, B, D, H & K₁.' Still there.
- G. fluitans*, Floating Sweet-grass. 'Occasional to abundant in ditches and around the margins of ponds, E, F, G, K₁, K₂, L, M & N.' No obvious change.
- †*G. [×]pedicellata* (*G. fluitans* × *notata*), Hybrid Sweet-grass. 'Occasional in a wet meadow, K₁. *G. plicata* (= *G. notata*) has not been noticed in the Park.'
- G. declinata*, Small Sweet-grass. 'Rare in one marshy area, E.' In a pond in K₂ this year.
- Arrhenatherum elatius*, False Oat-grass. 'Occasional to abundant in meadows, D, E, F, K₁ & M.' Also in A, B & C this year.
- Trisetum flavescens*, Yellow Oat-grass. 'Rare to occasional in meadows on Home Farm, D, E, F & G.' Now scattered in D and rare in K₂.
- Deschampsia cespitosa*, Tufted Hair-grass. 'Rare to frequent in damp meadows, E & K₁.' Still present in the Deer Park, K₁ & K₂. The plants are *D. cespitosa* ssp. *cespitosa*.
- Holcus lanatus*, Yorkshire-fog. 'Occasional to abundant in meadows and woodland; all compartments except C & K₂.' Also in C this year.
- H. mollis*, Creeping Soft-grass. 'Occasional to abundant in bare ground, arable fields and woodland, A, B, D, F, I, J, L & M.' Also in K₁ this year.
- Aira praecox*, Early Hair-grass. 'Rare in dry, sandy grassland, K₂.' Now widespread in K₂.
- Anthoxanthum odoratum*, Sweet Vernal Grass. 'Occasional to frequent in meadows and open woodland, D-G, J, L, M & N.' Also in K₂ this year.
- Phalaris arundinacea*, Reed Canary-grass. 'Frequent to abundant in ditches and along banks of R. Tern, B, F, H, I, K₁ & N.' Also in a pool in C this year.
- Agrostis capillaris*, Common Bent. 'Occasional to abundant in meadows and woodland, and as an epiphyte on pollarded willows beside R. Tern, A, B, D, F, G, H, I, K₁, K₂ & M.' Still there.
- †*A. gigantea*, Black Bent. 'Frequent to abundant in arable fields and open grassland, A, B & E.'
- A. stolonifera*, Creeping Bent. 'Occasional to abundant in arable fields, ditches and meadows, and as an epiphyte on pollarded willows beside R. Tern; A, B, D, E, H, K₁ & K₂.' Still frequent in wet areas; also in C this year.
- Alopecurus pratensis*, Meadow Foxtail. 'Occasional to abundant in arable fields, ditches, meadows and open woodland, A-H, K₁, M & N.'
- A. geniculatus*, Marsh Foxtail. 'Rare to frequent in ditches, on the margin of ponds and in damp meadows, B-G.' Also in a ditch and pool in K₂ this year.
- †*A. aequalis*, Orange Foxtail. 'Frequent on the margin of one pond, D. Here at its western limit in the British Isles.' Since then it has been found in Ireland and it appears to have expanded both its range and its abundance within its range in Britain - although in the New Atlas this is attributed to better recording and it is described as declining. The pool where it occurred has dried up, and there was no *A. aequalis* there this

year; this was only the second known site for it in Shropshire.

Phleum pratense, Timothy. 'Occasional to abundant in meadows and woodland, C, D, G, K₁, K₂ & M.' No obvious change.

Bromus hordeaceus, Soft-brome. 'Occasional to abundant in bare areas and open grassland, D, G, J, K₁ & N.' No obvious change.

†*Bromus* ×*pseudothominei* (*B. thominei*), Lesser Soft-brome. 'Rare to occasional in dry, open grassland in the Deer Park, L & M.'

Bromopsis ramosa, Hairy Brome. 'Frequent in woodland, B.' Also now in woodland in A, D & F.

Anisantha sterilis, Barren Brome. 'Rare to frequent in meadows and woodland, A, C, D, K₁ & M.' No obvious change.

Brachypodium sylvaticum, False-brome. 'Rare to occasional in open woodland, D & I.' Also in B & C this year.

†*Elymus caninus*, Bearded Couch. 'Frequent in dry woodland, B.'

Elytrigia repens, Common Couch. 'Occasional to locally abundant in gardens, arable fields, ditch banks and rough grassland, A, C, D K₁.' Scattered plants were seen this year in A, B & D.

**Hordeum murinum*, Wall Barley. Found this year by Ray Knowles in a gateway near the car park in D, and it also turned up in C, F & H.

Sparganiaceae

Sparganium erectum, Branched Bur-reed. 'Frequent to locally abundant in ditches, at the edges of ponds and along the banks of R. Tern, B, D, F, H, K₁ & K₂.' Still present in places along the Tern, in a ditch in K₂, and in pools in F & M.

**S. emersum*, Unbranched Bur-reed. In the Tern in D & K₁.

Typhaceae

**Typha latifolia*, Great Reedmace. William Beckwith recorded this species by the River Tern at Attingham Park in 1880, but it was not recorded there again until this year, when there were stands by the river both above and below the bridges (H & K₁) and in pools in C, F & I.

Liliaceae

Fritillaria meleagris, Fritillary. Not listed in Perring's Flora, but recorded by him on 5th June

1970 as planted in grassland in D. This year there were five plants.

Polygonatum multiflorum, Solomon's-seal. 'Planted near the house, D.' Naturalised in a wooded area, A.

†*Ornithogalum angustifolium*, Star-of-Bethlehem. 'Occasional in grassland, D. Originally planted here.'

Hyacinthoides non-scripta, Bluebell. 'Frequent to abundant in woodland, B, F, I & J.' Also in D.

Galanthus nivalis, Snowdrop. 'Locally abundant in woodland, D.' Still there. The double-flowered variety, *G. nivalis* forma *pleniflorus*, is well established around the entrance to the park at Atcham, and in Ismore Coppice opposite.

Ruscus aculeatus, Butcher's-broom. 'Occasional in woodland in B, originally planted.' First recorded here in 1878 by William Phillips, who described it as not wild. There are still a few plants in B & D, well naturalised.

Iridaceae

Iris pseudacorus, Yellow Iris. 'Occasional to abundant at the margin of ponds and beside R. Tern, B, F, H & I.' It is still present on the bank of the Tern in D & B, and in the wet woodland at the north end of compartment B and on the edge of a pond in C.

†*Crocus nudiflorus*, Autumn Crocus. 'Rare in woodland, E. Originally planted but well established.'

Dioscoreaceae

Tamus communis, Black Bryony. 'Rare in woodland, B.' No change.

Orchidaceae

†*Dactylorhiza purpurella*, Northern Marsh-orchid. 'One plant in a damp meadow to the south of Home Farm, F.' SJ544098, on 7th June 1970. At the time, this was close to the southern limit of the species' known range in Britain but, either by better recording or by real change, this limit seems to have shifted towards the south somewhat, making the Attingham site less exceptional. The plant had gone by 1985 (Perring).

**Orchis mascula*, Early-purple Orchid. Some two dozen plants in woodland in B. First recorded here by Ron Iremonger in 2004.

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Index to genera

Acer	13	Carex	19	Fritillaria	21	Mimulus	16	Schoenoplectus	19
Achillea	18	Carpinus	7	Fumaria	7	Moehringia	8	Scrophularia	16
Adoxa	17	Castanea	7	Galanthus	21	Myosotis	14	Scutellaria	15
Aegopodium	14	Centaurea	17	Galeopsis	15	Myosoton	8	Senecio	18
Aesculus	13	Centaurium	14	Galium	16	Nuphar	5	Silene	8
Agrostis	20	Cerastium	8	Geranium	13	Odontites	16	Sinapis	11
Aira	20	Ceratocarpus	7	Geum	11	Oenanthe	14	Sisymbrium	10
Ajuga	15	Chaerophyllum	14	Glechoma	15	Ononis	12	Solanum	14
Alisma	18	Chamerion	13	Glyceria	20	Orchis	21	Sonchus	17
Alliaria	10	Chelidonium	6	Gnaphalium	17	Ornithogalum	21	Sorbus	12
Alnus	7	Chenopodium	7	Hedera	13	Ornithopus	12	Sparganium	21
Alopecurus	20	Cichorium	17	Heracleum	14	Oxalis	13	Spergula	8
Anagallis	11	Cicuta	14	Hieracium	17	Papaver	6	Spergularia	8
Anchusa	14	Circaea	13	Holcus	20	Persicaria	8	Spiraea	11
Anemone	6	Cirsium	17	Hordeum	21	Petasites		Stachys	15
Angelica	14	Claytonia	8	Hottonia	11	Phalaris	20	Stellaria	8
Anisantha	21	Conium	14	Humulus	7	Phleum	21	Symphoricarpos	17
Anthoxanthum	20	Conopodium	14	Hyacinthoides	21	Phyllitis	5	Symphytum	14
Anthriscus	14	Convolvulus	14	Hydrocotyle	14	Picea	5	Syringa	16
Aphanes	11	Cornus	13	Hypericum	9	Pilosella	17	Tamus	21
Apium	14	Coronopus	11	Hypochoeris	17	Pinus	5	Tanacetum	18
Arabidopsis	10	Corylus	7	Ilex	13	Plantago	15	Taraxacum	17
Arctium	17	Crataegus	12	Impatiens	13	Platanus	7	Taxus	5
Armoracia	10	Crepis	17	Iris	21	Poa	20	Teucrium	15
Arrhenatherum	20	Crocus	21	Isolepis	19	Polygonatum	21	Thalictrum	6
Artemisia	18	Cymbalaria	16	Juglans	7	Polygonum	9	Thlaspi	11
Arum	18	Cynoglossum	15	Juncus	19	Polystichum	5	Thuja	5
Asplenium	5	Cynosurus	20	Laburnum	12	Populus	9	Tilia	9
Athyrium	5	Dactylis	20	Lactuca	17	Potamogeton	18	Torilis	14
Atriplex	8	Dactylorhiza	21	Lamium	15	Potentilla	11	Tragopogon	17
Azolla	5	Deschampsia	20	Lapsana	17	Primula	11	Trifolium	12
Ballota	15	Digitalis	16	Larix	5	Prunella	15	Tripleurospermum	18
Barbarea	10	Dipsacus	17	Lathyrus	12	Prunus	12	Trisetum	20
Bellis	18	Dryopteris	5	Lemna	18	Pteridium	5	Tsuga	5
Betula	7	Eleocharis	19	Leontodon	17	Quercus	7	Tussilago	18
Bidens	18	Elodea	18	Leucanthemum	18	Ranunculus	6	Typha	21
Brachypodium	21	Elymus	21	Ligustrum	16	Reseda	11	Ulex	12
Brassica	11	Elytrigia	21	Lolium	20	Rhododendron	11	Ulmus	7
Bromopsis	21	Epilobium	12	Lonicera	17	Ribes	11	Urtica	7
Bromus	21	Equisetum	5	Lotus	12	Robinia	12	Valeriana	17
Bryonia	9	Erodium	13	Luzula	19	Rorippa	10	Verbascum	16
Buddleja	15	Erophila	10	Lycopus	15	Rosa	12	Verbena	15
Butomus	18	Eschscholzia	7	Lysimachia	11	Rubus	11	Veronica	16
Buxus	13	Euphorbia	13	Lythrum	12	Rumex	9	Viburnum	16
Callitriche	15	Fagus	7	Mahonia	6	Ruscus	21	Vicia	12
Caltha	6	Fallopia	9	Malus	12	Sagina	8	Vinca	14
Calystegia	14	Festuca	19	Malva	9	Sagittaria	18	Viola	9
Campanula	16	*Festulolium	20	Matricaria	18	Salix	10	Viscum	13
Capsella	10	Filipendula	11	Meconopsis	6	Sambucus	16	Vulpia	20
Cardamine	10	Fragaria	11	Medicago	12	Sanicula	14		
Carduus	17	Fraxinus	15	Mentha	15	Saxifraga	11		
