

NEWSLETTER

April 2008

No. 12

Polypodiums in Surrey

George Hounsome

Last November I acquired the use of a microscope capable of the degree of magnification necessary to clearly see the annulus of ferns, so as a winter project and to punish myself for unspecified sins I started to look at *Polypodium* spp. in Surrey. Three taxa have been recorded here: *Polypodium interjectum*, *P. vulgare* and the hybrid between them *P. x mantoniae*. In addition, some records are of *P. vulgare* *sl.*, where the recorders were unsure of the species perhaps because they were sterile or they were not reachable for closer examination. To confuse the issue slightly, some older records of *P. vul.* *ss.* could be any of them because they were made before the genus was subdivided.

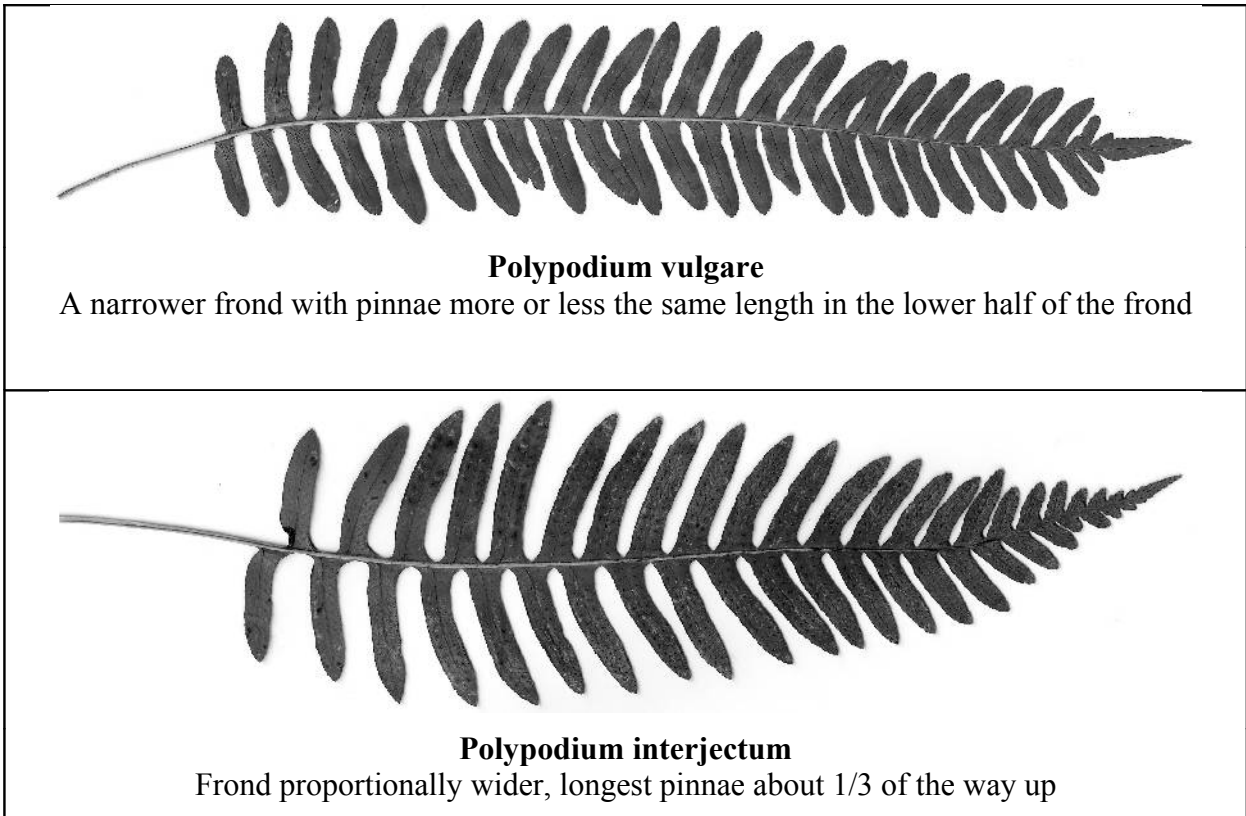
I had three aims. The first was to check my own *Polypodium* records to see if I had got them right, the second was to visit the sites of records made by the stars of the past to see if the ferns were still there and the third was to look for new sites. The first of these was easily accomplished (and the necessary amendment made!), but the second and third will take more than a single winter! The oldest record in Mapmate is of *P. vul. sl.*, growing on the walls outside Pyrford School (and still there), made in 1957 by Miss B. Welch (BW). Others were made by a variety of people, but recorders active in the '60s and '70s include Jack Gardiner (JCW), Alan Leslie (ACL), W.E. Warren (WEW), and D.P. Young (DPY). The method was simple: go to the given grid reference and have a good look around. It was easy to plot those in a particular area and devise a tour to include them all with a minimum of driving. It soon became clear that by far the majority of older records were from roadsides and in the course of checking these I looked for new ones. It's convenient to be out botanising by car when there's a bitter northerly and the hail bounces off your bald patch but pretty tedious on those clear and crisp February days with the sun gleaming on the Surrey Hills, so I wandered about the heaths and woods quite a lot as well. Most sites visited were in the western half of the county, within 20 miles of my home.

I was surprised how many polypodies were still present where recorded in the sixties. Failure to re-find them may have been because they'd died out, because the site had been destroyed, or because I was looking in the wrong place. Walls are usually easily re-found but particularly vulnerable, both to cleaning and to demolition. Guildford Castle is easily found but all the ferns on its walls have been murdered by renovation, leaving a renovated ruin which is still a ruin but with less character. In 1965 DPY recorded *P. vul.* on the garden wall of Runwick House, west of Farnham, but in 2008 I found the wall but not the fern. I looked for the colony he found on the wall of Frensham Hall, but couldn't even find the hall, let alone the wall. There was a nice old wall on the site of Brookwood Hospital with *P. int.*, but it was destroyed when the site was housed over. On the positive side, most of the roadside colonies in the far west of the county are still there and there are a lot in previously unlisted sites, of all descriptions.

The habitats fall into a few fairly well-defined types. Banks, low or high, steep or gentle, whether by footpath, track, road, hedge or ditch, are very popular, and may have any of the three taxa. Surrey is well-stocked with old walls, drystone or mortared, brick or ironstone, structural, retaining or boundary, and a polypody on them is usually *P. int.* However, take nothing for granted: I've found at least four exceptions, not all on the same type of wall. *P. vul.* grows on a low brick wall by an ex-church in Brook Rd, Wormley, on an ironstone retaining wall in Church Lane, Sandhills, on top of a brick wall near Lambeth Palace and on the east wall of Tilford churchyard (which has *P. int.* on the south wall). A variant on the wall theme is the tiled roof of the lych gate of the churchless churchyard in Old Church Lane, Farnham, which is covered with *P. int.* Epiphytic polypodies may be at the extreme base of tree trunks (all *P. vul.* so far), on mossy trunks, branches and stumps of fallen trees (all *P.*

int. so far) or, in Oakwoodhill churchyard, along the branches of a mature oak at about 5 metres, well out of reach of stumpy little ladderless mortals like me (looks like *P. int.* from the size and frond outline). This is a more common habitat in the damper, oceanic west of the country, but so far the only one I've found in Surrey. I must emphasise that this is all based on a limited sample from a restricted area of the county and I don't doubt that some refining will be required with more experience.

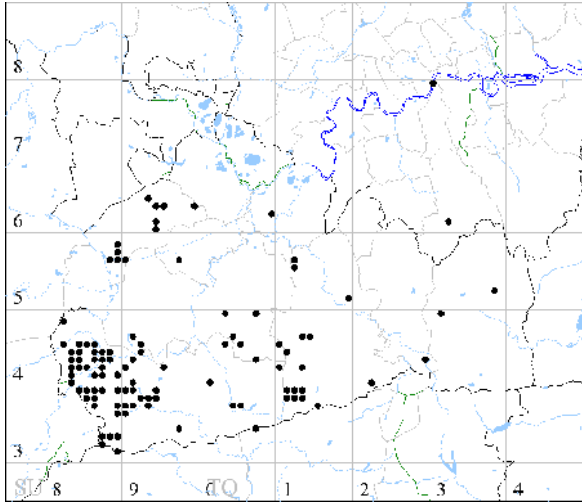
Identification of the species is not necessarily straightforward, even with a microscope and forgetting about *P. x mant.* for the time being. Characters such as frond colour and outline, serration, degree of inflexion of the lowest pinnae, sorus shape and habitat are a guide but can be unreliable. The scans below show characteristic frond outlines, but there are many variations and short of a chromosome count the best way to id them is to look at the annulus.



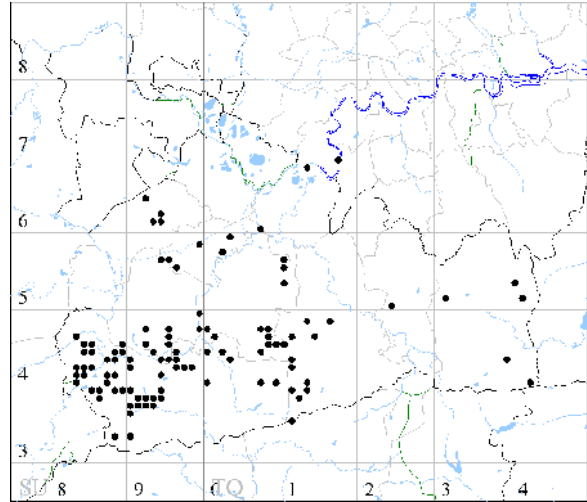
Microscopically, typical *P. vul.* has a shining, deep red-brown annulus, 12-13 (ish) indurated cells and a single basal cell about the width of the annulus. *P. int.* is much less constant, with an annulus of varying degrees of paleness, 8-9 (ish) indurated cells and basal cells in 2-3 rows, usually clearly wider than the annulus. Plants that remember this give no trouble but there are a few that are distressingly intermediate. Some fronds of *P. int.* have a darker than usual annulus, 10-11 indurated cells and basal cells indistinctly in two rows and not much wider than the annulus. Sometimes there appear to be two different types of sporangium in the same sorus! If plants have two clear basal cells in at least one annulus I have recorded them as *P. int.* Both this species and *P. vul.* are normally fertile and produce nice oval, yellow spores. Their hybrid *P. x mant.* seems to be quite widespread and grows in vigorous colonies on roadbanks in Surrey, not necessarily with both or either parent. The fronds are fairly large, up to 45cm, the majority of the sporangia are withered and the few that are not, produce a very high proportion of whitish, misshapen, sterile spores. The difficulty is differentiating it from plants of the species which have just had a bad season and produced nothing but dud sporangia. More on that in a future newsletter. I've pressed a frond from most of the colonies I've seen and require expert advice to help me get a handle on the problem. I have yet to get to grips with the shape of the rhizome scales in any species.

The distribution of the species as shown in MapMate [MM] must show a degree of recorder bias but that's only part of the story:

P. vulgare



P. interjectum



Records are heavily concentrated in the south-west corner of Surrey and this is also where the largest, most luxuriant colonies are. The spots in MM don't differentiate between a strong colony and a miserable little plant gasping for breath on a city wall. Except for a few places on greensand to the south and west of Dorking records in the rest of the county are rather sparse. *P. int.* is slightly more evenly spread because of its predilection for mortared walls. I'm sure there are many unknown Polypodium sites, especially on private land out of the sight of botanists. Yesterday I walked past the boundary wall of the old Goldsworth School in Woking, which is also the side wall of someone's garden, as I must have done hundreds of times in the last twelve years. I looked at self-sown Rosemary growing on it and flowering well, just to gladden my heart, and then saw for the first time a healthy colony of *P. int.* beyond, obscure from the pavement unless you happened to look from the right spot. Interestingly, the wall looked to me to be made of the same materials as the one at Pyrford School where BW found her fern in 1957, which I can now safely assign to *P. int.* thanks to the microscope.

And so the winter project is likely to continue into the spring and beyond into the next winter or two. I would be grateful for any information on polypodies you might see in any of the less recorded areas, on walls, banks or trees in towns or villages, maybe you could drop me a line or e-mail or send me a fertile frond, with site details and grid reference, and I'll put it into MM.

Surrey Rare Plant Register

Ann Sankey

The more experienced MapMate [MM] users have been steadily working through the records for species included in the Draft List of species to be considered for inclusion in the Register [SyRPR]. At the time of going to press, about 414 species out of a total 444 species in the list have been data-based. This represents a tremendous effort by John Dicker, George Hounsome, Steve Mellor, Lynn Whitfield and, earlier in the year, Peter Follet. I am extremely grateful to them for this. All members should have copies of this list. It was sent out electronically in March in two forms, in status order as per the New Red Data List, 2005, and in alphabetical order. It should be included with this Newsletter for those without e-mail.

Progress is also continuing with the species accounts for the SyRPR; those for the CR and EN categories being more or less finished and a start has been made on the VU species. Members who know some species well or who enjoy writing are more than welcome to join the writing team.

We really must continue to record the CR to NT taxa as part of our national responsibilities. The Least Concern category is the one that may cause confusion. Remember that this is the national status. Included here are some of our very rare and declining species. The case of *Lycopodium clavatum* (Stag's-horn Clubmoss) is such an example. Despite searches this winter, no plants have

been found and it seems as though for the moment we may have lost this species. Its last two recorded sites, on Winterfold and the non-National Trust part of Limpsfield Chart having been destroyed during operations by private landowners to clear the sides of the tracks within the plantations. Not only must we record these species but we must ensure that the data flows to the Surrey Biological Information Centre [formerly SyBRC], to landowners and planners via the SNCI selection process; hence the importance of the SyRPR. The more up to date the records included in it, the more valuable it will be. Null records are very important. It is essential that you report that you could **not** find a species, even after extensive searching. Otherwise, how do we know that it has gone from a site or that someone has looked for it? It is obvious really, but is not something that always occurs to people. Notes on the suitability of the habitat to support the species are also important.

Lingfield field meeting – 4th June 2006 - A correction

Roger Hawkins

We had met at Lingfield railway station and proceeded to the Lingfield Wildlife Area, two fields on the north side of the town managed for wildlife by the Tandridge Borough Council. The best find at this site was *Trifolium medium* (Zigzag Clover), which many of us had not seen previously. However, I may have spoilt the day for some people by reporting this only tentatively and provisionally in the newsletter (issue 10), since the important character of the shape of the stipules had not been checked. In this species they are long and narrow and taper gradually to a point. Since it is a perennial plant, I resolved to return to the site and check this feature in the following year.

During 2007 I re-visited Lingfield Wildlife Area on two occasions. Unfortunately, the particular area was now dominated by tall grasses and the *Trifolium* had disappeared. Further along the path, in the second field beyond the footbridge, there were several plants of *Trifolium pratense* (Red Clover), some of which had stalked heads. I took a sample of one of these and took it to a meeting of the Records Subcommittee, where we compared it with some genuine *T. medium* found on a bank by the 'up' platform at Winnersh railway station in Berkshire. The flower heads of this example of *pratense* had longer stalks than those of *medium*! We decided that the record of *medium* at the Lingfield Wildlife Area was unsafe and should be withdrawn. This is not to say that it was incorrect, just that it was an unlikely record and one cannot be absolutely sure that the identification was right. Meanwhile the Zigzag Clover remains in very serious decline in Surrey – since 2000 we have records for just seven tetrads out of the 147 mapped in Lousley's Flora of Surrey.

Sub-species

Ann Sankey

There are sub-species and there are sub-species

If, like me, you are a 'lumper' by nature, you might tend to dismiss sub-species as being for the specialist, the 'splitter', or worse 'the finickety'. However, sub-species are important and are not always difficult to distinguish. It is more a matter of getting one's mind around the concept. Two plants with sub-species have been to the fore recently as I have been writing about them for the Surrey Rare Plant Register. The species are *Monotropa hypopitys* (Yellow Bird's-nest) and *Scleranthus annuus* (Annual Knawel). The two sub-species of Yellow Bird's-nest have different chromosome numbers; *H. hypopitys* ssp *hypophegea* has 16 whereas *H. hypopitys* ssp *hypopitys* has 48. Thus they are clearly genetically separate entities. However, distinguishing them is not very easy. Stace, in *New flora of the British Isles*, suggests that the only reliable characters are chromosome number and pubescence. Only the latter can be used in the field; ssp *hypophegea* is mainly glabrous whereas ssp *hypopitys* has pubescent stamens, carpels and inner surfaces of its petals. Salmon 1934 lists sites for the two ssp as well as for the aggregate taxon. As he describes them as var. *glabra* and var. *hirsuta*, there will be some validity in these lists, even without the use of chromosome counts. Lousley 1976 quotes the work of D. P. Young in attempting to plot any differences in distribution between these two subspecies. The results appear to be inconclusive, in part because the identification varied from year to year. It will still be worth attempting to do this again, so please, when you find Yellow Bird's-nest, could you inspect its inner-most parts to see if they are hairy.

The two sub-species of Annual Knawel are ssp *annuus* and ssp *polycarpus*. The latter has a much more restricted distribution in the British Isles than the former and because it may be under-recorded it is placed in the Data Deficient category in the Red Data List 2005. The sub-species can be

separated on achene size and divergence of the sepals when in fruit. Again it is worth doing this as both have been recorded recently in Surrey. However I do appreciate that many recorders are so pleased to find this inconspicuous plant that they rarely remember to note whether or not it has fruit, let alone the details of these. A small ruler is a useful piece of field gear or, a tip I learnt from Anne Bebbington formerly of Juniper Hall, is to paste some graph paper to the back of one's notebook. Things to be measured can easily be laid on this to give accurate results.

The third species that I have been thinking about recently is *Ranunculus ficaria* (Lesser Celandine). Of its two native sub-species, *R. ficaria* ssp *ficaria* has 16 chromosomes and *R. ficaria* ssp *bulbilifer* has 32. They can be distinguished in the field, but only at the right time. I was reminded of this by an article written by Alan Knapp, Co-Recorder for West Sussex, for the Sussex group's Newsletter. The Sussex Recorders have been checking their lists for erroneously recorded ssp *ficaria*. As the bulbils that are the main feature of the other ssp do not develop until after flowering, it is impossible to separate them during flowering or before. At this stage, all one can do is list *R. ficaria*. So, any records for ssp *ficaria* seen in March or before are unlikely to be valid and have been deleted. I will be doing the same. So please look at Lesser Celandine when recording in late April onwards. With the vagaries of the seasons, it is not easy to say exactly when, but the plants will tell you. Look out for large colonies of the plant with yellowing leaves. If you can see small bulbils in the axils of these leaves, then it will be ssp *bulbilifer*. N.B. – do not confuse the underground root tubers with above ground bulbils. You can also check on the number of achenes, which are generally few in number. Absence of bulbils, in smaller patches, with full heads of achenes will indicate ssp *ficaria*. There is some evidence that the above two sub-species occupy slightly different habitats, another aspect that is worth investigating further. There are two other, not native, sub-species of *Ranunculus ficaria*, ssp *ficariiformis* and ssp *chryrocephalus*. Both of these have significantly larger flowers than the native ones and can be distinguished by this, even though the former also forms bulbils. If you think you have found either of these, check petal length and width of the flower when open. We have several records of ssp *chryrocephalus* scattered throughout Surrey.

Several sedges have sub-species. One example is *Carex muricata* (Prickly Sedge); ssp *pairae*, formerly *lamprocarpa*, is the only sub-species recorded in Surrey and is fairly common in acid grassland. By contrast, ssp *muricata* is quite rare, with a nationally very restricted range. Both sub-species of *Carex divulsa* (Grey Sedge) are found in Surrey. Sometimes it can be quite easy to separate them. Useful tips are that *C. divulsa* ssp *divulsa* is a dull dark green and is found on mainly acidic soils, whereas *C. divulsa* ssp *leersia* is a bright green and grows on calcareous soils. It is important to use the keys for length of the flowering spike and the distance between the spikelets to be certain of one's identification, and in most cases it is possible to separate them. Unfortunately there are plants that seem to be intermediate in their characters. If you find a colony of these, please note this when sending in your records.

Yet another group of species with sub-species are those where there is a widespread native taxon and a fodder sub-species. For example, *Sanguisorba minor* ssp *minor* is the Salad Burnet of the downs, whereas *S. minor* ssp *muricata* is Fodder Burnet. It has been found recently in some fields sown with a seed mix designed to give nectar sources under 'Stewardship' schemes.

There are many other cases where careful observations at the time of recording do make for better records. I hope these examples will encourage you to check the keys so that you too can be a recorder of sub-species with long names.

Botanising in Cyprus?

John Montgomery

I have spent some years botanising in North or Turkish Cyprus and have a small collection of books and pamphlets including a Flora. Would anyone like to have this free of charge? If so, please get in touch by email:- jm.montgomery@btinternet.com.

Elizabeth Norman 1918-2007

Alan Leslie

With the death of Elizabeth Norman in September last year we have lost another link to a generation of botanists whose names may be familiar to many of you, but who were known personally to

increasingly few of us: individuals such as Ted Lousley, Violet Schwerdt, David McClintock and Lady Anne Brewis. On a very wet Mortlake station platform when we were both on the way to Liz's funeral I found myself sitting on the same bench as one of Lady Anne's sons and it turns out that she and Liz were cousins. She also had other impeccable connections to the family of the 17th century Sir John Cotton, who had moved his family seat to Madingley Hall near Cambridge. In recent years Liz had donated some of the family portraits she had inherited back to the Hall, which is now run by the University. Liz had started botany early, joining the Wild Flower Society, as Miss Elliott, in 1931 when the then President, Mrs E.V Dent, commented on her 'neat and careful Diary: a keen and competent botanist'. She went up to St Hughes College at Oxford and rowed for the University against Cambridge and was in the winning crew in 1939, her oar being a treasured family possession! After coming down, during the war, she was recruited into the Civil Service and worked in London throughout the blitz. She continued as a member of the Wild Flower Society all her life, serving it as Meetings Secretary (1973-78), as General Secretary (1980-86) and then a long stretch as editor of its magazine (as well as being a branch secretary!). She kept up her Botanists Diary, travelling widely to see new plants and achieving the ultimate goal of the Parnassus branch, notching up a final score just short of 2,700 plants at the time of her death.

She and her husband, Gerald, together with their three children (Clarissa, Geoffrey and Philip) lived in almost palatial splendour in their house in London. Gerald was at one time a foreign correspondent for The Times in Paris and latterly was an editor in the foreign news department of the BBC. For some time they also had a house at Rodmell in East Sussex and Liz retained a strong affection for the flora of the Cuckmere and Ouse valleys, frequently returning to record and to lead meetings there. Her recording efforts are marked by acknowledgements in the Hall's *Sussex Plant Atlas* (1980) as well as Lousley's *Flora of Surrey* (1976), Burton's *Flora of the London Area* (1983) and the 2004 BSBI *Atlas*. Our own records bear witness to that 'keen and competent botanist': in the 1988 Surrey Flora Committee Newsletter for example, one finds her records of *Juncus x diffusus* and *Senecio viscosus x squalidus* at Walton and in 1990 of *Rorippa amphibia x palustris* at Barnes, evidence indeed of a sharp and discerning eye. Barnes Common was a favourite stamping ground and she came to know its flora well, often taking others to see the plants that she had found and writing a short account of its Flora. She led many meetings for the WFS, LNHS and the SFC and attended many more, especially in the London area.

Always rather deprecating about herself and her abilities, Liz was in truth a very intelligent and capable individual, diminutive in stature but with a lively personality and keen sense of humour. In late middle age she returned to earlier academic pursuits to teach A level History and coach students for Oxford and Cambridge entrance exams. However I will remember her best as an amateur botanist out in the field looking for new plants. Whilst she would chase after a new alien plant like the best Parnassian, what really gave her most pleasure was a new native plant in unspoilt surroundings; how pleasing it is to report then that in June 2007 she enjoyed a botanically rewarding trip to southern Ireland with her daughter Clarissa. In her willingness to give unstintingly of her time to Societies that shared her interests she set an example that many today would do well to try and emulate.

February 2008

Field Meeting - Reigate Heath - 28th April 2007

Roger Hawkins

The first field meeting of 2007 was marked by warm sunny weather and an excellent turn-out of 23 people, although two left at lunchtime and two more came only for the afternoon. We were pleased to welcome several new members, among whom was Simon Elson who knows the area extremely

well, having led many conservation working parties cutting back the birch, pine and bracken that are tending to overrun the heath.

The field meetings of this Society have always been notorious for making very slow progress through constantly looking at plants, but this party was possibly the slowest ever! We took the whole morning to travel the 400 metres, (about a quarter of a mile), between the car park and the main road (A25). We started on the broad verge of Flanchford Road and then crossed cricket ground and football pitch, looking at the small annual plants flowering in profusion among the mown grass. Many are specialists of sandy soils and we made sure that everyone could recognise the lovely little *Ornithopus perpusillus* (Bird's-foot) which like many other species found here, is much more common on the heaths in the West of the County. Also, *Cerastium semidecandrum* (Little Mouse-ear) and *Moenchia erecta* (Upright Chickweed), and we helped distinguish *Trifolium micranthum* (Slender Trefoil) from the *T. dubium* (Lesser Trefoil) growing nearby. The *Moenchia*, a specialty of the site, was in full flower and appeared to be quite widespread in grassy places on the Heath.

A problem arose when one group found a small clover with heads of few white flowers and identified it as *Trifolium ornithopodioides* (Bird's-foot Clover). Another group found a similar plant and named it *T. subterraneum* (Subterranean Clover)! By exchanging positions we realised that both identifications were correct, since only the latter plant had downy leaves and stems. This species, like all others at this spot, had been dwarfed by the constant mowing, but was found growing to its natural size by the road junction.

Here, in the ditch on the north side of the football pitch, were many dead stems of last year's *Aira caryophyllea* (Silver Hair-grass), found here by Barry Phillips on a previous meeting. Also found were two more small clovers, *Trifolium striatum* (Knotted Clover) and *T. arvense* (Hare's-foot Clover), neither of which were in flower. The verge of the main road is broad and raised above the level of the sports ground. A patch of *Cynodon dactylon* (Bermuda-grass) has been known here for over fifty years. It flowers later in the year, but its creeping runners could be seen extending out into the road. On the south-facing bank there were many plants of the annual *Lepidium campestre* (Field Pepperwort). On previous visits this plant had been misidentified as the perennial *L. heterophyllum* (Smith's Pepperwort) which has the style protruding beyond the notch at the tip of the fruit. Confusion arose since the style also protrudes on *campestre* until the fruits are fully mature.

There were old records for both subspecies of *Scleranthus annuus* (Annual Knawel), but we were not exactly sure of the spot and hunted aimlessly for a while before finding a few plants growing in the heavily trampled penalty area on the eastern side of the football pitch. Much *Chamaemelum nobile* (Chamomile) grows on the southern side of the pitch and on the adjacent (and overlapping) cricket ground, so we duly picked and smelled some leaves, but would need to return in the autumn to see the flowers. We wondered how so many uncommon plants could thrive in an area heavily used by the public for walking and riding horses, as well as playing football, cricket and golf. The answer seems to be that the site is an SSSI, and has a Management Steering Group which carefully regulates all activities, such as the application of herbicides, that are potentially damaging.

It took us just five minutes to return for lunch in and around the car park, and afterwards we explored the area known as Old Moors Farm on the east side of the Heath. Formerly, some twenty-five years ago, this consisted of beautiful marshy fields with rare sedges and orchids drawn up to three feet high by the lush vegetation. Unfortunately, drainage and the falling water table have taken their toll, and there is a stark contrast between one's memory and present-day reality. We found a barren wasteland of dead willow trees and lifeless columns that had once been *Carex paniculata* (Greater Tussock-sedge). Only ragwort was thriving on the dry soil, but we did find one or two tussocks of *Carex* hanging on to life in one spot that seemed to retain moisture better than elsewhere.

A long walk across the golf course took us to some alder carr to the west side of the Heath, where we searched for *Chrysosplenium alternifolium* (Alternate-leaved Golden-saxifrage), long known from this spot beside the Shag Brook. It had last been seen on the north side of the path, across the brook, but this area was difficult to access. However, Barry Phillips eventually succeeded in finding a few plants along the brook on the south side of the path. We returned by way of the clubhouse and admired the *Anthriscus caucalis* (Bur Chervil) growing there, looking much like cow parsley but with spiny fruits. Growing so close to buildings and gardens, it seemed to be an introduction, but it is in fact a native plant known here, and at similar sites on sandy soil, for over a hundred years.

Our final diversion was to see a single plant of *Vaccinium myrtillus* (Bilberry) among a large area of heather below the raised tee of the fourth hole of the golf course. Bilberry had been considered lost from the Heath, but this clump was found by one of our members, David Baldock, while doing field work for his forthcoming book on the bees of Surrey. This is to be published this autumn by the Surrey Wildlife Trust. We were delighted to see that all the hard work put into conserving the heathland is allowing lost species to return.

Errors and Corrections

Editor

1). The sharp eyed (and knowledgeable) of you will have noticed the error in the Field Meeting Report for Denbies Hillside in the last Newsletter. The reference to *Bromus ramosus* (Wood Brome) should have read *Hordelymus europaeus*, (Wood Barley). The leader appologises for this.

2). I have to apologise to Ann Sankey for the errors that I inserted into two of her articles in the last Newsletter. These were page number references to other pieces in that Newsletter. Although I must accept the blame for the errors, I would like to point out that they were caused by a re-arrangement of the articles required to fit in three other pieces submitted nearly two weeks after the copy date, (No Names – No Pack drill)! Would contributors **PLEASE** do their very best to meet the copy date in future. Thank you. **Ed.**

BSBI Maps Scheme – aka Atlas updating Project

Ann Sankey

I have written several times about this scheme and will probably have to do so again, just to keep it near the front of our minds. This need was emphasised recently as I learnt that one Committee member was not aware of it! No criticism is implied – we are all busy people. However, it is my responsibility as Vice-County Recorder to ensure that we have as full a coverage of recording as possible. In outline, this is a scheme being trialled by BSBI whereby all records submitted to it are divided into date classes and, from 2000 onwards, these will be in 10 year periods. The advantage of this is that changes in distribution can be shown more accurately. The figures in the table below show records for Surrey, VC17 as at February 2008. They indicate how many dots would appear in an Atlas plotted to 10km squares. Each taxon can only appear once in a square. A score of 10 could mean 10 species in one square or one species in 10 squares.

Date Class	DC 0 pre 1930	DC 1 1931-1970	DC 2 1971-1987	DC 3 1988-1999	DC 4 2000-2009	% DC3 of DC4
No. of records	4329	20,500	9,734	23,605	15,973	68

There are two more years of recording for DC4. In order that this scheme can accurately reflect major changes in Surrey in the ten years since the recording for the New Atlas, we need to spread our recording out over all the Surrey hectads. The table below shows the number of species and the number of records recorded in each of the Surrey 10km squares. The total number of species listed in MapMate is 2253. Of course some hectads are smaller than others, being shared with neighbouring Vice counties. This should make it easier to record in these. Even so, when entering the lists for last year’s Basingstoke meeting in SU85, there were such common species as *Geum urbanum* that had not been recorded.

Our records are sent to BSBI on a regular basis via MapMate. Thus a browse of the BSBI Maps Scheme website shows our progress quite well. By progress, I also mean work at data-basing our records as well as recording effort. I think we have done remarkably well in both areas, so my very grateful thanks to those of you who have entered records in MapMate in addition to those who have submitted records. Please continue with this effort.

Table of the Vc17 10km squares, with number of *species recorded* and number of records.

Like they say about buses, you wait for ages, and then three turn up together. So it has been for *Lappula squarrosa* in Surrey. The first record was in 1911, then four more until 1948, and then no more. Until 2007.

In August last year, my partner and I were walking alongside the river Mole in Leatherhead, when she spotted an 'unusual' looking Forget-me-not type plant growing on a disturbed patch of dry soil on top of the river bank. The plant was about 30cm tall, but only had two small (incomplete, as it turned out) flowers left on it, and the spines that covered the small fruits were tipped with three hooks. Despite the unusual feature of the fruits, we were unable to identify this plant.

Three days later in Beddington Park, Wallington, we found another of the same plant but in better condition. This plant was growing on a heap of soil that was being used for ground repairs and finding it again so soon, I believed that it must be quite a common plant, but it turned out not to be so! The flowers were actually five petalled (not four as on the first plant), and after further research and the assistance of the BSBI referee for beginners Clare O'Reilly, we were able to decide that the plants just might be *Lappula squarrosa* (Bur Forget-me-not). Clare suggested that I should send a pressed piece to the Alien specialist (& SBS member) Eric Clement for confirmation.

By this time, the specimen from the first plant had shrivelled up and the second plant had died down, and so we returned to Leatherhead to try to collect another piece to send off. No luck, all trace of the plant had vanished. Initial disappointment was replaced with delight when 3 metres away we found another plant still in full flower, so we were able to obtain a small piece to press. Eric swiftly confirmed our identification, and so we had found three plants in two locations after an absence of being recorded in Surrey for 59 years. I had suspected that this was probably due to under recording rather than a true absence of this plant, but future events have altered my conclusions.

In October, we passed the same spot in Leatherhead, only this time it was *Guizotia abyssinica* (Niger) growing here that caught our eye. This to me, means without doubt, that both this and the *Lappula* were (accidental) introductions, and the site at Beddington Park was next to the Wildlife Hospital where large quantities of bird seed are used.

It appears that it was just a coincidence that we should find both of the *Lappula* sites within three days. Incidentally, some of the seeds that had formed on the second *L.* plant have been accepted by the Millenium Seed bank for their collection.

It might be worth your while to take a closer look at late flowering Forget-me-nots in future, you never know, it might be another Bur Forget-me-not plant!

My thanks go to Clare O'Reilly, and Ann Sankey for their help in providing information, and to Eric Clement for his determination of both species.

MapMate Database**Ann Sankey**

Currently there are twelve members who are actively using the MapMate [MM] database. All have entered their own records directly into MM and most have entered records from other recorders as well. Once one has got over the initial 'hump' associated with any new technology, MM is relatively easy to use **and** is a very quick method of producing lists. One starts by setting up the details for a site, (which is name, grid reference, recorder and date). Then by just typing in five letters, (two for the genus and three for the specific name), for example *qurob* for *Quercus robur*, MM does the rest. This includes showing the full *scientific name*, taxon authority and English name. It takes me about 30 minutes to enter an average-sized site list and about another five to extract these to Excel to have them ready for use in another document.

If you are relaxed about using Word and Excel or Access, then MM should present no problems. Please ask if you would like to use it. Members can obtain discounts, and we can help to get you started and explain the protocol we have established for databasing VC17 plant records.

To date, we have 176,000 records held in MM.

Field Meeting - Chobham Common - 25th August 2007**Paul Bartlett**

This afternoon Meeting was arranged by telephone and e-mail at less than 24hrs. notice. This was due to the cancellation of a Meeting, (due to Foot-and Mouth Disease) previously arranged for the Hog's Back. It was a lovely day, warm and sunny, and very welcome after a summer of very poor weather. 18 persons attended. Owing to the short notice, leadership arrangements were somewhat lacking, but we were rescued by the Surrey Wildlife Trust (SWT) Ranger Andy Wragg, found standing in the car-park, apparently under-employed, who kindly agreed to show us round.

Starting at Staple Hill, we descended the slopes, noting many plants typical of acid heathland. These included: *Molinia caerulea* and *Nardus stricta* (Grasses), *Calluna vulgaris*, *Erica tetralix*, and *E.cinerea* (Heaths and Heather), *Frangula Alnus* (Alder Buckthorn), *Ulex Minor* (Lesser Gorse), *Polygala serpyllifolia* (Heath Milkwort), and also *Epipactis Helleborine* (Broad-leaved Helleborine).

In the wetter areas lower down in Albury Bottom, we were able to compare *Drosera rotundifolia* and *D. intermedia* (Round-leaved and Intermediate Sundews) and there were masses of *Rhychospora alba* (White Beaksedge). Undoubtedly the 'star attraction' however, was the profusion of *Gentiana pneumonanthe* (Marsh Gentian), in perfect condition with trumpets wide open, looking absolutely splendid in the sunshine.

Some bare areas near the car-park were searched for signs of *Crassula tillaea*, (Mossy Stonecrop), previously known from here, but it was not to be seen on this occasion, no doubt due to the date being late in the season.

Under Andy's guidance, we moved to an area to the North of the Motorway to examine an unfamiliar Eyebright he had found. It did not quite correspond to any of the known species, and was subsequently determined as the hybrid *Euphrasia nemorosa* x. *confusa*, a new record for Surrey.

General recording in VC17, Surrey – towards a new flora

Ann Sankey

One of the major differences in recording for the New Atlas and the current system is that we are **not** square-bashing. Instead, we are steadily recording sites. The advantage of this system at vice-county [VC] level is that records can be localised to specific areas. This is much better ecologically and can help conserve sites. The digitisation of records helps enormously with this. At a 'flick of a button' we can bring up species lists for sites, if they have been recorded, or just as easily, lists and/or maps to show where any species has been recorded for the whole of the VC. The maps can show the distribution from absolute grid reference scale to hectad level. The more detailed or localised the record, the more useful it becomes.

This is why all members are being encouraged to **go out and record**, and in sites wherever possible or convenient. This way, we will amass a very good bank of recent records that can form the basis of the much-needed New Flora of Surrey. If you can record sites within a 10km square that is short of records, this will be to the good nationally as well as at the VC level.

I have already indicated suitable recording projects, such as the Woodland Trust sites and churchyards and cemeteries. Other useful types of sites include those owned and/or managed by Surrey Wildlife Trust, National Trust, Hurtwood Control, Local Nature Reserves, arable land and good road verges – but do take care, especially on the latter. You can also 'adopt' a tetrad and explore its little corners where unexpected records can be made – see Roger Hawkins accounts of his recording activity (SBS Newsletters 6 & 7, 2005). If you do record this way, please remember to list sites within the tetrad separately. Please ask me if you are not sure about this.

Another novel approach is to map within a parish. I recently obtained a copy of the *Flora of West Horsley*, J. Bowley, 1994. West Horsley was the home parish of the author and one which he knew well. Although I have only had this copy for a few months, I have already been able to extract some new records, even if they are in the previous date-class rather than the current one. However, this does point to places worth searching for updates. Spurred on by this, I have been mentally scanning my own parish of Mickleham. This includes two large sites, Box Hill and Norbury Park for which records are currently being compiled. However, there is still a sizeable chunk of hillside that I have been thinking about surveying for a few years. 2008 will be the year to start.

Field Meeting – Spynes Mere – 8th July 2007

Roger Hawkins

Thirteen members met in Mercers Park, south of Merstham, a small country park whose lake in a former sandpit is used mainly for sailing and fishing. It was just a short walk from here to Spynes

Mere, another lake of similar origin. This lake and its surroundings have been taken over by the Surrey Wildlife Trust as a nature reserve. Anxious to prevent the incursions and vandalism that might arise from the nearby housing estate, the Wildlife Trust has closed the northern entrance and encouraged thorny scrub to develop on this side, while providing a new entrance on the southern side away from the houses. Simon Elson, the honorary warden for the Trust, was on hand to open the gates for us and guide us around.

A track, open to the public, crosses the reserve from east to west, so the reserve is effectively divided into two parts, both fenced off. The larger northern part includes the main lake, while the southern part has some smaller ponds and ditches. We intended to make a full list and had reached sixty species before even leaving the track. Among the dense vegetation on the south side we were puzzled by a tall sedge with the narrow leaves of *Carex acutiformis* (Lesser Pond-sedge), but examination of the glumes and utricles showed it to be *C. riparia* (Greater Pond-sedge). A small pond on the north side was inaccessible but we could see both species of *Typha*. I prefer to call *T. latifolia* the Reedmace and *T. angustifolia* the Lesser Reedmace, considering that the name Bulrush has been fatally flawed by the inconsistency of the BSBI, which maintained for five decades that *Scirpus lacustris* was the Bulrush but then reversed its opinion – all because of a single painting that once hung on my grandmother's wall but is now completely forgotten.

We spent half-an-hour searching the part of the reserve south of the track, adding considerably to our list of plants from among its dense vegetation, before passing through the gates to the main enclosure on the north side. Here there were more open, sandy areas and we found some unexpected species in *Clinopodium vulgare* (Wild Basil), *Erigeron acer* (Blue Fleabane), and *Geranium columbinum* (Long-stalked Crane's-bill). In the lake itself we could only find *Elodea nuttalli* (Nuttall's Waterweed), while an unwelcome invader, *Crassula helmsii* (New Zealand Pigmyweed), was occasional along its banks. We found *Filago vulgaris* (Common Cudweed) to be frequent in the open areas, but its population did not compare with the estimate of 5,000 plants around the lake in 2005, as well as 10,000 *Filago minima* (Small Cudweed). We only found the latter species at a single favoured spot, along with *Scleranthus annuus* (Annual Knawel). The decline in the two cudweeds probably results from the natural succession which is inevitable at any post-industrial site. On the other hand, we did manage to add seventy-five species to the hundred recorded previously, and most of those were still present.

We took our lunch overlooking the lake and meditated on the ironies of life. A road accident on the nearby motorway must have caused injury to some, and frustration and delay to many others, but brought us only peace and quiet and an hour of freedom from the constant noise of passing traffic. While our thoughts were elsewhere, the sharp eyes of Dawn Edwards had spotted that one of the willows beside the lake was different from its neighbours. On close examination, it was clearly *Salix x sericans*, the hybrid between *S. viminalis* (Osier) and *S. caprea* (Goat Willow), both parents being present close by.

In mid-afternoon we left the reserve and made a short detour along public footpaths through the local countryside, heading first south-eastward through arable land towards the motorway, now busy with traffic. Between it and the arable field there was much *Equisetum telmateia* (Great Horsetail). At Lake Cottage we turned west towards Nutfield Marsh and came immediately upon a wheat field where *Chrysanthemum segetum* (Corn Marigold) grew abundantly among the crop, a rare sight nowadays. (This was at TQ310515.) The grassland on Nutfield Marsh seemed to have only a limited flora, so we made a list for the small pond on its north side. The pond was dominated by *Carex riparia*, and once again *Crassula helmsii* was present. While returning to the car park, it was a surprise to find two flowering spikes of *Anacamptis pyramidalis* (Pyramidal Orchid) growing under trees by the path around the lake in Mercers Park. We resolved to adjourn to the Inn on the Marsh to discuss the day's findings over a quick drink, but, alas, it was closed on this particular Sunday afternoon.

From the Committee

This is a new and regular item which your Committee decided was needed to keep the Membership informed of the issues discussed and decisions made.

1. Meeting held on 8th January 2008

Membership - The Secretary reported that 10 members had been contacted in October '07 concerning unpaid subscriptions for '07. Only 2 have replied, one has resigned and one has paid.

Natural England wish to add our name to a list of organisations who will supply information to developers, etc. and this was agreed. Also a request had been received from Amsterdam for identification of the flora in Millais' painting 'Ophelia'. It was agreed to circulate the request to possible candidates.

Records sub-committee - This has met 3 times this autumn/winter, Sep., Dec. and Feb. The members are Roger Hawkins (Chairman), Paul Bartlett, Ann Sankey and Alistair Kirk (SWT). It is also hoped to involve Giles Groome, an independent consultant ecologist who is a member of the Society. Sadly both Barry Phillips and Peter Follett have resigned for personal reasons. Both will be greatly missed. We still need more Mapmate recorders. We are close to an exchange of data with the Surrey Biological Records Centre at SWT. There is need for a formal agreement and Alistair Kirk is to present a draft agreement to the main committee.

Site Check lists & description - A suggestion was made that small publications concerning flora at a particular site might be undertaken by the Society. An example was Reigate Heath.

Congratulations were given to Caroline for her 'Notes for new members' which are to be placed on our web-site.

2. Meeting held on 1st April 2008

The Treasurer reported on the Society's financial position and noted that we would soon receive an additional £500 from Ann Sankey for another report that she had written. She wishes this to be added to the fund for producing the Rare Plant Register (RPR). We are all very grateful to her for another generous offering.

Membership - 33 members have yet to pay their subscriptions for 2008, and a majority of members have taken the three year subscription option.

In considering the division of responsibilities, it was agreed that Peter Wakeham would act as Membership Secretary and that Caroline Bateman would become Field Meetings Secretary, both with immediate effect.

Recording Sub-Committee - Roger reported that discussions on closer co-operation (including the exchange of records) with the Surrey Wildlife Trust were continuing. Alastair Kirk would prepare a proposals document that would be submitted to the committee for its consideration. Ann Sankey is discussing the sharing of VC17 London records with the LNHS.

Website - The latest edition of the newsletter has been put on our website and future editions will also be published there.

There was concern that we are losing members who have contributed a lot to the society, particularly with regard to MapMate input. We need new people both for MapMate and also more generally for recording.

We had been required to show public liability insurance for the Pasture Wood meeting, which the society currently does not have. The Hon. Sec. would investigate obtaining such insurance. At field meetings we should also ensure that we have available a mobile phone, GPS and First Aid kit.

A selection of the more interesting records for 2007					
<i>Asplenium trichomanes</i> subsp. <i>Quadrivalens</i>	Maidenhair Spleenwort	Lambeth, streets south of Waterloo	TQ317684	Bertrand, N. H.	A small colony on old brickwork at the top of some steps.
<i>Bromus racemosus</i>	Smooth Brome	Nutfield, FP by M23	TQ310520	SBS	
<i>Calluna vulgaris</i>	Heather	Banstead Downs	TQ249610	Groome, G.	
<i>Calystegia sepium</i> subsp. <i>roseata</i>		Bookham Common - Compartment O	TQ119565	LNHS	Robust plant climbing to 4m
<i>Campanula glomerata</i>	Clustered Bellflower	White Downs East	TQ114486	Follett, P.	
<i>Cardamine impatiens</i>	Narrow-leaved Bitter-cress	Ewhurst, Plough lane	TQ101399	Ettlinger, S.W.	Gravelly soil by road
<i>Carex caryophylla</i>	Spring-sedge	Hindhead, Devil's Punch Bowl	SU893363	SBS	
<i>Carex caryophylla</i>	Spring-sedge	Reigate, Colley Hill	TQ245522	Bateman, C	
<i>Carex caryophylla</i>	Spring-sedge	Banstead Downs	TQ249610	Groome, G.	
<i>Cerastium arvense</i>	Field Mouse-ear	Woking, Kingsway	SU998584	Hounsome, G.	In a small patch of mown grass on the N side of Kingsway at the entrance to the Surrey History Centre.
<i>Cerastium semidecandrum</i>	Little Mouse-ear	Abinger Roughs, Broomy Downs (C)	TQ103479	Leslie, J.F. & Sankey, P.A.	
<i>Cerastium semidecandrum</i>	Little Mouse-ear	Coldharbour, Cricket pitch area	TQ146438	Follett, P. & Follett, S.A.	
<i>Crepis biennis</i>	Rough Hawk's-beard	Molesey Heath	TQ1367	Alder, R., Baker, R.D., Parslow, M., Spooner, B.M. & Whitfield, L.	Elmbridge Natural History Society walk.
<i>Cyperus longus</i>	Galingale	Shalford Common, Pond	TQ004469	Crouch, H. & Rumsey, F.	
<i>Dactylorhiza maculata</i>	Heath Spotted-orchid	Bookham Common - Compartment T	TQ127561	Mellor, S. D.	In rank vegetation
<i>Diplotaxis muralis</i>	Annual Wall-rocket	Dulwich, Dulwich Cricket Club, Burbage Road	TQ324739	Bateman, C	
<i>Diplotaxis tenuifolia</i>	Perennial Wall-rocket	Mickleham, A24	TQ170537	Dicker, J.E.	
<i>Diplotaxis tenuifolia</i>	Perennial Wall-rocket	Redhill, Oakdene Road	TQ247494	Bateman, C	

A selection of the more interesting records for 2007 (Continued).					
Epilobium x floridulum	E. parviflorum x ciliatum	Wisley, RHS Gardens, Battleston Hill	TQ068580	Phillips, B.W.	Growing with many other Epilobiums in a rather rough area, just inside RHS garden
Hydrocotyle vulgaris	Marsh Pennywort	Hindhead, Devil's Punch Bowl	SU893363	SBS	In several wet flushes
Hypericum androsaemum	Tutsan	Ham, St Andrews churchyard	TQ180718	Hounsome, G.	By the lych gate
Kickxia spuria	Round-leaved Fluellen	Reigate, Clifton's Lane, Arable Field Margin	TQ239513	Bateman, C	
Lathyrus linifolius	Bitter-vetch	East Horsley, Mountain Wood	TQ093509	Mellor, S. D.	8+ plants localised in opening in wood off main ride
Lycopodiella inundata	Marsh Clubmoss	Woking, Mayford, Smart's Heath	SU984558	Groome, G.	First record since 1964
Lycopodiella inundata	Marsh Clubmoss	Ash Ranges, Wyke Common, Wet Flush	SU913522	Adler, J.	A few small plants in area burnt in 2006
Poa angustifolia	Narrow-leaved Meadow-grass	Ewell, Howell Hill	TQ239619	Taylor, E.J. & Wakeham, P.	
Polygala calcarea	Chalk Milkwort	Albury Downs	TQ041491	Dicker, J.E.	Noted from TQ04014907 to 04124905.
Polygala serpyllifolia	Heath Milkwort	Elstead Common	SU904419	Ettlinger,S.W.	2 colonies found with Molinaria coerulea.
Polygala serpyllifolia	Heath Milkwort	Pirbright Common, Dawney's Hill	SU946566	Dodd, S.G.	Restored heathland. In tufts at base of Betula scrub. Site cleared c4 years ago
Polypodium interjectum	Intermediate Polypody	Thursley Churchyard	SU901393	Hounsome, G.	On the churchyard walls and on the garden walls of the cottage to the west.
Polypodium vulgare	Polypody	Lambeth Palace	TQ308579 0	Bertrand, N. H.	On the north side of the alley between the park and Lambeth Bridge Rd
Polypodium x mantoniae	P. interjectum x vulgare	Thursley, Pitch Place	SU891392	Hounsome, G.	A good colony on the bank on the west side of Sailors Lane. Between P. int. & P. vul.
Ranunculus auricomus	Goldilocks Buttercup	Baynards Station, Downs Link	TQ076350	Ettlinger,S.W.	A particularly vigorous plant, with no petals at all.
Rhinanthus angustifolius	Greater Yellow-rattle	Ewell, Howell Hill	TQ239619	Taylor, E.J. & Wakeham, P.	New record, one or two plants only.
Rhinanthus minor	Yellow-rattle	Ewell, Howell Hill	TQ239619	Taylor, E.J. & Wakeham, P.	New record, large patch on eastern side, brought in by sheep some time in last 5 years?

A selection of the more interesting records for 2007 (Continued).					
Salix x mollissima nothovar. undulata		Chertsey Meads, Area 2c	TQ062666	Phillips, B.W.	
Salix x reichardtii	S. caprea x cinerea	Wonersh, Stream & Marsh S of Derry's Wood	TQ035451	Mellor, S.D., Sankey, P.A. & Skinner, D.	
Salix x sepulcralis	S. alba x babylonica	Guildford, Wey Navigation, Stoke Lock	TQ002516	Follett, P. & Follett, S.A.	
Salix x sepulcralis	S. alba x babylonica	Molesey Heath	TQ1367	Alder, R., Baker, R.D., Parslow, M., Spooner, B.M. & Whitfield, L.	Elmbridge Natural History Society walk.
Schoenoplectus tabernaemontani	Grey Club-rush	Shalford Common, Pond	TQ004469	Crouch, H. & Rumsey, F.	
Scleranthus annuus	Annual Knawel	Reigate Heath, Cricket Pitch	TQ241505	SBS	A small patch with many plants
Scleranthus annuus subsp. polycarpus		Shalford Common	TQ000470	Crouch, H., Moss, J. & Rumsey, F.	Approximately 50 plants
Senecio inaequidens	Narrow-leaved Ragwort	Woking, Lockfield Drive	SU973591	Hounsome, G.	One plant on the north verge of Lockfield drive, opposite Creston Ave,
Senecio inaequidens	Narrow-leaved Ragwort	Lambeth, streets south of Waterloo	TQ307790	Bertrand, N. H.	One plant in a park flower bed. Capitula larger than usual
Setaria pumila	Yellow Bristle-grass	Great Bookham, Pine Walk	TQ136547	Dicker, J.E.	Appeared in garden of 21 Pine Walk, presumably from birdseed.
Setaria viridis	Green Bristle-grass	Hampton Court, station & car park	TQ154684	Hounsome, G.	Frequent along the fence between the car park and the station
Stellaria palustris	Marsh Stitchwort	Chobham Common	SU969655	Wragg, A.	In a wet flush
Stratiotes aloides	Water-soldier	Woking, Hoe Valley Sites	TQ008574	Groome, G.	
Torilis nodosa	Knotted Hedge-parsley	Sutton, Carshalton Beeches, Prior Avenue	TQ269634	Wakeham, P.	Six plants growing between pavement and boundary fence.
Torilis nodosa	Knotted Hedge-parsley	Lambeth, streets south of Waterloo	TQ309794	Bertrand, N. H.	Abundant at the edge of a mown lawn in Royal St.
Tragopogon porrifolius	Salsify	Ham Riverlands	TQ165728	WFS	Grassy pathside
Tragopogon porrifolius	Salsify	Sutton, Anton Crescent Wetland	TQ252653	Wakeham, P.	Over 100 flowering plants on a disused gravel track.

A selection of the more interesting records for 2007 (Continued).					
Trifolium ornithopodioides	Bird's-foot Clover	Shalford Common	TQ000470	Crouch, H., Moss, J. & Rumsey, F.	
Trifolium scabrum	Rough Clover	Gomshall, Station	TQ088479	Mellor, S. D.	A few clumps beside fenced rough area to SE of Station car park
Trifolium striatum	Knotted Clover	Thursley Cricket Pitch	SU899398	Cooper, S. Mellor, S.D. & Sankey, P.A.	
Trifolium subterraneum	Subterranean Clover	Great Bookham, Pine Walk	TQ136547	Dicker, J.E.	On front lawn No 19.
Vaccinium myrtillus	Bilberry	Reigate Heath	TQ234501	SBS	Patch 4ft x 1ft on slope among gorse and seedling birch.
Veronica polita	Grey Field-speedwell	Lambeth, streets south of Waterloo	TQ309794	Bertrand, N. H.	Several plants at the edge of a mown lawn in Royal St.
In addition, the following sent in records in 2007:					
	Mary Adler	Rodney Burton		Jean Combes	Tricia Cook
	Sue Cooper	Gwyneth Fookes [many]		Chris Hall	Graham Harris
	Roger Hawkins ?	Gail Jeffcoate		Alan Leslie [Herb CBG]	John Montgomery
	Priscilla Nobbs	Rachel O'Hara		Brian Spooner	Ray Tantram
	Pat Verrall	Jimmie Walker			

		VC17, New records in 2007			
Anemanthele lessoniana	New Zealand Wind-grass	Thursley, Warren Mere	SU916407	Hounsomes, G.	Self-sown and spreading on both sides of the track from plants at the base of a fence.
Anemanthele lessoniana	New Zealand Wind-grass	Lambeth, streets south of Waterloo	TQ313792	Bertrand, N. H.	A small tuft at the foot of a wall, self-sown from nearby gardens
Anthemis austriaca	Austrian Chamomile	Bookham Common, Church Road Woods	TQ130556	Mellor, S. D.	Following deep soil disturbance above rail tunnel. EJC comment: 'not quite typical, but seems O. K.'
Carex x subgracilis	C. acuta x acutiformis	Chertsey Meads, Area 3b	TQ063662	Hounsomes, G. & Phillips, B.W.	Large colony, known for some years but only just determined. Both parents present
Cercis siliquastrum	Judas-tree	Lambeth, Geraldine Mary Harmsworth Park	TQ315790	Bertrand, N. H.	A self-sown seedling in a flower bed in the War Museum Park
Cerintho major	Greater Honeywort	Ashtead, Thirty Acres Barn	TQ199571	Follett, P. & Gale, S.W.	In dumped soil
Cortaderia richardii	Early Pampas-grass	Send Marsh, Papercourt Marshes NR.	TQ034562	Groome, G.	
Cotoneaster villosulus	Lleyn Cotoneaster	Ewell, Howell Hill	TQ239619	Taylor, E.J. & Wakeham, P.	One small shrub in pit.
Cucurbita pepo	Marrow	Sutton Abinger, Raikes Farm	TQ103463	Mellor, S. D.	Arable field edge to W of Raikes Farm, probably a single large plant on top of manure heap. Large, glaucous, globose fruits
Deutzia scabra	Deutzia	Capel, Hoyle Hill	TQ176421	Follett, P. & Follett, S.A.	Small bush in hedgerow.
Euphrasia nemorosa x confusa		Chobham Common, Firebreak	SU968652	Wragg, A.	Two colonies. Voucher specimen retained
Guizotia abyssinica	Niger	Leatherhead, R. Mole	TQ162562	Skinner, D. & Jones R.I.	A single plant on disturbed soil
Gymnocarpium dryopteris	Oak Fern	Surrey	TQ05	Skipper, R.	
Impatiens balfourii	Kashmir Balsam	Balham, Chestnut Grove	TQ2873	Vickery, R.	N side, at entrance to yard between nos. 20b and 24, on small patch of waste ground. In Herb BM (Vickery 960)

		VC17, New records in 2007			
		(Continued).			
<i>Iris foetidissima</i> var. <i>citrina</i>		Ewell, Howell Hill	TQ239619	Taylor, E.J. & Wakeham, P.	
<i>Jasminum nudiflorum</i>	Winter Jasmine	Ewell, Spring St	TQ218626	Hounsome, G.	A clump established on top of a wall on the south side of Spring St, a few metres east of Lyncroft Gardens.
<i>Lappula squarrosa</i>	Bur Forget-me-not	Leatherhead, R. Mole	TQ162562	Skinner, D. & Jones, R.	On disturbed soil, probably brought in, on top of river bank
<i>Lappula squarrosa</i>	Bur Forget-me-not	Beddington Park	TQ295655	Skinner, D. & Jones, R.	Edge of car park. On a pile of soil taken to CP for repairs to ground
<i>Origanum majorana</i>	Pot Marjoram	Redhill, Wiggie Lane Allotments	TQ283511	Bateman, C	
<i>Polypogon monspeliensis</i>	Annual Beard-grass	Horsell Birch	SU988596	Hounsome, G.	Two plants on a barish patch on the grass outside The Cricketers.
<i>Pteris cretica</i>	Ribbon Fern	Lambeth, streets south of Waterloo	TQ309790	Bertrand, N. H.	A large plant on the north-west wall of the railway viaduct.
<i>Ruta graveolens</i>	Rue	Lambeth, streets south of Waterloo	TQ314775	Bertrand, N. H.	One plant on a waste site behind railings, the ruins of St. Agnes Terrace.
<i>Stipa tenuissima</i>		Send, Burnt Common	TQ038547	Hounsome, G.	Two tufts on the edge of the traffic island on the north-east (old A3) junction of the roundabout, self-sown from plantings on the roundabout itself.
<i>Vicia bithynica</i>	Bithynian Vetch	West Molesey, Molesey Heath	TQ132673	Alder, R., Baker, R.D., Parslow, M., Spooner, B.M. & Whitfield,	Near to remains of gravel pit lake. A good colony with <i>Rumex palustris</i> and <i>Euphorbia x pseudovirgata</i>

Over thirty people still have not paid their subscriptions for 2008. If you are one of these, please would you send your cheque (£5 for one year's membership, or preferably £15 for three years membership), as soon as possible to:- Caroline Bateman, Hon Treasurer at: [\[Address removed from Web edition\]](#). Thank you.

Newsletter in colour

Editor

If you would like to see the maps (and some illustrations) in the Newsletters in colour, then look at the copy of the Newsletter on our web-site (www.surreyflora.org.uk). Unfortunately, the duplicating process does not allow for colour reproduction in the copies sent out to members.

COPY DATE – Newsletter 13

Editor

Would all contributors **PLEASE** make every effort to send your articles for inclusion in the next Newsletter to the Editor by September 30th 2008. Thank you.

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