

Somerset Rare Plants Group: Meetings Programme 2016

Please ring the leader before each meeting to say you are coming. This helps with planning and can be useful if there are changes to the programme. Parking is sometimes limited so please lift share where possible. Please bring your GPS / Mobile Phone, if you have one.

NOTE: Meetings usually start at 11am, but note that there are several that start at different times.

Sunday 3rd April Mendip Lodge Wood, Burrington (VC6)

Joint meeting with BNS. Recording spring flora in mixed woodland and conifer plantation. We aim to do a circular walk to an under-recorded monad and along the edge of Blackdown. **Meet at 11am** in the car park in Burrington Combe by the Burrington Inn BS40 7AT (ST476588). Café at the end!

Leaders: Liz McDonnell (07732 689703) & Clive Lovatt

Friday – Monday 15 –18th April Taraxacum Weekend (VC5 & 6)

This is now fully booked, but contact Simon Leach for any cancellations

A Joint meeting with BSBI. Based in Taunton, field meetings and workshop. Booking essential, as numbers are limited – and a £15 fee is charged for this event. Contact Simon Leach (01823 323782)

Leaders: John Richards (BSBI Taraxacum referee) & Simon Leach (07419 373833)

Saturday 30th April Wind Down, Quantock Hills (VC5)

Spring flora in conifer and mixed woodland on acid soil.

Meet at 11am on the roadside and forestry entrance at TA5 2EF (ST221342).

Leaders: Simon Leach (07419 373833)

Saturday & Sunday 7th & 8th May Carymoor Bioblitz (VC6)

Organised by David Reid for SANHS meeting to which SRPG members are invited. **12am** onwards on 7th, **10am – 2pm** on 8th. Meet at Carymoor Environmental Centre, Dimmer Lane BA7 7NR (ST617311). Following on from last year's SAHNS meeting, this is an opportunity to explore the wildlife of this former landfill site. Come along for one day or both. There will be a range of experts and specialist groups present, plus the staff at the Centre, so we will be looking at much more than just plants. Booking required – contact Simon Leach simonleach@phonecoop.coop

Sunday 15th May Claverham, Cleeve (VC6)

A general recording day in a very under-recorded area. Streets, lanes and streams. We may split into several groups to cover more ground. **Meet at 11am** in the Claverham Village Hall car park BS49 4NF (ST448660). Refreshments available at the Village Hall at the end of the day.

Leaders: Margaret Webster & Helena Crouch (01761 410731)

Sunday 22nd May Wambrook, Chard (VC5)

Recording in a Local Wildlife Site (LWS) with a good mixture of grassland and woodland and large number of ponds. This is a very under-recorded area and we will probably split up and record in different monads. **Meet at 11am** at the Cotley Inn TA20 3EN (ST296076)

Leaders: Conrad Barrowclough (07858 755627) & Liz McDonnell

Sunday 12th June Evercreech (VC6)

A general recording day in a very under-recorded area. Streets, lanes, grassland, hedgerows. We may split into several groups to cover more ground. **Meet at 11am** at the parking place in the wide road by the Methodist Church in Weymouth Road, Evercreech BA4 6JB (ST647386). Tea & cake available at the end of the day.

Leaders: Liz McDonnell (07732 689703) & Gill Read

Saturday 18th June Fairfield Estate, Stogursey (VC5)

Joint meeting with WFS. A recording meeting to examine some of the small ash/oak copse woodlands on this estate and some possibly interesting arable field edges. There is still a small population of Nightingales here!

Parking at 10.30am at Fairfield House at TA5 1PU (ST187430) with kind permission from Lady Gass (use either drive up to the house). Contact Ro as numbers limited.

Leader Ro FitzGerald (01278 741519) & Liz McDonnell

Sunday 19th June Durborough Farm, Quantocks (VC5)

General recording on unrecorded Quantock organic farm for which we have been granted unrestricted access. The farm has multiple habitats, with arable fields, woodland, coombes and open moor. **Meet at 11am** at the farm where parking is available at TA5 1AP (ST187351).

Leaders: Graham Lavender (07810 705043) & Ian Salmon

Tuesday 21st June (evening) St George's Flower Bank LNR, Easton-in-Gordano (VC6)

BNS meeting to which SRPG members are invited, but numbers are limited – contact Clive Lovatt

clivemlovatt@gmail.com

Sunday 3rd July

Clatworthy Reservoir, Exmoor (VC5)

Although the south and west shore of Clatworthy is well recorded there are almost no records for the east and north. We will be particularly looking for one old record for Greater Broomrape (*Orobanche rapum-genistae*). **Meet at 11am** in the car park just south of the dam, marked "P" on the 1:25,000 OS map, TA4 2EJ (ST042311).

Leaders: Graham Lavender (07810 705043) & Ellen McDouall

Saturday 9th July

Longrun Meadow & Roughmoor, Taunton (VC5)

A meeting organised by Keith Gould for SANHS, to which SRPG members are invited. Main focus on the day will be butterflies and dragonflies, but we will also be able to spend time looking at some of the scarce plants including large populations of *Galium parisiense* and *Potentilla argentea*. **Meet at 11am** the north side of the 'Park & Ride' at Silk Mills Road TA1 5AA (ST208255). No booking required, but contact Simon Leach (simonleach@phonecoop.coop) for further information

Sunday 17th July

Long Ashton (VC6)

A Joint meeting with BNS. General recording day in 2 monads in an under-recorded area. Habitats will include deciduous woodland good for ferns, several field edges, limestone grassland on the edge of the golf course and odd village corners where 'weeds' have spread from residents' gardens. The Miners Arms is a possibility for tea at the end of the day. **Meet at 11am** at the Community Centre car park at BS41 9DX (ST536703) at the bottom of Keedwell Hill at the western end of Long Ashton.

Leaders: Pam Millman (01275 392929) & Dee Holliday

Saturday 30th July

Brent Knoll (VC6)

A steep climb to the summit of this relatively unknown iconic hill by the M5, with open access. Unimproved & semi-improved grassland, woodland, green lanes, streets and churchyard. On the way back we will explore the very steep slopes on the west side of the hill – (bring a walking stick for this bit!). Park in the lanes by the church, and meet at 11am at the entrance to the footpath to the hill, on the corner of the minor road at TA9 4EF (ST335507).

Leaders: Liz McDonnell (07732 689703) & Helena Crouch

Saturday 13th August

'Get to Grips with Daisies' Identification Workshop

Need help with Hawkbits, Hawkbeards, Cat's-ears & Mayweeds? An informal opportunity to learn about the useful features which separate these similar species. Bring specimens to work through. We will have a binocular microscope and many identification books to help. Tea & coffee will be provided, but bring a packed lunch. **Meet at 10.30 for 11am** at the Earth Science Centre, Moon's Hill Quarry, Stoke St Michael BA3 5JU (ST661457) directions on <http://www.earthsciencecentre.org.uk/>

Leader: Liz McDonnell (07732 689703) & Simon Leach

Sunday 21st August (afternoon)

Botanising on the Edge: Urban Bristol - VC6/VC34 boundary

BNS meeting to which SRPG members are invited – contact Clive Lovatt clivemlovatt@gmail.com

Saturday 27th August

North Petherton (VC5)

A general recording meeting in a very under-recorded area, which has zero-few post 2000 records. An opportunity to split up into small groups to cover more ground. Urban and mixed habitats. **Meet at 11am** in the car park near the Community Centre at TA6 6SA (ST289330)

Leaders: Simon Leach (07419 373833) &

Saturday 10th September

Waterow, nr Wiveliscombe (VC5)

A Recording meeting at West Bovey in a very under-recorded area of West Somerset. Split into groups to record southwards through Bovey Bottom. **Meet at 11am** in the big layby on the B3227 at ST0427 2469, west of Waterow.

Leaders: Graham Lavender (07810 705043) & Ian Salmon

Sunday 11th September

Clapton Moor, Clapton-in-Gordano (VC6)

BNS meeting to which SRPG members are invited – contact Clive Lovatt clivemlovatt@gmail.com

Sunday 25th September

Castle Cary (VC6)

A general recording meeting in a very under-recorded area. Urban, green lanes and grassland.

Meet at 11am in Catherine's Close free car park, Castle Cary BA7 7HP (ST641325)

Leaders: Liz McDonnell (07732 689703) & Helena Crouch

Contacts: Liz McDonnell: 01934 712649 or 07732 689703 lizmcdonnell2005@gmail.com
Helena Crouch 01761 410731 or 07773 037001 helenacrouch@sky.com
Simon Leach: 01823 323782 or 07419 373833 simonleach@phonecoop.coop