

Cam Valley Wildlife Group Flora Project



Project Leader: Helena Crouch

Project Aims:

- To identify and record the flora of the Cam Valley Wildlife Group area
- To increase members' interest in, and enjoyment and knowledge of, the plant species and communities of our local area

Project Activities:

- Regular botanical walks and excursions, making detailed plant records
- Continual botanical education and development of interest in our flora
- Talks on the local flora
- Submission of records to the Botanical Society of Britain & Ireland (BSBI) and to the Local Record Centres (BRERC and SERC)
- Networking with other relevant organisations: Botanical Society of Britain & Ireland, Somerset Rare Plants Group, Bath Natural History Society, Bristol Naturalists' Society, and other local botanists
- Producing a publication (one day) on the flora of the Cam and Wellow Valleys



Project Achievements:

- From 1997 to 1999 CVWG botanists gathered data for inclusion in the New Atlas of the British & Irish Flora (published in 2002)
- The CVWG Flora Recording Project developed from this; 2022 was the twenty-sixth year of recording
- Over 65,000 plant records have now been made on regular CVWG botany walks
- More than 1000 plant species have been recorded during the weekly botany walks in the Cam & Wellow Valleys
- Over 250 members and guests have participated in walks over the last 25 years
- All records are sent to the Botanical Society of Britain & Ireland, contributing to their constantly updated online maps of species distributions (see bsbidb.org.uk)
- Data gathered from 2000 to 2019 will contribute to the third Atlas of the British & Irish Flora (to be published in 2023)
- Records are also sent to the Local Record Centres, where they help inform surveys required for planning applications, etc.
- Records for the rarer species are being included in the Rare Plant Register for Somerset (see www.somersetrareplantsgroup.org.uk)

How to get involved:

CVWG botany walks are held weekly from April to September, each week at a different location within the CVWG recording area, or further afield. For more information please contact Helena via helenacrouch@sky.com

Website: <https://cvwg.org.uk>

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