

The Burren

Naturetrek Tour Report

19 – 22 May 2015



Bloody Cranesbill



Burnet Rose & Wood White



Mother Shipton



Mountain Avens

Report & Images compiled by Dave Shute



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Day 1

Tuesday 19th May

Nine of our party convened at Shannon airport in the early afternoon where we were met by Brian Farrell, our coach driver. An hour later we arrived at Sheedy's Hotel to the warm welcome of our host, Martina, and we found the rest of our group (who had travelled to Ireland by car) waiting for us.

Having checked-in, we boarded the bus and were soon on our way towards Ballyvaughan, stopping for lunch in a lovely little restaurant at the base of the twisting Corkscrew Hill.

Suitably replenished we then drove the short distance to Newtown, parking at the 16th century round-tower and adjacent arts centre. From here we walked along a quiet lane before ascending the lower slopes of Capanawalla, a 300 metre limestone outcrop. It was dry and breezy but with some decent spells of sunshine.

On the lane we encountered a few typical hedgerow species such as Shining Crane's-bill, Sanicle, Bush Vetch, Sweet Woodruff and Pignut. As we started to climb the tracksides began to open up and in the small clearings we started to find our first limestone flora. The ubiquitous Burnet Rose attracted immediate attention followed by the beautiful magenta flowers of Bloody Crane's-bill and the subtle Bitter Vetch with its pairs of elongated leaflets.

As the sun broke through, three interesting butterfly species were found in quick succession. First, a Wall Brown, then a freshly-emerged Pearl-bordered Fritillary and finally the delicate Wood White which was photographed on the underside of a Burnet Rose bloom. The latter is something of a conundrum as recent research and DNA analysis has determined that whereas the wood whites in the rest of Ireland (including Northern Ireland) are now considered to be a distinct species, Cryptic Wood White, those that are found in the Burren appear to be identical to those that occur in the rest of the UK. Although Cryptic Wood Whites approach to within 10 kilometres of the Burren, current scientific opinion suggests that they do not and, indeed, cannot interbreed. The isolation of this population has yet to be fully explained.

As we progressed up the hill we emerged from the shrubby lower slopes to the open limestone. The rocks were adorned with a trio of ferns which always seem close companions: Maidenhair Spleenwort, Wall-rue and Rustyback. The diminutive Rue-leaved Saxifrage clung to the shallow rock crevices and on the adjacent grassy patches we found Mountain Everlasting and a fine display of the stunning Spring Gentian; its cobalt blooms particularly numerous on some recently disturbed ground. Brian then trumped it all by finding our first spike of the dainty Dense-flowered Orchid, a much sought-after Burren speciality which grows nowhere else in northern Europe and has a flowering season confined to just two weeks in mid-late May. Many Early Purple Orchids were in flower, their purple spikes amongst the yellow Bird's-foot Trefoil and blue gentians being very pleasing to the eye. A Dingy Skipper whirred by and a species of fungus growing from cattle dung was tentatively identified as *Panaeolus semiovatus*.

We finally arrived at a grassy knoll where a mountain spring emerges to form a wet flush and here we found a good show of another jewel of the Burren, the Large-flowered Butterwort. The pale green basal rosette and

leafless stem is topped by up to three blousy purple blooms which are much more “open-mouthed” than it’s common relative. The damp slope below the track was dotted with Lousewort.

We were a happy group that headed back downhill after a most successful first afternoon’s foray and ready for our first taste of the culinary delights of Sheedy’s.

Day 2

Wednesday 20th May

We awoke to a rather grey and blustery morning but it was dry. Our first port of call was Poll Salach, an extensive area of typical Burren landscape that runs down to the sea. Many parts have the classic ‘clint and gryke’ formation so typical of limestone pavement, but in places the rock slabs lie flush with the grassy turf. In these lush areas we enjoyed a fine array of miniature flowering plants as if we had ventured into an enormous rock garden. Pick of the bunch from a rarity aspect was the unassuming Pyramidal Bugle, which unlike its common relative has the blue flowers almost hidden beneath large hairy bracts. Nearby, and just in bloom was the attractive wild Goldenrod and another speciality of the Burren, the Hoary Rockrose; it’s delicate pale lemon flowers reluctant to open in the cloudy conditions. Surely nowhere else can one find the beautiful creamy flowers of Mountain Avens growing at sea-level, the eight-petaled blooms nestling amongst its glossy green oak-leaf shaped foliage. All these plants shared their habitat with the ever-present Mountain Everlasting, Early Purple Orchid, Bloody Crane’s-bill, Spring Gentian, Kidney Vetch and Bird’s-foot Trefoil; providing a kaleidoscope of colour. Here and there, large erratic boulders dotted the scene and on these we discovered Sea Fern-grass, English Stonecrop and Common Scurvygrass.

Crossing to the seaward side of the road we instantly disturbed an Irish Hare which sprinted for cover amongst the rocks. The cracks in the limestone became deeper as we approached the sea and the leached soil and shelter provided therein created a habitat more suitable for ferns and sprawling versions of shrubs such as Spindle and Bramble.

In grassy patches we found Heath Spotted Orchid, Limestone Bedstraw and the dainty cushions of Spring Sandwort, whilst in the spray-zone of the Atlantic the fleshy leaves of Rock Samphire and the pink blooms of Thrift abounded. Here also we found Sea and Buck’s-horn Plantains growing together.

Dragging ourselves away from this botanical feast, we made for a coffee (and cake!) stop in the nearby village of Fanore before continuing north along the coast road and around the promontory of Black Head. We pulled in beside a small roadside, stone-built folly known as the Pinnacle Well. Its walls are adorned with the pretty mauve-pink Fairy Foxglove, an attractive though non-native species. Dwarf Mallow was seen in the grass verge here.

Our next stop was for a pleasant walk along a scrub-lined track leading down to The Rine, a beach and sandy spit which curves out across Ballyvaughan Bay and encloses a saltmarsh habitat. The tracksides are quite botanically rich, especially on the moss-covered boulders where little communities of dwarf plants occur. These included Wall and Thyme-leaved Speedwells, Parsley-piert, Field Madder, Lesser Trefoil, Rue-leaved Saxifrage, Thyme-leaved Sandwort and Shining and Dove’s-foot Crane’s-bills. The scrub either side was alive with singing Willow Warblers, Blackcaps and Common Whitethroats.

As we emerged on to the sandy beach we soon found the fleshy leaves of Sea Sandwort with its barely visible white flowers, Common Stork's-bill and the large showy white blooms of Field Mouse-ear. A search of the nearby saltmarsh revealed the pretty pink flowers of Sea Milkwort just beginning to emerge and we found the leaves of a sea lavender. As we returned to the bus our first Cuckoo was heard calling on the opposite hillside, and then a short drive brought us to our lunch stop in Ballyvaughan.

In the afternoon we drove along the banks of the Caher River admiring the flora clinging to the roadside rocks before spotting a Dipper from the bridge. Our destination was an old drover road known as Formoyle which climbs up the slopes of Slieve Elva. A quick look at the river produced Water Mint, Water Avens, Marsh Marigold and a Grey Wagtail.

The path up the hill is bordered by stone walls of implausible construction beyond which more limestone pavement was home to a dazzling array of Early Purple Orchids (including a pure white specimen), Cowslips and Mountain Avens. On the track itself, Sheila discovered the first of seven spikes of Dense-flowered Orchid; their short, narrow stems and tightly-clustered creamy flowers easily missed amongst the coarse trackside grasses. On the way down a pair of Dingy Skippers and a Small Heath butterfly were seen, and a single plant of the hybrid between Cowslip and Primrose, known as False Oxlip. It was then time to head back to the hotel for a well-earned dinner.

Day 3

Thursday 21st May

We woke to a very overcast morning and after breakfast our new bus driver, Mike, arrived to take us to the small village of Kilfenora to visit the Burren Centre and the adjacent 12th-century cathedral ruin. The presence of a cathedral conveys 'city' status to the tiny settlement and Mike told us that its remoteness through the centuries meant that no bishops would agree to take up residence so by default the bishop is still The Pope to this day!

The crumbling cathedral walls were home to Navelwort and Ivy-leaved Toadflax whilst weeds amongst the gravestones included Feverfew, Ivy-leaved Speedwell, Lesser Swinecress and Pineappleweed.

After perusing the Burren Centre and nearby gift shops we were soon on our way to Mullach Mor, a striking hill with contorted rock strata and our first turlough; Lough Gealain. Turloughs are seasonal bodies of water which completely dry out in the summer as the water percolates down through the porous limestone. At the time of our visit the water level was still high, thus scuppering any chance of us finding the ephemeral Fen or Turlough Violet which only flowers in the area of draw-down close to the water's edge.

Nevertheless, the area of limestone surrounding the lough is very botanically rich and we found that the rare Shrubby Cinquefoil seemed to be bursting from every gryke though its yellow flowers were rather sparing at this early season. We spread out across the rocks and soon further discoveries were made. First were two diminutive spikes of Fly Orchid each bearing a single open flower which mimics the wasp it hopes to attract as a pollinator. Then, a few Broad-leaved Marsh Orchids were found, the broad-based leaves of these Irish plants being unspotted.

Various scrambling shrubs were found including the uncommon Stone Bramble along with Juniper and Alder Buckthorn. The pretty Heath Dog-violet was next, with its pale mauve flowers and distinctive blunt-tipped yellowish spur.

The Turlough (or Marsh) Dandelion was seen, its red stems and lanceolate leaves making it a relatively easy plant to identify in a notoriously difficult family. Non-flowering plants of Lesser Meadow-rue and Northern Bedstraw were other interesting finds.

Unfortunately, a steady drizzle set in at this point so our botanising was somewhat curtailed although a rather torpid Mother Shipton moth and a single Dense-flowered Orchid were added before we headed for the shelter of the bus. The heavily purple-blotched leaves of a hawkweed (*Hieracium sp.*) set us a puzzle but this group of plants are notoriously difficult to identify so we could only tentatively record it as Dappled Hawkweed.

It was a rather damp and misty drive to our lunch stop in Carran but Mike pointed out the house made famous by the TV comedy series "Father Ted". We lunched at Cassidy's Inn which overlooks another huge turlough but it was barely visible through the low cloud.

After lunch we headed west to the Atlantic coast near Doolin where we were due to visit the popular tourist destination of the Cliffs of Moher. Unfortunately, the mist and rain refused to budge so our views of the spectacular cliffs were severely compromised. A few hardy members of the group stood in the rain for brief breaks in the cloud which allowed rather distant views of hundreds of Puffins on the grassy ledges of the stacks below, along with Fulmars, Kittiwakes and Guillemots.

Reluctantly, we had to call it a day and headed back to the hotel and our final dinner.

Day 4

Friday 22nd May

After breakfast we said our farewells to Martina, who as usual had been a superb host, before two of the three cars followed the bus in convoy to Ballyvaughan and a suitable car park. They then re-boarded the bus for our morning excursion to the Fanore beach and sand dunes, where we were joined by Claire and Maggie who needed to make for a ferry afterwards.

The drive along the coast road produced several Black Guillemots on the sea and a Red Fox in a roadside field.

Though still overcast and breezy, the drizzle soon abated and we enjoyed an invigorating walk along the beach to a large 'blow-out' in the dune system. Along the way we found Sea Spurge, Rock Samphire, Scarlet Pimpernel, Sea Holly and the leaves of Sea Mayweed. Gannets cruised along off-shore and Rock Pipits and Oystercatchers were seen on the beach. In the dune slacks, on some large boulders, we found the Sea Spleenwort fern and Common Cornsalad, whilst Yellow-wort was found nearby. On our way back Alysson found some non-flowering plants of Sea Clover and the lawns surrounding the car park were studded with Spring Gentians and Broad-leaved Marsh Orchids.

After saying goodbye to Claire and Maggie, the rest of us drove back to Ballyvaughan for lunch in the delightful Burren Tea Rooms. After this, the car drivers then followed us to our last destination, the ancient burial tomb or

dolmen of Poul-na-Brone. It was a fine way to end the tour as the tomb (dating from 3,500 years BC) is set in a typical Burren landscape.

It was then time for most of us to head back to Shannon so we said farewell to Alec & Ishbel and Brian & Elspeth, who were continuing their exploration of Ireland by car, and headed out of the Burren for the 45-minute drive back to the airport.

It had been another successful trip to this unique region, where alpine and Mediterranean plants seek refuge together and create a wonderful floral spectacle.

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Group at Cappanawalla

Species Lists

Plants

Scientific Name	Common Name	Location
PTERIDOPSIDA		
FERNS & ALLIES		
Aspleniaceae		
<i>Asplenium ceterach</i>	Rusty-back Fern	Common
<i>Asplenium marinum</i>	Sea Spleenwort	Fanore dunes
<i>Asplenium ruta-muraria</i>	Wall-rue	Common
<i>Asplenium scolopendrium</i>	Hart's-tongue Fern	Common
<i>Asplenium trichomanes</i>	Maidenhair Spleenwort	Common
Blechnaceae		
<i>Blechnum spicant</i>	Hard-fern	Newtown
Dennstaedtiaceae		
<i>Pteridium aquilinum</i>	Bracken	Common
Dryopteridaceae		
<i>Dryopteris filix-mas</i>	Male-fern	Formoyle
Woodsiaceae		
<i>Cystopteris fragilis</i>	Brittle Bladder-fern	Lisdoonvarna Spa
PINOPSIDA		
CONIFERS		
Cupressaceae		
<i>Juniperus communis</i>	Common Juniper	Mullach Mor
Pinaceae		
<i>Picea sitchensis</i>	Sitka Spruce	scattered plantations
Taxaceae		
<i>Taxus baccata</i>	Yew	Capanawalla
MAGNOLIOPSIDA		
DICOTYLEDONS		
Aceraceae		
<i>Aesculus hippocastanum</i>	Horse-Chestnut	Common
<i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>	Sycamore	Common
Apiaceae		
Carrot Family		
<i>Anthriscus sylvestris</i>	Cow Parsley	roadsides
<i>Conopodium majus</i>	Pignut	Common
<i>Crithmum maritimum</i>	Samphire	Poll Salach & Fanore
<i>Daucus carota</i>	Wild Carrot	Mullach Mor
<i>Eryngium maritimum</i>	Sea Holly	Fanore dunes
<i>Heracleum sphondylium</i>	Hogweed	Fanore
<i>Sanicula europaea</i>	Sanicle	Newtown
<i>Smyrniolum olusatrum</i>	Alexanders	Poll Salach

Scientific Name	Common Name	Location
Aquifoliaceae	Holly Family	
<i>Ilex aquifolia</i>	Holly	Common
Araliaceae	Ivy Family	
<i>Hedera hibernica</i>	Atlantic Ivy	Common
Asteraceae	Daisy Family	
<i>Achillea millefolium</i>	Yarrow	Poll Salach
<i>Antennaria dioica</i>	Mountain Everlasting or Cat's-foot	Common
<i>Bellis perennis</i>	Daisy	Common
<i>Carlina vulgaris</i>	Carlina Thistle	Capanawalla & Poll Salach
<i>Centaurea nigra</i>	Common Knapweed	Poll Salach
<i>Centaurea scabiosa</i>	Greater Knapweed	Poll Salach
<i>Cirsium arvense</i>	Creeping Thistle	Poll Salach
<i>Cirsium palustre</i>	Marsh Thistle	Caher River
<i>Cirsium vulgare</i>	Spear Thistle	Poll Salach
<i>Crepis vesicaria</i>	Beaked Hawk's-beard	Fanore
<i>Hieracium sp.</i>	poss. Dappled Hawkweed	Mullach Mor
<i>Hypochoeris radicata</i>	Common Cat's-ear	Poll Salach
<i>Leucanthemum vulgare</i>	Ox-eye Daisy	Common
<i>Matricaria discoidea</i>	Pineappleweed	Kilfenora
<i>Mycelis muralis</i>	Wall Lettuce	Common
<i>Pilosella officinarum</i>	Mouse-ear Hawkweed	Capanawalla & others
<i>Senecio vulgaris</i>	Groundsel	Kilfenora
<i>Solidago virgaurea</i>	Goldenrod	Poll Salach
<i>Sonchus oleraceus</i>	Smooth Sow-thistle	Poll Salach
<i>Tanacetum parthenium</i>	Feverfew	Kilfenora
<i>Taraxacum agg</i>	Dandelion group	Common
<i>Taraxacum palustre</i>	Turlough/Marsh Dandelion	Mullach Mor
<i>Tripleurospermum maritimum</i>	Sea Mayweed	Fanore
Brassicaceae	Cabbage Family	
<i>Barbarea vulgaris</i>	Common Wintercreriss	roadsides
<i>Capsella bursa-pastoris</i>	Shepherd's Purse	Kilfenora
<i>Cardamine hirsuta</i>	Hairy Bitter-cress	The Rine
<i>Cardamine pratensis</i>	Cuckooflower	Roadside meadows
<i>Cochlearia officinalis</i>	Common Scurvygrass	Poll Salach
<i>Coronopus didymus</i>	Lesser Swine-cress	Kilfenora
<i>Erophila verna</i>	Common Whitlowgrass	Capanawalla
<i>Hesperis matronalis</i>	Dame's-violet	roadsides
<i>Rorippa nasturtium-aquaticum</i>	Watercress	Caher River
Caprifoliaceae	Honeysuckle Family	
<i>Lonicera periclymenum</i>	Honeysuckle	Capanawalla & others
<i>Symphoricarpos albus</i>	Snowberry	Poll Salach
<i>Viburnum opulus</i>	Guelder Rose	Common
Caryophyllaceae	Pink Family	
<i>Arenaria serpyllifolia</i>	Thyme-leaved Sandwort	The Rine
<i>Cerastium arvense</i>	Field Mouse-ear	The Rine
<i>Cerastium fontanum</i>	Common Mouse-ear	Common
<i>Honkenia peploides</i>	Sea Sandwort	The Rine
<i>Minuartia verna</i>	Spring Sandwort	Poll Salach & Mullach Mor

Scientific Name	Common Name	Location
<i>Sagina procumbens</i>	Procumbent Pearlwort	Newtown
<i>Silene vulgare subsp. maritima</i>	Sea Campion	Poll Salach
<i>Stellaria holostea</i>	Greater Stitchwort	Roadsides
<i>Stellaria media</i>	Common Chickweed	Poll Salach
Celastraceae	Spindle Family	
<i>Euonymus europaeus</i>	Spindle	Poll Salach
Chenopodiaceae	Fat Hen Family	
<i>Beta vulgaris subsp. maritima</i>	Sea Beet	Ballyvaughan
Cistaceae	Rockrose Family	
<i>Helianthemum canum</i>	Hoary Rock-rose	Poll Salach
Coryllaceae	Hazel family	
<i>Corylus avellana</i>	Hazel	common
Crassulaceae	Stonecrop Family	
<i>Sedum anglica</i>	English Stonecrop	Poll Salach
<i>Umbilicus rupestris</i>	Navelwort	Kilfenora
Dipsacaceae	Teasel Family	
<i>Knautia arvensis</i>	Field Scabious	Poll Salach
<i>Calluna vulgaris</i>	Heather	common
Euphorbiaceae	Spurge Family	
<i>Euphorbia paralias</i>	Sea Spurge	Fanore
Fabaceae	Pea Family	
<i>Anthyllis vulneraria</i>	Kidney Vetch	Poll Salach
<i>Lathyrus linifolius</i>	Bitter Vetch	Capanawalla & Poll Salach
<i>Lathyrus pratensis</i>	Meadow Vetchling	Capanawalla
<i>Lotus corniculatus</i>	Bird's-foot Trefoil	common
<i>Medicago lupulina</i>	Black Medick	Capanawalla & Poll Salach
<i>Trifolium dubium</i>	Lesser Trefoil	The Rine
<i>Trifolium pratense</i>	Red Clover	Common
<i>Trifolium repens</i>	White Clover	The Rine
<i>Trifolium squamosum</i>	Sea Clover	Fanore
<i>Ulex europaeus</i>	Gorse	common
<i>Vicia cracca</i>	Tufted Vetch	Mullach Mor
<i>Vicia sepium</i>	Bush Vetch	common
Gentianaceae	Gentian Family	
<i>Blackstonia perfoliata</i>	Yellow-wort	Capanawalla & Fanore
<i>Gentiana verna</i>	Spring Gentian	Common
Geraniaceae	Geranium Family	
<i>Erodium cicutarium</i>	Common Stork's-bill	The Rine
<i>Geranium molle</i>	Dove's-foot Crane's-bill	The Rine
<i>Geranium lucidum</i>	Shining Crane's-bill	common
<i>Geranium pratense</i>	Meadow Crane's-bill	The Rine
<i>Geranium robertianum</i>	Herb Robert	common

Scientific Name	Common Name	Location
<i>Geranium sanguineum</i>	Bloody Crane's-bill	common
Hypericaceae	St John's-wort Family	
<i>Hypericum perforatum</i>	Perforate St John's-wort	Capanawalla & Formoyle
Lamiaceae	Dead-nettle Family	
<i>Ajuga pyramidalis</i>	Pyramidal Bugle	Poll Salach
<i>Ajuga reptans</i>	Common Bugle	Caher River
<i>Glechoma hederacea</i>	Ground-ivy	Poll Salach
<i>Mentha aquatica</i>	Water Mint	Caher River
<i>Oreganum vulgare</i>	Marjoram	Mullach Mor
<i>Prunella vulgaris</i>	Self-heal	Formoyle
<i>Stachys sylvatica</i>	Hedge Woundwort	Kilfenora
<i>Teucrium scorodonia</i>	Wood Sage	common
<i>Thymus polytrichus</i>	Wild Thyme	common
Lentibulariaceae	Butterwort Family	
<i>Pinguicula grandiflora</i>	Large-flowered Butterwort	Capanawalla
Malvaceae	Mallow Family	
<i>Malva neglecta</i>	Dwarf Mallow	Pinnacle Well
Onagraceae	Willowherb Family	
<i>Circaea lutetiana</i>	Enchanter's-nightshade	Capanawalla
Oxalidaceae	Wood Sorrel Family	
<i>Oxalis acetosella</i>	Wood Sorrel	Capanawalla & The Rine
Plantaginaceae	Plantain Family	
<i>Plantago coronopus</i>	Buck's-horn Plantain	Poll Salach & others
<i>Plantago lanecolata</i>	Ribwort Plantain	common
<i>Plantago major</i>	Greater Plantain	Common
<i>Plantago maritima</i>	Sea Plantain	Poll Salach
Oleaceae	Olive Family	
<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	Ash	Roadsides
Plumbaginaceae	Sea Lavender Family	
<i>Armeria maritima</i>	Thrift	Poll Salach & Fanore
<i>Limonium humile</i>	Lax-flowered Sea Lavender	The Rine
Polygalaceae	Milkwort Family	
<i>Polygala vulgaris</i>	Common Milkwort	Common
Polygonaceae	Knotweed Family	
<i>Rumex acetosa</i>	Common Sorrel	The Rine
<i>Rumex obtusifolius</i>	Broad-leaved Dock	Formoyle
<i>Rumex sanguineus</i>	Wood Dock	The Rine
Primulaceae	Primrose Family	
<i>Anagalis arvensis</i>	Scarlet Pimpernel	Fanore
<i>Glaux maritima</i>	Sea Milkwort	The Rine
<i>Lysimachia nemorum</i>	Yellow Pimpernel	Poll Salach

Scientific Name	Common Name	Location
<i>Primula veris</i>	Cowslip	common
<i>Primula vulgaris</i>	Primrose	common
<i>Primula polyantha (P. vulgaris x veris)</i>	False Oxlip (Cowslip x Primrose)	Formoyle
Ranunculaceae	Buttercup Family	
<i>Aquilegia vulgaris</i>	Columbine	Capanawalla & roadsides
<i>Caltha palustris</i>	Marsh Marigold	common
<i>Ranunculus acris</i>	Meadow Buttercup	common
<i>Ranunculus bulbosa</i>	Bulbous Buttercup	common
<i>Ranunculus ficaria</i>	Lesser Celandine	common
<i>Ranunculus flammula</i>	Lesser Spearwort	Caher River
<i>Ranunculus repens</i>	Creeping Buttercup	common
<i>Thalictrum minus</i>	Lesser Meadow-rue	Mullach Mor
Rhamnaceae	Buckthorn Family	
<i>Frangula alnus</i>	Alder Buckthorn	Mullach Mor
Rosaceae	Rose Family	
<i>Alchemilla xanthochlora</i>	Pale Lady's-mantle	Capanawalla & others
<i>Aphanes arvensis</i>	Parsley-piert	The Rine
<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	Hawthorn	common
<i>Dryas octopetala</i>	Mountain Avens	common
<i>Filipendula ulmaria</i>	Meadow Sweet	Poll Salach
<i>Fragaria vesca</i>	Wild Strawberry	common
<i>Geum rivale</i>	Water Avens	Formoyle
<i>Potentilla anserina</i>	Silverweed	common
<i>Potentilla erecta</i>	Tormentil	common
<i>Potentilla fruticosa</i>	Shrubby Cinquefoil	Mullach Mor
<i>Potentilla reptans</i>	Creeping Cinquefoil	The Rine
<i>Prunus spinosa</i>	Blackthorn	common
<i>Rosa canina</i>	Dog-rose	common
<i>Rosa pimpinellifolia</i>	Burnet Rose	Common
<i>Rubus saxatilis</i>	Stone Bramble	Mullach Mor
<i>Sanguisorba minor</i>	Salad Burnet	Capanawalla
<i>Sorbus aria</i>	Whitebeam	Capanawalla
<i>Sorbus aucuparia</i>	Rowan	Capanawalla
Rubiaceae	Bedstraw Family	
<i>Galium aparine</i>	Cleavers	Pinnacle Well
<i>Galium boreale</i>	Northern Bedstraw	Mullach Mor
<i>Galium odoratum</i>	Sweet Woodruff	Newtown
<i>Galium sternerii</i>	Limestone Bedstraw	Poll Salach
<i>Galium verum</i>	Lady's Bedstraw	common
<i>Sherardia arvensis</i>	Field Madder	The Rine
Saliciaceae	Willow Family	
<i>Salix repens</i>	Creeping Willow	Poll Salach
Saxifragaceae	Saxifrage Family	
<i>Chrysoplenium oppositifolium</i>	Opposite-leaved Golden-saxifrage	Lisdoonvarna
<i>Saxifraga tridactylites</i>	Rue-leaved Saxifrage	common

Scientific Name	Common Name	Location
Scrophulariaceae	Figwort Family	
<i>Cymbalaria muralis</i>	Ivy-leaved Toadflax	Kilfenora
<i>Erinus alpinus</i>	Fairy Foxglove	Pinnacle Well
<i>Pedicularis sylvatica</i>	Lousewort	Capanawalla & Poll Salach
<i>Scrophularia nodosa</i>	Common Figwort	Capanawalla
<i>Veronica arvensis</i>	Wall Speedwell	The Rine
<i>Veronica chamaedrys</i>	Germander Speedwell	common
<i>Veronica hederifolia</i>	Ivy-leaved Speedwell	Kilfenora
<i>Veronica serpyllifolia</i>	Thyme-leaved Speedwell	
Solanaceae	Potato Family	
<i>Solanum dulcamara</i>	Bittersweet	Newtown
Urticaceae	Nettle Family	
<i>Parietaria judaica</i>	Pellitory-of-the-wall	Newtown
<i>Urtica dioica</i>	Stinging Nettle	Pinnacle Well & others
Valerianaceae	Valerian Family	
<i>Centranthus ruber</i>	Red Valerian	roadsides
<i>Valeriana officinalis</i>	Common Valerian	Caher River
<i>Valerianella locusta</i>	Common Cornsalad	Fanore
Violaceae	Violet Family	
<i>Viola canina</i>	Heath Dog-violet	Mullach Mor
<i>Viola riviniana</i>	Common Dog-violet	common
LILIIDAE	MONOCOTYLEDONS	
Araceae	Arum Family	
<i>Arum maculatum</i>	Lord's and Ladies	common
Asparagaceae	Asparagus Family	
<i>Hyacinthoides non-scripta</i>	Bluebell	Poll Salach and roadsides
Cyperaceae	Sedge Family	
<i>Eriophorum angustifolium</i>	Common Cottongrass	roadside meadows
<i>Carex nigra</i>	Common Sedge	Cappanawalla
<i>Carex pendula</i>	Pendulous Sedge	Newtown
<i>Schoenus nigricans</i>	Black Bog Rush	Poll Salach and others
Iridaceae	Iris Family	
<i>Iris pseudacorus</i>	Yellow Iris	roadside meadows
Orchidaceae	Orchid Family	
<i>Dactylorhiza fuschii</i>	Common Spotted-orchid	Poll Salach
<i>Dactylorhiza maculata ssp ericetorum</i>	Heath Spotted-orchid	Poll Salach
<i>Dactylorhiza majalis subsp. occidentalis</i>	Broad-leaved Marsh Orchid	Mullach Mor & Fanore
<i>Listera ovata</i>	Common Twayblade	Capanawalla & others
<i>Ophrys insectifera</i>	Fly Orchid	Mullach Mor
<i>Orchis intacta</i>	Dense-flowered Orchid	Capanawalla , Formoyle, Mullach Mor
<i>Orchis mascula</i>	Early Purple Orchid	common

Scientific Name	Common Name	Location
Poaceae	Grass Family	
<i>Alepecurus pratensis</i>	Meadow Foxtail	Kilfenora
<i>Ammophila arenaria</i>	Marram Grass	Fanore
<i>Anthoxanthum odoratum</i>	Sweet Vernal Grass	Formoyle
<i>Brachypodium sylvaticum</i>	False Brome	Capanawalla
<i>Briza media</i>	Quaking Grass	Capanawalla & Mullach Mor
<i>Catapodium maritimum</i>	Sea Fern-grass	Poll Salach
<i>Dactylis glomerata</i>	Cock's-foot	Formoyle
<i>Festuca rubra agg.</i>	Red Fescue	
<i>Lolium perenne</i>	Perennial Rye-grass	Pinnacle Well
<i>Poa annua</i>	Annual Meadow-grass	Poll Salach
<i>Sesleria caerulea</i>	Blue Moor-grass	Capanawalla

Birds (X= recorded but not counted)

	Common name	Scientific name	May			
			19	20	21	22
1	Common Pheasant	<i>Phasianus colchicus</i>		x		
2	Mute Swan	<i>Cygnus olor</i>			x	
3	Common Shelduck	<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>		x		
4	Fulmar	<i>Fulmarus glacialis</i>			x	
5	Gannet	<i>Morus bassanus</i>		x		x
6	Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>		x		x
7	Great Northern Diver	<i>Gavia immer</i>		x		
8	Common Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>			x	
9	Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>		x		x
10	Eurasian Oystercatcher	<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>				x
11	Great Black-backed Gull	<i>Larus marinus</i>		x		x
12	Lesser Black-backed Gull	<i>Larus fuscus</i>				x
13	European Herring Gull	<i>Larus argentatus</i>		x		x
14	Kittiwake	<i>Rissa tridactyla</i>			x	
15	Sandwich Tern	<i>Sterna sandvicensis</i>		x		x
16	Puffin	<i>Fratercula arctica</i>			x	
17	Black Guillemot	<i>Cephus grylle</i>				x
18	Common Guillemot	<i>Uria aalge</i>			x	
19	Razorbill	<i>Alca torda</i>			x	
20	Common Wood Pigeon	<i>Columba palumbus</i>	x	x	x	x
21	Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>			x	
22	Common Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus canorus</i>		x	x	x
23	Eurasian Magpie	<i>Pica pica</i>	x	x	x	
24	Western Jackdaw	<i>Coloeus monedula</i>	x	x	x	x
25	Rook	<i>Corvus frugilegus</i>	x			x
26	Hooded Crow	<i>Corvus cornix</i>	x	x	x	x
27	Great Tit	<i>Parus major</i>	x	x		
28	Eurasian Blue Tit	<i>Cyanistes caeruleus</i>		x	x	
29	Long-tailed Tit	<i>Aegithalos caudatus</i>			x	
30	Eurasian Skylark	<i>Alauda arvensis</i>		x		x
31	Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	x	x	x	x
32	Common House Martin	<i>Delichon urbicum</i>	x	x	x	x
33	Grasshopper Warbler	<i>Locustella naevia</i>		x	x	

	Common name	Scientific name	May			
			19	20	21	22
34	Willow Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus trochilus</i>	x	x	x	
35	Common Chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>	x	x		
36	Eurasian Blackcap	<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>	x	x	x	
37	Common Whitethroat	<i>Sylvia communis</i>	x	x		
38	Eurasian Wren	<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>			x	
39	Common Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	x	x	x	x
40	Common Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>	x	x	x	x
41	Song Thrush	<i>Turdus philomelos</i>		x		
42	European Robin	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>	x	x		x
43	European Stonechat	<i>Saxicola rubicola</i>		x		
44	Northern Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe oenanthe</i>		x		x
45	House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	x	x	x	
46	Dunnock	<i>Prunella modularis</i>		x		
47	Grey Wagtail	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>		x		
48	Pied Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba yarrellii</i>	x	x		x
49	Dipper	<i>Cinclus cinclus</i>		x		
50	Meadow Pipit	<i>Anthus pratensis</i>		x	x	x
51	Rock Pipit	<i>Anthus petrosus</i>				x
52	Common Chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>		x	x	
53	Siskin	<i>Carduelis spinus</i>		x		
54	European Greenfinch	<i>Chloris chloris</i>		x	x	
55	European Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>		x		
56	Lesser Redpoll	<i>Carduelis cabaret</i>		x		
57	Common Linnet	<i>Carduelis cannabina</i>		x		
58	Eurasian Bullfinch	<i>Pyrrhula pyrrhula</i>		x	x	x
59	Common Reed Bunting	<i>Emberiza schoeniclus</i>	x			

Butterflies

1	Dingy Skipper	<i>Erynnis tages</i>	x	x		
2	Green-veined White	<i>Pieris napi</i>	x	x		
3	Wood White	<i>Leptidea sinapsis</i>	x	x		
4	Orange-tip	<i>Anthocharis cardamines</i>	x	x		
5	Pearl-bordered Fritillary	<i>Boloria euphrosyne</i>	x			
6	Speckled Wood	<i>Pararge aegeria</i>		x		
7	Wall Brown	<i>Lasiommata megera</i>	x			
8	Small Heath	<i>Coenonympha pamphilus</i>		x		

Moths

1	Speckled Yellow	<i>Pseudopanthera macularia</i>			x	
2	Common Heath	<i>Ematurga atomaria</i>			x	
3	Mother Shipton	<i>Euclidia mi</i>			x	

Reptiles & Amphibians:

1	Common Frog	<i>Rana temporaria</i>			x	
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Mammals:

1	Red Fox	<i>Vulpes vulpes</i>				x
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	Common name	Scientific name	May			
			19	20	21	22
2	Irish Hare	<i>Lepus timidus hibernicus</i>	x	x		

Fungi:

1	Egghead Mottlegill	<i>Panaeolus semiovatus</i>	x			
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Large-flowered Butterwort



Western Marsh Orchid