

Flowers of Ings

Alan Gibson

Alan Gibson came to Ings late in 1982 and stayed with us for a little more than five years. A well-loved vicar, he quickly endeared himself to his parishioners and was often seen getting to know his people as well as the wild flowers in the parish.

Alan had been a schoolmaster and college lecturer before being ordained, so was well suited to his work as Adviser for Education in the diocese.

Supported always and in every way by Margaret, whom we loved equally, he will be affectionately remembered by all who knew him here.

HH - Ings, May 1988



FLOWERS OF INGS

This is a brief account of the ferns and flowering plants (including trees and shrubs, grasses, rushes and sedges) growing in or just outside the parish of Ings. It is the result of five years occasional ramblings around the parish, and I hope it will be interesting and useful to any who want to know more about wild flowers. In learning about plants there is no substitute for going out with a good flower book and wrestling with the keys and descriptions and pictures to identify the plants you find, but this can be a frustrating process, when you read that the plant you think you have found only grows on Scottish mountains or on chalk in the south of England! There are about 2000 wild plants in Britain, and this list of the plants actually seen in Ings should help to narrow the field. It is always possible that you have made a great botanical discovery of a plant new to Cumbria, but the likelihood is that the plants you find will be fairly common ones, and you should be hesitant about claiming great rarities until you are sure about the common plants.

The ecclesiastical parish of St Anne, Ings with Huggill, lies between Staveley and Windermere across the main A591 road. It is shaped rather like an irregular sausage lying north to south, about four miles long, a mile and a quarter wide at its widest but only a quarter of a mile wide at its narrowest. The A591 and the Kendal to Windermere railway cross the middle of the parish through the meadows beside the River Gowan, a tributary of the Kent. The meadows give the village its name, originally "Chapel in the Ings", that is, the meadows, which has become simply "Ings". The valley is at about 400 ft., but the parish rises to the top of Capple Howe at 1415 ft. in the north and to near the summit of Grandsire in the south at about 800 ft.

The underlying rock, never far below the surface, is, like most of South Lakeland, Silurian slate. There is no limestone within the parish, though the narrow strip of Coniston limestone lies along the northern boundary. Most of the area is agricultural land, devoted to grazing sheep and cattle. But the various kinds of grassland, streams and their valleys, marshes and bogs, woods and hedgerows, ponds and tarns, give a good variety of plants. I have recorded about 420 and each is mentioned in this account. The different types of habitat are briefly discussed in turn, followed by a list of the plants to be found in them. An indication of their frequency is given, in four categories, common (c), frequent (f), occasional (o), and rare (r). Whether a plant is 'c', 'f', or 'o' is my own estimate; 'rare' means that it has not been found in more than three places. Further study might well alter these categories, and I would guess that perhaps another thirty or forty plants might be found by careful searching in different places or at different seasons. It is very important to remember that these estimates of frequency apply to the parish of Ings only. They are the result of actual observation in the field, and I hope their usefulness will lie in that fact. Some plants can be common in one locality and very rare a few miles away.

Many plants grow in more than one kind of habitat. When this commonly happens they are mentioned in both, but many others can be found in different kinds of area. For instance, woodland plants often stray into adjacent grassland, and there is no hard and fast line between marsh, and wet grassland at one end and water plants at the other.

I hope this list will help you to enjoy the countryside more and to

learn more about its wild flowers. For any lover of the countryside there is great pleasure in coming across old favourites, no matter how common - a mass of Rosebay Willowherb, a wood full of Bluebells or Celandines, a field full of Dandelions or Mayflowers. There is another sort of pleasure in finding a plant you have never seen before, whether because it is rare or you just never took the trouble to look. It may be an orchid in a field or wood, Grass of Parnassus in a marsh, Melancholy Thistle by the laneside. If you enjoy such pleasures, then please share them with others and with generations to come - never pick wild flowers. Even common ones can be wiped out by careless picking. Enjoy wild flowers where they are, in their natural setting, and leave them for others to enjoy as well.

TREES

There are many trees in the area, both in the woods and as isolated specimens along hedges and roadsides and in gardens. It is not always possible to tell which are natural and which planted, but the commoner wild trees are

Sycamore	(Acer pseudoplatanus)	c
Wild Cherry	(Prunus avium)	o
Crab Apple	(Malus sylvestris)	r
Elm	(Ulmus glabra)	o
Birch	(Betula pubescens)	c
Alder	(Alnus glutinosa)	c
Oak	(Quercus petraea)	c
Ash	(Fraxinus excelsior)	c

Of the trees pretty certainly planted, although there are certainly others, we could mention

Larch	(Larix decidua)	c
Scots Pine	(Pinus sylvestris)	o
Yew	(Taxus baccata)	r
Lime	(Tilia europaea)	r
Horse Chestnut	(Aesculus hippocastanum)	o
Beech	(Fagus sylvatica)	o
Sweet Chestnut	(Castanea sativa)	r

SHRUBS

The line between trees and shrubs is difficult to draw; a small tree can be smaller than a well-grown shrub. Under this heading I include those woody plants which normally do not grow larger than about fifteen feet, and would be smaller than most trees.

Most woods contain an under-layer of shrubs, as well as trees, and an occasional shrub may be found almost anywhere. But the main places where shrubs are found is in the hedgerows. Shrubs found have been

Juniper	(Juniperus communis)	f
Holly	(Ilex aquifolium)	f
Goose	(Ulex europaeus)	f
Broom	(Sarothamnus scoparius)	o

Dog Rose (Rosa canina) f
 Blackthorn (Prunus spinosa) f
 Bird Cherry (P. padus) f
 Hawthorn (Crataegus monogyna) c
 Rowan (Sorbus aucuparia) c
 Hazel (Corylus avellana) c
 Bay Willow (Salix pentandra) f
 Goat Willow (S. caprea) f
 Common Sallow (S. cinerea) c
 Eared Sallow (S. aurita) r
 Elder (Sambucus nigra) c
 Guelder Rose (Viburnum opulus) o

WALLS and ROCKS

The many dry stone walls are without soil in their construction, and therefore for the most part without plants (apart from mosses). When there is some soil, or on old mortared walls, plants can gain a foothold; some of these have their natural homes on rocks. Found on such walls are

Parsley Fern (Cryptogramma crispa) o
 Black Spleenwort (Asplenium adiantum-nigrum) r
 Maidenhair Spleenwort (A. trichomanes) f
 Wall Rue (A. ruta-muraria) o
 Rusty-back Fern (Ceterach officinarum) f
 Polypody Fern (Polypodium vulgare) f
 Herb Robert (Geranium robertianum) f
 Biting Stonecrop (Sedum acre) o
 White Stonecrop (S. album) a garden escape r
 Houseleek (Sempervivum tectorum) r
 Wall Pennywort (Umbilicus rupestris) r
 Ivy-leaved Toadflax (Cymbalaria muralis) o

WOODS and HEDGEBANKS

There are no very large expanses of woodland in the parish, but there are several small woods and copses. Many of these are unfenced and open to grazing sheep and cattle, leaving little of interest on the ground. In such woods the only plants apart from grasses, might be

Earthnut (Conopodium majus)
 Heath Bedstraw (Galium saxatile)
 Foxglove (Digitalis purpurea)
 Bluebell (Endymion nonscriptus)

When the woods are enclosed there is a far greater variety of plants. Many woodland plants also grow along the hedgebanks, which are like mini-woods, and along some of the more wooded stream banks. In such places are to be found

Wood Horsetail (Equisetum sylvaticum) o
 Hard Fern (Blechnum spicant) f
 Hart's Tongue Fern (Phyllitis scolopendrium) r
 Lady Fern (Athyrium filix-femina) c
 Male Fern (Dryopteris filix-mas.) c

Golden-scaled Male Fern (D. borrieri) o
 Broad Buckler Fern (D. dilatata) c
 Hard Shield Fern (Polystichum aculeatum) r
 Mountain Fern (Thelypteris oreopteris) f
 Beech Fern (T. phegopteris) f
 Oak Fern (T. dryopteris) r
 Polypody Fern (Polypodium vulgare) c
 Globe Flower (Trollius europaeus) o
 Wood Anemone (Anemone nemorosa) f
 Lesser Celandine (Ranunculus ficaria) c
 Climbing Corydalis (Corydalis claviculata) o
 Large-flowered Bittercress (Cardamine amara) o
 Common Violet (Viola riviniana) c
 Slender St. John's Wort (Hypericum pulchrum) c
 Red Campion (Silene dioica) r
 Three-nerved Sandwort (Moehringia trinervia) f
 Herb Robert (Geranium robertianum) o
 Wood Sorrel (Oxalis acetosella) c
 Wild Strawberry (Fragaria vesca) c
 Herb Bennett (Ceum urbanum) f
 Enchanter's Nightshade (Circaea lutetiana) f
 Ivy (Hedera helix) f
 Wood Sanicle (Sanicula europaea) o
 Dog's Mercury (Mercurialis perennis) o
 Primrose (Primula vulgaris) c
 Yellow Plimpernel (Lysimachia nemorum) f
 Figwort (Scrophularia nodosa) f
 Foxglove (Digitalis purpurea) f
 Cow-wheat (Melanpyrum pratense) r
 Hedge Woundwort (Stachys sylvatica) f
 Ground Ivy (Glechoma hederacea) f
 Wood Sage (Teucrium scorodonia) f
 Broad-leaved Bellflower (Campanula latifolia) r
 Woodruff (Galium odoratum) r
 Honeysuckle (Lonicera periclymenum) f
 Moschateel (Adoxa moschatellina) o
 Valerian (Valeriana officinalis) o
 Golden Rod (Solidago virgaurea) o
 Wall Lettuce (Mycelis muralis) r
 Bluebell (Endymion nonscriptus) c
 Herb Paris (Paris quadrifolia) r
 Hairy Woodrush (Luzula pilosa) o
 Greater Woodrush (L. sylvatica) r
 Wild Garlic (Allium ursinum) r
 Wild Daffodil (Narcissus pseudonarcissus) r
 Early purple Orchid (Orchis mascula) r
 Cuckoo Pint (Arum maculatum) o
 Wood Sedge (Carex sylvatica) r
 Remote Sedge (C. remota) f
 Tall Brome Grass (Festuca gigantea) o
 Wood Poa Grass (Poa nemoralis) r
 Wood Melick (Melica uniflora) r
 Hairy Brome (Bromus ramosus) r
 Creeping Soft-grass (Holcus mollis) c
 Tufted Hair-grass (Deschampsia caespitosa) c

WATER PLANTS

Here are included plants which grow entirely in water, either floating or submerged, or grow erect with their roots in water; there is no hard and fast line between this last type and marsh plants. Water plants are found in the Gowan and its streams, and in the stretches of open water such as Borrans reservoir, Ings Tarn, Borwick Fold Tarn, etc.

Water Horsetail	(Equisetum fluviatile)	f
Water Crowfoot	(Ranunculus aquatilis)	o
White Water-lily	(Nymphaea alba)	r
Water Cress	(Rorippa nasturtium-officinale)	f
Water Milfoil	(Myriophyllum alterniflorum)	o
Water Starwort	(Callitriche stagnalis)	f
Water Starwort	(C. intermedia)	r
Water Starwort	(C. hermaphroditica)	r
Marshwort	(Apium inundatum)	r
Hemlock Water-dropwort	(Oenanthe crocata)	f
Water Forget-me-not	(Myosotis caespitosa)	f
Water Mint	(Mentha aquatica)	f
Shoreweed	(Littorella uniflora)	o
Canadian Pondweed	(Elodea canadensis)	o
Broad-leaved Pondweed	(Potamogeton natans)	o
Bog Pondweed	(P. polygonifolius)	f
Blunt-leaved Pondweed	(P. obtusifolius)	r
Yellow Flag	(Iris pseudacorus)	r
Common Duckweed	(Lemna minor)	o
Bur-reed	(Sparganium erectum)	o
Floating Spike-rush	(Scirpus fluitans)	r
Spike Rush	(Eleocharis palustris)	f
Bottle Sedge	(Carex rostrata)	f
Bladder Sedge	(C. vesicaria)	r
Flote Grass	(Glyceria fluitans)	c

MARSHES and BOGS

In any district like this, with high rainfall, there are inevitably many wet areas. The consolation for the botanist is that these areas produce some of the most varied, interesting and attractive plants.

The single word 'marsh' conceals a variety of wet habitats, each with its own range of plants. First, there is simply wet grassland, which might occur anywhere where drainage is poor. In addition to many grassland plants these areas are likely to have

Wavy Bitter-cress	(Cardamine flexuosa)	f
Meadowsweet	(Filipendula ulmaria)	c
Great Willow-herb	(Epilobium hirsutum)	r
Lousewort	(Pedicularis sylvatica)	f
Bugle	(Ajuga reptans)	f
Devil's-bit Scabious	(Succisa pratensis)	f
Water Ragwort	(Senecio aquaticus)	r
Sneezewort	(Achillea ptarmica)	f
Marsh Thistle	(Cirsium palustre)	c
Soft Rush	(Juncus effusus)	c
Compact Rush	(J. conglomeratus)	c
Common Sedge	(Carex nigra)	c

White Bent	(Agrostis stolonifera)	c
Marsh Foxtail	(Alopecurus geniculatus)	f

On level ground wet grassland merges into true marsh, with standing water for at least part of the time. Then marsh plants come in, such as

Marsh Horsetail	(Equisetum palustre)	r
Narrow Buckler Fern	(Dryopteris carthusiana)	r
Marsh Marigold	(Caltha palustris)	c
Lesser Spearwort	(Ranunculus flammula)	c
Marsh Violet	(Viola palustris)	f
Square-stemmed St. John's Wort	(Hypericum tetrapetrum)	o
Ragged Robin	(Lynchnis flos-cuculi)	f
Bog Stitchwort	(Stellaria alpine)	c
Blinks	(Montia fontana)	c
Large Bird's-foot Trefoil	(Lotus uliginosus)	f
Marsh Cinquefoil	(Potentilla palustris)	f
Water Avenas	(Ceum rivale)	f
Water Purslane	(Peplis portula)	r
Marsh Willowherb	(Epilobium palustre)	c
Marsh Pennywort	(Hydrocotyle vulgaris)	f
Water Pepper	(Polygonum hydropter)	o
Bogbean	(Menyanthes trifoliata)	f
Water Forget-me-not	(Myosotis palustris)	f
Creeping Water Forget-me-not	(M. secunda)	f
Bittersweet	(Solanum dulcamara)	o
Brooklime	(Veronica beccabunga)	c
Marsh Bedstraw	(Galium palustre)	c
Fen Bedstraw	(G. uliginosum)	r
Toad Rush	(Juncus bufonius)	f
Sharp-flowered Rush	(J. acutiflorus)	f
Jointed Rush	(J. articulatus)	c
Bulbous Rush	(J. bulbosus)	c
Many-stalked Spike-rush	(Eleocharis multicaulis)	r
Graceful Sedge	(Carex acuta)	r
Tussock Sedge	(C. paniculata)	r
Common Reed	(Phragmites communis)	r
Small Flote-grass	(Glyceria declinata)	o

When the marsh becomes permanently very wet, then sphagnum moss begins to predominate, the marsh becomes acid, and a true bog results. This tends to happen especially on the higher ground. Special bog plants are

Sundew	(Drosera rotundifolia)	f
Bog Myrtle	(Myrica gale)	r
Bog Rosemary	(Andromeda polifolia)	r
Cross-leaved Heath	(Erica tetralix)	f
Cranberry	(Vaccinium oxycoccus)	o
Bog Asphodel	(Marthecium ossifragium)	f
Common Cotton-grass	(Eriophorum angustifolium)	f
Hares-tail	(E. vaginatum)	o
Slender-leaved Sedge	(Carex lasiocarpa)	r
Tall Bog-sedge	(C. paupercula)	r
White Sedge	(C. curta)	f

On sloping ground, around springs and by streams, there occur wet areas with constantly flowing water. This water has drained from often a

wide area and is relatively rich in plant nutrients, so these 'flushes' support a wide variety of interesting plants not present in marshes and bogs, though marsh and bog plants may occur as well. In the flushes we find

Lesser Clubmoss	(Selaginella selaginoides)	r
Ivy-leaved Crowfoot	(Ranunculus hederaceus)	o
Round-leaved Crowfoot	(R. omiophyllus)	r
Knotted Pearlwort	(Sagina nodosa)	r
Golden Saxifrage	(Chrysoplenium oppositifolium)	f
Grass of Parnassus	(Parnassia palustris)	o
New Zealand Willowherb	(Epilobium nerterioides)	r
Bird's-eye Primrose	(Primula farinosa)	r
Bog Pimpernel	(Anagallis tenella)	r
Marsh Speedwell	(Veronica scutellata)	o
Red Rattle	(Pedicularis palustris)	o
Butterwort	(Pinguicula vulgaris)	f
Marsh Valerian	(Valeriana dioica)	f
Marsh Hawksbeard	(Crepis paludosa)	f
Marsh Arrow-grass	(Triglochin palustris)	f
Heath Woodrush	(Luzula multiflora)	f
Heath Spotted Orchid	(Dactylorhiza ericetorum)	o
Common Spotted Orchid	(D. fuchsii)	r
Northern Marsh Orchid	(D. purpurella)	r
Bristle Club-rush	(Scirpus setaceus)	r
Tawny Sedge	(Carex hostiana)	f
Yellow Sedge	(C. demissa)	f
Pale Sedge	(C. pallescens)	o
Carnation Sedge	(C. panicea)	c
Star Sedge	(C. echinata)	f
Flea Sedge	(C. pulicaris)	f
Separate-headed Sedge	(C. dioica)	o

GRASSLAND

A good deal of the parish is under grassland of one sort or another, but the kinds of plant growing in different types of grassland are very varied. Certain plants tend to be common in all sorts of grassland, such as

Creeping Buttercup	(Ranunculus repens)
Mouse-ear Chickweed	(Cerastium vulgatum)
White Clover	(Trifolium repens)
Earthnut	(Conopodium majus)
Ribwort Plantain	(Plantago lanceolata)
Daisy	(Bellis perennis)
Yarrow	(Achillea millefolium)
Dandelion	(Taraxacum officinale)

We can roughly divide the grassland into four types

- a) Hay meadows
- b) Fell pasture
- c) Open moorland
- d) Bushy places

The dividing lines between these are very indistinct, and plants

listed under one type will often be found elsewhere. The lists simply give the more likely place where they may be found.

a) Hay meadows

These occur mainly in the valley bottom and on the lower slopes of the hills. They are cut annually for hay or silage, and so the plants in them need to be able to cope with this cutting. The valley meadows, the 'ings', are rather lush and consist mostly of grasses. Further up the hills there is a greater variety of species in the drier fields, though we seem to have none of the species-rich upland meadows which still occur in some areas.

Species likely to be found are

Meadow Buttercup	(Ranunculus acris)	c
Bulbous Buttercup	(R. bulbosus)	o
Mayflower	(Cardamine pratensis)	c
Meadow Cranesbill	(Geranium pratense)	r
Wood Cranesbill	(G. sylvaticum)	o
Red Clover	(Trifolium pratense)	c
Meadow Pea	(Lathyrus pratensis)	f
Lady's Mantle	(Alchemilla vulgaris)	f
Great Burnet	(Sanguisorba officinalis)	f
Bistort	(Polygonum bistorta)	f
Sorrel	(Rumex acetosa)	c
Yellow Rattle	(Rhinanthus minor)	o
Dog Daisy	(Chrysanthemum leucanthemum)	c
Common Cat's-ear	(Hypochaeris radicata)	c
Autumnal Hawkbit	(Leontodon autumnalis)	c
Rough Hawkbit	(L. hispidus)	r
Meadow Fescue	(Festuca pratensis)	f
Red Fescue	(F. rubra)	c
Rye Grass	(Lolium perenne)	c
Meadow Grass	(Poa pratensis)	c
Soft Brome	(Bromus mollis)	f
Yellow Oat Grass	(Trisetum flavescens)	r
Yorkshire Fog	(Holcus lanatus)	f
Timothy Grass	(Phleum pratense)	f
Meadow Foxtail	(Alopecurus pratensis)	f
Sweet Vernal Grass	(Anthoxanthum odoratum)	c

b) Fell pasture

Higher up the hills, between the hay meadows and the open moorland, are the pastures used for grazing sheep and cattle. These usually have a close-cropped turf, in which larger species cannot survive. The main regular constituents of such pastures tend to be

Tormentil	(Potentilla erecta)
Self-heal	(Prunella vulgaris)
Harebell	(Campanula rotundifolia)
Heath Bedstraw	(Galium saxatile)
Field Woodruff	(Luzula campestris)
Sheeps' Fescue	(Festuca ovina)
Crested Dog's-tail Grass	(Cynosurus cristatus)
Fine Bent	(Agrostis tenuis)

However, these pastures are for the most part not 'improved' by fertilisers or weedkillers, and so in places where grazing is less intense there is a good variety of plants. Dry sloping banks, such as at the bottom of walls or by streams, are the places to look for these plants.

Moonwort	(Botrychium lunaria)	r
Milkwort	(Polygala serpyllifolia)	f
Slender St. John's Wort	(Hypericum humifusum)	o
Purging Flax	(Linum catharticum)	o
Dyer's Greenweed	(Genista tinctoria)	o
Lesser Yellow Trefoil	(Trifolium dubium)	o
Bird's-foot Trefoil	(Lotus corniculatus)	c
Bitter Vetch	(Lathyrus montanus)	f
Barren Strawberry	(Potentilla sterilis)	f
Burnet Saxifrage	(Pimpinella saxifraga)	o
Heath Speedwell	(Veronica officinalis)	c
Bird's-eye Speedwell	(V. chamaedrys)	f
Thyme-leaved Speedwell	(V. serpyllifolia)	c
Eyebright	(Euphrasia officinalis)	c
Thyme	(Thymus drucei)	f
Betony	(Betonica officinalis)	f
Sheepsbit	(Jasione montana)	f
Lady's Bedstraw	(Galium verum)	o
Mouse-ear Hawkweed	(Hieracium pilosella)	o
Mountain Everlasting	(Antennaria dioica)	f
Smooth Hawsbeard	(Crepis capillaris)	r
Lesser Dandelion	(Taraxacum laevigatum)	r
Butterfly Orchid	(Platanthera chlorantha)	r
Early Purple Orchid	(Orchis mascula)	r
Carnation Sedge	(Carex flacca)	r
Pill-headed Sedge	(C. pilulifera)	f
Spring Sedge	(C. caryophylla)	f
Oval Sedge	(C. ovalis)	f
Heath Grass	(Sieglingia decumbens)	f
Quaking Grass	(Briza media)	f
Wavy Hair-grass	(Deschampsia flexuosa)	f

Certain plants prefer a shallow soil on and around rocky outcrops, often flowering early in the year before the soil dries up too much. Such are

Whitlow Grass	(Erophila verna)	f
Cut-leaved Cranesbill	(Geranium dissectum)	r
Dove's-foot Cranesbill	(G. molle)	o
Parsley Piert	(Aphanes arvensis)	f
English Stonecrop	(Sedum anglicum)	o
Sheeps' Sorrel	(Rumex acetosella)	c
Changing Forget-me-not	(Myosotis discolor)	o
Wall Speedwell	(Veronica arvensis)	f
Early Hair-grass	(Aira praecox)	c

Grassy or muddy paths, field gateways or trodden places have some plants which like bare soil and tolerate walking upon.

Sticky Mouse-ear Chickweed	(Cerastium glomeratum)	o
Knotgrass	(Polygonum aviculare)	f

Red Bartsia	(Odontites verna)	r
Rat's-tail Plantain	(Plantago major)	c
Wayside Cudweed	(Cnaphalium uliginosum)	r
Pineapple Weed	(Matricaria matricarioides)	c
Slender Rush	(Juncus tenuis)	r

c) Open moorland

Above the intake walls, beyond the fell pastures, is the rough open moor, though there is sometimes no sharp distinction between them. The moorland is mainly in the north of the parish, on Sallows and Capple Howe; there is also some along the Huggill Fell ridge and in the south, on Bob's Knob and Grandsire. If neglected, the fell pasture would in time revert to something like the open moor. Moorland has only a few plants.

Fir Clubmoss	(Lycopodium selago)	r
Bracken	(Pteridium aquilinum)	c
Alpine Lady's Mantle	(Alchemilla alpina)	r
Heather	(Calluna vulgaris)	c
Bell Heather	(Erica cinerea)	f
Cowberry	(Vaccinium vitis-idaea)	r
Bilberry	(V. myrtillus)	c
Crowberry	(Empetrum nigrum)	r
Heath Rush	(Juncus squarrosus)	f
Deer Grass	(Scirpus caespitosus)	f
Ribbed Sedge	(Carex binervis)	f
Purple Moor Grass	(Molinia caerulea)	f
Mat Grass	(Nardus stricta)	c

d) Bushy places

In grassy places where there is no mowing or grazing, larger, bushier plants are able to grow. If left for a long period, trees and shrubs establish themselves and scrub results.

In the parish such bushy places occur especially along roadside verges and bankings, the railway embankment, and isolated patches of rough ground here and there. Neglected corners of gardens provide the same conditions, and many plants listed here are familiar garden weeds! Some of the larger hay-meadow plants are found here, together with some woodland plants which need less shade, and some of the wet grassland plants.

The list of plants of bushy places is a long one.

Common Horsetail	(Equisetum arvense)	o
Rape	(Brassica rapa)	r
Winter-cress	(Barbarea vulgaris)	r
Garlic Mustard	(Alliaria petiolata)	f
Hedge Mustard	(Sisymbrium officinale)	r
Common St. John's Wort	(Hypericum perforatum)	o
Greater Stitchwort	(Stellaria holostea)	c
Lesser Stitchwort	(S. graminea)	f
Zig-zag Clover	(Trifolium medium)	o
Tufted Vetch	(Vicia cracca)	f
Bush Vetch	(V. sepium)	c
Raspberry	(Rubus idaeus)	c

Bramble (R. fruticosus) c
 Silverweed (Potentilla anserina) f
 Opine (Sedum telephium) o
 Short-fruited Willowherb (Epilobium obscurum) f
 Rosebay Willowherb (Chamaenerion angustifolium) c
 Cow Parsley (Anthriscus sylvestris) f
 Sweet Cicely (Myrrhis odorata) f
 Hedge Parsley (Torilis japonica) f
 Ground Elder (Aegopodium podagraria) c
 Wild Angelica (Angelica sylvestris) c
 Hogweed (Heracleum sphondylium) c
 Curled Dock (Rumex crispus) f
 Broad-leaved Dock (R. obtusifolius) c
 Nettle (Urtica dioica) c
 Cowslip (Primula veris) f
 Comfrey (Symphytum officinale) f
 Bindweed (Calystegia sepium) o
 Marsh Woundwort (Stachys palustris) o
 Crosswort (Galium cruciata) f
 Goose-grass (G. aparine) c
 Field Scabious (Knautia arvensis) f
 Ragwort (Senecio Jacobaea) f
 Wood Groundsel (S. sylvaticus) f
 Coltsfoot (Tussilago farfara) f
 Mugwort (Artemisia vulgaris) f
 Burdock (Arctium minus) o
 Spear Thistle (Cirsium vulgare) c
 Creeping Thistle (C. arvense) c
 Melancholy Thistle (C. heterophyllum) f
 Knapweed (Centaurea nigra) c
 Nipplewort (Lapsana communis) f
 Goatsbeard (Tragopogon pratensis) f
 Field Milk-thistle (Sonchus arvensis) f
 Hawkweed (Hieracium sp.) o
 Black Bryony (Tamus communis) f
 Twayblade Orchid (Listera ovata) f
 Hairy Sedge (Carex hirta) f
 Rough-stemmed Meadowgrass (Poa trivialis) f
 Cocksfoot (Dactylis glomerata) o
 Couch Grass (Agropyron repens) c
 False Oat Grass (Arrhenatherum elatius) f
 Reed Canary Grass (Phalaris arundinacea) f

WEEDS

Weeds are simply plants growing in the wrong place - mostly in our gardens! Some of the worst weeds are the perennial bushy plants in the last section; but here are listed some of the common annual weeds. They are good at finding small corners of soil almost anywhere, and colonising any patch of bare or disturbed soil. It is not easy to say which are common or rare, because I have not studied the weeds in everyone's gardens; but I think that most of us suffer from

Shepherd's Purse (Capsella bursa-pastoris)
 Hairy Bittercress (Cardamine hirsuta)
 Thale Cress (Arabis thaliana)
 Chickweed (Stellaria media)

Pearlwort (Sagina procumbens)
 Broad-leaved Willowherb (Epilobium montanum)
 Red-leg (Polygonum persicaria)
 Common Forget-me-not (Myosotis arvensis)
 Groundsel (Senecio vulgaris)
 Smooth Sow-thistle (Sonchus oleraceus)
 Annual Meadow Grass (Poa annua)

The vicarage garden has a prize collection of weeds; all these and also

Corn Spurrey (Spergula arvensis)
 Caper Spurge (Euphorbia lathyris)
 Sun Spurge (E. helioscopia)
 Petty Spurge (E. pepulis)
 Ivy-leaved Speedwell (Veronica hederifolia)
 Field Speedwell (V. agrestis)
 Feverfew (Chrysanthemum parthenium)

Other weeds I have seen in the parish are

Charlock (Sinapis arvensis)
 Wild Pansy (Viola tricolor)
 Hemp Nettle (Galeopsis tetrahit)
 Oxford Ragwort (Senecio squalidus)
 Prickly Sow-thistle (Sonchus asper)

GARDEN ESCAPES

There is a good number of plants now growing quite wild and well naturalised which are not native to this country. Some have been accidentally introduced, but most have been brought in as garden plants, and have found life so congenial that they have escaped from the garden, either by being thrown out, spread by birds or animals, or seeding themselves. They are often hard to tell from truly wild native species. In the parish such plants are

Welsh Poppy (Meconopsis cambrica) f
 Good King Henry (Chenopodium bonus-henricus) f
 Pink Purslane (Montia sibirica) o
 Red Currant (Ribes sylvestris) o
 Black Currant (R. nigrum) o
 Gooseberry (R. uva-crispa) o
 Spurge Laurel (Daphne laureola) f
 Japanese Knotweed (Polygonum cuspidatum) f
 Alkanet (Pentaglottis sempervivens) f
 Wood Forget-me-not (Myosotis sylvatica) o
 Monkey Flower (Himulus guttatus) o
 Snowberry (Symphoricarpos rivularis) f
 Fox and Cubs (Hieracium brunneocroceum) o
 Snowdrop (Galanthus nivalis) o

Others are more obviously garden throw-outs, probably not surviving for many years, or merely casuals. The ones I have seen are

Columbine (Aquilegia vulgaris)
 Oriental Poppy (Papaver orientale)

Honesty	(Lunaria annua)
Pink Bittercress	(Cardamine raphanifolia)
Dames' Violet	(Hesperis matronalis)
Musk Mallow	(Malva moschata)
French Cranesbill	(Geranium endressii)
Cotoneaster	(Cotoneaster simonsii)
Dotted Loosestrife	(Lysimachia punctata)
Cornflower	(Centaurea montana)
Day Lily	(Hemerocallis fulva)
Solomon's Seal	(Polygonatum multiflorum)

POSTSCRIPT

There are still plants in the parish waiting to be found and added to this list. Some of them are fairly common things I have not seen, or overlooked, and very likely to be found. Here are a few suggestions of plants for you to look for. Good hunting!

Adder's Tongue Fern	(Ophioglossum vulgatum)
Common Milkwort	(Polygala vulgaris)
Fat Hen	(Chenopodium album)
Common Orache	(Atriplex patula)
Small Balsam	(Impatiens parviflora)
Rest Harrow	(Ononis repens)
Fool's Water Cress	(Apium nodiflorum)
Black Bindweed	(Polygonum convolvulus)
Red-veined Dock	(Rumex sanguineus)
Wood Speedwell	(Veronica montana)
Red Dead-nettle	(Lamium purpureum)
White Dead-nettle	(L. album)
Skullcap	(Scutellaria galericulata)
Hard Rush	(Juncus inflexus)