Narrow-leaved Water-dropwort, *Oenanthe silaifolia*,
being pollinated by sawflies in West Mead, Yarnton, May 2010.
Photo: Judy Webb

www.oxfordrareplants.org.uk
INTRODUCTION

2010 was a good year for many of the plants we monitor and it is encouraging that so many of them did well. The numbers of arable plants are always unpredictable; they have good years and bad years and it is never easy to understand why. The number of variables affecting them is so great that it is difficult to tease out those which are of greatest importance. The Rare Plants Group has now assembled an impressive archive of data during its 17 years of existence, and we are able to draw conclusions, though some more tentative than others. The correlation of the January temperature going below freezing with high counts of Broad-leaved Cudweed, *Filago pyramidata*, is one such conclusion. This must be tentative since even two swallows don’t make a summer, or to put it more mathematically, it’s not statistically significant. We can be fairly confident however, of the relationship between winter and early-spring flooding and high numbers of Grass-poly, *Lythrum hyssopifolium*, and in this case it is easy to see why that should be so.

Perennial plants are much more predictable. Birthwort, *Aristolochia clematitis*, seems to keep going with little intervention and this must be because the site has experienced little change for many years. Where the management for perennials is right they will do well and this also applies to Green Hound’s-tongue, *Cynoglossum germanicum*, though it is a biennial. The management we have put in place at Pyrton has paid dividends and resulted in much greater security for the plant at this site.

Creeping Marshwort, *Apium repens*, although it is a perennial, has had annual behaviour forced upon it by flooding events, though it can regenerate from little detached pieces of stem as well as from seed. The thing we don’t know is to what degree the seed bank is being impoverished by repeated years of germination but no seed setting. We do know from the plant’s reappearance on Binsey Green that the seed bank can survive for many years when conditions are adverse for germination.

We have now been working on many plants for more than ten years and are hoping to publish reports on them on the Fritillary website, www.fritillary.org.uk. We think that we are doing our bit to ensure that the expression “evidence-based conservation” is not an oxymoron.

Frances Watkins

THE PLANTS WE MONITOR

*Apium repens*, Creeping Marshwort

Since the plants which had germinated so prolifically in 2009 were growing well, we had great hopes that 2010 would see a large amount of seed set. However just as we came up to the monitoring date the rain arrived and flood water on Port Meadow rose rapidly and stayed high leaving most of the plants under water again.

Photo 1: Port Meadow looking west across the North population area. August 2010
Photo: Camilla Lambrick
Photo 2: *Apium repens*, Creeping Marshwort with very deeply divided leaves, underwater!
Photo: Camilla Lambrick

Photo 3: Members of the Botany Loop (from left to right - Sam Amy, Mick Doughty-Lee and Geoff Moxon) looking at the small area of Creeping Marshwort found at the northern entrance to Burgess Field Corner.
Photo: Camilla Lambrick

At the introduction site at North Hinksey, Creeping Marshwort covered a similar area to the last two years (about 50 x 10 metres) and some 40 inflorescences were found.

Photo 4: Susan Erskine and Alison McDonald measuring the extent of the main area of Creeping Marshwort at North Hinksey.
Photo: Camilla Lambrick

Camilla Lambrick
Apium graveolens, Wild Celery

The Apium graveolens site at Marcham was visited on 20 August 2010 by five members of the Rare Plants Group. The Wild Celery patch stood out as a sea of green in a field of Red Clover, Trifolium pratense. None of the vegetation was very high, perhaps due to the lack of rainfall in June and July. Although sheep had grazed the Wild Celery in the field heavily last year, we found plenty of flowering plants, 334 were counted, along with 136 non-flowering plants. A few clusters of seedlings of Wild Celery were noted in the carpet of Creeping Bent, Agrostis stolonifera and White Clover, Trifolium repens, but there were few patches of bare soil where seeds could germinate. There was little or no evidence of Juncus species and the thistles had been kept under control.

Ann Cole

Aristolochia clematitis, Birthwort

The site at Godstow was visited by Sheila Ottway on 25 June 2010. A large number of shoots of Birthwort were seen growing in and close to the ditch to the west of the Abbey ruins. The distribution of shoots was similar to that observed in previous years, with the difference that there were apparently more shoots now growing (some in flower) towards the western end of the ditch, beyond the bend to the north. A total number of 282 shoots was counted, of which many (c. 25-30%) were in flower. This number given is a conservative estimate, as many of the shoots observed were among dense vegetation with nettles and thorns, etc. It is likely that the total number of shoots actually present was between 300 and 350. At the eastern and western ends of the ditch, there was a good number of flowering shoots. All of the shoots appeared to be in a healthy condition, even though they were rather hemmed in by other vegetation. This other vegetation may, however, provide protection from grazing by cattle, by then already present in the field containing the ditch.

The site was revisited on 25 September. By this time there were no longer any shoots in flower. A total number of 185 shoots was counted. This is once again a conservative estimate, as the ditch was densely overgrown in some places, especially towards the eastern end, near the Abbey ruins. The distribution of shoots was similar to that observed in previous years, with a high concentration towards the eastern end of the ditch. All the shoots observed appeared to be in a healthy condition, with some now losing their bright green appearance, as one would expect towards the end of the summer.

Sheila Ottway

Carex vulpina, True Fox-sedge

There was no monitoring of Carex vulpina this year.

Cynoglossum germanicum, Green Hound’s-tongue

In excess of 400 plants of the Green Hound’s-tongue were found on all parts of the site at Pyrton, near Watlington. This plant is spreading to other parts of the site where it has not previously been found.
Eight healthy flowering plants were found at the site at Stratford Bridge, near Woodstock and one plant which was diseased. More than 100 non-flowering plants and many small seedlings occurred on the site. We removed much of the Cleavers, *Galium aparine*, which was abundant, in order to stop it seeding next year. Some further work is required in the late winter to remove some of the nettles and other undergrowth to provide more space for the *Cynoglossum germanicum* to colonize.

Shirley Leach

**Filago pyramidata, Broad-leaved Cudweed**

Both the extant sites for the plant in Oxfordshire were visited in the first week of July 2010. The results were in one case total joy, the other sadness.

First the case of ‘joy’: At Sonning after a very dry and hot June, we arrived at the quarry with no great expectations. As usual the plants were extremely small and not readily visible. However once the transect line and quadrats were laid out, and we were on our hands and knees, it quickly became apparent that we were in for a bumper year (see photos 8 on page 8 and 11 on page 9). In the quadrats 350 plants were counted and in the immediate vicinity of the quadrats a further 662 plants were found, making a grand total of 1012. No doubt if a detailed search of the whole quarry floor had been made, this number would have increased. However as only four of the 1012 plants were greater than two centimetres, this task was beyond our knees and we had shown that it was indeed a ‘good year’. An intriguing explanation for this vastly increased count may be found in the weather conditions. The last time a count of over 1,000 occurred was in 1996, when the average January minimum temperature was below 0°C. In 2010 the average minimum in January was again below 0°C. Maybe a period of freezing is required for optimum germination. Certainly several other British natives have done well this year.

The not so good news follows: As has been reported in previous newsletters, the Buckland Warren site has struggled to produce viable numbers of Broad-leaved Cudweed and 2010 was no exception as I was unable to find any plants during the year. Even the Common Cudweed, *Filago vulgaris*, was in greatly reduced numbers, as indeed were all the annuals. The sward at Buckland Warren was dense with little bare ground for germination. There seemed to be less rabbit activity and so less bare earth around the burrows, which is where the plant was previously found.

We are grateful to the landowners of these two sites, which are privately owned, for allowing the RPG access to monitor this rare plant.

Finally the specimen of Broad-leaved Cudweed which popped up in my garden last year failed to produce any offspring!

Susan Erskine

**Gentianella anglica, Early Gentian**

*Gentianella anglica* is one of the few endemic plants in England. This year a team from the RPG, with Caroline Searle from the National Trust, organised a visit to the known sites on the Wessex Downs. We began our search along the road verge between the Dragon Hill and the car park and were rewarded with a good count of 105 Early Gentians in flower. Continuing down the Hill, three flowers were found on Dragon Hill and 15 around the bottom
of the Shepherd’s steps. In the area around the tail and hind legs of the White Horse itself, which usually provides quite a high count, only 17 flowers were seen. However we were pleased with the morning’s records as the plant is an annual and it is notoriously erratic in its appearances. A photograph of an Early Gentian flower is shown on page 8.

In the afternoon the team moved on to Kingstone Down. There are fewer areas here than on the White Horse Hill, for the Early Gentian to germinate. Much of the hillside is covered in coarse grass, Upright brome, *Bromopsis erecta*, and Tor-grass, *Brachypodium rupestre*. We were unable to find any plants in the patch of short turf where it was found in the previous two years, but in two other patches a total of 28 flowers were counted. This was most encouraging and highlights the benefits of many pairs of eyes searching on a sunny day! The National Trust owns much of the land where the plant is found and we are always pleased to have reports from them, or indeed anyone who finds the plant. Do look on a bright sunny day.

Susan Erskine

**Lythrum hyssopifolium, Grass-poly**

More than 600 plants of Grass-poly were found in the summer of 2010 at Cholsey. They were well distributed throughout the field and were healthy and of a good size. *Lythrum hyssopifolium* does well when flooding has taken place on the site during the previous winter and early spring, which keeps the undergrowth down.

Shirley Leach

**Microthlaspi perfoliatum, Cotswold Penny-cress**

This plant was previously known under the name of *Thlaspi perfoliatum*, but in the Third Edition of the *New Flora of the British Isles* by Clive Stace, published in 2010, it has been reclassified.
The Rare Plants Group monitors three sites for *Microthlaspi perfoliatum*. Only one is a traditional arable location, this at Palmer’s Bank on the Blenheim Estate. The area around the Hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*) tree at the western end of the old hedge line and adjacent to the bridleway is still the only part of the site where Cotswold Penny-cress is found. 44 plants were counted during the visit in 2010; several of them were multi-stemmed and also setting seed. It is disappointing that so far the plants have not returned to the rest of the hedge line, nor spread into the conservation headland. The hot July and wet August of 2010 may have been good timing for germination, so we hope for better things in 2011.

Sadly the results of the count at the site at Bridgefield Bridge were not as good as hoped. At first sight it looked as though there was going to be a nil return, but after diligent searching, three tiny plants were found in bud and flower. Six more plants were tentatively identified as possible seedlings of the Cotswold Penny-cress. The spring of 2010 was very cold and dry, however results elsewhere (see above) were more encouraging.

Network Rail continues to support us by providing a safety officer, for the monitoring and maintenance day, for which we are very grateful.

Susan Erskine

*Oenanthe silaifolia*, Narrow-leaved Water-dropwort

Narrow-leaved Water-dropwort can be found on two sites in Oxfordshire. The first, where the population is currently thriving, is at Bestmoor, North Aston, which has one of the largest known British populations (estimated at over 30,000), despite it having received fertilizer and herbicide some 15 to 20 years ago. It grows with a mixture of plant species including Cuckooflower, *Cardamine pratensis*, Meadow Buttercup, *Ranunculus acris*, Ragged-Robin, *Silene flos-cuculi*, Meadow Vetchling, *Lathyrus pratensis*, and Common Sorrel, *Rumex acetosa*. In May 2010 Camilla Lambrick recorded thousands of these plants with the collaboration of the RSPB which is monitoring nesting Curlew in Bestmoor.

The second site, West Mead, Yarnton, has a fluctuating population of Narrow-leaved Water-dropwort depending upon rainfall. In wetter years, such as 2010, recording for the first time since 1989 produced 44 plants in a series of five parallel paleo-channels. These channels run south-west from the hedge-line in company with sedges, grasses and Meadowsweet, *Filipendula ulmaria*. It is proposed to map *Oenanthe silaifolia* in West Mead in May-June 2011.

Alison W. McDonald

*Pulsatilla vulgaris*, Pasqueflower

Although flower production was not monitored in 2010, there was found to be some seed production at Aston Upthorpe, contrasting with 2009 when all the flowers and developing seedheads were predated. The improvement was probably due to Natural England having mended the holes in the exclosure fence. Photographs of some developing seedheads were taken to make a record of the occurrence, see photo 6 on page 8.

Kathy Warden
SECTION OF COLOUR PHOTOGRAPHS


Photo 7: Early Gentian, *Gentianella anglica*, found at White Horse Hill, June 2010. See report on pages 5-6. Photo: Caroline Pannell

Photo 8: Broad-leaved Cudweed, *Filago pyramidata*, at Sonning in July 2010. See report on page 5. Photo: Chris Harford
Photo 11 (left): From left to right - Sally Rankin, Susan Erskine (standing), Ann Cole and Janet Welsh counting Broad-leaved Cudweed, *Filago pyramidata*, plants in quadrats at Sonning quarry, July 2010. Photo: Chris Harford

Photo 9: The annual Marsh Lousewort, *Pedicularis palustris*, found at Parsonage Moor, Cothill Fen, May 2010. See pages 11-12 for the Rare Plants Register report. Photo: Phil Cutt

Photo 10: The now not so Common Butterwort, *Pinguicula vulgaris*, also at Parsonage Moor, Cothill, May 2010. See pages 11-12 for the Rare Plants Register report. Photo: Phil Cutt
**Salvia pratensis, Meadow Clary**

There was no monitoring of *Salvia pratensis* this year.

**Sium latifolium, Greater Water-parsnip**

The Greater Water-parsnip at the Wytham and Marston sites were visited in August 2010. At Wytham on the south side of Hagley Pool ditch, where there was no grazing except for places where plants were accessible over the electric fencing, 12 flowering plants with 21 inflorescences were found. On the north side, nine flowering plants and 63 inflorescences were recorded. The Flushe were also recorded and the wet areas found to be dominated by Lesser Pond-sedge, *Carex acutiformis*. One new species was found that is rare in the county and not previously recorded in the Flushe, this was Spreading Meadow-grass *Poa humilis*.

At Marston only 20 flowering plants and two non-flowering plants of *Sium latifolium* were found. All plants were shorter than usual probably due to the drought in April, night frosts in late spring followed by the dry summer. The conditions in which *Sium latifolium* are growing are poor.

Alison W. McDonald

**Veronica praecox, Breckland Speedwell**

Informal monitoring in 2010 again revealed no plants at all of *Veronica praecox*. A report on our twelve years of work on this plant is now available on-line at [www.fritillary.org.uk](http://www.fritillary.org.uk) and located under “Fritillary Reports”.

Frances Watkins

**Viola persicifolia, Fen Violet**

2010 was a mildly successful year for the Fen Violet! Numbers had increased in its field on Otmoor from 18 in 2009 to well over 1000 in 2010. This increase can be traced back to work carried out in September 2009 to completely remove the *Salix* (Willow) hedgerow. All that remains now is a row of Oak standards. This has let in much light and created a lot of bare ground in a field otherwise covered in various *Carex* and *Juncus* species. During the yearly survey in late May, attended by six people, we found three separate clumps of Fen Violet, of which two were in full bloom, and one was extensive with 28 shoots over an area about one times one and a half metres.

As the season progressed, an eye was kept on the newly cleared ground and at the beginning of July a survey was carried out to identify the early colonisers. Without giving a full list here, there were 94 species, including both weedy annuals and meadow species. During this visit it was noted that there were more than 50 *Viola* seedlings. A subsequent trip was made to try to count these. Due to the sheer numbers, sampling was used to give an estimated figure and it is thought that at least 2500 plants were present. From the proportion of these plants that had seed pods, it was estimated that some 2000 seeds may have been produced. The seeds were produced cleistagamously (without open flowers and thus self-pollinating) to replenish the seed bank.
The successful germination was, in part, replicated at Woodwalton Fen (one of the two Cambridgeshire sites). During the steering committee meeting in June, we were taken to one of the compartments where Viola persicifolia had not been seen for around a decade. During the winter of 2009/2010, a JCB was brought in and used to lift and turn over five strips (1m x 5m) of turf. By the time of our visit, two of the strips had around 20 plants of what were most likely to have been Fen Violet. However at Wicken Fen, the other site for Fen Violet, also in Cambridgeshire, no plants were found.

More good news is that a trial germination of seed from Otmoor held at the Millennium Seed Bank, Kew, has produced 20 young plants and we are hoping to use some of these to carry out local introductions at sites where public viewing is possible.

Phil Cutt

Rare arable flowers in the Triangle, Wytham

Corn Cleavers, Galium tricornutum, was last recorded in Wytham in the early 1970’s and is now known only from cultivation at Rothamstead Experimental Station. Nevertheless efforts have been made to bring Corn Cleavers back to Wytham. Autumn ploughing since 2000 has not produced Corn Cleavers but it has enabled some 185 species to be recorded, including seven plants of White Helleborine, Cephalanthera damasonium, (migrating from adjacent beech-wood), the ‘nationally scarce’ Slender Tare, Vicia parviflora, and five species of conservation interest in Oxfordshire: Blue Pimpernel, Anagallis arvensis ssp. foemina, Dwarf Spurge, Euphorbia exigua, Wall Fumitory, Fumaria muralis, Small-flowered Buttercup, Ranunculus parviflorus, and Field Madder, Sherardia arvensis. Clearly autumn ploughing and harrowing is essential for these species and this should continue.

Sixty-five species were recorded in June 2010 and an additional 35 species in August, thus making it clear that a second survey each year is not a waste of time! There are now two plants of Small Toadflax, Chaenorrhinum minus, one near the original site. A few plants of the Dwarf Spurge were found in both June and August. Thousands of non-flowering plants of the Small-flowered Buttercup were recorded in June but none in August. Red and Blue Pimpernel, Anagallis arvensis and A. arvensis ssp. foemina, were much less frequent than in other years. Neither of the Fluellens, Kickxia elatine and K. spuria, were seen in June and only Round-leaved Fluellen, K. spuria, was found in August. Charlock, Sinapis arvensis, was again abundant in June but of the 53 additional species recorded over the previous ten years, the ‘nationally rare’ Vicia parviflora, Fumaria muralis and Anagalis arvensis ssp. foemina were not seen in 2010. In general the vegetation was sparser than usual and not as tall. The drought in April, night frosts in late spring followed by the dry summer, may have reduced opportunities for germination and, almost certainly, caused mortality in the ‘nationally scarce’ Small-flowered Buttercup, Ranunculus parviflorus.

Alison W. McDonald

OXFORDSHIRE RARE PLANTS REGISTER

Many people have been out looking to see whether our nationally and locally rare plants are still in the sites where they have been recorded in the past. One area we focussed on was the “Stokenchurch anomaly”, where part of what is in the vice county of Oxfordshire, is now in administrative Buckinghamshire. We found a wonderful patch of White Helleborine,
Cephalanthera damasonium, a beautiful stand of wild Columbine, Aquilegia vulgaris, and abundant Wood Barley, Hordeum vulgare, but sadly no Lady’s Mantle, Alchemilla sp. which was once in an old pasture at Ibstone.

Wet meadow plants were another focus with rich hauls found at Alvescot and Kidlington. Judy Webb found the elusive Marsh Willowherb, Epilobium palustre at Kidlington. Kennington Pit yielded a very large population of Whorled Water-milfoil, Myriophyllum verticillatum.

During 2010 several visits were made to Cothill Fen SAC (Special Area for Conservation) where we counted 732 Grass-of-Parnassus, Parnassia palustris, plants and made estimates of the annual Marsh Lousewort, Pedicularis palustris, (100-200, many in fruit), the now rare Common Butterwort, Pinguicula vulgaris, (40, non-flowering plants), Parsley Water-dropwort, Oenanthe lachenalii, (about 170 plants), Bog Pimpernel, Anagallis tenella (covering about 7 metres along the edge of the stream) and Black Bog-rush, Schoenus nigricans, (over an area of about 30 - 40 metres). Sadly some species are long gone such as the Round-leaved Sundew, Drosera rotundifolia. After years of discussion some new peat cuttings are being made which should help the smaller plants by providing an open wet peat surface and bringing buried seed to the surface on slopes. Grazing is continuing in Cothill Fen and the best news of all is that the area now has a BBOWT project officer, Louise Print-Lyons.

We have now finished our allotted search time for the register and will be working on writing species accounts from now on.

Camilla Lambrick

EVENTS IN 2010

The fifteenth series of four lunchtime talks was held in the Large Lecture Theatre of the Department of Plant Sciences at the University of Oxford. We were most grateful to Professor Jane Langdale for allowing us to use this theatre and also the Common Room.

21 January: Restoration of Grasslands Plant and Beetle Communities. Dr Ben Woodcock Centre for Ecology and Hydrology

4 February: Progress Towards a Red List of European Aquatic Plants. Richard Lansdown

18 February: Developments in European Conservation: A case study from the Rhineland ‘Conservation in Germany and Great Britain’. Wolfgang Ritter BBOWT


Evolution Day

On 16 October the Ashmolean Natural History Society of Oxfordshire held a family activities day at the Oxford University Museum of Natural History in order to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the “Great Debate” on Evolution. At this debate Bishop Wilberforce asked
whether T.H. Huxley claimed descent from apes through his mother or his father’s side, and Huxley replied that he would rather be descended from an ape than from a cleric who would use his intellect to pour ridicule on a serious matter. Our society is involved in this because it was their president, Professor Henry Acland, who had invited the British Association for the Advancement of Science to hold their 1860 meeting in Oxford.

Some family activities were set up on the theme of ‘evolution’ - displays, talks and a tour of the building. Serena Marner put out an exhibit of a small number of Charles Darwin’s plant specimens collected on the voyage of the Beagle in South America, plus a couple of letters from Darwin’s mentor Professor Henslow to a correspondent at the Botanic Garden in the University. Judy Webb had living snails to illustrate natural selection in banded snails and a display on E.B. Ford’s work on the genetics of Tiger moths at Cothill. Darren Mann had an exhibit of some of the insects collected by Darwin and gave a talk on Darwin, Beetles and F.W. Hope. Hope, the founder of the Hope Department of Entomology at the University, had inspired Darwin to collect beetles, and later at the museum received some of the insects collected on the Beagle voyage. Malgosia Nowak-Kemp gave a tour of the building pointing out how the whole structure, as well as its detailed sculpture, reflect both the vision and the trials and tribulations of Professor Acland in creating the building and amassing its contents.

Camilla Lambrick
Plantlife International in 2010

Plantlife celebrated its 21st birthday this year with a reception at the Philip Mould Gallery in Dover Street, London. Celebrations continued at the Members’ Day which was held at the stunning location of Sheepdrove Eco Conference Centre near Lambourn. Members’ Day is very popular with talks and reports in the morning, including a chance for members to comment and ask questions, and a selection of interesting activities in the afternoon.

A new incarnation of the Common Plants Survey was launched this year under the name of Wild Flowers Count. This has had a very good take-up.

Work continued on the Juniper project which involved many fruitful partnerships.

Plantlife is the only British charity devoted entirely to the conservation of plants in situ. Its work is absolutely crucial but does not attract the same funding as cuddly animals or lifeboats, for example. In the present economic climate, with government funding being reduced or withdrawn, your support is more important than ever. You can find out lots more about Plantlife and its activities and see how you can help, if you visit the website, www.plantlife.org.uk, or phone 01722 342730.

Frances Watkins

PLANS FOR 2011

Numerous field events take place which involve plant monitoring and practical conservation work, not all strenuous, such as scrub clearance and scarifying. They are too numerous to list in this newsletter. If you are interested in attending field events, please ring Susan Erskine on 01367 241499 or Camilla Lambrick on 01865 735161 or email camillalambrick@btinternet.com

ASHMOLEAN NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY OF OXFORDSHIRE

Education Group

Our basic identification course was run as usual and was particularly successful in 2010 with 17 out of 18 students completing the course. In addition we offered continuation courses on Vegetative Identification, Grasses, Use of Microscopes and Grassland and Quadrat Recording. Unfortunately the last two courses did not prove popular enough to run but Vegetative Identification and Grasses were very successful indeed, well subscribed and well received.

The basic course will be held again in 2011. In addition there will be several continuation courses: Latin for Botany, Conifers, Advanced Sedges, Yellow Composites and Ferns. All these have been brought back by popular request except Advanced Sedges which is a new venture.

Our annual outing will take place on the afternoon of the 4 June after the basic course session in the morning.

For more details, email frances.watkins@anthriscus.co.uk or ring 01865 863660.

Frances Watkins
Fritillary

Volume 5 of *Fritillary* (the journal of the Ashmolean Natural History Society of Oxfordshire and BBOWT, the local Wildlife Trust) is now available on-line at www.fritillary.org.uk. It includes contributions arising from presentations given to the Hay Meadows course which was held in June 2007.

Work continues on Volume 6 which will be a Darwin Memorial edition. If you would like to submit a paper about the natural history of the three counties for Volume 6 or another future volume, please get in touch with the receiving editor, Dr Alison McDonald, Wolfson College, Oxford, OX2 6UD, telephone: 01865 556651, email: alison.mcdonald@plants.ox.ac.uk.

Volume 4 and Volume 5 are on-line, however paper copies of Volume 4 are available and Volume 5 will be available shortly; other volumes are hard-copy only. If you would like a copy of *Fritillary*, please send £8.50 for Volume 4, £6.50 for Volume 3, £6 for Volume 2 or £6.50 for Volume 1 to ANHSO Fritillary, 17, Norreys Road, Cumnor, Oxford, OX2 9PT.

Frances Watkins

RARE PLANTS GROUP AUDITED ACCOUNTS  Jan to Dec 2010

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The full accounts have been audited and are available on request from the Treasurer.

Alison W. McDonald

HOW TO HELP

For further information or enquiries please contact Dr. Camilla Lambrick, Picketts Heath, The Ridgeway, Boars Hill, Oxford, OX1 5EZ. Phone or Fax: 01865 735161 or Email: camillalambrick@btinternet.com

Membership of the Rare Plants Group is synonymous with membership of the Ashmolean Natural History Society of Oxfordshire. To join send a cheque made out to The Ashmolean Natural History Society of Oxfordshire for the appropriate amount to: Margaret Williamson, 49 Church Street, Kidlington, Oxon. OX5 2BA.

Annual subscription rates are: Ordinary membership: £8; Student £4; Family £12 (per family); Corporate £12. (Subscriptions run from January but a 16-month membership for the cost of one year is available if you join in the autumn.)
THE RARE PLANTS GROUP WEBSITE

Our website, which is regularly updated by Frances Watkins, can be found at www.oxfordrareplants.org.uk; it is a quick way of finding out what we are up to. It is linked to the Ashmolean Natural History Society of Oxfordshire website, www.anhso.org.uk.

ABOUT THE RARE PLANTS GROUP

The Rare Plants Group is part of the Ashmolean Natural History Society of Oxfordshire and works in partnership with many other organisations to conserve rare wild plants in Oxfordshire:

- Oxford City Council
- Oxfordshire County Council
- The University of Oxford Department of Plant Sciences
- The Thames Valley Environmental Records Centre
- Farm Animal Initiatives

and the following:

Committee
Chair
Deputy Chair and Treasurer
Secretary
Talks Organiser and Publicity
Webmaster
Other
Hon. Auditor

Dr Camilla Lambrick
Dr Alison McDonald
Susan Erskine
Sue Helm
Frances Watkins
Shirley Leach
Phil Cutt
Bill Clarke
Andrew Churchill Stone

This newsletter was edited by Serena Marner. Many thanks are extended to all those who contributed to the newsletter and helped in its production. The newsletter is intended to inform about the work of the Rare Plants Group and is circulated to interested members of the Ashmolean Natural History Society of Oxfordshire, our partners, landowners we work with and other interested parties. If you don’t think you are on our mailing list and you would like to be, please email serena@oxfordrareplants.org.uk