

Wildflowers in August at Heysham Nature Reserve



Harebell: Seen in small clumps, this delightful bell-shaped flower has five triangular petals and can vary in different hues of blue. It doesn't like being over-crowded by other plants and is visited by bumblebees and honey bees.



Knapweed: A thistle-like purple flower blooms on all kinds of grasslands. It is made up of many small florets' (tiny flowers) and long, ragged, pink bracts (leaf-like structures) and can attract clouds of butterflies.



Common Fleabane: Each flower looks a lot like giant yellow daisy, a dense central cluster of tiny tube-like petals, creating a distinctive dome, which is surrounded by a ring of 'ray' petals. Attracting hoverflies, honey bees and butterflies.



Rosebay Willowherb: A great pioneering plant, it has tall, pink flowers that spike out over crowded spaces of vegetation and with its cotton-like parachute seeds, it disperses with the slightest of breezes and is noted for attracting wildlife.



Common Yarrow: It has flat-clusters of white flower heads, with yellowish disc florets and pinky-white ray florets along with dark green and finely divided, feathery leaves. Used for medicinal purposes, it attract many pollinators.



Perforate St-John's Wort: This bright star-shaped yellow flower has tiny holes in its leaves that give off a 'foxy' smell from June. A plant with many myths and past rituals, it's a nectar source for native pollinators such as bumblebees.

Following the paths, see if you can find and record all of these wildflowers.
Take care not to pick the flowers and always wash your hands after.

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Greater Knapweed: closely related to the thistle, it actually belongs to the sunflower family and attracts butterfly such as the Painted Lady and Green-veined White, as well as many moths, bees and hoverflies.



Common Daisy: Almost all year round this white (surrounding of 'ray florets') & tiny yellow ('disc florets') flower heads provide a valuable food source for hoverflies, honey bees and bumblebees.



Common Centaury is in bloom over summer. With clusters of pretty, pink, five-petalled flowers. Like other members of the gentian family, it's flowers close during the afternoon. It was also used by traditional herbalists to control fevers.



Common Evening-Primrose: This large, yellow, sun-like flower that only opens in the evening has blooms that appear on tall spikes from June to September and attracts bees, butterflies and moths searching for nectar.



Great Willowherb: Deep pink flowers appear on the top of hairy stems from July to August and has fluffy seeds that are dispersed by the wind. It stands tall and flourishes well in damp grounds.



Buddleia: It's purple flowers bloom from June to October and attract all kinds of butterflies and moths looking for nectar sources. Its winged seeds are dispersed by the wind and find it easy to colonise stony ground.

Please make a note of information regarding ticks on the notice board in the car park and care for the wildlife around you by taking your litter home. For more activities contact: heyshamevents@lancswt.org.uk

Thank you.

