

Flora of Birmingham and the Black Country



Ian Trueman, Mike Poulton & Paul Reade



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With chapters edited by

David Antrobus & Bill Moodie, Martin Godfrey, Peter James and Peter Jarvis

And contributions by

Simon Atkinson, Stefan Bodnar, Sara Carvalho, Sue Collingswood, Anna Coward, Peter Coxhead, Alan Cutler, Anne Daly, Nicola Farrin, John Gerrard, Jane Hardwick, Margaret Kingsbury, David Mitchell, Chris Parry, Simon Phipps, Antony Ratcliffe, Peter Shirley, John Shrimpton, Andy Slater, Paul Wilkinson and Chris Young

Drawings by

Teresa Bailey, Anne Bebbington, Anne Daly, Aidan Edwards, Gemma Edwards, Sue Nicholls and Neville Walters

Maps by

Sara Carvalho and Andy Slater of EcoRecord. The atlas distribution maps were prepared with the DMAP software written by Dr A. J. Morton. "Early English Birmingham and the Black Country" map by John Hemingway

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Photographs by

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The Birmingham and Black Country
Botanical Society



Birmingham &
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Flora of Birmingham and the Black Country

Contents

Foreword by David Goode	v
Preface	vi
A message from Neil Wyatt, Chief Executive of The Wildlife Trust for Birmingham and the Black Country	vi
Acknowledgements	viii
Chapter 1 Introduction	1
Chapter 2 Wild flowers in Birmingham and the Black Country	11
Section 1 Botanical walks	12
Section 2 Finding wild flowers	45
Section 3 Neophytes (and where to see them)	63
Section 4 A register of the designated nature conservation sites	73
Section 5 References	90
Chapter 3 Background to the Flora	91
Section 1 Geology and geodiversity	92
Section 2 Climate	95
Section 3 Relief, drainage and soils	101
Section 4 Hydrology and water quality	104
Section 5 Habitats and vegetation	106
Section 6 The garden habitat	116
Section 7 The history of human occupation	118
Section 8 References	130
Chapter 4 Exploring the Flora records	133
Section 1 Describing the urban landscape	134
Section 2 Influences on the urban landscape	152
Section 3 Implications of the analysis	173
Section 4 References	176
Chapter 5 Fungi	177
Chapter 6 Lichens	197
Chapter 7 Bryophytes (mosses, liverworts and hornworts)	215
Chapter 8 Vascular plants	225
Gazetteer	466
Index to fungi	468
Index to lichens	473
Index to bryophytes	474
Index to vascular plants	475

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Authorship

Chapter 1 Introduction by Paul Reade, Ian Trueman & Mike Poulton

Chapter 2 Wild flowers in Birmingham and the Black Country

- Section 1 **Botanical walks** Edited by Mike Poulton & Sara Carvalho, with contributions from Sue Collingswood, Anna Coward, Anne Daly, Jane Hardwick, Simon Phipps, Paul Reade, Peter Shirley, & Ian Trueman.
- Section 2 **Finding wild flowers** Edited by Ian Trueman & Mike Poulton, with contributions from Stefan Bodnar, Peter Coxhead, Nicola Farrin, Peter Millett, Simon Phipps & John Shrimpton
- Section 3 **Neophytes (and where to see them)** by Mike Poulton
- Section 4 **A register of nature conservation sites** Edited by Ian Trueman based on EcoRecord and Natural England wildlife site information with contributions from Chris Parry, Andy Slater, Simon Atkinson, Alan Cutler and Antony Ratcliffe

Chapter 3 Background to the Flora edited by Peter Jarvis

- Section 1 **Geology and geodiversity** by Alan Cutler
- Section 2 **Climate** by David Mitchell
- Section 3 **Relief, drainage and soils** by John Gerrard
- Section 4 **Hydrology and water quality** by David Mitchell
- Section 5 **Habitats and vegetation** by Peter Jarvis
- Section 6 **The garden habitat** by Chris Young
- Section 7 **The history of human occupation** by Margaret Kingsbury

Chapter 4 Exploring the flora records Ian Trueman, with contributions from Sara Carvalho, Andy Slater & Paul Wilkinson

Chapter 5 Fungi by David Antrobus and Bill Moodie

Chapter 6 Lichens by Peter James

Chapter 7 Bryophytes by Martin Godfrey

Chapter 8 Vascular plants by Mike Poulton, Paul Reade & Ian Trueman

Indexing by P. Creed, P. Jarvis & the editors

This first **Flora of Birmingham and the Black Country** tells a positive story about the unsung beauty and vitality hidden in our urban landscape. Fully illustrated, 496 pp., it has been written by an extensive local team led by local experts. It is designed to be accessible to everybody, providing botanical walks in addition to full descriptions of all the best plants and botanical places of Birmingham, Dudley, Sandwell, Walsall and Wolverhampton. It describes the ecology and distribution of over 1,800 flowering plants, conifers and ferns based on records from every one of the 715 one-kilometre squares which make up this area. It also provides annotated checklists of our Fungi, Lichens, Mosses and Liverworts. The history, physical background and habitats of the conurbation are described and the botanical data is analysed to shed new light on the conservation and improvement of nature.



About the authors



Ian Trueman taught at the University of Wolverhampton 1970–2005, eventually as Professor of Plant Ecology and still lives in Wolverhampton. He was BSBI vc. Recorder for Shropshire for many years and was joint

author of the *Ecological Flora of the Shropshire Region* and *The Flora of Montgomeryshire*. He is active in nature conservation affairs in several midlands counties and a vice-President of the Wildlife Trust for Birmingham and the Black Country.



Mike Poulton has lived in the Black Country all his life, observing many changes particularly in the landscape. A childhood fascination with wild flowers and many other interests led to him travelling widely throughout the British

Isles, exploring plants and their habitats and building up a comprehensive personal collection of notes and photographs. Currently employed as a consultant ecologist, after many years as a propagator gardener, landscaper and freelance ecologist, he sees the Flora as a fitting tribute to his lifetime passion.



Paul Reade is a local amateur botanist with particular interests developing amongst the algae, ferns and bryophytes. He is usually to be found on a mountain side in Wales searching out new, or long-lost, sites for arctic-

alpinism. If not there, in woodland or a stream valley somewhere in the Welsh Marches, just to see what turns up. And, of course, there are days spent in town searching amongst the mortared cliffs of the older buildings, and the new frontier – the post industrial landscape with its brick-lined, gated rivers – where nature fashions new and novel botanical interest.



The Birmingham and Black Country Botanical Society

EcoRecord

the ecological database for Birmingham and the Black Country



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