

Kings Worthy, Worthy Down Halt Wildflower Survey Spring 2021



Survey Report



(Hues of yellow, blue and green, with a backdrop of white, at this hidden glade near the platform, with biting stonecrop, field forget-me-not, germander speedwell, ground ivy, small-flowered cranesbill, wild strawberry, daisy and hawthorn)

After the success of the summer 2020 wildflower survey, this report records the flowering herbaceous plants, shrubs and trees at the same site – Worthy Down Station nature conservation area (SU 447980 135250) – with emphasis on plants in bloom from early February to end of May 2021.

The survey area covers the raised platform and its immediate surrounding area, the footpath heading south towards the bridge and adjacent undulating (cycle) trails/sidings, and the path leading to and including the short stretch of road (Worthy Down Lane) running over the bridge. The steep embankments on both sides of the platform, being inaccessible, have not been surveyed.

Photographs are catalogued of the flowers and plants not recorded or not in bloom during the summer of 2020 (see report titled “WCV Worthy Down Halt Wildflower & Fern Survey Summer 2020”).

A total of **64** plant species, including **1** flowering shrub, are recorded, of which **25** are new records. In addition, **5** flowering trees are recorded. This provides further evidence of the rich flora now existing at the old station and how biodiversity has manifested in the relatively short period since the beginning of conservation activities in 2006 – when the area was dominated by trees, on and both sides of the platform. Indeed, combined with the tally of 121 from the wildflower survey summer of 2020, the running total is **146** wildflower plants (herbaceous and shrubs) so far recorded. Again, as reported in 2020, this is testament to the sterling work carried out by Worthys Conservation Volunteers.

Elsewhere along the old railway-line footpath and on local tracks, **5** notable wildflower plants are also recorded, including the rare white form of Sweet Violet, which has colonised at a few places along the southern stretch of the footpath.

A copy of this report is issued to Hampshire County Council and data entered into Living Record and WCV’s own database, WCV Worthy Down Halt Biodiversity Record.xls.

Plant List

Wildflower / Plant*	Scientific Name	Photo Ref.	Spring Flowering Month(s)	New Record
1. Alkanet, Green	<i>Pentaglottis sempervirens</i>	1	May	Y
2. Birdsfoot Trefoil, Common	<i>Lotus corniculatus</i>	-	May	
3. Bittercress, Hairy	<i>Cardimum hirsuta</i>	2	April	
4. Bluebell, Spanish	<i>Hyacinthoides hispanica</i>	3	April	Y

Kings Worthy, Worthy Down Halt

Wildflower Survey

Spring 2021



**Worthys
Conservation
Volunteers**

5.	Bramble	<i>Rubus fruticosus</i>	-	May	
6.	Buttercup, Creeping	<i>Ranunculus repens</i>	-	May	
7.	Buttercup, Meadow	<i>Ranunculus acris</i>	-	May	
8.	Byrony, Black	<i>Dioscorea communis</i>	4	May	
9.	Byrony, White	<i>Byronia dioica</i>	5	May	Y
10.	Campion, Bladder	<i>Silene vulgaris</i>	-	May	
11.	Celandine, Lesser	<i>Ficaria verna</i>	6	March	Y
12.	Coltsfoot	<i>Tussilago farfara</i>	7	April	
13.	Cornsalad, Common	<i>Valerianella locusta</i>	8	May	Y
14.	Cowslip	<i>Primula veris</i>	-	April	
15.	Cranesbill, Dove's-Foot	<i>Geranium molle</i>	-	May	
16.	Cranesbill, Small-flowered	<i>Geranium pusillum</i>	-	May	
17.	Cress, Thale	<i>Arabidopsis thaliana</i>	9	May	Y
18.	Daffodil, x3 cultivars	<i>Narcissus</i>	10, 11, 12	March/April	Y
19.	Daisy	<i>Bellis perennis</i>	-	March/April	
20.	Dandelion	<i>Taraxacum</i>	-	March/April/May	
21.	Dead-nettle, Red	<i>Lamium purpureum</i>	13	April/May	Y
22.	Dead-nettle, White	<i>Lamium album</i>	-	April/May	
23.	Dock, Clustered	<i>Rumex conglomeratus</i>	14	May	Y
24.	False Oxlip	<i>Primula veris x vulgaris</i>	15	March/April	Y
25.	Forget-me-not, Field	<i>Myosotis arvensis</i>	-	May	
26.	Forget-me-not, Wood	<i>Myosotis sylvatica</i>	16	May	Y
27.	Groundsel, Common	<i>Senecio vulgaris</i>	17	May	
28.	Ground-ivy	<i>Glechoma hederacea</i>	18	April	
29.	Hawkweed, Mouse-ear	<i>Pilosella officinarum</i>	-	May	
30.	Herb Bennet	<i>Geum urbanum</i>	-	May	
31.	Herb Robert	<i>Geranium robertianum</i>	-	May	
32.	Hogweed	<i>Heracleum sphondylium</i>	-	May	
33.	Lords-and-Ladies	<i>Arum alpinum</i>	-	March/April	
34.	Mahonia	<i>Mahonia aquifolium</i>	19	March/April	Y
35.	Medick, Black	<i>Medicago lupulina</i>	-	May	
36.	Mouse-ear, Common	<i>Cerastium fontanum</i>	20	May	
37.	Mustard, Garlic	<i>Alliaria petiolata</i>	21	May	
38.	Mustard, White	<i>Sinapsis alba</i>	22	May	Y
39.	Parsley, Cow	<i>Anthriscus sylvestris</i>	-	May	
40.	Parsnip, Cow	<i>Heracleum maximum</i>	-	May	
41.	Pimpernel, Scarlet	<i>Anagallis arvensis</i>	23	May	
42.	Plantain, Ribwort	<i>Plantago lanceolata</i>	24	May	Y
43.	Primrose	<i>Primula vulgaris</i>	-	March/April	
44.	Ramsoms	<i>Allium ursinum</i>	25	April	
45.	Sandwort, Slender	<i>Arenaria leptoclados</i>	26	May	Y
46.	Sanicle	<i>Sanicula europaea</i>	27	May	Y
47.	Shepherd's Purse	<i>Capsella bursa-pastoris</i>	28	April	Y
48.	Snowdrop	<i>Galanthus</i>	29	February	Y
49.	Solomon's Seal	<i>Polygonatum multiflorum</i>	30	April	
50.	Sorrel, Common	<i>Rumex acetosa</i>	31	May	
51.	Speedwell, Germander	<i>Veronica chamaedrys</i>	-	May	
52.	Speedwell, Ivy-leaved	<i>Veronica hederifolia</i>	32	May	Y
53.	Speedwell, Wall	<i>Veronica arvensis</i>	33	May	Y
54.	Stonecrop, Biting	<i>Sedum acre</i>	-	May	

Kings Worthy, Worthy Down Halt

Wildflower Survey

Spring 2021



**Worthys
Conservation
Volunteers**

55. Strawberry, Wild	<i>Fragaria vesca</i>	-	May	
56. Tare, Hairy	<i>Vicia hirsuta</i>	-	May	
57. Vetch, Common ssp. nigra	<i>Vicia sativa nigra</i>	34	May	Y
58. Vetch, Common ssp. sativa	<i>Vicia sativa sativa</i>	35	May	
59. Vetch, Kidney	<i>Anthyllis vulneraria</i>	-	May	
60. Violet, Common Dog	<i>Viola riviniana</i>	36	April	
61. Violet, Hairy	<i>Viola hirta</i>	37	April	Y
62. Violet, Sweet	<i>Viola odorata</i>	38	April	Y
63. Whitlowgrass, Common	<i>Erophila verna</i>	39	April	Y
64. Wood-rush, Field	<i>Luzula campestris</i>	40	May	Y

* Plant names are taken from "Wild Flowers of Britain & Ireland", Marjorie Blamey et al. Other important reference guides used are "Collins Flower Guide", David Streeter et al; "Harrap's Wild Flowers", Simon Harrap; and "Wild Flowers", Sarah Raven.

Prominent flowering trees, not included in the wildflower species count, are:

Wildflower / Plant*	Scientific Name	Photo Ref.	Spring Flowering Month(s)	New Record
65. Blackthorn	<i>Prunus spinosa</i>	41	April/May	Y
66. Cherry, Wild	<i>Prunus avium</i>	42	April	Y
67. Elder	<i>Sambucus nigra</i>	43	May	Y
68. Hawthorn	<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	44	May	Y
69. Wayfaring Tree	<i>Viburnum lantana</i>	45	May	Y

A few notable wildflower plants recorded in the vicinity, further along the railway line footpath and on local tracks, also not included in the count for Worthy Down Halt are:

Wildflower / Plant*	Scientific Name	Photo Ref.	Spring Flowering Month(s)	New Record
70. Abraham-Isaac-Jacob	<i>Trachystemon orientalis</i>	46	April	Y
71. Comfrey, Common	<i>Symphytum officinale</i>	47	May	Y
72. Lungwort	<i>Pulmonaria officinalis</i>	48	April/May	Y
73. Speedwell, Slender	<i>Veronica filiformis</i>	49	April/May	Y
74. Violet, Sweet White	<i>Viola odorata alba</i>	50	April	Y

Weather conditions in February and March were typical for the time of year, however April was cold and dry almost drought like, and May remained chilly and generally wet right up to the last week when the sun came out and summer warmth crept in.

Survey recorder & report: **Bruce Graham, June 2021**

Kings Worthy, Worthy Down Halt
Wildflower Survey
Spring 2021



Worthy's
Conservation
Volunteers

Photo Catalogue


























Photos are organised in alphabetical order of common name. All photographs are taken at Worthy Down Halt and the immediate locality during the spring of 2021, using iPhone SE/12 Pro (no stock photos used).

1. Alkanet, Green	2. Bittercress, Hairy	3. Bluebell, Spanish	4. Byrny, Black	5. Byrny, White
6. Celandine, Lesser	7. Coltsfoot	8. Cornsalad, Common	9. Cress, Thale	10. Daffodil cultivar
11. Daffodil cultivar	12. Daffodil cultivar	13. Dead-nettle, Red	14. Dock, Clustered	15. False Oxlip
16. Forget-me-not, Wood	17. Groundsel, Common	18. Ground-ivy	19. Mahonia	20. Mouse-ear, Common
21. Mustard, Garlic	22. Mustard, White	23. Pimpernel, Scarlet	24. Plantain, Ribwort	25. Ramsoms

Kings Worthy, Worthy Down Halt
Wildflower Survey
Spring 2021



Worthy's
Conservation
Volunteers

				
26. Sandwort, Slender	27. Sanicle	28. Shepherd's Purse	29. Snowdrop	30. Solomon's Seal
				
31. Sorrel, Common	32. Speedwell, Ivy-leaved	33. Speedwell, Wall	34. Vetch, Common ssp. nigra	35. Vetch, Common ssp. sativa
				
36. Violet, Common Dog	37. Violet, Hairy	38. Violet, Sweet	39. Whitlowgrass, Common	40. Wood-rush, Field
				
41. Blackthorn	42. Cherry, Wild	43. Elder	44. Hawthorn	45. Wayfaring Tree
				
46. Abraham-Jacob-Isaac	47. Comfrey, Common	48. Lungwort	49. Speedwell, Slender	50. Violet, Sweet White

Photographs: **Bruce Graham**