

The Lots to the Cove Silverdale SD4575

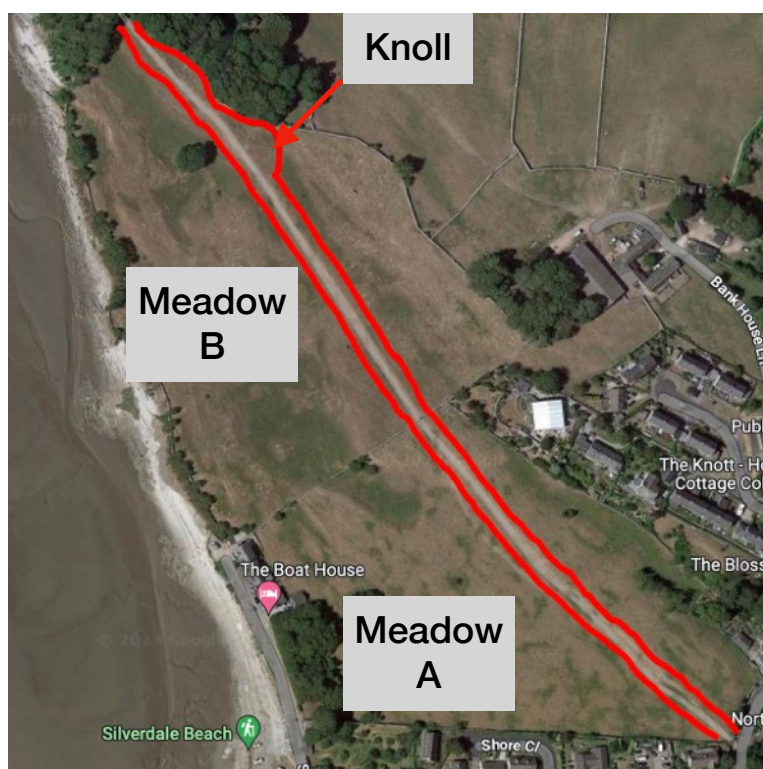
The Lots Silverdale is a very interesting area of limestone grassland.

The Lots are owned by the National Trust who were given it along with the rest of Bankhouse Farm in 1983 by Mr and Mrs Bright. It is divided into 2 meadows, one of which (A) must have been “improved” many years ago. The difference in species richness between the two fields is dramatic. There is an especially rich limestone knoll at the north end of meadow B.

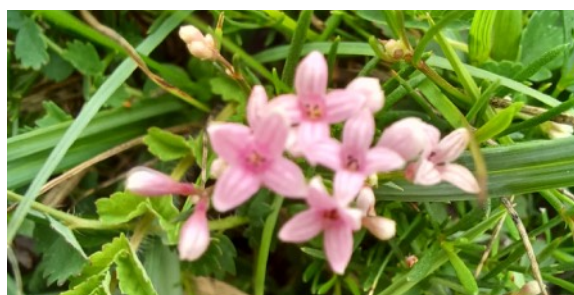
The present tenants Arlene and Martin Fishwick sympathetically manage the meadows, carefully choosing their grazing times to enable the orchids to flourish. The area has a popular footpath across it which is heavily used all year.

The survey area then extends down a narrow walled stone footpath to The Cove, a small inlet of Morecambe Bay.

The area across the Lots is shown in red on the map below. It is a 4 metre strip along the footpath widening out at the Knoll.



The main survey was started in July 2023 and will continue for the next 4 years. It is a hotspot for Early Purple and Green winged Orchids. We had already recorded these for 2023.



Squinancywort on Knoll



Bulbous Buttercups Meadow B June 2018



Path to the Cove 2023

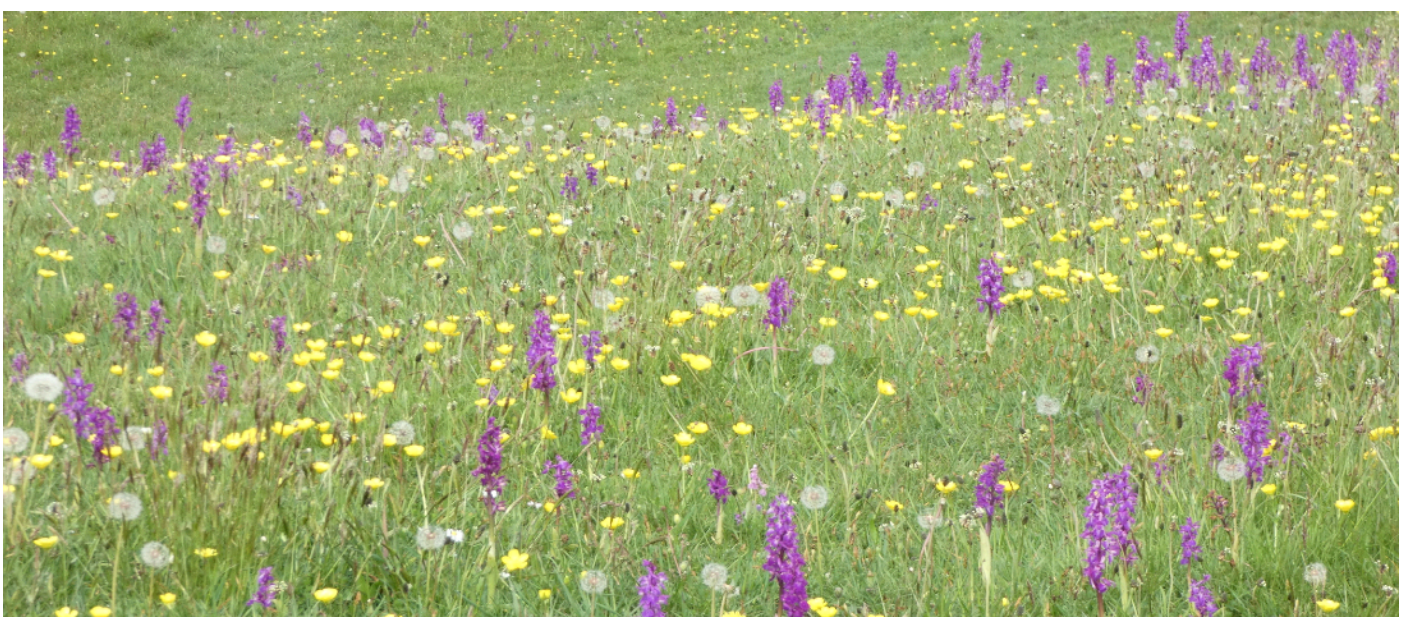


Green winged and Early Purple Orchids Meadow B May 2019

I don't have historical data specifically for this small area apart from a few species. Our recording began in July 2023 and 76 species were recorded by our recorders, Kathy Chandler, Lucy Thirlwell and Pam McInnes. I have added 4 others which I had recorded earlier in the year.

In 2024 our recorders were Pam McInnes, Lucy Thirlwell and Hilary Smith. By now the number of species had swelled to 146. The Green-winged and Early purple Orchids did particularly well in 2024 with the official count reaching 12,651 Green Winged and 6,236 Early Purple.

2024 images





taxa	common name		date	taxa	common name		date
Acer pseudoplatanus	Sycamore	20/7/23	29/2/24	Lotus corniculatus	Birdsfoot Trefoil	14/7/23	7/5/24
Achillea millefolium	Yarrow	14/7/23	21/6/24	Luzula campestris	Field Woodrush	2/4/24	8/4/24
Agrostis capillaris	Common Bent Grass		16/7/24	Matricaria discoidea	Pineapple Mayweed	14/7/23	30/7/24
Allium ursinum	Ramsons	10/5/23	8/4/24	Medicago lupulina	Black Medick		8/4/24
Anacamptis morio	Green-winged Orchid	10/5/23	8/4/24	Mercurialis perennis	Dogs Mercury	20/7/23	8/4/24
Anthoxanthum odoratum	Sweet Vernal Grass		21/6/24	Moehringia trinervia	Three-veined Sandwort	14/7/23	8/4/24
Anthriscus sylvestris	Cow Parsley		8/4/24	Mycelis muralis	Wall Lettuce		6/6/24
Anthyllis vulneraria	Kidney Vetch	14/7/23	30/4/24	Myosotis species	Forget-me not species		7/5/24
Aphanes arvensis	Parsley Piert	2/4/24	23/4/24	Oenanthe crocata	Hemlock Water Dropwort		21/6/24
Arctium minus	Lesser Burdock	20/7/23	16/7/24	Oenanthe pimpinelloides	Corky Fruited Water Dropwort	20/7/23	
Arenaria serpyllifolia	Thyme-leaved Sandwort		7/5/24	Orchis mascula	Early Purple Orchid	10/5/23	8/4/24
Armeria maritima	Thrift		7/5/24	Parietaria judaica	Pellitory-of-the-wall	13/9/23	8/4/24
Arum maculatum	Lords and Ladies	14/7/23	23/4/24	Phyllitis scolopendrium	Hart's Tongue Fern	20/7/23	8/4/24
Asperula cynanchica	Squinancywort	14/7/23	6/6/24	Pilosella officinarum	Mouse-ear Hawkweed	14/7/23	23/4/24
Asplenium adiantum-nigrum	Black Spleenwort	20/7/23	8/4/24	Pilosella officinarum	Mouse-ear Hawkweed	13/9/23	
Asplenium ruta-muraria	Wall Rue		6/6/24	Pimpinella saxifraga	Burnet-saxifrage	13/9/23	
Aster trifolium	Sea Aster	20/7/23		Plantago lanceolata	Ribwort Plantain	14/7/23	23/4/24
Bellis perennis	Daisy	14/7/23	8/4/24	Plantago Major	Greater Plantain	14/7/23	21/6/24
Beta vulgaris sp	Sea Beet		16/7/24	Poa annua	Annual Meadow Grass		21/6/24
Briza media	Quaking Grass		6/6/24	Poa species	Meadow Grass		8/4/24
Calystegia silvatica	Large Bindweed		16/7/24	Polygala vulgaris	Common Milkwort		6/6/24

taxa	common name		date	taxa	common name		date
Campanula rotundifolia	Harebell	14/7/23	16/7/24	Polygonum arenastrum	Equal-leaved Knotgrass	14/7/23	
Capsela bursa-pastoris	Shepherd's Purse	14/7/23		Potentilla sterilis	Barren Strawberry		28/3/24
Caradmine hirsuta	Hairy Bitter Cress		23/4/24	Potentilla tabernaemontani	Spring Cinquefoil		23/4/24
Carex caryophyllae	Spring Sedge		23/4/24	Poterium sanguisorba	Salad Burnet	14/7/23	30/4/24
Carlina vulgaris	Carlina Thistle	14/7/23	16/7/24	Prunella vulgaris	Selfheal	14/7/23	21/6/24
Centaurea nigra	Common Knapweed		21/6/24	Prunus spinosa	Blackthorn		28/3/24
Centaurium erythraea	Common Centaury		21/6/24	Quercus petraea	Sessile Oak	13/9/23	7/5/24
Cerastium diffusum	Sea Mouse Ear		7/5/24	Ranunculus acris	Meadow Buttercup		21/6/24
Cerastium fontanum	Common Mouse-ear	14/7/23	30/4/24	Ranunculus bulbosus	Bulbous Buttercup	1/6/23	8/4/24
Cerastium glomeratum	Sticky Mouse Ear		16/7/24	Ranunculus repens	Creeping Buttercup	14/7/23	21/6/24
Cirsium arvense	Creeping Thistle		21/6/24	Raphanus raphanistrum	Sea Radish		7/5/24
Cirsium vulgare	Spear Thistle	14/7/23	30/4/24	Rhianthus minor	Yellow Rattle		6/6/24
Conium maculatum	Hemlock	20/7/23	21/6/24	Rosa sp	Rose	20/7/23	4/4/24
Crataegus monogyna	Hawthorn	20/7/23	30/4/24	Rubus fruticosus	Bramble	20/7/23	8/4/24
Crepis capillaris	Smooth Hawkbit		16/7/24	rumex acetosa	Common Sorrel	14/7/23	21/6/24
Cynosurus cristatus	Crested Dog's Tail		6/6/24	Rumex crispus	Curled Dock		16/7/24
Dactylis glomerata	Cocksfoot Grass		6/6/24	Rumex obtusifolius	Broad leaved Dock	20/7/23	
Daphne laureola	Spurge Laurel		28/3/24	Sagina nodosa	Knotted Pearlwort		7/5/24
Digitalis purpurea	Foxglove	20/7/23	21/6/24	Sagina procumbens	Procumbent Pearlwort		21/6/24
Diplotaxis muralis	Annual Wall Rocket	13/9/23		Scabiosa columbaria	Small Scabious		16/7/24
Dryopteris filix-mas	Male Fern	20/7/23	16/7/24	Secale cereale	Rye Grass		21/6/24
Epilobium species	Willowherb sp (small)		16/7/24	Sedum acre	Biting Stonecrop		6/6/24
Erophila verna	Common Whitlow Grass		8/4/24	Senecio jacobaea	Common Ragwort	14/7/23	8/4/24
Ficaria verna	Lesser Celandine		28/3/24	Senecio vulgaris	Groundsel		23/4/24

taxa	common name		date	taxa	common name		date
Filipendula vulgaris	Dropwort	14/7/23	6/6/24	Sesleria caerulea	Blue Moor Grass		11/4/24
Fraxinus excelsior	Ash	20/7/23	7/5/24	Sherardia arvensis	Field Madder		23/4/24
Galium aparine	Cleavers	14/7/23	8/4/24	Sisymbrium Officinale	Hedge Mustard	20/7/23	16/7/24
Galium saxatile	Heath Bedstraw	13/9/23		Solidago virgaurea	Golden Rod	20/7/23	30/7/24
Galium sternerii	Limestone Bedstraw		6/6/24	Sonchus asper	Prickly Sowthistle	13/9/23	21/6/24
Galium verum	Lady's Bedstraw	20/7/23	6/6/24	Sonchus oleraceus	Smooth Sowthistle	20/7/23	
Geranium molle	Dove's-foot Cranesbill	14/7/23	23/4/24	Sorbus aria	Whitebeam	13/9/23	30/4/24
Geranium pusillum	Small Flowered Cranesbill		21/6/24	Spiranthes spiralis	Autumn Lady's Tresses	14/8/23	16/8/24
Geranium pyrenaicum	Hedgerow Cranesbill	13/9/23	21/6/24	Stachys officinalis	Betony	20/7/23	16/7/24
Geranium robertianum	Herb Robert	20/7/23	8/4/24	Stachys sylvatica	Hedge Woundwort	20/7/23	21/6/24
Geum rivale	Water Avens	20/7/23		Stellaria pallida	Chickweed		8/4/24
Geum urbanum	Wood Avens	20/7/23		Tamus communis	Black Bryony		7/5/24
Hedera helix subsp. helix	Ivy	14/7/23	8/4/24	Taraxacum aggregate	Dandelion ag	14/7/23	8/4/24
Helianthemum mummularium	Common Rock Rose	14/7/23	6/6/24	Taxus baccata	Yew	20/7/23	30/4/24
Heracleum sphondylium	Hogweed	14/7/23	16/7/24	Thymus polytrichus	Wild Thyme		6/6/24
Holcus lanatus	Yorkshire Fog		21/6/24	Torilis japonica	Upright Hedge-parsley	20/7/23	21/6/24
Hyacinthoides massartiana	Hybrid Bluebell		8/4/24	Trifolium campestre	Hop Trefoil		21/6/24
Hyacinthoides non-scripta	English Bluebell		8/4/24	Trifolium dubium	Lesser Trefoil		6/6/24
Hypericum humifusum	Trailing St John'swort		16/8/24	Trifolium pratense	Red Clover	14/7/23	6/6/24
Hypochaeris radicata	Catsear		23/4/24	Trifolium repens	White Clover	14/7/23	6/6/24
Ilex aquifolium	Holly		23/4/24	Tussilago farfara	Coltsfoot		16/7/24
Inula conyzae	Ploughman's-spikenard	20/7/23	30/7/24	Ulmus	Elm		7/5/24
Juniperus communis	Juniper	20/7/23	30/4/24	Urtica dioica	Nettle	14/7/23	8/4/24
Lapsana communis	Nipplewort	20/7/23	16/7/24	Veronica arvensis	Wall Speedwell		21/6/24
Leontodon saxatilis	Lesser Hawkbit	13/9/23	21/6/24	Viola odorata	Sweet Violet	14/7/23	

taxa	common name		date	taxa	common name		date
Leontodon hispidus	Rough Hawkbit	14/7/24	15/7/24	Viola reichenbachiana	Early Dog Violet		8/4/24
Leucanthemum vulgare	Oxeye Daisy	14/7/24	21/6/24	Viola riviniana	Common Dog Violet		11/4/24
Linum catharticum	Fairy Flax		7/5/24				