

Wildflower Walk in Northcliffe Woods

northcliffeheritage.org.uk

This walk starts in the car park outside of NEET (Northcliffe Environmental Enterprises Team), Northcliffe Nurseries on the top allotment site. There is limited parking in this area and the gate at the Bradford Road end of the track is locked at 4.30 on a weekday and is often locked during the weekend. Park in the car park at the entrance to Northcliffe Woods, Cliffe Wood gardens/ crescent BD18 3DD (CHECK) and walk up the steps or slope from the car park and turn left at the top of the slope and walk along the track with the woods on your left and the allotments on your right, continue up this track past the allotments, then the bird feeding area on your right and you will come into car park area next to NEET.

What flowers and grasses you will see will depend on the time of the year. The walk in June 2019 found 60 different varieties.

1. You are going to take the path that goes west through the woods, stop by the edge of the allotments and you will see on either side of the path cow parsley, common hogweed and ground elder – all umbelifers. There are wood avens, garlic mustard and nettles. As you walk along looking at the path edges you will also see wood millet, cocksfoot, rough meadow grass, cleavers, ivy, dandelions and common comfrey



Along the allotment fence you may find broad leaved

willow herb, lesser celandine, wood dock, enchanter's nightshade, annual meadow grass, dog rose and burdock

2. Continue into the start of the woodlands and you will start to see spring woodland flowers such as wood anemones, red champion, bluebells, and ransoms (wild garlic).



Continue through the woods and you may see lesser celandine, greater woodrush, wood dock and ferns

3. At this point turn right off the main path along a path through the trees to emerge into an open area with trees on your left and the open space on your right. Here you will find meadow buttercup, meadow foxtail, knapweed, daisy, remote sedge, spring sedge, red clover, meadow vetchling, cuckoo flower, and in mid-summer you can find orange hawkweed and birds-foot trefoil.

4. Walk over the tarmac path and onto the meadow. You can see across the valley to Baildon Moor. Start to look down into the grass and you will find a multitude of flowers and grasses. In the shorter grass there is crested dogstail, sweet vernal grass, spring sedge, ribwort plantain, common sorrel and sheep's sorrel, heath bedstraw, common mouse-ear, cat's ear.



5. Walk eastwards down the meadow and you will start to see patches of yellow rattle (the grass will be shorter as the plant is semi-parasitic on grass) lesser stitchwort, lots of meadow buttercup and an array of grasses including Yorkshire fog, timothy, red fescue, perennial ryegrass, as well as field woodrush, and red and white clover.

6. As you reach the steeper downhill part you will find smooth tare, common spotted orchids, southern marsh orchids and hybrids, germander speedwell, black medick, lesser trefoil, common and bush vetch.



7. This walk ends when you meet the tarmac path, turn right and walk up to the children swings, then walk across the cricket pitch, aiming for the path near to the allotment wall boundary by the trees, follow this wall through the small wooded area and you will be back in the NEET car park. If you want to be back to the main car park on Bradford Road, follow the tarmac path down past the pavilions, turn right by the children's adventure playgroup and walk along to the end and you will be back at the steps into the car park.

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This guided walk is based on the route taken on the guided walk that took place in May 2019. Each numbered location gives you an indication of what flowers you might be able to see. Use the instructions on the reverse of this map to complete the the walk.



Common Spotted Orchid (*Dactylorhiza fuchsii*)



Heath Bedstraw (*Galium saxatile*)



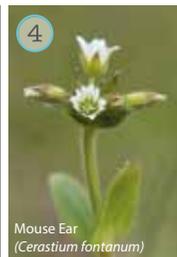
Germander Speedwell (*Veronica chamaedrys*)



Yellow Rattle (*Rhinanthus minor*)



Bird's Foot Trefoil (*Lotus corniculatus*)



Mouse Ear (*Cerastium fontanum*)



Cats Ear (*Hypochaeris radicata*)



Common Sorrel (*Rumex acetosa*)



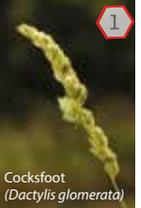
Yorkshire Fog (*Halcus lanatus*)



Southern Marsh Orchid (*Dactylorhiza praetermissa*)



Enchanter's Nightshade (*Circaea lutetiana*)



Cocksfoot (*Dactylis glomerata*)