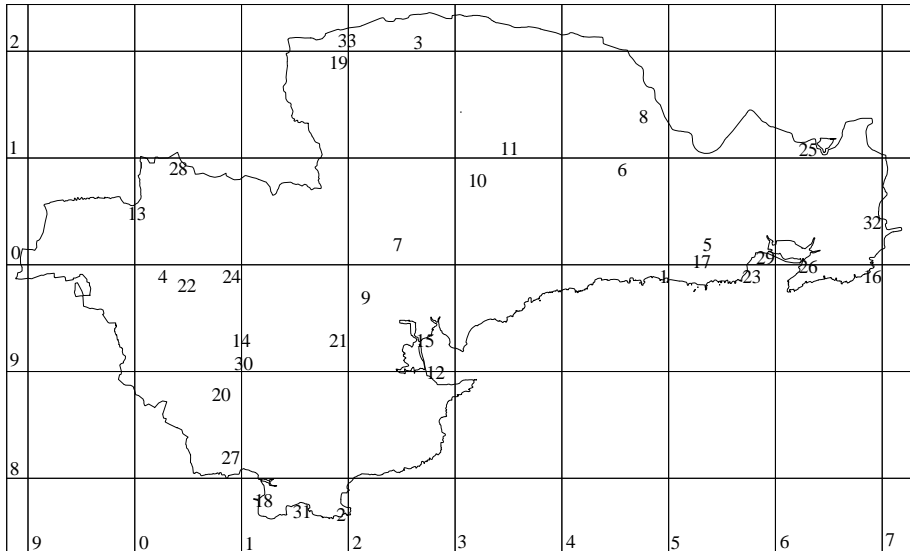


## SOME OF MY FAVOURITE PLACES OF INTEREST TO BOTANISE

Cited below are a number of my favourite places to walk and botanise in the county. The map reference given is for where the best place to park is found for the walk concerned. It can not be guaranteed that the species mentioned below will be found!



### (1) **Annestown** (*Bun Abha*), X499988 to **Dunhill Castle**, S504007.

Annestown is a small village on the coast set on a hillside over-looking a valley with a castle at one end and the sea at the other. The ruin of Dunhill Castle stands proud on a knoll above the valley. Sea Campion, Rock Sea-spurrey and Common Calamint adorn the walls. A large patch of *Rubus norvicensis* covers the bank just up from the parking area for the castle. Southern Polypody is found on the bridge and Curled Pondweed in the Annestown Stream below the bridge. Thick scrub covers a number of the fields on the west side of Annestown Stream (*Sruth Bhun Abha*); Royal Fern and Bog-myrtle are common here. The fields on the east side of the stream are the best; the one adjoining the road is marshy in places with a good selection of orchids: Early and Western Marsh-orchid, Heath and Common Spotted-orchid are mixed in with Yellow Iris, Common Cottongrass and Bog Pimpernel. The next field up the valley has Smooth Brome and in the scrubby heathy areas on the edge of the valley with a careful search Skullcap and Meadow Thistle can be seen. Field Bindweed grows in the rough area on the edge of the coastal car park and Seaside Daisy in well established on the cliffs above the cove.

### (2) **Ardmore** (*Aird Mhór*), X191777.

Ardmore is the oldest Christian settlement in Ireland. St Declan lived in the region around 350-450 AD and Christianised the area before the coming of St Patrick. According to legend St Declan's Stone was carried miraculously on the waves from Wales following Declan's visit there. The stone sits on the beach. Beneath the two supporting points is left a little hollow, through which devotees would painfully drag themselves in prayer on "Pattern" Day the 24<sup>th</sup> July, in the belief they would receive health and spiritual benefits. Ardmore with its narrow streets spread over the hillside over-looking Ardmore Bay (*Ceann Airde Móire*) is a beautiful place. A stroll north takes you along the beach where some years Bee Orchid can be found on the sea bank. Walking up the narrow streets will take you onto Ardmore Head. The hybrid

between Japanese and Burnet Rose grows by the ruins of St Declan's church and well. Three-cornered Garlic is abundant by the path. Cowslips grow in the grass above the path. The cliff path takes you around the headland and back into the town.

**(3) Aughavrellia Bridge, S263202.**

From the R678 there is a track that takes you to a bridge over the Glasha River. If you walk up the river from the bridge there are soon some superb small boggy flushes. These are home to nine species of sedges including Star Sedge, Common Sedge and the dainty spikes of Dioecious Sedge. There is a little Marsh Hawk's-beard and Marsh Cinquefoil, also to be found are Round-leaved Sundew, Marsh Arrowgrass and Marsh Violet. Leafy Rush can be found in the open areas by the river. Wall-rue grows on the bridge while Crested Dog's-tail grows along the side of the track. *Alchemilla filicaulis* subspecies *vestita* can be seen on the north verge of the R678 that forms part of the triangle of Harney's Cross Roads.

**(4) Ballysgartmore Towers, X023993.**

The imposing gothic style buildings were built in 1850 by Arthur Kiely-Ussher for his wife. The extravagant fairytale gates were the only part of the castle to be built as money ran out soon after they were built. There is a path taking you on a circular wooded walk with a mixture of broad-leaved trees and conifers. There are a good selection of ferns to be found including Soft Shield-fern, Lady-fern, Broad Buckler-fern and Hay-scented Buckler-fern. Tunbridge Filmy-fern is found on the rocks on the left bank of the stream at the top of the valley under the Cherry Laurel; these are very dense and make it very difficult to find this small fern. Himalayan Honeysuckle is abundant in places as is Grey Sedge and Remote Sedge. Ten species of brambles have been named from this circular walk. If you start your walk by walking along the path on the west side of the stream you should find *Rubus flexuosus* to be common, after passing under the tunnel immediately on your right should be a patch of *Rubus griffithianus* and after walking over the bridge with its towers directly in front of you below the conifers should be a clump of *Rubus pallidisetus*. Common Twayblade can be found along the side of the path just after crossing over the wooden bridge.

**(5) Ballyscanlan Lough (Loch Bhaile Ui Scanl  n), S537025.**

The Ballyscanlan Hills (*Choc Bhaile Ui Scanl  n*) tower above the lough. They dominate the area and are planted with conifers. Heathland species such as Bell Heather can still be found around the edge of the trees. Walking south along the road from the parking area is a good place to see brambles as nine species have been named; *Rubus sprengelii* is a sweet pretty thing, one of the few species I am able to recognize. Pale Flax grows in a small disused quarry on the roadside. A path takes you down through the trees to the lough. Perfoliate Pondweed can normally be found washed up on the shore. Gypsywort is common as is Skullcap and Lesser Skullcap. Lesser Marshwort and Marsh Pennywort grow in the marshy area at the east end of the lough.

**(6) Ballyshonock Reservoir, S453099.**

A delightful reservoir, which is divided into two by the road, can be walked around with caution once the water levels have receded. Orange foxtail is usually abundant on the south shore of the smaller half of the reservoir. Shoreweed is very common on the exposed mud as can be Sun Spurge, Water-pepper and Redshank. There are several large patches of Unbranched Bur-reed around the shore, left exposed in dry summers. Creeping Willow is an opponent of the scrub on the north side of the larger half of the reservoir. Large stands of Six-stamened Waterwort can be found in the northeast corner on the exposed mud if the water level has dropped sufficiently. Floating Club-rush and Water-plantain grow by a small stream flowing into the reservoir.

**(7) Bohadoon Bog, S243026.**

There is parking for one car by the cattle grid. The bog is on the west side of the road and is probably the second best botanically rich bog of the Comeragh Mountains. Cranberry and Marsh Lousewort are rare in the bog while White Beak-sedge is common, the only county site for it. The dainty Pale Butterwort can be found scattered over the bog. Two subspecies of Early Marsh-orchid can be seen: subspecies *pulchella* with reddish-purple flowers and subspecies *incarnata* with pale pink flowers. The thin stiff stalks of Deergrass are common and the minute white flowers of *Montia fontana* subspecies *amportitana* can be seen amongst the cushion of their tiny green leaves on the margin of a small stream near the north side of the bog. At the bottom of the slope Lemon-scented Fern can be found on the banks of the Araglin River.

**(8) Clodiagh River, Portlaw, S476147.**

On a bend in the road there is a small parking spot used by fisherman; a path takes you to the bank of the Clodiagh River. This is the easiest place to see Summer Snowflake where it grows by the thousands on the open river bank as well as under the willow carr. *Rumex crispus* subspecies *uliginosus* is found on the muddy margins of the river as is Pink Water-speedwell. Marsh Ragwort is frequent and Almond Willow is one of the commoner trees here. If you drive around to Portlaw and stop by Portlaw Bridge you should find Wild Marjoram. Fairy Foxglove can be seen growing on the bridge and a clump of and Italian Lords-and-ladies on the river bank by the bridge. Pink Hedge Bindweed grows on the left river bank above the bridge.

**(9) Colligan Wood, X214973.**

A pleasant short circular walk along a gravel path under trees by the Colligan River (*Abhainn Choilligoáin*) and along the road. Bluebell and Irish Spurge are common on the river bank with a scattering of Marsh Hawk's-beard. Wood Fescue can be found on either side of the path and also Wood Millet. Hay-scented Buckler-fern is common in a few places as is Woodruff.

**(10) Coum Mahon (Com Machan), S314080.**

It is an easy walk from the car park along the path that meanders across a raised plateau above the valley through which the Mahon River (*An Mhachain*) flows. Mahon Falls is the main attraction of the coum. During full flows the falls are truly spectacular as they rage violently, drenching the surrounding boulders. The flora is not as good as in any of the other coums of the Comeragh Mountains. In spring the north facing wall is often ablaze with yellow Primroses. Wilson's Filmy-fern also grows on this wall as does Fir Clubmoss, Great Wood-rush and a lone Pedunculate Oak.

**(11) Coumshingaun, S340102 or S349115.**

There is a public parking area in a conifer plantation, a path that is not easy to follow takes you over the moorland to the coum. You also can park by Kilclooney Bridge and walk up one field before following a path over the moorland. The Bracken is high in places in the summer. You need to allow plenty of time, as you really need three hours or more just to walk there and back. Coumshingaun Lough (*Loch Chom Seangán*) sits at the bottom of Coumshingaun and what a coum it is; arguably the finest in Ireland, surrounded by 365m high cliffs – an idyllic amphitheatre. There are many very large boulders strewn around. St Patrick's-cabbage can be found on some of the rocks. The back wall is best for plants; Lesser Meadow-rue, English Hawkweed, Welsh Poppy and Harebell are locally abundant in places. Starry Saxifrage grows on the wetter ledges and in late May Mossy Saxifrage turns the back wall white. The south facing wall is really just a very steep heather slope while the north facing wall starts off as a heather slope before becoming a vertical rock face. Lesser Twayblade is abundant under the heather in places. There is a small lough a little lower down the slope from the main lough. Small Adder's-tongue grows in the gravel around some of the small rocks along its shore.

(12) **Cunnigar** (*An Coinigéar*), X273896.

A long narrow dune stretching for over 2½km across Dungarvan Harbour. Dwarf Cherry is common on the cliff at the back of the car park. A brackish pond has Sea Club-rush growing along the margin and Common Spotted-orchid is frequent in the grass. Lesser Chickweed and Sea Mouse-ear are found in the short sandy turf and Knotted Pearlwort in the damper areas. Ray's Knotgrass is found at the top of the beach above the high tide mark with Sea Sandwort. Sharp Rush is abundant, towering above the other vegetation. There are a few bushes of Short-styled Field-rose in the hedge behind the dunes. Parsley Water-dropwort hides amongst the rushes in the brackish marsh before it becomes a saltmarsh; here Sea-purslane is the dominant species. Pyramidal Orchids are plentiful amongst the Marram. Yellow Horned-poppy is found on the shingle in small numbers. Slender Thistle likes the areas disturbed by the rabbits and Bulbous Buttercup is seen in the well-grazed areas.

(13) **Curragh**, R992053.

This is not a walk, but is one of the nicest locations to see Irish Whitebeam in the county. It is a remote spot over-looking a valley with the Araglin River in the bottom which divides the county from Co. Tipperary. There is a large Irish Whitebeam on top of a field bank on the north side of the road and many young trees of various sizes scattered over the moorland on the other side of the road. Here Heather and Bell Heather are common. Bilberry grows on the field bank. A short way to the east on the roadside is a patch of Imperforated St John's-wort. I should not say this but early June is the time of year I like this area best as the Rhododendron bushes which smother the side of the valley (Co. Waterford side only) and grow in the hedges really are beautiful.

(14) **Curragh, River Blackwater**, X090938 or X091935.

This is a short walk along the road. It is worth stopping here just for the beautiful scenery as the River Blackwater flows through a steep-sided wooded valley. There is a small quay to park at the north end of this stretch of road. St Patrick's-cabbage grows on the rocks on the opposite side of the road. Wood Melick can be found at the base of the rocks by the roadside. Marsh-marigold is common on the muddy river bank and Ivy Broomrape, Fairy Foxglove and Rock Stonecrop are to be found on the river wall nearer the south end. It was while leaning on the wall at the south end by the parking area dreaming, watching the water flowing past, that I caught a glimpse of a single white flower of a Summer Snowflake, this led to successful searches of the right bank of the river for more sites.

(15) **Dungarvan, disused railway**, X263933.

The disused railway can be walked along from Dungarvan to Ballyrandle along a tarmac path. There is parking on the roadside just south of the traffic lights by the Spar shop at Dungarvan. The initial stretch has high, grassy, scrubby banks. Almost the first plant to be encountered is *Rubus caesarius* on the south side of the path. Dwarf Elder forms large patches in places and Horse-radish is common at the start of the walk. The path opens out onto a grassy area before having a saltmarsh on the north side and a small area of dunes and the sea on the south side. Little-robin and Yellow Horned-poppy grow on the shingle at the top of the beach. The railway crosses the tidal mouth of the Glendine River, with splendid views over Dungarvan Harbour. Rock Sea-spurrey and Pellitory-of-the-wall are found on the wall. The path crosses the road, the last kilometre has low grassy banks and hedges. The path ends on reaching the next road and it is probably best to retrace your steps here.

(16) **Dunmore East** (Dún Mór), X689997 to **Portally Cove**.

There is a path that takes you along the cliff tops from Dunmore East over to Portally Cove (there is no parking at this end). The path is decorated by Gorse at the start but soon opens out onto the exposed cliff top. The field banks are covered in Rock Sea-spurrey and Thrift and to a

lesser extent Sea Campion and Wild Thyme. There are large areas of Bell Heather. The grassy cliffs in places become white with the flowers of Sea Carrot during the summer. The path drops steeply down into Portally Cove. By the stream crossing the beach is a patch of the hybrid between Common and Sea Couch and on the cliffs Sea Beet is seen. At the top of the beach *Rumex crispus* subspecies *littoreus* occurs and at low tide Sea Spleenwort can be reached on the rocks. This can be made into a circular walk if the road is taken back to Dunmore East.

(17) **Fenor Bog Nature Reserve**, S530013.

The Irish Peatland Conservation Council, in association with the Moin Fhionnurach Development Association purchased Fenor Bog in June 1999, 13 hectare in extent. It was declared a National Nature Reserve in 2004, the first nature reserve in the county. It was formerly a raised bog, which was cut away by hand until the 1920's. A large car park by the church abuts the reserve. There is a short raised walkway made from recycled plastic. From here you can view the flora; Marsh-marigold gives a wonderful display of gold in the spring sunshine. Greater Tussock-sedge has formed some dense stands and Bottle Sedge is common. Blunt-leaved Pondweed occurs in a small pond with Water Horsetail at the margins. Marsh St John's-wort and Bogbean are common as is Purple-loosestrife.

(18) **Ferry Point**, X115780.

This is a sand/shingle bar stretching half way across the River Blackwater with views across to Youghal in Co. Cork. Common Broomrape, Lesser Hawkbit, Pyramidal Orchid, Yellow-rattle and Yellow Oat-grass can be found in the grassy areas. Sea-kale can be seen some years but does seem to be sporadic in its appearance. Frosted Orache can be found on the shingle and most years a Tomato plant or two can be found growing on the beach. Rock Samphire is common on the wall running along the roadside as is Sea Mouse-ear and Rue-leaved Saxifrage. A number of small patches of Eelgrass can be found at low tide spread over the damp sand at X12077869.

(19) **Glenabbey**, S185191.

There is a large car park with a picnic area in a conifer plantation. Pale Willowherb can be found around the margins of the car park and Fox-and-cubs in the grassy areas bordering the car park. The forest rides will take you to the ruins of Glenabbey hidden away amongst the trees. Arctic Eyebright, Fairy Flax, *Luzula multiflora* subspecies *congesta* and *Potentilla x suberecta* can be seen along these rides. Mouse-ear-hawkweed grows on the ruins of the abbey.

(20) **Knockanore churchyard**, X075880.

Botanically this is the best churchyard in the county. As you go through the main gate on your right amongst the grass is Arctic Eyebright, Heath-grass and Mat-grass. A small triangle of grass between the path and the wall of the church has Adder's-tongue and Common Twayblade. On the other side of the church Common Spotted-orchids are scattered about in the grass as is Fairy Flax, Field Wood-rush, Flea Sedge, Heath Bedstraw, Heath Milkwort, Heath Speedwell, Hybrid Cinquefoil, Rough Hawkbit and Spring-sedge. There is a patch of Fox-and-Cubs and New Zealand Willowherb grows on the graves. Southern Polypody is found on the wall around the churchyard.

(21) **Knockmaon church**, X188932.

The ruins of Knockmaon church sit on the top of a rocky, limestone knoll. This is one of the few good areas of limestone in the county to botanise as the others are covered in scrub and trees. Alexanders grow around the ruin. This is the only site in the county for Crested Hair-grass and one of two for Slender Trefoil. On the west-facing slope Bee Orchids, Pyramidal Orchids and Adder's-tongue are found in small numbers. A small steep rock face is covered in Entire-leaved Cotoneaster and a scattering of Common Calamint. Wall Speedwell and Field Madder are two of the tiny species to be seen.

**(22) Lismore (Lios Mór), X046984.**

*Lios Mór* means 'the big fort'. Lismore is a beautiful town on the banks of the River Blackwater with Lismore Castle the feature point, built by King John in the 13<sup>th</sup> century and the house of the Dukes of Devonshire since 1753. It is worth visiting at night to see the castle lit up. The castle gardens are worth a wander around as in an average year American Speedwell is plentiful in the vegetable plot; Mexican Fleabane and Wall Lettuce are common on the walls, while Ivy Broomrape is found in a number of places. Goldilocks Buttercup occurs in small quantity on the grass slope of the lower garden. Lady Louisa's Walk takes you east along the south side of the River Blackwater. On the wooded bank above the path is Blue Anemone and Three-nerved Sandwort, Southern Polypody grows on many of the trees. The path opens out to a large rough area of grass. Here the river bank can be accessed where Great Yellow-cress clings to the margins of the river. If you cross over Lismore Bridge and then the next bridge over the Owennashad River (*Abha na Séad*) and join the river bank you should find Sweet Violets and New Zealand Willowherb. Walking along the river path there are plenty of white flowered Wood Anemones and as you walk further north along the river the blue form starts to appear.

**(23) Newtown Cove, X571993.**

The car park has superb views over Tramore Bay across to Brownstown Head. Steps take you down from the car park into the small cove. Rock Samphire and Sea Beet grow on the cliffs. A path takes you up the hill by a stream; Brooklime, Great Horsetail, Purple-loosestrife and Water Figwort grow here. The path soon passes through a small wooded area. Turkey Oak and Field Maple are two non-native trees established here. In recent years the area has been planted with a number of garden shrubs. The path takes you up to the road; to make it into a short circular walk you can take the road back to the car park.

**(24) River Blackwater west of Cappoquin, X086997.**

A path leads from the picnic area on the south side of the N72 along the bank of the River Blackwater before leaving the river bank to join the N72. This can be made into a 2km circular walk back along the N72 to the picnic area. American Skunk-cabbage is established on the river bank under the willows and Marsh-marigold and Ramsons are common. There is a large stand of Thin-spiked Wood-sedge and many clumps of Pendulous Sedge and a patch of Butterbur are also under the willows. By either side of the path can be found Early-purple Orchids, Toothwort, Wood Speedwell and Bulbiliferous Celandine, while Water Dock grows on the margin of the water.

**(25) River walk by King's Channel and the River Suir, Waterford, S636113.**

Park on the roadside at the entrance to King's Channel (housing estate). A narrow path takes you down to the bank of King's Channel, here there are good views across to Little Island. There is a saltmarsh between the path and the water. Taschereau's Orache is plentiful on the saltmarsh as is Sea Couch and Sea Aster. As you join the River Suir the path has scrub on either side, there are large patches of the alien bramble Himalayan Giant. After a while the scrub is replaced by trees. There are a variety of non-native trees self-sown along this wooded path including Norway Maple. A few patches of Butcher's-broom are seen under the trees. On reaching a sharp bend there is a small rocky grassy area, here is found Heath False-brome. There are more patches of Heath False-brome on either side of the path. The path comes to an end, but there is a narrow path that leads up into the housing estates. It is advisable to use a street map to get back to the starting point if it is made into a circular walk. Otherwise retrace your steps.

**(26) Saleen, S628004.**

The car park over-looks the Back Strand and the north end of Tramore Burrow. Early in the morning before anyone is around is a good time to see Otters along the shoreline. Walking south along the sand there are small patches of Sea-milkwort and Saltmarsh Rush at the top of the beach. Colt's-foot grows out of the face of the low cliff. After a short while there are the start of sand dunes. Burnet Rose is very common. There is a small damp area where Meadowsweet and the rare Meadow Fescue are found. Sea-holly and Sea Bindweed are found in small numbers and usually a few plants of Prickly Saltwort can be found above the high tide line. A track takes you up to the road, in the hedge of the track is found *Rubus dentatifolius*. Turn left when you join the road, *Calystegia silvatica* subspecies *disjuncta* grows in the roadside hedges. At the cross roads turn left, on the top of the field wall of this junction is found Caucasian-stonecrop. The road leads down to the car park.

**(27) Templemichael, X080822.**

There is a small car park by the ruins of Templemichael Castle; Great Mullein can usually be seen on the wall here. The track takes you down past the ruins of Templemichael Church. Snowdrops are common in the rough grass around the church. Bushes of Spurge-laurel grow under the trees at the end of the track. There is a small saltmarsh on the bank of the River Blackwater. Here Annual Sea-blite, Common Saltmarsh-grass, Greater Sea-spurrey, Long-bracted Sedge and Sea Aster grow. Buck's-horn Plantain is found on the sea wall. On the roadside wall between the car park and the entrance to Molana Abbey can be seen all three species of Polypody, Early-purple Orchids, Ivy Broomrape and *Calystegia silvatica* subspecies *silvatica*. In the hedge on the other side of the road Laurustinus is found and at the base of the hedge Black Spleenwort and Hart's-tongue. There are patches of Common Cord-grass on the mud of the Glendine River.

**(28) The Gap, Knockmealdown Mountains (*Sléibhte Chnoc Mhaoldomhnaigh*), S030099.**

The car park is on the border of Co. Tipperary and Co. Waterford with spectacular views into both counties. From here you can walk to the summit of Knockmealdown, the highest point in the county. The paths are not very well defined. The tiny Lesser Twayblade can be found under the heather between the car park and the summit, but is not common and will need careful searching. If you walk south down the road you come to Glentaunemon Bridge. New Zealand Willowherb grows by the walls of the bridge and there are a few small flushes by the stream above the bridge with the common plants of this habitat. Tunbridge Filmy-fern can be found in one spot on rocks just above the water. There is another car park by a group of trees, the site of a former dwelling, 2km further down the road toward Lismore. Slender Rush is common on the roadsides here. Common Restharrow grows on the grass bank of the car park.

**(29) Tramore Burrow (*An Dumhach*), S590011.**

Tramore Burrow lies to the east of the town of Tramore. To access it you walk either along the sandy beach, along the sea wall or over the saltmarsh behind the sea wall. In late July the saltmarsh is a blaze of blue from the flowers of Lax-flowered Sea-lavender. Strawberry Clover, Long-bracted Sedge and Sea-purslane can be found along the area behind the sea wall and the top of the saltmarsh. All the Glassworts recorded for the county can be seen on the saltmarsh. As you enter the dunes Wild Asparagus grows on the sea side, Dune Fescue is widespread at this end of the dunes only. *Rumex acetosa* subspecies *hibernicus* is widespread as is Heath Dog-violet. Spring vetch can only be found at the far end on the flat areas in short vegetation. Above the high tide mark Sea Rocket and Prickly Saltwort are abundant most years. Burnet Rose, Dewberry, Downy Oat-grass, Marram and Sand Couch are all common on the dunes.

(30) **Villierstown Quay**, X097926.

This is a pleasant spot to enjoy superb views of the River Blackwater from the quay. English Scurvygrass is common on the muddy river banks as is Hemlock Water-dropwort. Almond Willow is one of the different willow species to be found just north of the quay. Under the trees can be found Bittersweet and a few clumps of Summer Snowflake. In the open areas Greater Pond-sedge forms large stands.

(31) **Whiting Bay** (*Béal Abha*), X156777.

Silverweed and Amphibious Bistort grow around the edge of the car park which is on the sea front over-looking Whiting Bay. Knockadoon Head and Capel Island can be seen in the distance, part of the Co. Cork coast line. Babington's and Frosted Orache, Sea Rocket and Sea Sandwort grow at the top of the beach on the sand. The low cliffs are unstable and are host to Perennial Sow-thistle, Sea Mayweed, Common Fleabane and Great Horsetail. If you walk east along the beach you come to another car park. Lesser Sea-spurrey and Buck's-horn Plantain grow within this. Marsh-mallow is seen along the southeast bank of the stream flowing into the sea. If you retrace your steps to about half way along the beach there is a very narrow path up the cliff onto a track that takes you on a short circular walk via the road back to the car park. Oxeye Daisy and Field Bindweed are found on the bank of the track and a patch of Russian Comfrey on the road side.

(32) **Woodstown Strand** (Trá Mhílis), S695047.

It is a lovely walk along this 1.5km beach over-looking Waterford Harbour across to Co. Wexford. The gleaming shells of millions of cockles adorn the beach and provide a satisfying crunching sound as they are walked over. There is a large clump of Red Bistort on the dunes at the southern end of the car park. The dunes are not particularly rich in species as Marram covers it thickly. In the more open areas Sea Bindweed and Common Restharrow are to be seen. At the back of the dunes Bear's-breech is well established. Hoary Cress is found where a stream joins the beach. The wooded Knockavelish Head (*Ceann Choc Mhílis*) over-looks the southern end of the beach; here Turkey Oak and Laurustinus are well established amongst the native trees. The lane at the end of the car park if walked will take you over to Fornaght Strand (*An Cúilín*), one of my favourite places in the county. There a narrow lane passing several cottages will take you down to the beach. Grey Sedge, Sweet Violets and Wild Leek grow on the bank of this lane. Wormwood and Yarrow are found on the low dunes and Common and Slender Spike-rush are found on the margin of the large marsh behind the dunes and False Fox-sedge, Bulrush, Sea Club-rush and Grey Club-rush are also to be seen. Babington's and Frosted Orache can be seen at the top of the beach above the high tide line.

(33) **Workhouse Bridge, Clonmel**, S193219.

There is a short path along the south side of the River Suir before it leads into fields. The stretch of the river by the path has an abundance of Long-leaved Pondweed, Perfoliate Pondweed, Broad-leaved Pondweed and some Fennel Pondweed. Many clumps of River Water-dropwort can be seen in the water and in drier summers with lower water levels it flowers well. Great Yellow-cress is found by the willows and a patch of Hybrid Yellow-cress can be seen. Pellitory-of-the-wall grows on the bridge.

## GUIDANCE NOTES FOR USE OF THIS FLORA

The nomenclature follows that of the *New flora of the British Isles* (Stace, 1997) and species not included in Stace's flora follow nomenclature of a number of different publications such as *A catalogue of alien plants in Ireland* (Reynolds, 2002) and *Flora of Great Britain and Ireland* volume 4 and 5 (Sell and Murrell, 1996 and 2006). For a small number of varieties the authorities could not be traced.

The distribution maps have been produced using Mapmate. Each map indicates for a species the records that have a grid reference capable of being displayed at the tetrad scale (a square 2km x 2km). A black square indicates the presence of a record between 2000 and 2007, a black circle indicates the presence of a record between 1987 and 1999, a clear cross indicates the presence of a record between 1900 and 1986, a black cross indicates the presence of a record between 1746 and 1899. Many pre-1987 records do not appear on the maps because they only state a plant grew in the county or give a 10km square grid reference. Information is included in the text for these records. In some instances a four figure grid reference has been given to those records where the record is accompanied by a named location. Consequently the grid references given for pre-1987 records should only be considered as approximations. The maps show the presence of a species but do not give any indication of abundance. A square, circle or cross on a map may represent one individual plant or thousands. Consequently, care must be taken in interpretation.

The views expressed in the text are entirely my own.

The word 'native' has been assigned to all species in the text believed to be native to the county. All other species are believed to be non-native (alien) to Co. Waterford. *Census Catalogue of the Flora of Ireland* (Scannell and Synnott, 1987), *A catalogue of alien plants in Ireland* (Reynolds, 2002) and the *New Atlas of the British and Irish Flora* (Preston, Pearman and Dines, 2002) gives the status of these species.

The word 'Ireland' used in the text refers to the whole of the island.

Planted trees have not normally been counted during this survey of the county. Where they have been recorded they are normally growing in wild places or are on the sites of ruins. The text for each species hopefully makes it clear which records refer to planted trees and which to self-sown.

First record – this is the earliest dated record for each species, subspecies, variety I have been able to trace.

Dates in text – are the first traced record for the site, if only one date then species not reported at site since. The last date is the most modern sighting of the species at the site. With exception where the first sighting was made after 2000 and then only first date is given.

Before 1866 – the record was made before that date but it is not clear when it was found. The record was published in a paper/book for that year.

Extinct – is applied to all species that have not been seen growing in the county since 1996.

Error – is applied to all records that I believe to be errors.

The word 'arable' only refers to fields of barley and wheat crops. Other crops are always mentioned in the text.

Left bank – with the flow of the river.

Right bank – with the flow of the river.

Whole tetrad(s) – refers to tetrads that are completely covered by land that are within the county.



**E** = Royal Botanic Garden, Edinburgh  
**K** = Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew  
**LANC** = University of Lancaster, Lancaster  
**LCR** = Ratcliffe College, Leicester  
**LTR** = University of Leicester, Leicester  
**NMW** = National Museum of Wales, Cardiff  
**OXF** = University of Oxford, Botany School, Oxford  
**TCD** = Trinity College, Dublin, School of Botany

### Abbreviations and symbols

agg. = aggregate species  
 BSBI = Botanical Society of the British Isles  
 c. = circa, about, approximately  
 Co./Cos = County/Counties  
 et al. = *et alii*, and others  
 f. = *forma*, form (used with a plant name)  
 ft = foot  
 herb. = herbaria  
 km = kilometre/s  
 m = metre/s  
 P. Austin et al. = P. Austin, V. Copp, G.A. Crouch, I.P. Green, PRG and D. Maxwell  
 PRG = Paul Richard Green  
 PRG et al. = PRG, C. Keena, A.C. Leslie, U. McDermott and M.R.W. Morris  
 St = Saint  
 subsp. = subspecies (singular)  
 var. = *varietas*: variety  
 WFS = Wild Flower Society  
 x = indicates a hybrid name  
 [ ] = record erroneous or unreliable

### Abbreviations for selected references

*1962 Atlas* = Perring, F.H. & Walters, S.M. (eds) (1962) *Atlas of the British Flora*. London: Thomas Nelson and Sons.

*New Atlas* = Preston, C.D., Pearman, D.A. & Dines, T.D. (eds) (2002) *New Atlas of the British and Irish Flora*. Oxford University Press.