



The Wild Flowers of Hanham Hall Meadows

A Guide for Residents

Introduction

Wild flower meadows were once a common sight across the British countryside but since the 1930's we have lost 97% of them. These species rich grasslands are a haven for a wide range of wildlife from the wildflowers to the insects that abound within them and the many birds and small mammals that call them home. Here at Hanham Hall we have the rare privilege to have been given the six acres of meadow that surround our estate. Meadows which have been sown with a diverse range of wild flowers and all that we have to do is learn to appreciate them, look after them and enjoy them. It is vitally important that we nurture and protect this beautiful but fragile habitat that we have been entrusted with.

So take a slow stroll through our fields and stop to look. See how many of the wild flowers you can find. Remember some flower early and other later on so they are not all out at the same time.

To identify a flower, check it against the photographs then look at the table to make sure it should be in flower and double check the notes to confirm you have right one.

I hope this helps you enjoy the wonderful environment that is on our doorstep.

Peter Smithers

The best way to use this guide is to download it onto a tablet.

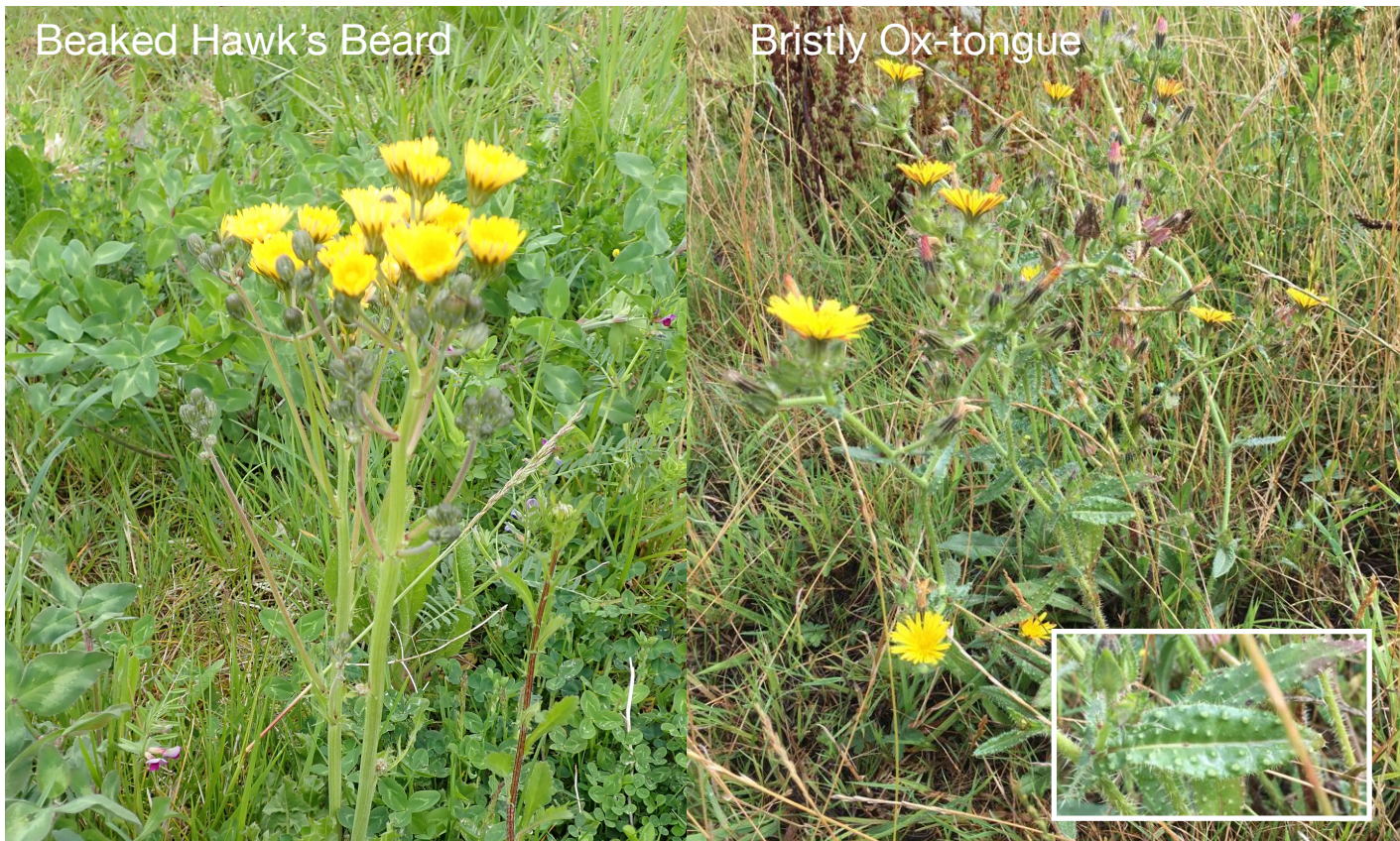
That way the colours remain bright and the images can be zoomed in on.

The guide can be printed out but this should be done on paper greater than 80 grams wt if possible.

Beaked Hawk's Beard

Bristly Ox-tongue

Tansy



Colts-Foot



Lesser Celandine



Meadow Buttercup



Lady's Bedstraw



Bird's-foot Trefoil



Cowslip



Silver weed



Medic



Yellow Rattle

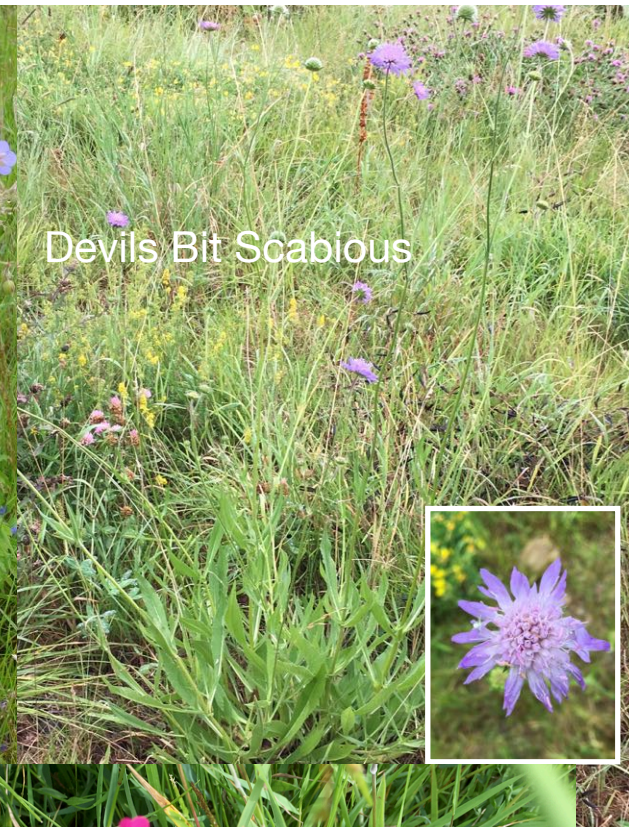




Cut Leaved Cranesbill



Meadow Cranesbill



Devils Bit Scabious



Common Vetch



Tufted Vetch



Grass vetchling

Burdock



Black Knapweed



Spear Thistle



Marsh Thistle



Teasel





Selfheal



Red Clover



Red Dead-nettle



Field Bindweed



Lady's Smock or Cuckoo Flower



Ragged Robin

Common Mouse ear



White Clover



White dead Nettle



Cow Parsley



Hogweed



Wild carrot



Camomile



Ox Eye Daisy



Jack by the Hedge



Ribwort Plantain



Hedge Bedstraw



Meadow sweet



Yellow Flowers

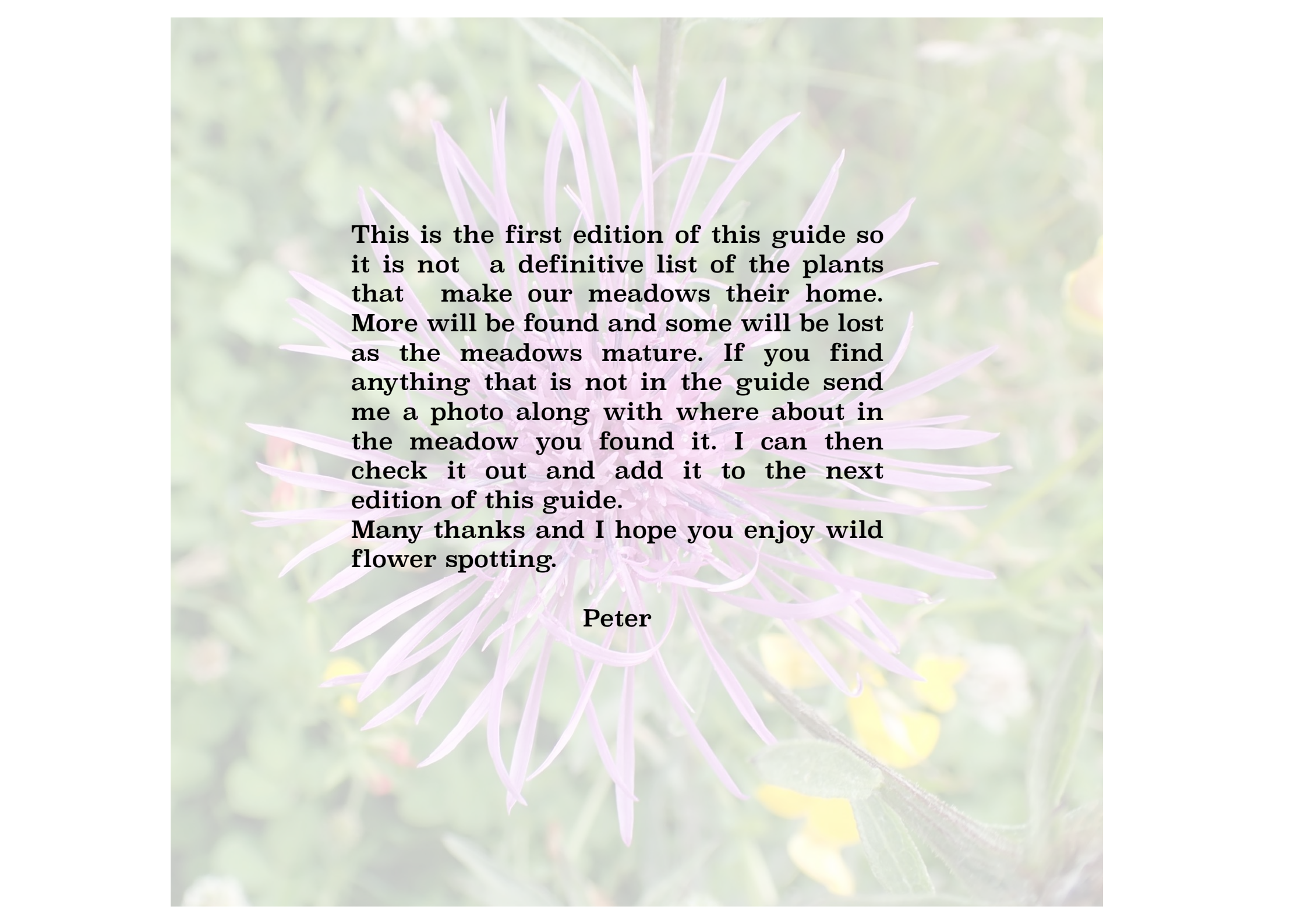
Common Name & flower colour	Flowering Period	Notes
Beaked Hawk's Beard	May - July	Dandelion like leaves but with flowers on tall (30cm) branching stems.
Bristly Oxtongue	June - October	Leaves with short spines on raised bumps
Lesser Celandine	March - May	Heart shaped leaves
Lady's Bedstraw	July - August	Tall thin spikes of small yellow flowers
Tansy	July - October	Pincushion like flowers, fern like leaves.
Colts Foot	March - April	Scaly stems and heart shaped leaves.
Cowslip	April - May	Drooping flowers
Meadow Buttercup	May- August	Tall flowers 20 - 60 cm. Leaves divided.
Yellow Rattle	May- August	Flowers emerge from a green pouch, leaves pointed with a toothed edge.
Birdsfoot Trefoil	June - September	Petals red on emergence, then becoming yellow. Upper petal vertical, lower
Medic	April - August	Low growing plant with small yellow flowers.
Creeping Cinquefoil	June - September	Leaves divided into 5 leaflets with toothed edges
Ragwort	June - October	Groups of flowers at the end of the main stem. Can be 1 meter tall.
Groundsel	May - June	Usually low going 20 cm tall. Flowers appear to be not fully open.

Red & Purple Flowers

Common Name & flower colour	Flowering Period	Notes
Meadow Cranesbill	June - September	Tall plant (30 - 80 cm) finely divided leaves.
Tufted Vetch	June - August	Purple flowers in long groups
Devilsbit Scabious	June - October	Single flower on each stem, resembles pin cushion with pins.
Cut Leaved Cranesbill	May - August	Finely divided leaves.
Red Dead Nettle	March - October	Lower leaves green, upper leaves purple. groups of 5 - 6 flowers below top leaves.
Meadow Vetch	May- August	Magenta flowers in groups of 1 or 2
Grass Vetch	May - July	Single magenta flowers. Grass like leaves
Burdock	July - September	Grows up to 1.3 meters tall, large cabbage like leaves, flowers purplish, seed heads stick to everything.
Red Clover	May - September	Oval leaves in groups of 3
Self Heal	June - October	Flowers emerge from a tubular structure at the top of the stem.
Black Knapweed	July - September	Long thin leaves with two tiny leaves associated with them.
Marsh Thistle	July - September	Short pointed tip to leaves.
Spear Thistle	July - October	Very long pointed tip to leaves.
Teasel	July - August	Can be very tall (2 meters)Barbed stems and leaves.
Raged Robin	May - August	Long thin pointed leaves.
Cuckoo Flower (Lady's Smock)	April - June	Flowers in groups of 5 - 6. Upper leaves stick like, lower leaves heart shaped.
Field Bindweed	June - September	Grows along the ground amongst grass and low vegetation.

White Flowers

Common Name & flower colour	Flowering Period	Notes
Common Mouse Ear	March - September	Oval leaves in opposite pairs with hairy fringes.
White Dead Nettle	May - December	Flowers in groups around stem below top leaves.
Cow Parsley	March - June	Branching stems which end in domed flowers. up to 1 meter tall.
Hogweed	June - September	Single domed flowers only on main stem.
Wild Carrot	June - August	Flattish flowers on main stem only. Central pink spot when first opened
Camomile	June - August	Feathery leaves and characteristic smell if crushed.
Ox Eye Daisy	May - September	Up to 70 cm tall, long thin leaves with toothed edges.
Garlic Mustard or Jack by the Hedge	April - July	Can be 1.2 meters tall. Leaves rounded with pointed tips and toothed edges.
Ribwort Plantain	April - October	Long thin pointed leaves.
Horse Radish	My - June	Plant resembles a large cabbage up to 40 cm across.
Meadow sweet	June - September	Grows up to 1.2 meters tall. Terminal leaves in groups of 3, upper side green, lower side pale.
White Clover	June - September	Oval leaves in groups of 3 often with white v markings.



This is the first edition of this guide so it is not a definitive list of the plants that make our meadows their home. More will be found and some will be lost as the meadows mature. If you find anything that is not in the guide send me a photo along with where about in the meadow you found it. I can then check it out and add it to the next edition of this guide. Many thanks and I hope you enjoy wild flower spotting.

Peter