Flowers and ferns of Bute

A check-list with notes



With its varied habitats of shoreline, hedgerow, hill, moor and bog, freshwater lochs, ravine woodland, fossil cliffs and raised beach marshes, Bute has much to offer the botanist. This booklet lists all the flowering plants and ferns recorded on the island (over 750 in total), with notes on their frequency, distribution, status and habitat preferences. The check-list was compiled by Angus Hannah, vascular plant recorder for vice-county 100 (Clyde Islands) on behalf of the BSBI (Botanical Society of Britain and Ireland)

BSBI is the leading charitable society promoting the study and enjoyment of British and Irish wild plants. More information will be found on the website at www.bsbi.org.uk

Introduction

Plant recording on Bute has a long history, but between the bursts of activity there have been long periods in which little was done. In June 1768 James Robertson spent ten days on Bute in the course of his journey around western Scotland in the service of Dr Hope of the Edinburgh Physic Garden. At the request of the 3rd Earl of Bute, himself a notable botanist, Robertson prepared a list of Bute plants observed during his visit. This list, preserved in the Mountstuart archive, with a copy in Bute Museum, gives the first island records for some 350 species. But well over a century was to elapse before a list of Bute plants was finally published. When John Ballantyne presented his *List* to the Natural History Society of Glasgow in 1906, he drew attention to its preliminary nature, while expressing his confidence that members of then newly formed Buteshire Natural History Society would make good its deficiencies 'in the near future'. War intervened, and subsequently, in enthusiasm for other matters, the project was set aside and forgotten. A century later, the list given here is only the second to be published.

Acknowledgement is due to my predecessor in the post of recorder, Tony Church, to the Freshwater Loch Survey (1996), and to Dr W Boyd and Dr J Dickson who made a number of useful records in the 1980s. In preparing the *New Atlas* (Preston, Pearman and Dines, 2002) the BSBI became aware of the deficiency of Bute records, and a flying visit was paid to the island by a 'high-powered' team of botanists. But no one can find everything in a couple of days, and the Bute squares remained too often blank.

I have been recording Bute systematically since 2001, and since 2008, I have recorded strictly within 1km squares. This was made practicable by the advent of GPS. Bute contains a total of 153 1km squares with significant land area. Some very small fragments have been conjoined to adjacent squares.

The main list includes all plants recorded in recent years as other than one-off casuals. Beside each entry is printed the number of squares in which the plant has been recorded since 2001. This figure may be somewhat depressed for inconspicuous species, those with a short season or those which are hard to identify. Despite this, in most cases it offers a good indication of relative commonness or scarcity. Of course, some plants occurring in only one or two squares may be abundant and conspicuous there, such as *Glaucium flavum* at Scalpsie, but in general there is some correlation between frequency and abundance.

The Bute climate is moderately oceanic, with cool summers and relatively mild winters. Annual rainfall increases from about 1m in the south to 1.5m or more in the north, and humidity is generally high wherever there is shelter from the wind. This has allowed a number of southern species to extend their range as far north as the island, while some northern species approach their southerly limit here.

The total of about 800 taxa (mostly recorded since 2001) in an area not much larger than a hectad, indicates the richness and diversity of habitat which the island affords. This is partly geological in cause, since the Highland Boundary Fault dissects Bute, with schists to the north and west and Old Red Sandstone to the south and east, while volcanic rocks dominate the extreme south and trap dykes traverse many parts of the island. Extensive glacial deposits of varied schistose nature overlie much of the bedrock. Escarpments, ravines and outcropping rocks ensure that a diversity of habitats

persists even in areas of intensive farming. But it is the raised beaches and associated fossil cliffs which provide the richest botanical interest. These are found to a greater or lesser degree around most of the island, but are at their best on the west coast and northwards to Ascog on the east.

The list is arranged alphabetically by genus. Nomenclature follows Stace, 2010. Current BSBI guidelines have been followed in the recording of alien plants. Established aliens are marked *, those not observed to regenerate**. Unmarked taxa are native or long-established. Notes on status are given where appropriate.

Two short lists are appended. The first is of non-persistent casuals recorded in recent years. The second includes species recorded by Ballantyne but not seen for many years and mostly presumed extinct, though some may still be worth searching for.

It is my hope that the inevitable errors and omissions in this work will serve as a stimulus to other botanists, and I will be pleased to have any such brought to my attention. Please contact Angus Hannah, e-mail: butesedge@yahoo.co.uk

Abies alba** 3 Silver Fir single specimens occasionally planted. Abies grandis** 2 Giant Fir Occasionally planted in woodland Abies procera** 4 Noble Fir Occasionally planted in woodland Acer platanoides* 9 Norway Maple occasional: planted in amenity woodland. Only rarely regenerating. Acer pseudoplatanus 127 Sycamore very common: often planted around farms and thoroughly naturalised in woods, scrub and hedgerows on the richer soils Achillea millefolium 140 Yarrow very common: field edges, roadsides, banks, foreshores and well drained base-rich hill turf. Achillea ptarmica 117 Sneezewort frequent: in marshes and moist places of moderate acidity. Adoxa moschatelina 74 Moschatel frequent: woods and shady banks where soil is base-rich. Locally abundant . Aegopodium podagraria 88 Bishopweed common: woods, verges, disturbed ground and as a garden weed, on enriched soils. Aesculus hippocastanum* 16 Horse Chestnut frequent: planted in amenity woodland. Commonly producing seedlings but these seldom getting away. Agrimonia eupatoria 7 Common Agrimony occasional: coarse grassy vegetation. Agrimonia procera 8 Fragrant Agrimony occasional: coarse grassy vegetation. Agrostis canina 76 Velvet Bent frequent in moist, acid grassland; still under-recorded due to difficulty of identification. Agrostis capillaris 147 Common Bent ubiquitous on well-drained land of moderate acidity; often abundant. On all but the most intensively farmed land. Agrostis gigantea 1 Black Bent rare: sandy arable field at Kingarth. 129 Agrostis stolonifera Creeping Bent very common: shores, especially salt marshes, foreshores, damp places and roadsides where enriched. Agrostis vinealis 55 Brown Bent frequent: drier moorland, often with Nardus; under-recorded due to confusion with A. canina. Aira caryophyllea 19 Silver Hair-grass occasional: well drained turf on rocks or banks with some base-richness. Aira praecox 94 Early Hair-grass frequent: dry wall-tops, rocks and banks, often in exposed situations. Ajuga reptans 124

Bugle common: moist, shady places, marshes and flushed grassland. Alchemilla glabra 16 Smooth Lady's-mantle occasional: moist grassy turf with some base-richness. Alchemilla mollis* 19 Garden Lady's-mantle frequently naturalised in damp grassy places, usually near gardens. Alchemilla xanthochlora 4 Pale Lady's-mantle Occasional: grassy verges. Alisma plantago-aquatica 15 Water-plantain occasional: around the margins of lochs and ponds and in fens and ditches. Alliaria petiolata 27 Garlic Mustard fairly frequent: hedgebanks, verges and disturbed ground; colonial. Allium carinatum* 3 Keeled Garlic Rare: verges and foreshores. Allium paradoxum* 1 Few flowered Leek rare: Kilchattan dunes. Allium triquetrum* 1 Three-cornered Garlic very local: well-established in wood at One Man's Grave, Cnoc an rath. Allium ursinum 69 Wild Garlic/Ramsons frequent: often abundant in moist woods and shady places on richer soil. Locally a garden weed. Allium vineale 10 Wild Onion occasional: on base-rich rocks near the shore, in grassland or on the cliffs. Alnus glutinosa 108 Alder common; burnsides where enrichment occurs, and forming pure woods on till and loch-side alluvium. Alopecurus geniculatus *111* Marsh Foxtail common: wet, especially trampled areas in pasture, tracks and gateways. Alopecurus pratensis 36 Meadow Foxtail frequent: verges and moist grassland. Ammophila arenaria 11 Marram locally abundant on dunes and adjacent sandy shores and foreshores. Amsinckia micrantha 1 Common Fiddleneck very local: bare sandy field, Kingarth. Anagallis arvensis 11 Scarlet Pimpernel occasional: bare ground and field edges. Anagallis tenella 23 Bog Pimpernel occasional: flushes in heath. Locally abundant, but not found in north Bute. Anchusa arvensis 5 Bugloss occasional: margins of arable fields which have escaped herbicide. Anemone nemorosa 94 Wood Anemone frequent, rather local but sometimes abundant: woods, burnsides and moist heathy areas.

Angelica sylvestris 133 Wild Angelica very common: ditches, marshes and damp ground, but absent from impoverished areas. Anisantha sterilis 2 Barren Brome rare: garden or ruderal weed. Ball. general. Antennaria dioica Catsfoot occasional: in thin heathy turf on fossil cliffs and sometimes in the hills. Anthoxanthum odoratum 153 Sweet Vernal-grass ubiquitous except on the most impoverished land: woods and hill-grazings of moderate acidity, rocky shores and roadside banks Anthriscus sylvestris 46 Cow Parsley frequent: increasing on roadside verges, probably spread by machinery. Anthyllis vulneraria 7 Kidney Vetch occasional: in short turf over trap rocks, usually near sea. Aphanes arvensis agg. 46 Parsley-piert frequent: pathsides, bare ground and as a garden weed. A. australis seems to be the usual form. Apium inundatum 8 Lesser Marshwort occasional: in lochs and ditches and on drying mud. Aquilegia vulgaris* 3 Columbine locally established from garden throw-out. Arabidopsis thaliana 52 Thale Cress frequent: a weed of gardens and pavement edges, locally in natural habitats on base-rich rock. Arctium nemorosum 69 Lesser Burdock frequent: disturbed grassy places and trampled ground, especially where cattle walk. Arenaria serpyllifolia 9 Thyme-leaved Sandwort occasional on well-drained ground, especially sandy or gravelly erosion banks just above HWM. Armeria maritima 69 Thrift common: all types of rocky and shingly shores. Armoracia rusticana** 2 Horseradish occasionally persisting from garden throw-out. Arrhenatherum elatius 128 False Oat-grass common: enriched ground on roadsides, field edges, foreshores and in scrubby places. Artemisia vulgaris 4 Mugwort rare: rough grassy places on sandy foreshores. Arum maculatum 8 Lords and Ladies rather rare: damp, shady places on neutral soils. Status uncertain, probably not native. Asplenium adiantum-nigrum 65 Black Spleenwort frequent: on mildly acid rocks and mortared walls. Tolerant of exposure. Asplenium marinum 14 Sea Spleenwort occasional: crevices in sea cliffs and shoreline rocks. Asplenium ruta-muraria 26

Wall-rue frequent: curiously local on mortared walls; unconfirmed on base-rich rocks. Asplenium trichomanes **99** Maidenhair Spleenwort common: abundant on mortared walls; frequent on shady, base-rich rocks. All records are for ssp. quadrivalens. Asplenium viride 2 Green Spleenwort rare: 2 small colonies in upper Balnakeilly gorge. Aster novi-belgii agg.* 3 Michaelmas-daisy locally naturalised on foreshores and where garden rubbish is dumped. Aster tripolium 48 Sea Aster frequent: in salt marshes and maritime turf. Athyrium filix-femina 148 Lady Fern very common: moist spots in woods and on banks by burns and roadsides, avoiding strongly acid ground. Atriplex glabriuscula 61 Babington's Orache common, often abundant on all types of shore; much the commonest species. Atriplex laciniata 7 Frosted Orache occasional on sandy strandlines. Atriplex littoralis Grass-leaved Orache Dickson and Boyd, 1982, Kilchattan Bay. Casual? Needs confirmation. Atriplex patula 15 Common Orache occasional: a garden and arable weed. Atriplex praecox 2 Early Orache local on sheltered shingly shores around the Kyles. Atriplex prostrata 10 Spear-leaved Orache occasional on shores. Hard to separate from the usually much commoner A. glabriuscula unless in fruit. Baldellia ranunculoides 10 Lesser Water-plantain local: in ditches and slow streams on the raised beaches, west side only. Barbarea intermedia* 2 Medium flowered Winter-cress occasional: a ruderal weed. Barbarea verna* 3 American Winter-cress very locally abundant on waste ground. Barbarea vulgaris 1 Common Winter-cress Rare ruderal. Bellis perennis 137 Daisy very common: in short, moist turf with some base-enrichment. Berberis darwinii* 8 Darwin's Barberry occasionally established in rough ground, notably at Cnoc-an-duin. Berula erecta 5 Lesser Water-parsnip local: fens and swamps with base-rich water. Beta maritima 2 Sea Beet rare casual: sandy or shingly shores.

Betula pendula* Silver Birch	5
	amenity tree. Very scarce in wild places, and usually introgressed to <i>B. pubescens</i> .
Betula pubescens	127
Downy Birch	
	acid ground when grazing is reduced. Occasional in mixed woodland, more frequent where
	here conifers have been felled and not re-planted.
Bidens tripartita	9
Trifid Bur-marigold	
	vhere subject to inundation; sometimes abundant.
Blechnum spicant	137
Hard Fern	
Blysmus rufus	of moist, shady places on acid soil or where there is superficial leaching. 12
Saltmarsh Flat-sedge	12
	urf or salt-marsh near HWM on rocky shores.
Bolboschoenus maritin	
Sea Club-rush	
occasional: in brackish poo	ols and flushes close to the shore.
Brachypodium sylvatic	
False Brome	
	ods and rocky places and on cliffs, where there is some base-richness.
Brassica napus*	4
Rape	
	d corners of arable fields, sometimes abundant.
Bromopsis ramosa Hairy Brome	30
5	y places on base-rich soils.
Bromus hordeaceus	<i>18</i>
Soft Brome	
	ges, field margins and foreshores.
Buddleja davidii* 🎽	<i>12</i>
Butterfly-bush	
	e ground and derelict properties; seeding freely.
Cakile maritima	5
Sea Rocket	
occasional: sandy shores r	
Callitriche brutia ssp. h Intermediate Water-starw	
	often silty water and loch margins.
Callitriche hermaphrod	
Autumnal Water-starwort	
occasional: slow or still wa	iter deeper than 50cm.
Callitriche stagnalis ag	
Common Water-starwort	-
common: in slow or stagn	ant water and on mud.
Calluna vulgaris	121
Heather	
	is and rocky ground, on peat and in turf on shallow soils where leached. Locally dominant.
Caltha palustris	<i>89</i>
Marsh-marigold	as where not too acidic: locally abundant
<i>Common: Tens and marshe</i>	es where not too acidic; locally abundant.
Hairy Bindweed	7
5	es near gardens. Established very locally.
<i>Calystegia sepium</i>	63
Hedge Bindweed	
	res and coarse vegetation on enriched soil. Also a garden weed. Ssp. roseata is occasional

Large Bindweed rare: waste ground and foreshores. Campanula latifolia* 4 Giant Bellflower occasional: in shady hedgebanks, usually near houses. Locally persistent. Campanula rotundifolia 52 Harebell frequent: in dry places on base-rich soils; common on the trap rocks of south Bute, occasional by the shores. Capsella bursa-pastoris 62 Shepherd's Purse frequent: a weed of bare ground, arable fields and path edges. Cardamine amara 22 Large Bittercress occasional: locally abundant in fenny woods and beside burns. Cardamine flexuosa 143 Wavy Bittercress very common: burnsides, ditches, damp woods and gardens. Cardamine hirsuta 51 Hairy Bittercress frequent: wall tops and other dry places, and as a garden weed. Cardamine pratensis 147 Lady's Smock very common: marshes, damp fields and verges. Carduus crispus 5 Welted Thistle rare: foreshores and rough grassy places near sea. Carex acutiformis 2 Lesser Pond-sedge rare: water margins and soakways with some enrichment. Carex arenaria 32 Sand Sedge frequent: on sand or silt around the shores and foreshores; locally abundant. Carex binervis 119 Green ribbed Sedge common: drier acid moorland and hill turf. Carex canescens 18 White Sedge occasional: damp margins of moderately acid bogs. Carex caryophyllea 29 Spring Sedge occasional: in short, base-rich turf, usually near shore. Carex demissa 127 Common Yellow-sedge common: acid flushes and rivulets, especially where gravelly or stony Carex diandra 6 Lesser Tussock-sedge local: colonial, in slightly base-rich standing water and peaty pools. Carex dioica 61 Dioecious Sedge frequent: base-rich flushes in wet heath. Carex distans 26 Distant Sedge locally frequent: base-rich flushes close to the sea, and by margins of brackish pools. Carex echinata 117 Star Sedge common: on wet heaths and in bogs and acid marshes; often abundant. Carex extensa 22 Long-bracted Sedge occasional: in salt-marsh vegetation near HWM, sometimes abundant.

Carex flacca 119 Glaucous Sedge common: on damp, base-rich ground, mainly on beaches and foreshores and in flushes in the hills. Carex hirta 31 Hairy Sedge occasional: in coarse, damp, grassy vegetation. Carex hostiana 75 Tawny Sedge frequent: base-rich flushes in heath and moorland and in the raised beach marshes. Carex laevigata 63 Smooth-stalked Sedge frequent: wet, flushed ground, usually in woods or scrub, where not more than mildly acidic. Sometimes abundant. Carex lasciocarpa 3 Slender Sedge local: Red loch and Bull Loch, with C. rostrata. Carex lepidocarpa 27 Long-stalked Yellow-sedge occasional: base-rich flushes on raised beaches and in the hills. Grades into C. demissa. Carex leporina 113 Oval Sedge common: damp pastures and moist acid ground where drainage is not too free; sometimes abundant. Carex limosa 4 Mud sedae local: wet sphagnum bogs in N Bute. Carex nigra 122 Common Sedge common: flushes, bog-pools, pond and loch sides, wet heaths and acid marshes. Carex oederi Small Yellow-sedge rare, perhaps overlooked; Church, 1988. Carex otrubae 39 False Fox-sedae frequent: scattered around shores, usually in fresh water seepages just above HWM. Carex pallescens 35 Pale Sedge fairly frequent: moist grassy places in woodland edges and moors on moderately acid soil. Carex panicea 124 Carnation Sedge common: moist and wet places on soils of low nutrient level and some base-richness, on moors and heaths and in bogs, marshes and damp pastures. Possibly the commonest sedge on Bute. Carex paniculata 8 Greater Tussock-sedge local: fens and base-rich marshes, often under alder or willow; occasionally abundant. Carex pendula 14 Pendulous Sedge occasional: native in base-rich flushes and rivulets on the fossil cliffs; also sometimes naturalised from gardens. Carex pilulifera 81 Pill Sedge frequent: in free-draining turf on acid pastures, often with Nardus stricta. Carex pulicaris 87 Flea Sedge frequent: base-rich flushes in moorland and on the raised beaches. Carex remota 85 Remote Sedge common: damp, base-rich woodland and moist, bare soil in shady spots. Carex riparia 1 Greater Pond-sedge very local: freshwater lagoon at Port Loddan, where there is a colony. Carex rostrata 60

Bottle Sedge frequent: lochsides, pools, fens, marshes, bogs and ditches; of wide edaphic tolerance. Carex sylvatica 41 Wood sedge frequent: in woods and on moist shady banks where moderately base-rich. Rather local; abundant in Ascog area. Carex vesicaria 2 Bladder Sedge rare: recorded only from fens around Kirk dam. Carum verticillatum 51 Whorled Caraway local: marshes and damp rushy pastures of moderate acidity. Abundant in some areas but absent from others. Castanea sativa* 21 Sweet Chestnut frequent: widely planted in older mixed woodland; occasionally regenerating. Catabrosa aquatica 13 Water Whorl-grass occasional: sandy or silty, often trampled places where fresh water flows, usually on foreshore. Often dominant where it occurs. Centaurea nigra 132 Knapweed very common: coarse grassland on roadsides, foreshores and field or wood edges, avoiding acidic conditions. Centaurium erythraea 20 Centaurv occasional: short turf on rocky shores, inland on open waste ground. Scattered on west coast, and north to Kerrycroy. Centranthus ruber* 4 Red Valerian Occasionally self-seeding on walls, etc. Centunculus minimus 14 Chaffweed occasional (easily overlooked): moist, bare, usually trodden ground. Cerastium diffusum 12 Sea Mouse-ear Occasional on rocks and pavement edges near sea. Cerastium fontanum 151 Common Mouse-ear ubiquitous in circumneutral or mildly acidic grassland. Cerastium glomeratum 126 Sticky Mouse-ear common in rich circumneutral grassland and disturbed ground. Cerastium semidecandrum 1 Little Mouse-ear rare: dunes and sandy ground near the shore. Ceratocapnos claviculata 16 Climbing Corydalis locally frequent around Loch Fad and towards Ardscalpsie: dry rocky ground, often with bracken or gorse. Ceterach officinarum 10 Rusty-back Fern occasional: mortared walls, possibly spreading. Two good colonies. Chaerophyllum temulum 8 Rough Chervil locally frequent in mid Bute only: roadside verges and hedgerows on enriched neutral soils. Chamaemelum nobile* 1 Chamomile. rare: grassland in Scalpsie area. Status uncertain but long-established. Chamerion angustifolium 92 Rosebay Willowherb frequent: locally abundant on waste ground and by roadsides, occasional on cliffs. Chenopodium album 20

Fat-hen occasional as a ruderal or arable weed or in newly sown leys. Chrysanthemum segetum 4 Corn Marigold local: arable field margins and on disturbed ground in Rothesay. Formerly more widespread. Chrysosplenium oppositifolium 128 Golden Saxifrage very common: shady burnsides and ravine woodland. Circaea lutetiana 58 Enchanter's-nightshade frequent: damp woodland on neutral soils. Circaea x intermedia 52 Upland Enchanter's-nightshade frequent: wooded ravines, commoner in north Bute. Locally abundant, and often without C. lutetiana. Cirsium arvense 129 Creeping Thistle very common: fields, disturbed and waste ground, where soil is circumneutral and enriched. Cirsium palustre 151 Marsh Thistle very common: marshes, streamsides, damp fields and woods; tolerant of modest acidity. Cirsium vulgare 125 Spear Thistle common: neglected pastures and open ground, waste places, foreshores. Cladium mariscus Great Fen-sedge very local: only at Bull loch, where abundant among *Phragmites australis* along south shore. Claytonia perfoliata* Springbeauty BSBI 1998: Rothesay area. Claytonia sibirica* 38 Pink Purslane frequently naturalised in woods and on shady banks: often abundant and rather invasive. Indifferently pink or white flowered. Cochlearia anglica English Scurvygrass local: silty shorelines, BSBI 1998. Needs confirmation. Cochlearia officinalis 69 Scurvygrass very common: all round the shores, especially where rocky. Conium maculatum 6 Hemlock local, sometimes casual: grassy and waste places on rich, neutral soil. Conopodium majus 132 Pignut very common: open woods and grassland of moderate acidity. Coronopus didymus 17 Lesser Swine-cress occasional: a weed of cultivation and in trampled or bare ground. Cortaderia richardii* 9 Early Pampas-grass occasional: self-seeding in pavement edges, on wall-tops and waste ground near gardens. Corylus avellana 111 Hazel common: mixed woodland of slight to moderate acidity, locally forming pure stands on fossil cliffs. Formerly coppiced and sometimes planted. Cotoneaster simonsii* 3 Himalayan Cotoneaster Scattered self-sown specimens Cotoneaster integrifolius* 1

Entire-leaved Cotoneaster One large, old bush near Kilmichael 2 Cotoneaster x watereri* Waterer's Cotoneaster scattered self-sown specimens in woods and scrub and on waste ground. Crataegus monogyna 138 Hawthorn very common: woods, scrub and hedgerows on circumneutral soil. Almost certainly native, but extensively planted for hedging since 19th century, creating seed parents for colonisation. Crepis capillaris 40 Smooth Hawksbeard occasional: on dry grassy banks and foreshores. Crepis paludosa 97 Marsh Hawksbeard common: moist grassy banks, ravines, streamsides and marshes. Crocosmia x crocosmiiflora* 65 Montbretia frequent: thoroughly naturalised in hedgebanks, verges and wood edges of slight or moderate acidity. Cymbalaria muralis* 34 Ivy-leaved Toadflax frequent: mortared walls. Thoroughly established in artificial habitat only. Cynoglossum officinale 1 Houndstonaue very local: stony beach and foreshore, Glencallum Bay. This colony has been known for over 50 years, and now extends for 100m. Nearest known locality is 100km distant. Cynosurus cristatus 135 Crested Dog's-tail common: mesotrophic grassy places in pastures and on verges and banks, often as a relict of agriculture. Cystopteris fragilis 1 Brittle Bladder-fern rare: mortared wall near Kyles Hydro. Other old, unlocalised records need confirmation. Cvtisus scoparius 80 Broom common: an adventive coloniser of bare and rough areas of well-drained, moderately acid ground. Dactylis glomerata 128 Cocksfoot very common: roadsides, hedgebanks, woods and cliffs wherever there is some enrichment. Dactylorhiza fuchsii 31 Common Spotted-orchid frequent: damp grassy places on base-rich, neutral soils. Dactylorhiza incarnata 8 Early Marsh-orchid occasional: sspp coccinea and incarnata both occur in raised beach marshes. Dactylorhiza maculata 93 Heath Spotted-orchid common: heaths, moors and acid marshes; locally very abundant but sometimes scarce or absent. Dactylorhiza purpurella 50 Northern Marsh-orchid frequent: moist base-rich ground in fens, marshes and damp grassland. Danthonia decumbens 98 Heath Grass frequent: on drier moors and heaths, often with Nardus stricta. Never abundant. Daphne laureola* 2 Spurge Laurel locally naturalised in woodland 6 Daucus carota Wild Carrot occasional: verges, foreshores and waste ground, preferring sandy soils. Deschampsia caespitosa 143

Tufted Hair-grass very common: damp woods, ditch and stream sides and wet moorland. Deschampsia flexuosa 117 Wavy Hair-grass common: well-drained, highly acidic ground on banks, rocks and cliffs, both in the open and in woods, especially of oak, beech or birch. Dicentra formosa* 1 Bleeding-heart occasionally established, as at Kerrycroy. Digitalis purpurea 146 Foxglove very common: wood edges and scrub, hedgerows, burnsides, pasture and moorland, especially after burning or treefelling, on free-draining soils of moderate acidity. Drosera rotundifolia 85 Round-leaved Sundew frequent: abundant in wet heath and sphagnum bogs unless degraded. Dryopteris aemula 29 Hay-scented Buckler-fern occasional: moist shady banks where the rock is acidic. Dryopteris affinis agg. 147 Scaly Male-fern very common: shady or moist places with some enrichment, perhaps of wider tolerance than D. fil-mas. Segregates have not been recorded, but severall seem to be common. Dryopteris carthusiana Narrow Buckler-fern occasional, damp woods and willow carr; possibly under-recorded. Dryopteris dilatata 153 Broad Buckler-fern the most ubiquitous fern, absent only from very exposed sites and soils of extreme acidity or impoverishment. Dryopteris expansa 2 Northern Buckler-fern occasional in rocky woodland, probably under-recorded. Dryopteris filix-mas 82 Male Fern common: shady or moist places with some enrichment. Elatine hexandra Six-stamened Waterwort rare: muddy lochsides. Needs confirmation Eleocharis acicularis 3 Needle Spike-rush local: shallow, muddy loch-shores, often submerged. Eleocharis multicaulis 22 Many-stalked Spike-rush occasional: acidic, peaty flushes in wet heath and margins of acid pools. Eleocharis palustris 63 Common Spike-rush frequent: lochsides, pools and ditches. Sometimes in large colonies. Eleocharis quinqueflora 62 Few-flowered Spike-rush frequent: base-rich flushes in raised beach marshes, heath and moorland. Eleocharis uniglumis 5 Slender Spike-rush occasional, perhaps overlooked: brackish pools and silty shorelines. Eleogiton fluitans 7 Floating Club-rush occasional: pools and ditches. Elodea canadensis* 8 Canadian Waterweed local: in some freshwater lochs, ponds and slow streams.

Elymus caninus Bearded Couch rare, needs confirmation; liable to confusion with frequent awned variety of Common Couch. Elytrigia juncea 5 Sand Couch occasional: seaward edge of dunes. 87 Elytrigia repens Common Couch frequent: sandy foreshores and dunes, roadsides and field margins where soils are enriched. The awned variety aristatum is frequent. 69 Empetrum nigrum Crowberry frequent: drier, exposed places in bogs and on heathy hills and raised beaches. Epilobium brunnescens* 50 New Zealand Willowherb frequent: moist rocks, walls and bare ground, usually in shade. Thoroughly naturalised; mainly E Bute, locally abundant, sometimes in remote sites. Epilobium ciliatum* 36 American Willowherb occasional: waste ground and as a garden weed, but also spreading in ditches and verges... Epilobium hirsutum 15 Great Willowherb occasional: waste ground (sometimes with Rosebay) and fenny places. Epilobium montanum 89 Broad-leaved Willowherb common: walls, pavement edges, cliffs and ravines on basic rocks, and as a garden weed. Epilobium obscurum 126 Short-fruited Willowherb very common: damp grassland, mildly acidic marshes, ditches, disturbed ground and as a garden weed. Epilobium palustre 117 Marsh Willowherb common: replaces E. obscurum in marshes as acidity increases. Also common in wet heath. Epilobium parviflorum 10 Hoarv Willowherb local: base-rich fens. Epilobium roseum 2 Pale Willowherb rare ruderal: perhaps overlooked. Epipactus helleborine 1 Broad-leaved Helleborine Rare: verge Westlands road. 127 Equisetum arvense Field Horsetail common: damp grassy and gravelly places, ditches, marshes and roadsides. Equisetum x dycei 3 Water x Marsh Horsetail local: BSBI 1998, Loch Quien. Equisetum fluviatile 73 Water Horsetail frequent: wet ditches, ponds, marshy pools and loch-sides. Equisetum x litorale 25 Shore Horsetail (Water x Field Horsetail) frequent: loch-sides and other damp places, not always with parents. Equisetum palustre 12 Marsh Horsetail rather scarce: wet, base-rich places. Equisetum sylvaticum 24 Wood Horsetail

occasional: somewhat acid banks in woods and ravines, sometimes in marshes and ditches; often colonial.

Equisetum telmateia 1 Great Horsetail rare: colony on a moist bank near Pointhouse burn, Ardbeg. Erica cinerea 110 Bell Heather common: drier or free-draining acid ground, on hills, cliffs and shores. Locally abundant. Erica tetralix 105 Cross-leaved Heath common: bogs and heaths; in moist acid ground, either peaty or where drainage is impeded, often abundant. Erinus alpinus* 15 Fairy Foxglove local: mortared walls, where often abundant. Well naturalised in this artificial habitat in Rothesay area. Eriophorum angustifolium 100 Common Cotton-grass common: bogs, wet heaths and acidic flushes, often abundant. Eriophorum latifolium 4 Broad-leaved Cotton-grass rare: base rich fens and flushes. Eriophorum vaginatum 53 Hare's-tail Cotton-grass frequent: acid bogs and heaths: usually much scarcer than E angustifolium, but locally abundant. Erodium cicutarium 13 Storksbill occasional: bare sandy ground, often around rabbit burrows. Usually coastal. Erophila verna agg. 21 Whitlow-grass locally frequent: pavement edges and walls near shore; occasional in natural habitat on basic trap or conglomerate rocks. E. glabrescens is the usual form. Eryngium maritimum 2 Sea-hollv rare: sandy strandlines: Stravanan bay. Escallonia macrantha* 6 occasional: self-seeding on walls and waste ground near gardens. Eupatorium cannabinum 32 Hemp-agrimony frequent: moist fenny woods and fossil cliffs; usually colonial. Euphorbia helioscopia 6 Sun Spurge occasional: arable and garden weed. Euphorbia paralias 1 Sea Spurge Very rare: first seen 2012 on sandy shore at Stravanan Bay. May not persist. Euphorbia peplus 10 Petty Spurge occasional: a ruderal, garden and arable weed. Euphrasia officinalis agg. 110 Evebright common: in base rich turf on shores and in pastures and hill flushes. Locally abundant, but absent from areas of intensive agriculture and from impoverished soils. Segregates have been partially recorded: E. micrantha is abundant beside forest tracks in N Bute, and E scotica is frequent in flushes. E. confusa is possibly the most general form. Fagus sylvatica* 82 Beech frequent: widely planted in woods and by roadsides, sometimes for hedging; often regenerating, and locally established on moderately acidic soils. Fallopia convolvulus 6 Black Bindweed occasional: a weed of arable and disturbed ground. Fallopia japonica* 63

Japanese Knotweed frequent: naturalised in many places, especially near the shore and by water. Very persistent. Fallopia sachalinensis* 1 Giant Knotweed rare: established by shore between Ascog and Kerrycroy. Not invasive. Festuca ovina agg. 121 Sheeps' Fescue common: free-draining turf with some base-richness on shores, rocks, walls and moors. Festuca rubra agg. 136 Red Fescue very common: shores and foreshores, verges, banks and walls. Festuca vivipara 4 Viviparous Fescue rare: sometimes at low altitude. Ficaria verna 148 Celandine very common: woods, hedgerows and damp, shady grassland. Filago minima 1 Small Cudweed rare: disused ground in Rothesay. 145 Filipendula ulmaria Meadowsweet very common: in fens, ditches, hill flushes, streamsides and moist ground wherever there is any enrichment. Fragaria vesca 23 Wild Strawberry occasional: grassy places, usually moist and base-rich. Fraxinus excelsior 133 Ash commonest large tree: forms mixed woods with Elm and Sycamore on richer ground. Marks out flushed areas in hill ravines and fossil cliffs. Absent only where soil is consistently acidic and impoverished. Fuchsia magellanica* 38 Fuchsia frequent: thoroughly naturalised on cliffs, walls and waste ground, and seeding freely, but still commonest near habitation. Fumaria bastardii 1 Tall Ramping-fumitory Rare: Church 1988. BSBI 1998, Ardnahoe. Fumaria muralis 37 Common Ramping-fumitory frequent: sandy shores above HWM, arable fields, disturbed ground. Fumaria officinalis 4 Common Fumitory occasional: garden or arable weed. Galanthus nivalis* 24 Snowdrop often established or surviving on waste ground and in hedges and woods. Galeopsis speciosa 2 Large-flowered Hemp-nettle Rare: disturbed field edges. Formerly more frequent. Galeopsis tetrahit s.l. 107 Common Hemp-nettle common: on bare or disturbed ground and among rough vegetation where there is some enrichment. Often abundant in newly sown leys. The segregates G. tetrahit s.s. and G. bifida are both common. Galium aparine 128 Cleavers very common: hedgebanks, thickets and in lush vegetation wherever the ground is well enriched. Galium odoratum 34 Woodruff

frequent: moist, base-rich cliffs and shady banks, especially on the schist. Galium palustre 145 Marsh Bedstraw very common: in all kinds of marshy places, ditches and moist banks. Galium saxatile 141 Heath Bedstraw very common: rocky places, drier banks, heaths and acid woods, and on rush-tussocks in bogs. Galium verum 39 Lady's Bedstraw frequent: dry banks and cliffs, mainly on sandy soils and over trap rocks. Gaultheria mucronata* 10 Prickly Heath occasional: naturalised from shrubberies and sometimes bird-sown in remote spots. Gaultheria shallon* 7 Shallon occasional: established in woodland where planted, as at Mountstuart. Gentianella campestris 3 Field Gentian rare and local: in short, base-rich turf on rocky shores, often with *Centaurium*. Known only on schist between Ettrick Bay and Kilmichael. Geranium dissectum 8 Cut-leaved Cranesbill occasional: in open communities on waste ground and field edges. Geranium lucidum 3 Shining Cranesbill very local on basalt scree and fallen rocks near coast in south Bute only. Also locally established near gardens. Geranium molle 35 Dove's-foot Cranesbill frequent: grassland and path edges, preferring sandy soil. Geranium pratense 15 Meadow Cranesbill frequent in coarse grassland, usually near shore. Geranium robertianum 131 Herb Robert very common: woodland, streambanks and hedgerows, avoiding acid ground. Geranium sanguineum 5 Bloody Cranesbill local: seaside crags on trap rocks. Geum rivale 50 Water Avens fairly frequent: moist base-rich streambanks and cliffs. Geum urbanum 60 Wood Avens frequent: woods and shady banks on neutral soils. The hybrid with G. rivale occurs occasionally. Glaucium flavum 2 Yellow Horned-poppy very locally abundant: shingle shore from Scalpsie bay towards Ardscalpsie. Glaux maritima 67 Sea Milkwort common: in all salt marshes, usually with Juncus gerardii. Glechoma hederacea 82 Ground Ivy common: woods and shady banks where free-draining but not leached. Often abundant but absent locally. Glyceria declinata 107 Small Sweet-grass common: ditches, pools and trampled marshes, also damp tracks and gateways. Glyceria fluitans 96 Floating Sweet-grass common: wet pastures, ditches and less acid marshes.

119 Gnaphalium uliginosum Marsh Cudweed common: on damp, bare ground in trampled places, especially where cattle walk or feed. Griselinia littoralis 4 NewZealand Broadleaf occasional: planted or surviving Gymnadenia conopsea 4 Fragrant Orchid occasional: base-rich turf on the raised beaches or in the hills. Gymnocarpium dryopteris 11 Oak Fern occasional: on steep, shady stream-banks, usually in ravines. Colonial. Hebe salicifolia* 7 Koromiko occasional: self-seeding in wall-tops and pavement edges near gardens. Hedera helix *129* IVY common: woods, hedges, banks and cliffs, avoiding acid soils. Var. 'hibernica' is reportedly frequent. Helictotrichon pratense 1 Meadow Oat-grass rare: base-rich turf in rocky places near sea. Helictotrichon pubescens 14 Downv Oat-grass occasional: sandy foreshores and verges, locally abundant. Heracleum mantegazzianum* 6 Giant Hogweed local: established locally on a stretch of foreshore at Mountstuart from Kerrycroy to Bruchag point. Heracleum sphondylium 108 Hogweed common: rocky woodland, verges and waste ground on rich neutral soils. Hesperis matronalis* 3 Dame's Violet occasionally surviving on waste ground. Hieracium agg. 50 Hawkweed frequent: on rather acidic rocks, walls, banks and cliffs. The most usual form resembles H. vulgatum, but few determinations have been made. H. caledonicum and H. dicella were collected by Church 1988 (det. McCosh), H. *vulgatum* and *H. dicella* by Stirling and Mitchell, 1994, all from south Bute. *Hippophae rhamnoides** 2 Sea Buckthorn Established on shore by Mountstuart. Hippuris vulgaris Marestail very local: loch survey 1996, Kirk Dam. Holcus lanatus 151 Yorkshire Fog ubiquitous wherever there is any enrichment: in woods, moist pastures, marshes, and on roadsides and foreshores. Holcus mollis 128 Creeping Soft-grass common: damp grassy places, hedgebanks and woodlands and sometimes under bracken. Honckenya peploides **41** Sea Sandwort frequent, sometimes abundant on sandy and shingly shores near HWM. Humulus lupulus* 2 Нор rare: hedgerows and coarse vegetation. Huperzia selago 11 Fir Club-moss rare: on cliffy rocks and streambanks, in marshes and beside forest tracks.

Hyacinthoides hispanica* 5 Spanish Bluebell A garden throw-out often persisting, sometimes planted in verges. Hyacinthoides non-scripta 142 Bluebell very common: on free-draining, mildly acid but moderately enriched ground; in woods and on open grassy or bracken covered slopes; often very abundant. Hydrocotyle vulgaris 113 Marsh Pennywort common: marshes and bogs of moderate acidity. Hymenophyllum tunbrigense 9 Tunbridge Filmy-fern local: colonial on moist, shady boulders in ravine or fossil-cliff woodland: north Bute only. Hymenophyllum wilsonii 25 Wilson's Filmy-fern occasional: more widespread than H. tunbrigense, but usually less abundant, in similar habitats. Hypericum androsaemum 80 Tutsan frequent in shady ravines and moist rocky places. Hypericum elodes 10 Marsh St John's-wort locally abundant in bogs and acid marshes in west and south Bute. Hypericum humifusum 27 Trailing St John's-wort fairly frequent on moist acid banks and bare, trampled ground. Hypericum maculatum 3 Imperforate St John's-wort rare: shoreline S of Kerrycroy... Hypericum perforatum 3 Perforate St John's-wort rare: dry, bare or waste ground. Hypericum pulchrum 126 Slender St John's-wort common on free-draining heathy banks and crag ledges, and in hill turf, as well as acidic woodland. Hypericum tetrapterum 79 Square-stalked St John's-wort frequent in fens and marshes where not too acidic. Hypericum x desetangsii 5 Des Etang's St John's-wort This hybrid of *H. perforatum* and *H. maculatum* is more frequent than either parent. Hypochoeris radicata 139 Cat's-ear very common: free-draining banks, roadsides, crags and rocky ground; tolerant of surface leaching. Ilex aquifolium 80 Holly frequent: woods of moderate acidity; sometimes in hedgerows, occasional on cliffs. Impatiens glandulifera* 12 Indian Balsam local: naturalised among coarse vegetation, usually in damp ground; increasing in Glecknabae area. Iris pseudacorus 132 Yellow Flag very common: fens, marshes which are not too acidic, ditches and moist ground with some enrichment. Isolepis setacea 73 Bristle Club-rush frequent: on moist mud and in shallow puddles. Jasione montana 2 Sheepsbit rare: dry grassy places on sandy soil. Juncus acutiflorus 140

Sharp-flowered Rush very common: in moist, moderately acidic ground; often dominant over areas of marsh and wet heath. The hybrid with J. articulatus is is probably common. Juncus articulatus 135 Jointed Rush common: in ditches, rivulets, flushes and on moist loch-shores and raised beaches, preferring base-rich water. Often hybridising with J acutiflorus. Juncus bufonius 138 Toad Rush common: moist bare ground and trampled places of neutral to moderate acidity. 124 Juncus bulbosus Bulbous Rush common: in wet acid ground or shallow water; bogs, flushes, rivulets and pools. Juncus conglomeratus 146 Compact Rush common: in moist ground of moderate acidity, often with J. effusus and occasionally more abundant than it. Seems to have a narrower edaphic tolerance and can be locally scarce. Hybrids have been recorded rarely. Juncus effusus 153 Common Rush ubiquitous in all kinds of moist ground where drainage is impeded, except for very impoverished acid heath. Juncus foliosus 2 Leafy Rush rare or overlooked: damp, enriched, open or trampled ground. Juncus gerardii 66 Saltmarsh Rush common: salt marshes and in all turfy places on the shores. Usually with Glaux maritima. Juncus maritimus 37 Sea Rush frequent: in scattered colonies around the shore, favouring brackish conditions. Juncus ranarius 3 Frog Rush rare or overlooked: similar places to J. bufonius, but usually near sea. Juncus squarrosus 104 Heath Rush common: on acid moor and heath, especially where overgrazed; sometimes abundant. Absent from the better agricultural areas. Juncus tenuis* 60 Slender Rush frequent: locally abundant on moist tracks and pathways where there is open vegetation or bare ground. Juniperus communis 25 Juniper locally frequent: in heathy and scrubby areas, mainly in the south west of the island, but with scattered, rather moribund specimens elsewhere. A somewhat relict population. Koeleria macrantha 21 Crested Hair-grass occasional: in base rich turf on trap dykes, usually near shore. Lamiastrum galeobdolon ssp argetatum* 7 Garden Archangel Established hortal escape near houses. Lamium amplexicaule 4 Henbit occasional: bare cultivated ground which has escaped herbicide. Lamium confertum 6 Northern Deadnettle occasional: bare ground on foreshores and field edges; also a garden weed. Lamium hybridum 1 Cut-leaved Dead-nettle rare: an arable weed. Lamium purpureum 37

Red Deadnettle frequent: bare ground in waste places, gateways and field edges. A weed of gardens and arable. Lapsana communis 77 Nipplewort common: wood edges and shady hedgebanks on rich, neutral soils. Larix decidua* 33 European Larch widely planted in the past for forestry, shelter and amenity, and scattered through mixed woodlands. Sometimes self-seeding, but not established. Now largely supplanted by the two following taxa in forestry. Larix kaempferi* 16 Japanese Larch frequently planted for forestry or amenity, and seeding freely; possibly under-recorded. Larix x marschlinsii* 29 Hybrid Larch frequently planted for forestry and regenerating freely. Lathyrus linifolius 1 Bitter Vetchling rare: in coarse heathy vegetation on rocky pavement near sea. Lathyrus pratensis 109 Meadow Vetchling common: scrub, hedges and coarse grassland. Lemna minor 52 Common Duckweed frequent: still or slow water in ponds and ditches. Lepidium heterophyllum 3 Smith's Pepperwort occasional: ruderal, often in damp open places. Leucanthemum vulgare 9 Ox-eve Daisy occasional: in base rich turf on roadsides and foreshores. Status doubtful, but long-established. Leycesteria formosa* 10 Himalavan Honevsuckle occasional: surviving as throw-out or self-seeding in the vicinity of gardens. Leymus arenarius 19 Lyme Grass occasional: sandy shores; colonial and locally abundant. Increasing. Ligusticum scoticum 15 Scots Lovage locally frequent: rocky crevices on the shores. Ligustrum ovalifolium* 9 Garden Privet rare: sometimes bird-sown remote from houses, but not naturalised. Ligustrum vulgare* 9 Wild Privet occasional: long surviving as a remnant of hedging, but not naturalised. Linarea purpurea* 2 Purple Toadflax locally established on walls and stony ground near gardens. Linarea vulgaris 1 Common Toadflax very local: one large colony on foreshore below Little Kilchattan. Linum catharticum 38 Fairy Flax fairly frequent in base-rich turf. Littorella uniflora 10 Shoreweed locally abundant: in shallow water around loch margins, often exposed in dry seasons. Lobelia dortmanna 1 Water Lobelia

very local or overlooked: recently seen only in Bull loch, where abundant. Lolium multiflorum* 6 Italian Ryegrass sometimes sown in leys and surviving or seeding locally in field margins. Lolium perenne 128 Perennial Rye-grass common: leys and pastures, verges and waste ground on the richer soils. The extent of any native population is unclear. Lonicera nitida** 2 Wilson's Honeysuckle occasionally dumped or surviving from gardens and amenity planting. Lonicera periclymenum 135 Honeysuckle very common: in woods and scrub and on cliffs and rocky places on all types of soil, but especially abundant in mildly acidic ground. Garden strains occur locally near houses. Lotus corniculatus 130 Common Birdsfoot-trefoil common: well drained short turf with some base-richness. Lotus pedunculatus 134 Greater Birdsfoot-trefoil very common: moist ground, especially with impeded drainage, hedge and stream-banks and marshy places. Also sometimes on drier banks. Luzula campestris 137 Field Woodrush common: short turf in lawns, verges, by the shore and where sheep graze. Tolerant of leaching. Luzula multiflora 131 Heath Woodrush common: marshes, damp moors and heaths. Luzula pilosa 101 Hairy Woodrush common: on free-draining banks in moderately acid woods, heaths and grassland. Luzula svlvatica 112 Great Woodrush common: woods, cliffs and slopes, often in large monospecific colonies. Susceptible to grazing, but edaphically tolerant. Lycopodium clavatum 6 Stag's-horn Club-moss local: on bare rock and peat exposures beside forest tracks. Increasing. Lycopus europaeus 39 Gipsywort frequent: fens and marshes with some enrichment, usually near shore. Lysimachia nemorum 131 Yellow Pimpernel common: moist woodland and shady streambanks or flushed, marshy ground. Often with Primula vulgaris, but tolerant of greater acidity. Lysimachia punctata* 11 Dotted Loosestrife long surviving garden throw-out on waste or rough ground. Lythrum portula 22 Water Purslane occasional: bare ground on loch margins, by ponds and in moist, trampled places. Lythrum salicaria 11 Purple Loosestrife occasional: scattered in fenny places and beside streams. Malus sylvestris s.l. 19 Crab Apple occasional: scrub, wood edges and hedgerows. Most plants are M. domesticus (pumila), probably bird-sown; some may be *M. sylvestris s.s.* Malva moschata* 3

Musk Mallow rare: casual ruderal. Matricaria discoidea* 108 Pineapple Weed common: bare ground in gateways, paths and waste ground, especially where people or animals tread. Meconopsis cambrica* 18 Welsh Poppy frequently naturalised: often near houses, on shady banks. Medicago lupulina 3 Black Medick local: open, grassy places, usually near sea. Melampyrum pratense 10 Common Cow-wheat occasional: acidic woodland and heathy pasture in north Bute Melica uniflora 2 Wood Melick rare: base-rich cliffs and rocky places, usually in shade. Mentha aquatica 128 Water Mint common: moist and wet fenny places and marshes that are not too acidic. Mentha arvensis 13 Corn Mint occasional: in drier areas of marsh and fen borders with some enrichment. Mentha spicata* 10 Spear Mint occasional: established from garden throw-out. Mentha x verticillata 6 Whorled Mint Occasional in damp places.] 9 Mentha x villosa* Apple Mint occasional: established in clones on waste and rough ground. Menyanthes trifoliata 57 Boabean frequent: pools in bogs and wet acid marshes. Mercurialis perennis 105 Dog's Mercury common: woods, scrub and cliffs on enriched, neutral soils. Mertensia maritima 1 Oyster Plant very rare: shingle coves on rocky shore. Formerly more widespread; recently only intermittently at two sites on Kilmory shore. Last seen 2009. Milium effusum 9 Wood Millet occasional: shady banks and rocky woodlands on base-rich soil. 45 Mimulus agg.* Monkey Flower frequent: moist stream-sides and marshes. Well established in some remoter spots. Segregates have not been systematically recorded. Moehringia trinervia 29 Three-veined Sandwort rather frequent but seldom abundant in base-rich woodland, often under elm or sycamore. Molinia caerulea 130 Purple Moor-grass common: moist acid ground on moors and heaths and in woodland; often extensively dominant , but absent from cultivated areas. Montia fontana 131 Water Blinks common: wet or moist bare and grassy places, often with Stellaria uliginosa.

Mycelis muralis*	17
Wall Lettuce locally frequent on walls and waste	e ground in Rothesay area. Occasional elsewhere in woodland and hedgerows;
probably introduced.	40
Myosotis arvensis Field Forgetmenot	40
frequent: dry waste ground, sandy	v pastures and as a garden weed
Myosotis discolor	<i>37</i>
Changing Forgetmenot	npled ground. Two ecotypes may occur.
Myosotis laxa	89
Tufted Forgetmenot	
common: neutral to mildly acidic n	
Myosotis scorpioides	19
Water Forgetmenot locally abundant: eutrophic, circun	nneutral swamns and fens
Myosotis secunda	<i>103</i>
Creeping Forgetmenot	
	nes, ditches, sluggish burns and wet pastures.
Myrica gale	<i>69</i>
Bog Myrtle	co-dominant with Molinia. Occasionally in fens.
Myriophyllum alterniflorum	8
Alternate Water-milfoil	
occasional: in lochs and ponds.	
<i>Myrrhis odorata*</i> Sweet Cicely	11
	ind waste ground, locally abundant.
Narcissus agg.* Daffodil	30
	in hedge-banks and waste ground. Segregates have not been recorded.
Nardus stricta	100
Mat Grass	
common: rather dry, acidic grazing	
Narthecium ossifragum	<i>99</i>
Bog Asphodel common: wet places on heaths an	id in bods and acid marshes
Nasturtium officinale agg. Wai	
	s and loch edges. Both N. microphyllum and N. officinale s.s. seem to be frequent,
Neottia cordata	5
Lesser Twayblade	
occasional in Sphagnum with Callu	
Neottia ovata Common Twayblade	4
	in open or semi-shade, mostly base-rich.
Nothofagus alpinus**	2
Rauli	
occasional: planted in amenity wo	
<i>Nothofagus obliqua**</i> <i>Roble</i>	1
occasionally planted.	
Nuphar lutea	4
Yellow Water-lily	
local: lochs with neutral water.	<i>.</i>
Nymphaea alba White Water-Iily	6
local: fresh water lochs and ponds	
Odontites vernus	<i>80</i>

Red Bartsia common: rough grassy and weedy places, especially foreshores. Oenanthe crocata 117 Hemlock Water-dropwort common: ditches, burnsides, fens and marshes which are not too acidic. Often very abundant near sea or where water is eutrophic. Oenanthe lachenalii 16 Parsley Water-dropwort occasional: brackish marshes and freshwater flushes close to shore. Locally abundant. Olearia macrodonta* 1 New Zealand Holly rare: self seeding from gardens, but scarcely established. **Ononis repens** 3 Restharrow local: among rough vegetation on sandy foreshores, SE Bute only. Ophioglossum vulgatum 5 Adder's Tongue Occasional: in herb-rich grassland under bracken. Also in short maritime turf at Rubha an amair. Orchis mascula 11 Early Purple-orchid occasional: open woodland and scrub and flushed grassy places on base-rich soils. Oreopteris limbosperma 121 Mountain Fern common: on acidic banks, rocks and by moorland ditches, often in the open. Ornithogalum angustifolium* 4 Star of Bethlehem very local: naturalised in open woods near gardens. Ornithopus perpusillus 5 Bird's-foot local but sometimes abundant on and beside forestry tracks. Osmunda regalis 5 Roval Fern local: colony in rushy pasture at N end of Dhu loch; mature plant in wet willow scrub on fossil cliff at Ardroscadale; scattered juveniles elsewhere. Oxalis acetosella 147 Wood-sorrel very common: woodland and shady places, even in spruce plantations, tolerating quite high acidity. Papaver dubium 1 Long Smooth-fruited Poppy rare casual: disturbed or cultivated ground. Papaver rhoeos 2 Common Poppy rare: bare disturbed or sandy ground. Papaver somniferum* 3 **Opium Poppy** occasional ruderal: pathsides and waste ground. Parentucellia viscosa 2 Yellow Bartsia very local: abundant in rather damp horse pasture below Bogany wood. Trackside in Cnocnicol wood. Old record from Loch Fad area. Presumed native. Parietaria judaica 3 Pellitory of the Wall local: cliffs at Hawk's Nib and walls near Kingarth. Probably native at the former. Parnassia palustris 41 Grass of Parnassus Frequent, but often scarce: base-rich flushes in heathy country and on raised beaches where locally abundant. Pedicularis palustris 64 Marsh Lousewort frequent: in sluggish ditches and marshy places.

103 Pedicularis sylvatica Heath Lousewort common: heathland and acid hill grassland, often abundant. Pentaglottis sempervirens* 13 Evergreen Alkanet occasional: roadside banks and verges, usually near gardens. Well established. Persicaria amphibia 90 Amphibious Bistort common: aquatic form in lochs, ponds and slow streams; terrestrial form on shingly foreshores, road verges and in field gateways. Persicaria bistorta* 8 Bistort occasional: damp grassy verges and burnsides. Status uncertain, but never in truly natural habitats. Persicaria campanulata* 3 Lesser Knotweed Locally established near gardens. Persicaria hydropiper 86 Water-pepper common: moist, bare and often trampled places, especially where cattle drink. Persicaria lapathifolia 4 Pale Persicaria rare: sandy fields after cultivation, and sometimes ruderal. Persicaria maculosa 96 Red-shank common: bare ground, field edges and newly sown leys. Persicaria wallichii* 3 Himalayan Knotweed locally established on stream-banks and waste ground. Petasites fragrans* 8 Winter Heliotrope local: well established in woods, shady places and roadsides as an escape from cultivation. Petasites hvbridus 8 Butterbur local: forms colonies on waste ground and roadsides near houses, probably as a relict of cultivation. Petasites japonicus* 1 Giant Butterbur Locally long-established on foreshore at Ascog. Phalaris arundinacea 91 Canary Reed common: moist, enriched ground by ditches, streams and lochs, and in fens and marshes. Phalaris canariensis* 3 Canary-grass Occasional bird-seed casual. Phegopteris connectilis 50 Beech Fern frequent: in sheltered shady places on mildly acid soils; usually colonial. Phleum pratense s.l. 65 Timothy Grass frequent: fields and roadsides on the richer soils. Status uncertain, as usually relict of sowing. Phragmites australis 22 Common Reed frequent: fens, loch margins and wet, base-rich areas; locally dominant. Phyllitis scolopendrium 69 Hart's-tongue Fern frequent: damp, very shady spots on base-rich rocks and walls. Depauperate specimens survive in more exposed positions. Picea abies** 18 Norway Spruce

Occasionally planted, mainly in the past, for forestry, shelter or amenity; regeneration not observed.

Picea sitchensis*	81
Sitka Spruce	forestry sizes along, after calf eaching at some distance and becoming established
	forestry since c1950; often self-seeding at some distance and becoming established y areas where grazing is less intensive.
Pilosella aurantiaca*	4
Fox and Cubs	
rare: established locally as an est	cape from gardens.
Pilosella officinarum	49
Mouse-ear Hawkweed	
	ort basic turf, often near the sea.
Pimpinella saxifraga	13
Burnet Saxifrage	
occasional: base-rich grassland, u	usually near the sea. 46
<i>Pinguicula lusitanica</i> <i>Pale Butterwort</i>	40
	s and raised beaches. Less widespread than <i>P. vulgaris</i> , but locally abundant in
suitable habitat.	s and raised beaches. Less widespread that <i>r. vagans</i> , but locally abundant in
Pinguicula vulgaris	74
Common Butterwort	
frequent: in base rich flushes and	d by rivulets in heathy country.
Pinus contorta*	12
Lodgepole Pine	
frequently planted for forestry; se	
Pinus nigra**	8
Austrian Pine	
Pinus pinaster**	e past, in woods or gardens: self-seeding not observed.
Maritime Pine	2
	er forestry, but not succeeding very well.
Pinus sylvestris*	58
Scots Pine	
widely planted, especially in the p	past, for amenity and in mixed woodlands and shelter belts. Occasionally self-
seeding, and may become locally	established.
Plantago coronopus	41
Buckshorn Plantain	
	d the coast, but less general than <i>P. maritima</i> and sometimes absent.
Plantago lanceolata Ribwort Plantain	153
	any circumneutral soil, but sometimes unaccountably absent locally.
Plantago major	127
Greater Plantain	
	d ground, pathways, gateways and roadsides where there is some enrichment.
Plantago maritima	<i>68</i>
Sea Plantain	
	rocky, shingly and sandy shores and in salt marshes.
Platanthera bifolia	3
Lesser Butterfly-orchid	
	flushed with base-rich water, eg N of Dunstrone.
Platanthera chlorantha	2
Butterfly Orchid rare, but locally abundant on Rot	hesay golf course
Poa annua	145
Annual Meadow-grass	
0	erges, tracks, field edges and in trampled places.
Poa pratensis agg.	<i>135</i>
Smooth Meadow-grass	
Very common: fields and open gr	rassy places. Most records refer to P. humilis.
Poa trivialis	132

Rough Meadow-grass very common: road verges, hedgerows, marshes, woods and scrub, absent only from impoverished areas. Polemonium caeruleum * 1 Jacob's Ladder Locally established on verge near Birgidale Butts. Polygala serpyllifolia 100 Heath Milkwort common and locally abundant in damp heath, among hill turf and on rocky foreshores. Polygala vulgaris Common Milkwort apparently rare: not well differentiated from the preceding; occasional large, showy plants in base-rich turf, but intermediates seem to occur. 2 Polygonatum x hybridum* Garden Solomon's Seal rare: naturalised in woodland near houses from garden throw-outs. Polygonum arenastrum 96 Equal-leaved Knotgrass common: verges and gateways, trampled pathways and tracks, and around cattle feeders. Commoner than P. aviculare. Polygonum aviculare 70 Knotgrass common: waste ground, field edges and newly sown leys. Polygonum oxyspermum ssp raii 6 Ray's Knotgrass occasional: sandy strandlines. Polypodium agg. 143 Polypody very common: on rocks, walls, banks and as an epiphyte. P. vulgare is common in exposed situations such as cliffs and boulders, as well as walls. P. interjectum is frequent in wooded ravines and on shady moist cliffs. P. australe has been recorded from the lime-rich cliff at Creag a mhara. Polystichum aculeatum 31 Hard Shield-fern frequent: damp, shady rocks and banks on base-rich ground or flushed with base-rich water. Polvstichum setiferum 6 Soft Shield-fern local: fossil cliff woodland with some base-richness; colonial below Lechtan. Populus tremula 8 Aspen occasional: in small clones on cliffs and in old woodland. Susceptible to grazing and fire. Does not reproduce readily from seed. Populus x canadensis* 4 Hybrid Black Poplar occasional: planted in woods and parkland, usually var. serotina. Potamogeton alpinus Red Pondweed rare: BSBI 1998, Loch Ascog and Kelspoke. Potamogeton berchtoldii 3 Small Pondweed apparently rare: Quien Loch. Potamogeton crispus 3 Curled Pondweed local: in the larger lochs. 1 Potamogeton gramineus Various-leaved Pondweed local: in lochs and ponds. 18 Potamogeton natans Broad-leaved Pondweed frequent: in lochs and ponds with neutral water. Potamogeton x nitens

Bright-leaved Pondweed
occasional: BSBI 1998, Loch Quien and Loch Ascog.
Potamogeton obtusifolius
Blunt-leaved Pondweed
rare: Loch Fad, loch survey, 1996.
Potamogeton pectinatus 3
Fennel Pondweed
rare: Greenan loch and Mountstuart resr.
Potamogeton perfoliatus
Perfoliate pondweed
occasional: loch survey, 1996, Quien, Fad and Kirk dam.
Potamogeton polygonifolius 106
Bog Pondweed
common: in ditches, pools, ponds, peaty runnels and soakways with moderately to strongly acid water.
Potamogeton praelongus
Long-stalked Pondweed
local: BSBI 1998, lochs Quien and Fad.
Potamogeton pusillus
Lesser Pondweed
occasional: loch survey 1996, Quien, Fad, Greenan and Kirk dam.
Potamogeton x zizii
Long-leaved Pondweed
rare: BSBI 1998, Loch Ascog.
Potentilla anglica 8
Trailing Tormentil
occasional: grassy banks.
Potentilla anserina 128
Silverweed
very common: sandy and shingly shores and foreshores, roadsides and in short base-rich turf and circumneutral
marshes.
Potentilla erecta 145
Tormentil
<i>Tormentil</i> very common in all types of heath and acid grassland.
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Prunus spinosa	76
	pecially fossil cliffs. Demands some base-richness.
Pseudofumaria lutea*	2
Yellow Corydalis	
very locally established on walls near	
	13
Douglas Fir	rge stand in Barmore Wood is c150 years old. Self-seeds fairly freely but does
not seem to establish.	rge stand in barmore wood is croo years old. Sen-seeds fairly neery but does
Pteridium aquilinum 142	2
Bracken	
	ht to moderate acidity, tolerant of both exposure and shade, absent only from
	rlogged ground. Often dominant over large areas.
	53
Common Saltmarsh-grass	
common: sait marsnes and muddy pa Quercus cerris**	atches on the tideline. Locally abundant. 1
Turkey Oak	1
	ved woodland at Carnhousan. Not observed to regenerate.
Quercus ilex**	2
Holm Oak	
planted very occasionally for amenity	. Not seeding.
Quercus rubra**	1
Red Oak	
Planted locally in estate woodlands a	
<i>Quercus aggregate</i> 112 CommonOak	1
	where the soil is of moderate acidity. I have found it impossible to draw a clear
	ual wild and planted oak resembles <i>Q. robur</i> , but with various degrees of
	<i>petraea</i> are relatively scarce, and usually planted.
	7
All-seed	
occasional: on moist, bare ground, of	
Ranunculus acris 142	7
Meadow Buttercup	a and damp posture, ditabas and flushes
	s and damp pasture, ditches and flushes. 2
Common Water-crowfoot	
occasional on margins of lochs or por	nds
	1
Brackish Water-crowfoot	
very rare: pool near Garrochty boath	ouse (Cradh rubha).
	22
Bulbous Buttercup	
local: well drained neutral grassland, Ranunculus flammula 13	
Lesser Spearwort	33
Very common: marshes, ditches and	wet acid pasture
Ranunculus hederaceus 10	
Ivy leaved Crowfoot	
common: shallow water and muddy	places, especially where trampled.
Ranunculus peltatus	1
Pond Water-crowfoot	
rare: BSBI 1998, Loch Quien.	F 2
•	52
Creeping Buttercup	nd and open vegetation wherever not too impoverished.
	14

Celery-leaved Buttercup
local: very eutrophic, often trampled places, usually near shore.
Raphanus raphanistrum ssp maritimus71Sea Radish
common: generally abundant on sandy or shingly foreshores.
Rhinanthus minor agg. 66
Yellow Rattle
frequent: usually in herb-rich grassland on foreshores and roadsides.
Rhododendron luteum 3
Yellow Azalea
Locally established in estate woodlands.
Rhododendron ponticum* 68
Purple Rhododendron
frequent: extensively planted in gardens and shrubberies and invasively regenerating in woods and heathland to produce impenetrable, mono-specific thickets. The only alien to constitute a serious threat to habitat.
<i>Ribes nigrum</i> 19
Black Currant
frequent: damp woodland and shady marshy ground. Possibly native at some sites.
Ribes rubrum* 18
Red Currant
occasional: hedgerows and woodland. Probably not native but well established.
Ribes sanguineum* 5
Flowering Currant
rare: birdsown casual on wood edges, waste ground, etc.
Ribes uva-crispa 26
<i>Gooseberry</i> frequent: in woodland on neutral soils. Possibly native at some sites.
Rorippa palustris 15
Marsh Yellow-cress
occasional: moist bare or trampled ground, locally abundant by tracks.
Rosa canina s.l. 117
Dog-rose, Wild Rose
common: hedgerows, scrub, cliffs and woodland borders. An attempt has been made to record the four following
segregates, which though by no means clear-cut, provide broad categories into which most specimens can be placed.
Rosa caesia agg. 53 Glaucous Rose 53
frequent: hedges, cliffs and rocky places. The glaucous form (ssp. vosagiaca) is frequent. Introgresses to R. canina
and sherardii.
Rosa canina s.s. 68
Dog Rose
frequent: woods and hedges, preferring some shade. Possibly the commonest glabrous rose.
Rosa mollis 30
Downy Rose
frequent: hedges, scrub and rocky places, usually less nutrient-rich. Most frequent on schist or trap rocks. Rosa sherardii 81
Sherard's Downy-rose
common: hedges, scrub and rocky places. Probably the commonest rose, but grades into both <i>R. mollis and R.</i>
caesia ssp glauca.
Rosa pimpinellifolia 25
Burnet Rose
frequent: coarse and scrubby vegetation on foreshores and cliffs, mostly near shore, but also base-rich hill turf.
Rosa rubiginosa* 2
Sweetbriar
rare: hedges and foreshores, probably not native, but hybridises with them.
Rosa rugosa* 15 Japanese Rose 15
locally naturalised on the foreshore; often white flowered. Rather invasive.
Rubus fruticosus agg. 139
Bramble

very common: hedgerows, cliffs, waste ground and scrubby places wherever there is some enrichment. The following microspp were recorded by Church, 1998: *R. boudiccae*: frequent *R. dumnoniensis*: occasional *R. hebridensis*: occasional R. latifolius: rare *R. lindleianus*: common *R. mucronulatus*: rare R. nemoralis: common *R. polyanthemus*: common *R. raduloides*: occasional *R. scoticus*: occasional *R. ulmifolius*: occasional Rubus idaeus 61 Raspberry frequent: mildly acid woods and scrubby places. Rubus saxatilis 2 Stone Bramble Rare: damp shady base-rich cliffs. 3 Rubus spectabilis* Salmonberry very local: established in woodland, as near Rothesay golf clubhouse, and on waste ground. Rumex acetosa 151 Common Sorrel ubiquitous: all kinds of grassy places with a degree of enrichment and moisture. Rumex acetosella 126 Sheep's Sorrel common: dry places on rather impoverished and acidic ground. Often with Ulex or Galium saxatile. Rumex conglomeratus 2 Sharp Dock Rare: raised beach marshes. Rumex crispus 110 Curled Dock common: shores and foreshores, occasionally on verges and in waste places away from the shore. Coastal plants are usually ssp. *littoreus*. Rumex obtusifolius 132 Broad-leaved Dock very common: grassy and disturbed ground, wherever the soil is rich. Hybrids with *R. crispus* appear to be common, but have not been recorded. 69 Rumex sanguineus Wood Dock frequent: woodlands and shady banks where soil is neutral, damp and slightly enriched. Sagina apetala s.l. 19 Upright Pearlwort occasional on lime-mortared walls, pavement edges and bare ground. S. filicaulis is probably the more usual segregate. Sagina nodosa 21 Knotted Pearlwort occasional in base-rich flushes especially near shoreline. Sagina procumbens 148 Procumbent Pearlwort ubiquitous on bare ground where not too acidic, walls and pavements, banks, shores and as a garden weed. Sagina subulata 14 Heath Pearlwort locally frequent on dry short turf, usually over trap rocks. Salicornia agg. 9 Glasswort local in salt marshes and on shingle, often with Suaeda maritima. Salix aurita 133

Eared Willow very common: all kinds of damp and wet ground with some acidity; more tolerant of this than S. cinerea, and penetrating further into the hills. 62 Salix caprea Goat Willow frequent: roadsides, damp woodland where not too acidic. Hybridises with S. cinerea and S. aurita. Salix cinerea 122 Grey Willow very common: moist ground wherever not too acidic. Variable in leaf shape and other characters and hybridising extensively. 1 Salix x fragilis* Crack Willow rare: wet ground. Probably not native. Salix pentandra 16 Bay Willow occasional: fens and moist base-rich ground. Probably native but also planted. Salix purpurea 3 Purple Willow rare: damp waste ground, and beside burns; status uncertain. Salix repens 4 Creeping Willow very local: moist, base-rich heath on the raised beaches, where sometimes abundant as on Kilmory shore; rare by forest tracks. Salix viminalis* 13 Osier occasional: damp waste ground, usually near houses or former habitation. Not native but well established, although not observed to reproduce from seed. Salix x multinervis (S. cinerea x S. aurita) 50 frequent: with either or both parents, often introgressing in either direction. Sambucus nigra 94 Common Elder common: wood edges, scrub and hedges on enriched soils. Absent from impoverished uplands and acid ground. Sambucus racemosa* 2 Red-berried Elder rare: scattered self-seeded specimens in wood edges. Not native. Samolus valerandi 27 Brookweed occasional: in flushes of base-rich fresh water where subject to saline influence, hence just above HWM. Locally abundant. Sanicula europaea 61 Sanicle frequent: woods, banks and damp ravines on base-rich ground. Saponaria officinalis* 3 Soapwort well naturalised and spreading in rough vegetation on sandy foreshore at Kilchattan. More than one taxon or cultivar may be present. Saxifraga aizoides 6 Yellow Saxifrage rare: base-rich flushes and wet rocks. Saxifraga x urbium* 7 London-pride occasional: established or surviving in shady corners, not always near houses. Schedonorus arundinaceus 55 Tall Fescue frequent: on well-drained, usually shingly areas of shore and foreshore, forming large tussocks. Occasional on waste ground inland. Schedonorus giganteus 10 Giant Fescue

occasional: areas of scrubby or coarse vegetation in partial shade.

Rare: moist grassy places.	
Schoenoplectus lacustris	5
Common Club-rush	
local: in some rather eutrophic loc	
Schoenoplectus tabernaemor	itani 1
Grey Club-rush	
Rare: Loch na leighe. <i>Schoenus nigricans</i>	28
Black Bog-rush	20
	in heath or marsh, sometimes in apparently acid ground.
Scleranthus annuus	6
Annual Knawel	
	mostly near shore: previously recorded from Bute only by James Robertson (176
Scorzoneroides autumnalis	145
Autumn Hawkbit	
	s on roadsides and in marshes, salt marshes and damp pastures.
Scrophularia nodosa	95
Figwort	ner shady places on enriched soils.
Scutellaria galericulata	57
Skullcap	
	base-rich ground, especially near shore and in loch-side woodland.
Scutellaria minor	17
Lesser Skullcap	
	ows and rather acid marshes, often with <i>Carum verticillatum</i> . Frequent only in t
west of central Bute, on schist.	
Sedum acre	14
Biting Stonecrop	are calciferous rocks, usually near sea.
Sedum anglicum	72
English Stonecrop	/=
	ng rock on shores, cliffs and elsewhere.
Sedum telephium*	16
Orpine	
	and waste grassy places. Long-established, especially around Kingarth.
Selaginella selaginoides	51
Lesser Club-moss	dy flyches in the hills and on raised beaches, often with <i>Dinguisula yulgaris</i>
Senecio aquaticus	dy flushes in the hills and on raised beaches, often with <i>Pinguicula vulgaris</i> . 62
Marsh Ragwort	02
0	some enrichment; sometimes abundant among <i>Juncus effusus</i> .
Senecio jacobaea	121
Ragwort	
	I waste ground. Sometimes very abundant in badly managed fields.
Senecio sylvaticus	33
Heath Groundsel	
	grassy places, mostly on trap rock, where sometimes abundant in south Bute.
Senecio viscosus Sticky Groundsel	3
local: colonial on coastal shingle.	
Senecio vulgaris	54
Groundsel	
	ement edges and as a garden weed.
Sherardia arvensis	5

Red Campion very common in drier woods and hedgebanks where soil is neutral or only mildly acidic. Silene flos-cuculi 86 Ragged Robin frequent and sometimes abundant in base-rich marshes and flushes, especially near the shore. Silene latifolia 3 White Campion rare: St Ninian's Bay. This record may refer to the hybrid S. x hampeana, which occurs on Bute rarely with white flowers but frequently with pink. Also casual on waste ground. Silene uniflora 25 Sea Campion frequent and occasionally abundant on shingly and rocky shores and sea cliffs. Sinapis arvensis 2 Charlock rare: ruderal or arable weed, formerly frequent. Sisymbrium officinale 22 Hedge Mustard fairly frequent: foreshores, verges and waste ground, among coarse vegetation or as a ruderal weed. Sisymbrium orientale* 1 Eastern Rocket Ruderal weed established in Rothesay Solanum dulcamara 39 Woodv Niahtshade frequent: hedgerows, scrub and lochside fens with alder. Not in north Bute. Soleirolia soleirolii* 6 Mother of thousands local: naturalised on wet cliffs and walls near gardens. Sometimes abundant. Solidago virgaurea 67 Goldenrod frequent: dry, acid cliffs and rocky places, in sun or shade, occasionally in heath. Sonchus arvensis 73 Perennial Sow-thistle frequent: usually on shore or foreshore, where it may be abundant, especially on shingle. Also on waste ground near the sea, and sometimes a garden weed. Sonchus asper 108 Prickly Sow-thistle common: bare or open waste ground, pavement edges, shores and foreshores, and a weed in arable fields or gardens. Sonchus oleraceus 26 Smooth Sow-thistle occasional: usually near the sea, in walls and pavement edges or among rocks. Sorbus aria agg. 7 Common Whitebeam rare: scattered specimens in woods and, on basalt cliffs as near Loch na leighe. Status uncertain. Sorbus aucuparia 137 Rowan very common, though seldom abundant: woods, scrub and cliffs on acidic ground. Would colonise extensively on heathy moorland if not grazed off. Sorbus intermedia agg.* 3 Swedish Whitebeam rare: scattered self-sown specimens, as on cliff at St Blane's hill. Sparganium angustifolium 2 Floating Bur-reed occasional: lochs and ponds. Sparganium erectum 40 Branched Bur-reed frequent: loch and pond sides, ditches, fens and marshes where not too acid. Sparganium emersum 1 Unbranched Bur-reed

rare: in Greenan Loch, and possibly elsewhere. Sparganium natans Least Bur-reed Loch Survey 1996, Kirk Dam. 70 Spergula arvensis Corn Spurrey frequent on bare, trampled ground; an abundant weed in arable and newly seeded leys. Spergularia marina 3 Lesser Sea-spurrey much more local than S media in same habitat, notably near Rubha an amair. Spergularia media 25 Greater Sea-spurrey frequent in salt marshes. Spergularia rubra 1 Sand Spurrey very local on forestry tracks. Spiraea x pseudosalicifolia* 3 Confused Bridewort occasionally established or surviving in hedges and scrub. Stachys arvensis 5 Field Woundwort rare: a weed of farm tracks and bare field edges, locally frequent in SW Bute. Stachys palustris 100 Marsh Woundwort common: among coarse vegetation in moist places with some enrichment. Stachys sylvatica 115 Hedge Woundwort common: on moist, rich soils in woods and shady places. Stellaria alsine 145 Bog Stitchwort very common in ditches, marshes and moist ill-drained pasture. Stellaria graminea 113 Lesser Stitchwort common in rough grassy and scrubby places, often damper but less shady than favoured by S. holostea. Stellaria holostea 118 Greater Stitchwort common in drier, mildly acidic woodland, scrub and hedgebanks. Stellaria media 136 Common Chickweed common in rich neutral ground in fields, woods and as a garden weed. Stellaria neglecta 9 Greater Chickweed Locally abundant in ravine and cliff woodland in NW Bute. First found on Bute in 2009. Suaeda maritima 20 Annual Seablite local on shingly shores, often below HWM, but close to freshwater outfalls, and occasional in muddy saltmarshes. Succisa pratensis 136 Devil's bit Scabious Very common: often abundant in moist ground on heaths, moors and in acid woodland. Symphoricarpos albus* 21 Snowberry occasional: established and spreading in woodland and hedges near gardens. Symphytum officinale* 2 Common Comfrey rare: roadside verges. Symphytum tuberosum* 32 Yellow Comfrey frequent: moist shady places, often near habitation; thoroughly established. Symphytum x uplandicum* 3

Russian Comfrey occasional: roadside verges and waste ground. Tanacetum parthenium* 5 Feverfew occasionally established near gardens. Tanacetum vulgare* Tansv locally well established in rough vegetation on roadsides and foreshores. Taraxacum agg. 153 Dandelion very common: in grass on verges and banks, ruderal and as a garden weed. Also in base-rich flushes and sometimes on the shore. Few attempts have been made to determine microspecies, except T. faeroense which is common in hill flushes, and T. unquilobum and T. nordstedtii, which are frequent in richer flushed grassland. Taxus baccata* 8 Yew occasional in wild situations, as in Barmore wood, where probably bird-sown. Frequently planted in gardens and sometimes self-seeded nearby. Teesdalia nudicaulis 1 Shepherd's Cress rare: sand dunes at Scalpsie. 3 Tellima grandiflora* Fringecups Locally established by burns and ditches. Teucrium scorodonia 121 Woodsage common: on free-draining, rather acidic soils, in woods and scrub and on cliffs and rocky ground. Thalictrum minus 2 Lesser Meadow-rue Very rare: in coarse vegetation on base-rich cliffs or among rocks near S end. Thlaspi arvense 2 Pennycress Rare: arable weed from old seed-banks. Thymus polytrichus 50 Wild Thyme frequent: base-rich turf and rocks by shore and in hills; sometimes abundant, especially on trap rocks. Tilia x europaea* 31 Lime frequently planted in parkland; occasional in woodland and beside roads. Tolmiea menziesii* 7 Pick-a-back Plant occasional: naturalised by shady burnsides and ditches. Torilis japonica 29 Upright Hedge-parsley locally frequent: rough grassy vegetation on foreshores, verges and dry banks on neutral soils. Trichophorum germanicum 80 Deer-grass common: wet heaths and the drier parts of bogs. Often abundant. [This is the common taxon, formerly T. *cespitosum*] Trifolium campestre 2 Hop trefoil Very local: grassy places near sea. Ball. general, but perhaps confused with T. dubium, not on his list. Trifolium dubium 70 Lesser Yellow-trefoil common: in bare ground and short turf on roadsides, lawns and by the shore. Trifolium hybridum* 2 Alsike Clover occasional: on waste or disturbed ground. Trifolium pratense 96 Red Clover

common: grassy places with some base-richness, avoiding acid ground. Trifolium repens 153 White Clover ubiquitous in short turf where there is any element of enrichment. Trifolium striatum 1 Knotted Clover Very rare: 'Haystack' Ardscalpsie. Triglochin maritimum 60 Sea Arrow-grass frequent: in saltmarshes and damp maritime turf. Triglochin palustre 70 Marsh Arrow-grass frequent: in marshes and wet heaths flushed with base-rich water. Tripleurospermum inodorum 40 Scentless Mayweed frequent: replaces *T. maritimum* away from the shore, but grades into it. Tripleurospermum maritimum 78 Sea Mayweed common: all types of shores and foreshores, and as an arable weed in seaside fields. Trollius europaeus 1 Globe Flower Very rare; found only in Myrica/Molinia mire S of Bull loch. Tropaeolum majus* 3 Nasturtium Surviving locally near gardens. Tsuga heterophylla* 14 Western Hemlock-spruce occasionally planted for forestry or amenity: freely self-seeding and threatening to become locally invasive. Tussilago farfara 106 Coltsfoot common: waste and disturbed ground, roadsides, ditches and foreshores, where soil is somewhat enriched. Typha latifolia 33 Reedmace frequent: lochsides, ponds and fens. Occasionally planted, but mostly native. Increasing and spreading. Ulex europaeus 145 Gorse very common: forming extensive scrub on moderately acid soils despite periodic burning and grubbing out. Ulex qallii 1 Western Gorse rare: BSBI 1998, Scalpsie, and Moor Road 2009. Did not survive severe winter 2010. Status uncertain. Ulmus glabra 74 Wvch Elm frequent: ravine and fossil cliff woodland where the soil is base-rich. Sometimes in planted woodland and hedgerows. Many specimens are now diseased. Ulmus minor agg.* 2 Small-leaved elm Occasional: forming small clones. Status uncertain, probably originally planted. Umbilicus rupestris 39 Rock Pennywort frequent: on cliffy rocks and banks, often in shade, though tolerating exposure. Mainly south and west Bute. Urtica dioica 141 Common Nettle very common: woods, disturbed and neglected ground, wherever enriched. Urtica urens 1 Small Nettle very local: a weed of arable and field edges on sandy soils. Probably under-recorded. Utricularia intermedia agg. 6 Intermediate Bladderwort occasional: base-rich peaty pools and lochans. Specimens examined have all been U. stygia.

Utricularia minor 3 Lesser Bladderwort occasional: shallow peaty pools. Vaccinium myrtillus *122* Bilberry common: hills, moors and acid woodland, preferring free-draining slopes and tolerating quite heavy shade; often abundant. Vaccinium oxycoccos 10 Cranberry occasional: sphagnum bogs in N Bute and on Scoulag moor. Vaccinium vitis-idaea 4 Cowberry rare: Scoulag moor, and on northern hills. First records since 1768. Valeriana officinalis 80 Common Valerian frequent: in moist ground and marshes and by burns where not too acidic. Valeriana pyrenaica* 3 Pyrenean Valerian very local: well naturalised in shade at Millbank, and occasionally elsewhere. Valerianella locusta 8 Cornsalad occasional: on thin, dry, sandy soil, usually near the sea and especially on fossil cliffs. Verbascum thapsus 7 Great Mullein rare: basalt cliffs, S end of Bute (native). Also a rare casual in neglected flower beds and waste ground. Veronica agrestis 7 Green Field-speedwell occasional: an arable and garden weed, less common than V. persica. Veronica anagallis-aquatica 3 Blue Water-speedwell local: base rich marshes and fens on raised beaches. Flowers often pale mauve, suggesting V. catenata, but fruit shape indicates this sp. Veronica arvensis 75 Wall Speedwell frequent: walls, pavement edges and bare ground; also a garden weed. Veronica beccabunga 82 Brooklime common: shallow flowing water and wet mud in ditches, rivulets and trampled marshy areas where somewhat enriched. Veronica chamaedrys 136 Germander Speedwell very common: free-draining shady banks in woodland and hedgerow, on neutral to mildly acid soils. Veronica filiformis* 27 Slender Speedwell frequent: in short turf on lawns and roadsides. Thoroughly established. Veronica hederifolia 3 Ivy-leaved Speedwell rare: grassy banks in Rothesay area and woodland at Kilmory. Ball. general. Veronica montana 14 Wood Speedwell locally abundant in moist, slightly acidic woodland, as at Mountstuart. Veronica officinalis 62 Heath Speedwell frequent: in well drained moderately acid grassland with some base-richness. Veronica persica 20 Common Field-speedwell frequent: an arable and garden weed, occasionally on waste ground. Veronica scutellata 38 Marsh Speedwell

frequent: in acid marshes; rather local but sometimes fairly abundant.
Veronica serpyllifolia 128
<i>Thyme-leaved Speedwell</i> common: moist bare ground or short turf in fields, roads, path-sides, gardens; favouring neutral to mildly acid soil
with some enrichment.
Vicia cracca 104
<i>Tufted Vetch</i> common: hedges, scrub and rough vegetation, marshes and salt marshes.
Vicia hirsuta 3
Hairy Tare
rare: in a natural scree habitat near Hawk's Nib. Also casual in disturbed, weedy ground in Rothesay. <i>Vicia lathyroides 3</i>
Spring Vetch
rare: in short dry turf over basalt near sea. Some past records may refer only to a depauperate form of <i>V. sativa nigra.</i>
Vicia sativa ssp nigra 31
Common Vetch
frequent: grassy verges, banks and bare ground, especially on sandy soil. <i>Vicia sepium</i> 93
Vicia sepium 93 Bush Vetch
common: hedgerows and coarse bushy places.
Vinca major* 2
Greater Periwinkle
occasionally established in hedge-banks near habitation. <i>Vinca minor*</i> 1
Lesser Periwinkle
Established locally in Bogany wood.
Viola arvensis 4
Field Pansy occasional: an arable weed.
Viola palustris 104
Marsh Violet
common: bogs and marshes, hill turf flushed with acid water, and under birch, willow and <i>Myrica</i> scrub. <i>Viola riviniana</i> 148
Common Dog-violet
very common: well drained banks, preferring light shade, also in hill turf, on crag ledges and among shore rocks.
Vulpia bromoides 15
SquirreItail Fescue occasional: dry banks of thin turf and bare, impoverished soil.
occasional. ary barnes of thirt turn and bare, impovenence soll.

Grid references of sites mentioned in text

All references begin with the letters NS unless specified otherwise

080668	Creag crosgach	005731
067576	Dhu loch	0661
0364	Dunstrone	080548
0457	Ettrick bay	0366
1063	Glencallum bay	111527
0274	Greenan loch	0664
0761	Hawk's Nib	113534
1065	Haystack (Scalpsie)	050581
118577	Kames Castle	063675
009731	Kelspoke	105544
065580	Kerrycroy	108613
050639	Kilbride hill	030695
050639	Kilbride hill	030695
087528	Kilchattan bay	1055
112536	Kilchattan 'wee bay'	099558
	067576 0364 0457 1063 0274 0761 1065 118577 009731 065580 050639 087528	067576 Dhu loch 0364 Dunstrone 0457 Ettrick bay 1063 Glencallum bay 0274 Greenan loch 0761 Hawk's Nib 1065 Haystack (Scalpsie) 118577 Kames Castle 009731 Kelspoke 065580 Kerrycroy 050639 Kilbride hill 087528 Kilchattan bay

Kilmichael Kilmory shore Kingarth Kirk dam Kyles Hydro Lechtan Lenihuline Little Kilchattan Loch Ascog Loch Fad Loch na leighe Millbank Mountstuart Mountstuart reservoir New Farm

NR993708

One Man's Grave Port Ioddan	053672 041587
Ouien loch	041507
Red loch (not on OS map)	004719
Rubha an amair	032619
Scalpsie	0558
Scoulag point	112602
Shalunt (forest track)	041711
St Blane's church	095533
St Blane's hill	096526
St Ninian's bay	0361
Stravanan bay	076562
White port	110543

Species recorded as casuals in recent years, but which did not persist:

Amaranthus hybridus Pigweed demolition site, Rothesay, 2007. Anthemis arvensis Wild Chamomile disturbed ground in Rothesay 2002. Avena fatua Wild Oat Rare arable weed. Formerly common. Avena sativa Oat Occasional round field edges, etc. Now little grown. Chenopodium polyspermum Many-seeded Goosefoot demolition site in Rothesay 2007. Cichorium intybus Chicory verge, Eastlands road, 2010. Cortaderia selloana Pampas-grass garden throw-out at Rothesay coup. Diplotaxis tenuifolia Perennial Wall-rocket Kilchattan 'wee bay', 2004. Dipsacus fullonem Wild Teasel Rothesay coup. Galium mollugo Hedge Bedstraw roadside by Beaver Lodge. BSBI 1998, St. Ninian's Bay. Kniphofia uvaria Red-hot-poker dunes at Kilchattan bay. *Lamium album White Deadnettle* Dickson 1983, Kames Castle. Lupinus arboreus Tree Lupin Field margin, Upper Ettrick, 2007. **Lvcopersicon esculentum** Tomato Shorelines, fruiting in warm summers. Matricaria recutita Scented Mayweed BSBI 2003, Bogany point. Mentha requienii* Corsican Mint Dickson 1982: on gravel paths at Mountstuart. **Oenothera agg.** Evening Primrose

BSBI 1998, Loch Ascog. Garden weed at Mountstuart 2012.

Oxalis articulata Pink-sorrel St Blane's Church, BSBI 1998.

Oxalis debilis Large Pink-flowered Sorrel garden weed at Cnoc an Rath, 2012.

Peucedanum ostruthium Masterwort very locally established near houses.

Raphanus raphanistrum Wild Radish Church 1988, Kilchattan.

Reseda luteola Weld on demolition site in Rothesay 2007.

Sanguisorba minor Salad Burnet Disturbed ground, Bogany point 2004.

Sedum rosea Roseroot Dickson 1982, Lenihuline shore.

Solanum tuberosum Potato throw-out or crop survival.

Tragopogon pratensis Goatsbeard near cottages at Kilchattan 'Wee Bay'.

Trifolium micranthum Least Yellow-trefoil In newly reseeded grass, Craigmore 2003 (MEB).

Triticum turgidum Rivet Wheat Glenmore, from pheasant feed.

Ulex minor Dwarf Gorse beside forest track above Shalunt. Probably accidentally imported.

Veronica peregrina American Speedwell Dickson 1981, Kames walled garden.

Vicia tetrasperma Smooth Tare disturbed, weedy ground in Rothesay, 2002.

Species recorded by Ballantyne but not seen for many years and presumed extinct, though still worth searching for:

Arabis hirsuta Hairy Rock-cress Berberis vulgaris Barberry Borago officinalis Borage Botrychium lunaria Brassica rapa Chelidonium majus Filago vulgaris Galium uliginosum Gnaphalium sylvaticum Heath Cudweed Helianthemum nummularium Rock-rose Isoetes lacustris Quillwort Knautia arvensis Linarea repens

Moonwort Wild Turnip Greater Celandine Common Cudweed Fen Bedstraw Field Scabious Pale Toadflax

Malva sylvestris Common Mallow Origanum vulgare Marjoram Papaver argemone Prickly Poppy Plantago media Hoary Plantain Pseudorchis albida Small-white Orchid Ranunculus trichophyllus Thread-leaved Water-crowfoot Rhynchospora alba White beak-Sedge Ruppia maritima Beaked Tasselweed Salsola kali Saltwort Trifolium medium Zigzag Clover Viola tricolor Wild Pansy Zostera marina agg. Eelgrass