

July Report Wild Flower Group

The planned walk for Smardale Gill has been rescheduled for August due to the leader having covid.

10 of us met at Widdybank Gate on 27th July. We were thrilled to see down by the beck a few Grass of Parnassus, a most beautiful white flower with green-veined petals. Other delights were sneezewort, lousewort, several fragrant orchids (very fragrant!), rock rose, mountain pansy, yellow musk (aka monkey flower), great burnet and several zigzag clovers.

Our total, counted up over welcome refreshments at Bowlees Visitor Centre, was 63 – a record our leader told us. I am always amazed at the number of different flowers we see even as late in the season as this. However, it is not the numbers that count but the enjoyment we all had just wandering slowly along spotting the flowers and trying to identify them. We only walked down the road and track to the farm by the ford and back along the road – but it was all a delight.

Ruth Stables

The next group walks are

Wednesday 10 August Smardale Gill, Kirby Stephen

Tuesday 23 August Bowlees Visitor Centre

For more details contact Kate Keen