

## Forum report Wild Flower Group July 23

U3a Wildflower walk at Hayberries Nature Reserve on July 5<sup>th</sup> 2023

Sixteen of us enjoyed a leisurely walk around the Hayberries Nature Reserve. Many of the flowers were more stunted than in previous years, probably due to the hot dry weather we've had recently. However we did find 58 different flowers in all. We were delighted to find two fairly rare bee orchids.

Susan Barnes

Wildflower walk Bishop Middleham Quarry Nature Reserve 20<sup>th</sup> July 23

"After a postponement of a couple of days because of an appalling weather forecast (which proved correct) 6 intrepid souls journeyed to Bishop Middleham Quarry on 20th July. It still rained but not too much and we experienced a veritable feast of flowers. It was just fantastic - nearly 60 species - and the highlights were the dark red helleborines - the specialty of this quarry. They were everywhere. Other special joys were the hoary plantains, rest harrow in profusion, carline thistles, yellowwort, hop trefoil, three kinds of orchid plus twayblades, greater knapweed, wether thistle, and a completely new species for me - peach-leaved bellflower. We were there 3 hours! - and resolved to return next year too!"

Ruth Stables