

Foxglove

It's thought the 'glove' part of the name is simply due to the flowers looking like glove fingers. Less certain is the connection to foxes. One theory is that people believed foxes wore the flowers on their paws to silence their movements when hunting.

As a plant that is poisonous but also has curative properties, it's said that foxgloves can both 'raise the dead and kill the living'.



Wood Anemone

Wood anemones are a straggly, hairy plant that has downy, three-lobed leaves with toothed edge, and yellow flowers with five petals. It's thought that the common name 'herb bennet' arose from the medieval Latin meaning 'the blessed herb' because the plant was widely used in herbal medicine.



Common Bistort

In bloom from June to August, this pretty flower goes by a different name in the north of England: 'Pudding Dock' (or sometimes 'Passion Dock') because it was commonly used to create a pudding around Easter. Nowadays, many local places have their own take on the basic recipe of Common bistort leaves, nettles, onions, oatmeal and bacon fat.

Wildflowers in All Saints Halifax Churchyard



ALL SAINTS

Have you found something not in the guide?

Let us know so we can include it next year

admin@allsaitshalifax.org.uk





We hope you enjoy searching for wildflowers in the churchyard. You won't find all of them at one time, they flower at different times of the year, but enjoy searching for them on your visits.



Please be careful, the ground can be uneven in places, and some wildflowers are poisonous.



Wildflowers are important sources of food and habitat for many animals and insects, so please don't pick them, and leave them for others to enjoy.

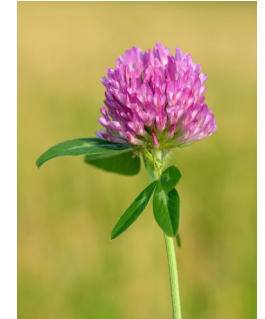


If you have found 10 different flowers, pop into the church office for a sticker!



Welsh Poppy

The Welsh poppy has four, overlapping, yellow petals on a thin, green stem.



Red Clover

A very common plant, the chemicals in it are used for all kinds of medicine. It has been used in medicine for treating whooping cough, cancer and skin conditions.



Rose bay willow herb

Rosebay willowherb is able to colonise new areas because of its specially adapted seeds - fitted with tiny, cottony 'parachutes' they are able to disperse across long distances on the slightest breeze.

Each plant can produce up to 80,000 seeds and the heat from fires and bonfires can help to germinate them, hence another common name of 'Fireweed'.

Mallow

The French word for mallow is 'mauve', which is where we get the word for the colour mauve from. The Romans are thought to have grown this as an edible plant





Self heal

As its common name suggests, selfheal has a long tradition of being used in herbal medicine for everything from stopping bleeding and healing wounds, to treating heart disease and sore throats.

Fox and cubs

The name of 'Fox-and-Cubs' refers to the way that many of the as-yet un-opened flower heads hide beneath those that have opened.



Red Campion

Red campion's genus name, *Silene*, probably derives from the Greek word 'sialon', which means saliva, in reference to the gummy substance the plant secretes on the stems. Folklore tells that red campion flowers guard bees' honey stores.

Buttercup

Buttercups can become common in grazed pastures because they are poisonous to grazing animals, so are avoided; they have a chemical called protoanemonin in their sap.



Bramble

Where our blackberries begin! Bramble flowers are a food source for honey bees and bumblebees and other wild animals. Leaves are eaten by certain caterpillars as well as some grazing mammals, especially deer. Ripe berries are eaten and their seeds dispersed by several mammals such as fox and badger, and small birds.



Snowdrops

Our earliest flower in the churchyard. Stronger than they look, they can poke their head through the snow.



Daffodil

Although not a native flower, one that has become naturalised all through the churchyard. They were first brought to Britain by the Romans.

Violet

There are lots of types of violets, most of the ones here are dog violets. Violets were used in herbal medicine to treat things like headaches, and insomnia.

They have been used to make perfume throughout history, dating back to Classical Greece. They were also used to create early household deodorants in medieval Britain.



Bluebell

A big sign that spring is in full swing. Woodland butterflies, bees and hoverflies all feed on their nectar. Bees can 'steal' the nectar from bluebells by biting a hole in the bottom of the flower, reaching the nectar without the need to pollinate the flower.

Dandelion

An important early source of nectar. The common dandelion is the subject of many myths and games, one of which suggests that if you pick it, or even just touch it, you will wet the bed - an idea that forms many of the local common names, including 'Wet-the-bed' and 'Tiddle-beds'.



Vetch

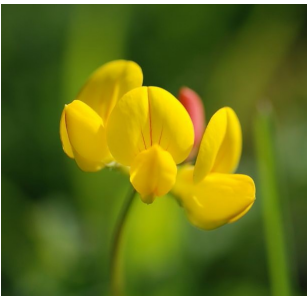
Part of the pea family. It can make it's own nitrates, which makes it useful for making the soil fertile. It is often grown on grazing land to feed livestock.



Cuckoo flower

Commonly known as lady's smock. It's appearance was thought to signal when cuckoos had arrived.

It's an important flower for the orange tipped butterfly.



Bird's foot-trefoil

Sometimes called Granny's toenails due to its seeds. It also gets called butter and eggs due to it's bright yellow flowers with red tips.



Forget me not

With 5 tiny bright blue petals and a yellow centre, it's hard to miss when you spot it.



Red deadnettle

This is a nettle that doesn't sting!
Lots of different species of long-tongued insects visit the flowers of red dead-nettle, including the red mason bee and bumblebees. The caterpillars of garden tiger, white ermine and angle shades moths feed on the leaves.

White dead nettle

Just like the red, this doesn't sting, and is an important food source for lots of caterpillars and insects



Tufted Vetch

A member of the pea family. It has curly tendrils which help it climb and scramble

Toadflax

The wilder cousin of snapdragons that you might find in your garden. Toadflax is really important to buff-tailed and white-tailed bumblebees, Common carder bees, honeybees and a variety of fly species.



Daisy

Maybe the first wildflower we learn to spot! Have you ever played the game, he/she loves me, he/she loves me not with its petals?