

Shamley Green Environment Group

New Year Plant Hunt

Every year for a few days around New Year the Botanical Society of Britain and Ireland runs a nationwide New Year Plant Hunt (NYPH), where people all round the country go on a walk of no more than 3 hours and make a note of any wild plants they see with flowers on. A surprising number of plants carry on flowering long after their normal season if the autumn is mild, which for the last few years it has been. But even this winter, having had a bitterly cold start to December, we still found 13 species gaily flowering in Shamley Green!

When all the results from thousands of observations are put together, a valuable picture emerges of how our wild plants are responding to changing autumn and winter weather patterns. Anyone can join in the plant hunt, and using the NYPH app on a smart phone it's easy to send your observations as photos, or just jot them down in a notebook and enter them on the NYPH website when you get home.



Storksbill in the fields on Plonks Hill

Go to www.shamleygreenenvironment.co.uk/wildflowerdiary to see what we found and where we found it on our hunt on January 2nd, and for the results for the whole of the UK see <https://nyph.bsbi.org/results.php> .

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