

Scourie re-visited

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On the evening of 8th June 2006 there was a discreet celebration in the back bar of the Scourie Hotel. It marked the publication of *Wildlife of Scourie*, copies of which, fresh from the printer, were distributed, with a modest amount of mutual congratulation. The 78 page book was the result of some 16 months work by six 'local' members of the Scourie Wildlife Group, with a lot of help from others. 2005 had been taken up with organising events, writing them up for a series of illustrated articles in the *Northern Times*, fieldwork and collating information from a variety of sources. There followed some more concentrated effort in the first four months of 2006, drafting chapters, obtaining further illustrations and getting the text into a fit state for the printer.

The whole exercise left me with mixed feelings. It was fun to be part of the group working on the project, some old friends, some new, and good to achieve what we did, in a relatively short time. As a roving field naturalist, I also enjoyed the excuse to focus my attention on an attractive four-square-kilometre patch of the West Sutherland coast, with which I previously had had only a passing acquaintance. But it was also frustrating to realise how much more there was to learn about even such a small area, if only we had the time and expertise.

This article details some of what we have learned since. It takes the form of a diary, since much of the fieldwork was opportunistic, and the results do not fit neatly into the chapter headings that were used in the book. In an age of ready access to information and its rapid promulgation by electronic means, it also emphasizes the human element in its acquisition.

The first item is from the archives. Mentioned in the book, without comment, was the occurrence near Scourie Cemetery of the **brown-lipped snail** *Cepaea nemoralis*, a species otherwise very thin on the ground in northern Scotland. Kerney (1999) maps it from NC14, which includes Scourie, and also from the vicinity of Durness in NC36.

I had written to Michael Kerney in 1998 and in his reply he mentioned that there was a curious story behind the Scourie record: 'In 1994 a visiting French student, Nicole Limoudin, found *C. nemoralis* living in the dunes just behind the old graveyard at Scourie. This was entirely new for v.c.108, West Sutherland, and having seen the specimens I duly published the site in my annual Recorder's Report in the Journal of Conchology. Then, a few years later, a well-known malacologist confessed – to my great annoyance – that he planted the colony at Scourie using (I think) English material! This was in the 1980s. Last year [1997] Tom Huxley...visited Handa Island and discovered *C. nemoralis* there. What is one to make of this? Has *C. nemoralis* somehow recently colonised Handa from the planted site at Scourie? Or is its presence there a pure coincidence? It all shows how dangerous introductions can be in muddling the evidence.'

We had seen the snail on Handa in May 1998, found it again in gardens at Balnakeil in September 1998 and, to further complicate the picture, discovered that both species of *Cepaea* were abundant on the dune systems at Oldshoremore in June 1999. Unscramble that, if you can! Since most of the Handa traffic is from Tarbet, a little to the north of Scourie, that would be a good place to look for *C. nemoralis*.

The next two contributions are products of the 2005 fieldwork that took a little while to process (because I sat on them!). On 19th August Pat and I had found, in loose 'soil' that had been tipped along the top of new sea defences behind Scourie Beach, a yellow-flowered crucifer that was unfamiliar to us (as are most such, nowadays). One leaf and a small sprig of flowers and fruits were collected (sheep had had most of the plant), closely examined and pressed. A tentative identification was **creeping yellow-cress** *Rorippa sylvestris*, a plant of damp places and disturbed ground that is rare in the north of Scotland. A detailed description were sent to the BSBI referee for the group, Tim Rich, and he was able to confirm its identity. The only other record from West Sutherland is from the edge of an area planted with willows at Duartbeg, not far away, where it was found by the late Dr Ian Pennie in 1998.

On the same day I had collected a few **ants** from a nest under debris on a storm beach on Rubha Shios west of the village. I later passed them to Murdo Macdonald, who identified them as *Myrmica ruginodis*, 'the commonest of the red ants, ubiquitous and frequently found nesting under stones' (Macdonald, 2007). Having recently acquired the excellent new key to the group in the *Naturalists' Handbooks* series (Skinner and Allen, 1996), I am now able to identify most of my own finds in this group, saving Murdo's expert attention for the tricky ones. Murdo tells me that there is an old record (1949) for the small ant *Tetramorium cespitum* in the Scourie area, one of only two from Highland, but it has not been seen at either locality for nearly 50 years.

While preparation of the text for the book was under way in January 2006, I squeezed in a few days fieldwork, mainly collecting lichen samples to be sent away for identification. Not a very productive time of year for flowering plants, but on 28th I was able to recognise the over-wintering shoots of one species missing from the list for the tetrad, **thyme-leaved speedwell** *Veronica serpyllifolia*, on a heathy crag east of the village; it appears to be curiously uncommon around Scourie. Close familiarity with the flora of a relatively small area has its bonuses; the down-side is when you go on holiday somewhere else!

The first substantial additions to the tally for Scourie resulted from a visit, on 9th May 2006, by Anthony Fletcher, an experienced lichenologist, and old friend, from Leicestershire, who had identified the samples collected by me earlier in the year. He looked at the **lichen** flora of two main sites, the grounds of Scourie Lodge and the Cemetery, and the results of his survey are summarised in Table 1.

Scourie Lodge, on the south side of the harbour, was built about 1835 and was the home 1845-1895 of the local factor to the Duke of Sutherland, Evander MacIver; some of the plantings around the house may date back to this period. There is a good variety of trees, including well-grown ash, beech, larch, sycamore and wych elm and, in a walled section of the garden, old apple trees and the northernmost palm trees on the west coast (probably cabbage trees *Cordyline australis*). Tony commented that, despite this variety, the lichen list (62 taxa) was not especially rich. A selection of the *Lobarion* community was found, but only a small number of rarer crustose lichens. Predominant were lichens preferring twigs and high light levels, the site being south-facing, open, and exposed to the prevailing south-westerlies. The lichen flora of native hazel woodland in more sheltered sites elsewhere on the west coast of Sutherland (e.g. Loch a'Mhuilinn NNR, just south of

Scourie) can be much richer. However, it seems unlikely that the lichen flora of palm trees is often recorded.

Many of the crustose twig species, such as *Lecidella elaeochroma*, had poorly developed thalli, the lichens often being visible only as fertile apothecia. This phenomenon is also frequent in *Cladonia* in western Scotland and has been attributed to low nutrient levels in rainfall. The species present also tended to be the same on all trees, regardless of bark acidity. Relatively few species typical of acid bark were found and wind-borne salt-water spray may neutralise the bark of all the trees.

The Cemetery is situated in a fairly exposed situation above a low cliff on the south-east side of Scourie Bay. There is a mortared wall about 1.5m tall around it, composed of a mixture of local stone, some Torridonian and some Lewisian gneiss. The earliest gravestones date back to the 18th century and appear to be mainly gneiss; many of the later ones are of imported sandstone, possibly from Caithness, or even more exotic materials, such as Indian granite.

The list from the cemetery (58 taxa) included many common species, and it was noticeable that the mortared boundary wall harboured a richer flora than the gravestones themselves. However, one of the gravestones did provide a very considerable surprise. On the vertical surface of a late 19th century memorial there was a dark-brown encrusting thallus with red fruiting bodies. A tiny fragment was collected and microscopical examination later showed this to be a species, *Acarospora verruciformis*, found only once before in the British Isles, in North Yorkshire in the early 1900's. All other recorded occurrences, on serpentine rocks in Cornwall, for example, appear to be of a distantly related species, which is as yet un-named.

Bonuses from that day's fieldwork included first records for the area of three higher plants. A patch of **wood horsetail** *Equisetum sylvaticum* was found in swampy ground alongside some alder stools in the grounds of Scourie Lodge, and not far away there were **bluebells** *Hyacinthoides non-scriptus* in flower. The latter is not uncommon on sheltered cliffs along the coast of West Sutherland, but had previously evaded us at Scourie. The third species was **spring whitlow-grass** *Erophila verna* ssp. *verna*, a tiny, white-flowered annual crucifer, which covered the gravel path down the centre of the cemetery. One corner of the cemetery was carpeted with primroses. **Red admiral** butterflies were noted at both localities, suggesting that they may have successfully overwintered in the neighbourhood.

I was back in the village on 31st May. The 'top-soiled' bank along Scourie Beach had sported yet another unfamiliar yellow-flowered crucifer, later identified as **medium-flowered winter-cress** *Barbarea intermedia*, another plant of disturbed ground, rare in northern Scotland and new to West Sutherland. The walled garden of the Hotel provided a couple of additional records, **spreading meadow-grass** *Poa humilis* on the top of the walls, a characteristic habitat, and **common fumitory** *Fumaria officinalis* in flower-beds, a member of a large genus found in cultivated and waste ground, whose identification involves the careful measurement of both flowers and mature fruits.

Elsewhere in the village, broken shells around a thrush's anvil at one end on the back road provided evidence of the colonising abilities of the **snail** *Cepaea nemoralis*, however it arrived in Scourie. A plant of creeping thistle

blighted by the **rust** *Puccinia punctiformis* added a new fungus, and in the playing-field car-park, I finally located a creeping mat of **New Zealand willow-herb** *Epilobium brunnescens*, which, despite its origins, is surprisingly widespread in West Sutherland, ascending high into the hills.

On 10th June, a flying visit on our way north yielded another new plant from the beach bank, **red campion** *Silene dioica*, and the adjacent cemetery had a good spread of the deep purplish-red flowers of **northern marsh-orchid** *Dactylorhiza purpurella*. An e-mail from Andy Summers, the Assynt-based Highland Council Ranger, told me there had been a report of a **snowy owl** on 20th June just to the north of Scourie; whether it had actually passed over the village is a moot point.

I had a splendid day on 7th July exploring ground new to me on the north side of Scourie Bay, working parallel to the shore line until I reached the exit burn from a large lochan, up to the lochan, out onto the top of the cliffs above Creag a'Mhail, back across a boggy plateau, and then dropping down some scrub-covered south-facing crags above the fields of Scouriebeag. The geological map shows one or more basic dykes cutting through the Lewisian gneiss in this area, so there was the likelihood of some variety in the flora. The main objective was to try to fill some remaining gaps on the master card for flowering plants and ferns, but the glorious weather, warm with a slight breeze, also made me hopeful of some insect records. In the event, the day surpassed all my expectations.

A selection of the new plant records gives some idea of the variety of habitats represented in this relatively small area: the tiny **changing forget-me-not** *Myosotis discolor*, in a field gateway; the deep blue flowers of **common milkwort** *Polygala vulgaris*, an indicator of base-richness, in thyme-rich cliff grassland; a mat of **greater wood-rush** *Luzula sylvatica* with waving stems of **honeysuckle** *Lonicera periclymenum*, on a tiny but inaccessible island in the lochan, neither uncommon, but seen nowhere else in the vicinity of Scourie; the white-starred rosettes of **heath pearlwort** *Sagina subulata* on a stony ledge; the daintiest of the bladderworts *Utricularia minor* in a bog pool, not flowering of course (it rarely does); a large bush of **soft downy-rose** *Rosa mollis*, smothered with deep pink flowers, in a particularly inaccessible area of scree (identified by Pat), and finally, **pill sedge** *Carex pilulifera* on the rocky face of a basic dyke. None of the species mentioned are great rarities, but in all the day added 16 species to the list for the well-worked tetrad NC 14M. The total number of species recorded recently from this tetrad is just 300, more than any in our *Flora of Assynt*, and there are historic records for a further ten, some of which may be re-discovered.

The animal life recorded was a delightful bonus, and filled some very obvious gaps in the invertebrate section of the book. Delivering some copies to Scourie Lodge, I noticed a cache of the large shells of the **garden snail** *Helix aspersa* in a corner of their garden. This species, although almost ubiquitous in England, is rare and strictly coastal in the north of Scotland. Coarse grassland alongside a burn provided the first record of a grasshopper from the area, one of many colour morphs of the **meadow grasshopper** *Chorthippus parallelus*, the only widespread species in the north-west. The course of the burn and the lochan which it drained sported **common blue damselflies** *Enallagma cyathigerum*; one had fallen victim to the sticky leaves of long-leaved sundew *Drosera anglica*. A fine **golden-**

ringed dragonfly *Cordulegaster boltonii* was hawking along the edge of a flush, and not far away there were three or more **four-spotted chasers** *Libellula quadrimaculata* over a tiny bog pool. A **common red damselfly** *Pyrrhosoma nymphula* was seen on the bog pool that yielded the bladderwort, and there were further examples of the two damselflies, with a **Highland darter** *Sympetrum nigrescens*, at the edge of a second lochan.

Other insect orders were represented by some fairly persistent **horseflies**, of which I collected a sample from my bare arms for Philip Entwistle; he later identified them as two female **green-eyed thunder-flies**, *Chrysops relictus*, and two female clegs *Haematopota pluvialis*. Both species are widespread, but the *C. relictus* appear to be the northernmost recorded so far in Scotland (Entwistle, 2005 and 2006).

Vertebrates were represented by **frog** tadpoles (verified from their tooth-row pattern) and **palmate newts** in the larger lochan, a female **common lizard** that dived into a tiny peaty burn to escape my attentions and the droppings of **red grouse**. **Field vole** signs were found under heather at the edge of the lochan, where there were also **otter** spraints on a small rock.

However, it was the wealth of butterflies that really made the day, the more so since the list from Scourie had been very sparse. The first to appear, flying over cliff grassland, was a **common blue**, with a **meadow brown** not far away. More meadow browns and a **dark-green fritillary** were seen over some old lazy-beds behind a bay; the latter was a male, brilliant orange chequered with black. At the foot of the burn I had a good view of a **small heath**, usually a coastal species this far north (although also found on the inland limestone). On the cliff-top heath I was able to get really close to a **grayling**, sunning itself on the tilt, in typical manner, and not far away saw a **small pearl-bordered fritillary**, presumably on the move, since the exposed habitat did not look at all ideal for this species.

Further inland I saw my first **large heath** over a mire dominated by common cotton-grass *Eriophorum angustifolium*, one of its larval food plants, with another not far away on the edge of a smaller lochan, accompanied by a common blue; the latter must also have been moving through. Several more large heaths were seen over a wide area of mires and small pools on the plateau, one pair mating. As I dropped down the well-vegetated, south-facing scree above the Scouriebeag fields, I finished with a flurry of butterflies – small pearl-bordered and dark-green fritillaries, common blues, meadow browns and one **green-veined white**, bringing the final tally to eight species, a very respectable total for a day on the west coast.

Our attention for much of the rest of 2006 was concentrated elsewhere in West Sutherland, but we did gather a few more new records for Scourie. On 9th September a quick look at yet more tipped top-soil, near a new housing development, yielded another 'weed', **wild radish** *Raphanus raphanistrum*. Like many other plants of cultivated or waste ground, this species is now very rarely recorded in the north-west; in fact the *Atlas* shows no records for West Sutherland post-1970. There aren't even many recent records from around the Moray Firth, an area that is still quite productive of 'weeds'. It is possible that the source of seed was the vehicle that moved the topsoil, but where did it pick it up?

The Scourie book contains a few records of **fungi** by John Blunt, all that he had recorded at the time. They

were included to represent this large kingdom, whose importance to the rest of the living world is becoming ever more apparent. He paid a couple of further visits to the area during 2006 and the results are listed below. His main interest is the ascomycetes, many of which are tiny species occurring on decaying plant material and dung, and those listed are mainly from this group, with just a few basidiomycetes.

The following were collected and identified by him on 6th July:

<i>Ascomycetes</i>	
<i>Chaetomium globosum</i>	dead grass stem, beach area
<i>Crocicreas cyathoideum</i>	dead thistle stem, beach area
<i>Crocicreas starbaeckii</i>	dead grass stem, beach area
<i>Dasyscyphus carneolus</i>	dead grass stem, beach area
<i>Dasyscyphus pygmaeus</i>	herbaceous stem, back road
<i>Dasyscyphus rhodoleucus</i>	grass stem, back road
<i>Dasyscyphus tenuissimus</i>	grass stem, back road
<i>Hymenoscyphus robustior</i>	herbaceous stem, beach area
<i>Lachnella alboviolascens</i>	dead horsetail stem, beach area
<i>Mollisia palustris</i>	stem of <i>Phragmites</i> , back road
<i>Myriosclerotinia curreyana</i>	rush stem, beach area
<i>Pirotaea inopinata</i>	herbaceous stem, back road
<i>Pleospora vagans</i>	stem of <i>Phragmites</i> , back road
Basidiomycetes	
<i>Mycena bulbosa</i>	dead rush stem, beach area
Nettle rust <i>Puccinia urticata</i>	stinging nettle, beach area
<i>Typhula micans</i>	on thistle stem, back road
One basidiomycete was recorded on 29 th July:	
<i>Panaeolus foenisecii</i>	grassland
Further records, made on 5 th October, were:	
<i>Ascomycetes</i>	
<i>Dasyscyphus sulphureus</i>	stem of stinging nettle, pier area
<i>Hymenoscyphus vitigenus</i>	very old bramble stem, pier area
<i>Pleospora herbarum</i>	thistle, near Cemetery
Basidiomycetes	
<i>Ceratellopsis aculeata</i>	dead rush stem, pier area
<i>Clavaria acuta</i>	grassland, near Cemetery
<i>Exidia nucleata</i>	willow wood, pier area
<i>Hygrocybe radiata</i>	grassland, near Cemetery
<i>Panaeolus speciosus</i>	dung, near Cemetery
Rust <i>Triphragmium ulmaria</i>	meadowsweet, pier area

The record of *Ceratellopsis aculeata* is of particular interest, since its tiny cylindrical fruiting bodies (0.5-2.0 x 0.05-0.1 mm) have only previously been found 'on the decaying culms of **great fen-sedge** *Cladium mariscus*,

in Cambridgeshire and East Norfolk (Legon and Henrici, 2005)! John's record is from a different host and represents a huge extension of the known range of the species. It may be relevant that *Cladium* occurs in two places just to the north of Scourie, the northernmost localities on the west coast.

On 28th October, Pat and I were asked to check out some 'giant rushes' in shallow pools on a headland just south of Scourie, Rubh Aird an t-Sionnaich. Our route took us from beside the Primary School, along the edge of the bay, Camas an Tairidh, and then up onto the headland itself (all in NC1443). Although, technically, just outside the tetrad (NC14M) on which we had concentrated for the original study of Scourie, it is certainly within the crofting township and gives some idea of the further potential of the area. Much of our route was across well-grazed grassland and we were impressed by the range of colours shown by waxcaps and other fungi present. A selection of fruiting bodies was collected and John Blunt later identified the following seven species of waxcap: *Hygrocybe coccinea*, *H. persistans*, *H. pratensis*, *H. psittacina*, *H. punicea*, *H. quieta*, *H. reidii*; together with an uncommon grassland species *Rhodocybe popinalis*, which is usually found on sand-dunes (according to Phillips, 2006) and the 'scarlet caterpillar fungus' *Cordyceps militaris*. Seven species of waxcaps from casual collecting, in just over an hour, suggests that the area has considerable merit as 'unimproved' grassland.

The 'giant rushes' proved to be the tallest stems of bulrush *Schoenoplectus lacustris* we have ever seen, at well over 2m, in one of three shallow pools running to the edge of a high cliff. The pools are sheltered from south-westerly gales and their rich flora also includes common spike-rush *Eleocharis palustris*, floating club-rush *Eleogiton fluitans*, broad-leaved and bog pondweeds *Potamogeton natans* and *P. polygonifolius* and white water-lily *Nymphaea alba*. They are obviously well-used by otters, and the grassy 'summit' west of the pools had further otter 'tumps' and one of those curious cliff-top vole colonies we get along west and north coasts, with burrows running off shallow gulleys in the closely-grazed turf.

The first observations in Scourie during 2007 were of three more fungi. I stopped off at the Hotel on my way north on 10th February and out of curiosity collected some ash and sycamore keys from beneath trees in the grounds. Black spots on the ash keys were identified by John Blunt as two 'coelomycetes' specific to this microhabitat: *Phomopsis pterophila*, which occurs on the thick part of the keys investing the seeds, and *Phoma samararum*, which is found on the wings; there's specialisation for you! Other black spots on the sycamore keys were an ascomycete *Gnomonia setacea*; this is much less fussy, being found on a variety of broad-leaved trees, notably birch. 'Coelomycetes', incidentally, are one of two major 'artificial' categories of fungi, presumed to be asexually-reproducing stages (anamorphs) in the life cycle of others, mainly ascomycetes, but which have not yet had their sexually-reproducing partners (teleomorphs) determined.

Some common flowering plants are under-recorded in the far north-west because certain identification relies on flowering parts that are usually well over by the time we hit the hills, in early June. An example is **field wood-rush** *Luzula campestris*, otherwise known as Good Friday Grass, which was not added to the Scourie list until a visit on 20th April. The main purpose of the visit

was to discuss grazing regimes, but I was able to collect a small sample of the wood-rush, measure the relative lengths of anthers and filaments and confirm its identity.

The rest of 2007 was quiet, at least so far as records from Scourie were concerned. However a chat in July with a local resident, Dr Lawrence Lambert, yielded a digital photograph of two **shrews** caught by his cats the previous year, one certainly a common shrew, the other probably a pygmy shrew, together with a deep-frozen specimen caught in May 2007, which was definitely the latter species. These two widespread small mammals can be tricky to identify at certain times of year, unless you can measure them and take a good look at their tooth patterns, when they may be readily separated.

At the end of the year, Donald Mitchell, Highland Council Ranger for the Scourie area, copied to me the 2007 observations from the visitors' book at the bird hide. These added several species to the published bird list and detail to other entries. **Dunlin** had previously been recorded as an infrequent visitor on the coast, but groups of up to eight were noted on six occasions between 4th May and 4th June. A record of a female **goosander** on 20th May was only the second for the area, and there was an unseasonable record of a **turnstone** on 23rd June. A **grasshopper warbler** was heard calling from a field between the main road and the football pitch on 19th July; we get occasional records of calling males on the west coast, but have no idea if they manage to attract a mate. A **manx shearwater** was seen on 4th August by a German visitor, both bird and observer presumably on passage. Although such reports cannot be vetted, their precision does suggest that those that recorded them knew what they were talking about. Although nearly all the observations were of birds, there was also one of two **painted lady** butterflies and a **highland darter** dragonfly beyond the cemetery on 14th June.

Dr Adrian Sumner (Conchological Society) recorded the following molluscs in Scourie village (NC1544) on 28th July 1999: **slippery moss snail** *Cochlicopa lubrica*, **common chrysalis snail** *Lauria cylindracea*, **rounded snail** *Discus rotundatus*, **cellar snail** *Oxychilus cellarius*, **field slug** *Deroceras reticulatum* and **great grey slug** *Limax maximus*. All are widespread, except the last, which is mainly coastal in Highland, with few previous records from West Sutherland.

In conclusion: some improvement in our knowledge of the 'biodiversity' of this small area, but still lots to do!

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Lichen Species	Scourie Lodge									Cemetery		
	Apple	Ash	Beech	Larch	Palm	Sycamore	Wych elm	Other	Walls	Grave-stones	Other	
<i>Acarospora fuscata</i>											✓	
<i>Acarospora verruciformis</i> (note 1)											✓	
<i>Acrochordia gemmata</i>							✓					
<i>Anaptychia fusca</i>									✓			
<i>Anaptychia runcinata</i>		✓							✓			
<i>Anisomeridium nyssaegenum</i>					✓							
<i>Arthopyrenium punctiformis</i>	✓											
<i>Aspicilia grisea</i>									✓			
<i>Bacidia rubella</i>											✓	
<i>Bryoria fuscescens</i>			✓									
<i>Buellia stellulata</i>									✓			
<i>Caloplaca britannica</i>											✓	
<i>Caloplaca cerina</i>											✓	
<i>Caloplaca cerinelloides</i>											✓	
<i>Caloplaca citrina</i>									✓			
<i>Caloplaca crenulatella</i>									✓			
<i>Caloplaca festiva</i>											✓	
<i>Caloplaca flavocitrina</i>									✓			
<i>Caloplaca saxicola</i>											✓	
<i>Caloplaca scopularis</i> (note 2)											✓	
<i>Candelariella aurella</i>									✓			
<i>Candelariella coralliza</i>											✓	
<i>Candelariella vitellina</i>									✓			
<i>Catapyrenium rufescens</i>									✓			
<i>Catillaria chalybeia</i>									✓			
<i>Cladonia coniocraea</i>				✓								
<i>Cladonia scabriuscula</i>				✓								
<i>Cliostomum griffithii</i>		✓		✓								
<i>Collema subflaccidum</i>					✓							
<i>Collema tenax</i>									✓			
<i>Cystocoleus ebeneus</i>				✓								
<i>Dactylospora parasitica</i> (note 3)						✓						
<i>Degelia atlantica</i>		✓										
<i>Dimerella lutea</i>		✓										
<i>Evernia prunastri</i>		✓			✓							
<i>Fuscidea cyathoides</i>									✓			
<i>Hypogymnia physodes</i>			✓									
<i>Lecanora argentata</i>			✓									
<i>Lecanora albescens</i>									✓			
<i>Lecanora campestris</i> (note 4)											✓	
<i>Lecanora chlarotera</i>						✓						
<i>Lecanora expallens</i>		✓		✓	✓							
<i>Lecanora gangaleoides</i>									✓			
<i>Lecanora polytropa</i>											✓	
<i>Lecanora pulicaris</i>											✓	
<i>Lecanora rupicola</i>									✓			
<i>Lecanora soralifera</i>											✓	
<i>Lecanora sulphurea</i>									✓			
<i>Lecanora symmicta</i>						✓						
<i>Lecidea auriculata</i>									✓			
<i>Lecidea fuscoatra</i> var. <i>grisella</i>											✓	
<i>Lecidella asema</i>									✓			
<i>Lecidella elaeochroma</i>	✓	✓									✓	
<i>Lecidella elaeochroma</i> f. <i>sorediata</i>											✓	
<i>Lecidella scabra</i>									✓			
<i>Lecidella stigmatea</i>											✓	

Lichen Species	Scourie Lodge									Cemetery		
	Apple	Ash	Beech	Larch	Palm	Sycamore	Wych elm	Other	Walls	Grave-stones	Other	
<i>Lepraria incana</i>			✓		✓							
<i>Lobaria pulmonaria</i>	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓					
<i>Micarea prasina</i>				✓								
<i>Nectria lecanodes</i> (note 5)		✓										
<i>Ochrolechia parella</i>						✓	✓		✓			
<i>Ochrolechia subviridis</i>		✓										
<i>Opegrapha niveoatra</i>							✓					
<i>Opegrapha atra</i>		✓					✓					
<i>Opegrapha calcarea</i>									✓			
<i>Opegrapha varia</i>					✓							
<i>Pannaria rubiginosa</i>					✓							
<i>Parmelia aspera</i>	✓											
<i>Parmelia crinita</i>		✓			✓							
<i>Parmelia glabratula fuliginosa</i>									✓			
<i>Parmelia glabratula glabratula</i>		✓			✓		✓					
<i>Parmelia perlata</i>	✓	✓			✓							
<i>Parmelia saxatilis</i>		✓				✓			✓			
<i>Parmelia subaurifera</i>	✓	✓			✓							
<i>Parmelia sulcata</i>	✓	✓					✓			✓		
<i>Peltigera lactucifolia</i>								✓				
<i>Pertusaria albescens</i>		✓				✓						
<i>Pertusaria amara</i>		✓	✓									
<i>Pertusaria lactescens</i>										✓		
<i>Pertusaria pertusa</i>		✓										
<i>Phaeophyscia orbicularis</i>							✓			✓		
<i>Physcia adscendens</i>								✓				
<i>Physcia aipolia</i>	✓	✓										
<i>Physcia dubia</i>										✓		
<i>Physcia tenella</i>										✓		
<i>Physconia distorta</i>	✓						✓					
<i>Placynthium nigrum</i>									✓			
<i>Porpidia tuberculosa</i>									✓	✓		
<i>Protoblastenia rupestris</i>									✓			
<i>Pyrenula chlorospila</i>		✓										
<i>Pyrenula macrospora</i>								✓				
<i>Ramalina farinacea</i>		✓			✓		✓					
<i>Ramalina fastigiata</i>	✓	✓										
<i>Ramalina siliquosa</i>										✓		
<i>Ramalina subfarinacea</i>									✓			
<i>Rhizocarpon geographicum</i>									✓			
<i>Rhizocarpon obscuratum</i>									✓			
<i>Rhizocarpon richardii</i>									✓			
<i>Rinodina exigua</i>	✓											
<i>Schaereria fuscocinerea</i>									✓			
<i>Sticta limbata</i>					✓							
<i>Tephromela atra</i>									✓	✓		
<i>Toninia aromatica</i>									✓			
<i>Verrucaria fusconigrescens</i>									✓			
<i>Verrucaria fuscella</i>									✓			
<i>Verrucaria maura</i> (note 6)								✓	✓			
<i>Verrucaria muralis</i>									✓			
<i>Xanthoria candelaria</i> agg. (note 7)										✓		
<i>Xanthoria ectaneoides</i>									✓			
<i>Xanthoria parietina</i>		✓							✓			

Table: Lichens recorded by Dr Anthony Fletcher at Scourie, 9.5.06

Notes. 1: second British record; 2: special to northern Scotland; 3: fungus, parasitic on *Pertusaria albescens*; 4: thallus on table stone 30 cm diameter, suggests 150 years old; 5: fungus, parasitic on *Lobaria pulmonaria*; 6: littoral species, encouraged here by salt spray; 7: probably the species *sensu stricto*.