

## *Salvia pratensis* (Meadow Clary) at the Salt Way (North)

**Survey:** Friday 7 June 7 pm 2024.


**Members of Wychwood Flora Group present:** Sam Amy, Genny Early, Sue Helm, Rachel Lewis, Christine Marsh



Five of us met where the Charlbury-Chipping Norton road meets the Saltway, on a breezy evening. We walked up the Saltway to the short stretch where the Meadow clary was in full flower, rising above the vigorous surrounding vegetation. Whilst the plants and flowers looked healthy, the numbers of flowering spikes were much down on previous years.

Ideally the short stretch where the Meadow clary is found could do with a cut back this winter, and removal of arisings. The creation of some bare patches will allow the new Meadow clary seedlings to establish.

The Salt Way is an ancient track with species-rich grass verges and hedges. It was formerly used for transporting salt from salt mines at Droitwich, and also as a drover's road. It is now a wide bridleway, part of the Wychwood Way, with many points of botanic interest.

	GPS position	No. of plants/clumps: No. of flowering stems		
		On SW side	In centre of track	On NE side
	SP35786-23191			1:1 1:2
	SP35788-23188		1:6	1:16 1:4 1:1
	SP35797-23185			1:33 1:16
	SP35804-23175		1:4 1:4	1:1 1:10
	SP35806-23178		1:1 1:1	1:9 1:21 1:21
	SP35817-23171		1:1 1:1	1:3
	SP35839-23160			1:7 1:3
	<b>Total number of flowering stems</b>	(166 flowering spikes compared with 379 in 2023, 348 in 2022, 392 in 2021, 352 in 2020, 383 in 2019)		

Genny Early  
for the Wychwood Flora Group