

Lichens

Cladonia spp.



**Netted Shield
Lichen
(*Parmelia sulcata*)**

Caloplaca flavescens



Lecanora muralis

Other flowers and grasses to be found in the churchyard include;

Autumn Hawkbit, Beaked Hawk's-Beard, Bluebell, Black Medick, Black Nightshade, Bramble, Bristly Oxtongue, Bugle, Burnet Saxifrage, Canadian Fleabane, Capers Spurge, Cat's-Ear, Cock's-Foot, Common Chickweed, Common Couch, Common Field-Speedwell, Common Ivy, Common Knapweed, Common Mallow, Common Mouse-Ear, Common Ragwort, Common Sorrel, Cow Parsley, creeping Bent, Creeping Cinquefoil, Creeping Thistle, Cut Leaved Cranebill, Daisy, Dandelion, Dog Rose, Downy Oat-Grass, False Oat-Grass, False Brome, Field Bind-Weed, Field Forget-Me-Not, Field Maple, Field Wood-Rush, Fool's Parsley, Fringed Pearlwort, Goat Willow, Great Mullein, Great Willowherb, Greater Plantain, Groundsel, Hairy Bitter-Cress, Hairy brome, Hedge Bindweed, Hedge Mustard, Hedge Parsley, Hedge Woundwort, Hedgerow Cranesbill, Herb Robert, Hogweed, Ivy-Leaved Speedwell, Lesser Celandine, Lesser Trefoil, Lords-And-Ladies, Meadow Buttercup, Meadow Foxtail, Narrow Leaved Vetch, Perennial Rye Grass, Petty Spurge, Prickly Sow-Thistle, Primrose, Procumbent Pearlwort, Purple Toadflax, Red Clover, Red Fescue, Ribwort Plantain, Red Campion, Rough Hawkbit, Rough Meadow Grass, Shepherd's Purse, Slender Sandwort, Slender Speedwell, Smooth Hawk's-Beard, Smooth Meadow-Grass, Smooth Sow-Thistle, Snapdragon, Snow in Summer, Spanish Daffodil, Spear Thistle, Sticky Mouse-ear, Sweet Violet, Swine-Cress, Wall Speedwell, White Bryony, White Clover, White Dead-Nettle, White Stone-Crop, Wild Cherry, Winter Aconite, Wood Avens, Wood Dock, Wood Forget-Me-Not, Yellow Corydalis, Yorkshire-fog

Photo Credits

Phillip Precey - *Cladonia*

James Lindsey - *Parmelia*

A. J. Silverside - *Caloplaca flavescens*

Martin Butler - *Lecanora muralis*

Paul Lane - *Galanthus nivalis*

Richard Burkmar - *Alliaria peiolata*

Laura Downton - All other photos

★ Indicators of agriculturally unimproved grassland



**Bedfordshire
Cambridgeshire
Northamptonshire**



**St Mary's Church,
Meppershall**

Wildflowers and Lichens

Flowering Plants

Spring (March—June)

Cowslip ★

(*Primula veris*)

Flourishing and increasing in a number of churchyards after a severe decline due to modern farming.



Ground Ivy

(*Glechoma hederacea*)

Once the bittering agent of beer, the leaves are still used for herbal tea.



Germander Speedwell

(*Veronica chamaedrys*)

Considered a good luck charm for travellers.



Star of Bethlehem

(*Ornithogalum angustifolium*)

Thought to be native only to the sandy soils of East Anglia.



Bugle ★

(*Ajuga reptans*)



Snowdrop

(*Galanthus nivalis*)

The leaf tips are specially hardened to break through frozen ground.



Summer (June—October)

Common Sorrel ★

(*Rumex acetosa*)

The leaves of this plant are tart and refreshing, sometimes used in salads and soups.



Self Heal

(*Prunella vulgaris*)



Hoary Plantain ★

(*Plantago media*)

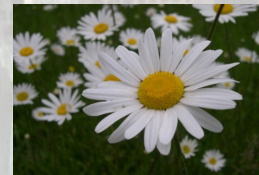
Seems to have a special liking for churchyards.



Ox-Eye Daisy ★

(*Leucanthemum vulgare*)

One of the first flowers to colonise unsprayed grassland.



Smooth Hawks-beard

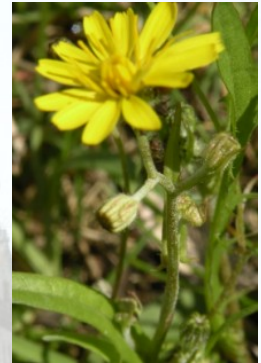
(*Crepis capillaris*)



Burnet Saxifrage ★

(*Pimpinella saxifraga*)

Traditional herbal use against kidney and bladder stones.



Garlic Mustard

(*Alliaria petiolata*)

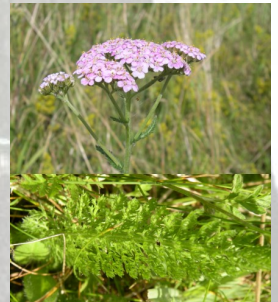
A good addition to spring salads.



Yarrow

(*Achillea millefolium*)

Used as a charm against bad luck and illness in Anglo Saxon times.



Creeping Buttercup

(*Ranunculus repens*)

