

## The rediscovery of Frog Orchid *Coeloglossum viride* on Bredon Hill

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Some years ago Harry Green sent me a copy of a sketch map he had been given by Arthur Cundall on which Arthur marked the exact spot where he had found a single *Coeloglossum viride* (Frog Orchid) at the old camp site on the summit of Bredon Hill in 1982.

In the years leading up to the publication of the new *Flora* (Maskew 2014) I attempted to re-find the plant, but owing to the continuing unfavourable grazing regime, whereby sheep were present in the area during mid-summer, most of the flora had been eaten. On one occasion in late spring I was convinced that a plant in its early stages on the exact spot was the orchid, but when I returned two weeks later it had disappeared.

Fortunately, I found Frog Orchid on the slopes above Broadway in 2012 (Maskew 2012), so at least there was a modern record to report in the *Flora*, in which I also included details of the Bredon Hill records up to 1982. As a result of the discovery at Broadway I had not looked for it on Bredon Hill since then. However, when I visited the hill in July 2015 I noticed that for the first time for many years the area around the summit had not been grazed and there were no sheep present. I proceeded to the exact spot where I immediately found a single plant not quite fully in flower. I believe this to be the same single plant reported by Arthur Cundall thirty-four years ago. After much searching it still appeared to be the only one present in the immediate vicinity.

### Reference:

Maskew, R. 2012. The Rediscovery of Frog Orchid *Coeloglossum viride* (L.) Hartm.) in Worcestershire. *Worcestershire Record* 33:66.  
Maskew, R. 2014. *The Flora of Worcestershire*. Privately published.