

## Nature Reports

21<sup>st</sup> March 2020



Hemlock



Hemlock. Purple spotted stem.



Butterbur



Butterbur



Giant Hogweed – getting ready.

**22<sup>nd</sup> March 2020**

**St George's pond**

Great Ramshorn Snail seen by David Reeves:



**Bowdon House**

You don't even have to go outside to find interest. Colin found this on his living room carpet!



Mike Ashworth identified as Tegenaria, one of the 9 species of house spiders.

### **Stretford Gardens**

Beautiful sunny day. Flowers and birds think spring has arrived.



Peacock butterfly – by  
Hilary Hampar



Lesser Celandine



Herb Paris



Red Dead-nettle



Primula



Grape Hyacinth



Primrose



Narcissus



Heather



Suggestions?



This one is more difficult!



Small Daffodil



Japanese Quince

At least 4 bats seen at dusk near a quiet spot by the Mersey.

**23<sup>rd</sup> March 2020**



Morning clouds, mostly cirrus.



Our birch tree was dripping. Surely not a consequence of the coronavirus?  
Indirectly yes. I cut this branch the day before - as I am spending more time in the garden. Gardeners amongst you may well be familiar with this from pruning. As I understand it, when trees lose their leaves starch moves to the roots.



Just before the leaves appear, the starch is converted to sugar, and then water is pulled into the roots by osmosis. This creates pressure to push the sap upwards. Birch in particular can develop considerable root pressure. Sap was oozing from this damaged branch. I felt guilty!



Lawson Cypress.  
Showing male flowers.



Coal Tit in the  
(damaged) birch tree.

Unknown Bird



Can any of you birders identify this bird for me?



