marine plants, and such as are peculiar to coasts and seaboards. In Avondale, however, near Drumclog, a flowering plant is to be found: the Sea Plantain (Plantago maritima)- which usually prefers a coast habitat...but it is not uncommon in upland districts by mountain streams...and this Avondale station affords a good instance of its occurrence in such situations". In 1859 J. H. Balfour found it on rock on banks of the River Cart somewhere between Cathcart and Busby (which may have been VC 77, depending on which bank). The burns near Drumclog have been searched recently without success.

In 2009 a large and a moderate clump was noted at the south-east side of the A73 north of Roberton (JRH; NS 948288) and in 2011 single plants were seen on the eastern verge of the A70, south-east of Tarbrax (JRH; NT 039546) and on the north side of the same road east of Glenbuck Loch (NS 763233) (Fig. 6)

Fig. 6. Sea plantain from the side of the A73 near Roberton.

Plantago media (hoary plantain)
Native in neutral to basic grassland and locally common in Britain north to central Scotland. The occurrence of the plant in Lanarkshire was noted by Hopkirk in 1813 without a specific locality. Henney (1865) listed Dennistoun but considered that it was found only as an introduction with grass seed, not retaining its place so as to become permanent in pastures. Patton collected it in the Bothwell Castle area in 1913 (GL).

We recorded it in 1993 from alkaline grassland by a steel foundry at New Stevenston (NS 761598) and it was seen in what was described as a herb-rich paddock/recreation area at Greenhills, East Kilbride (JRH; NS 5870) in 2002.

Despite being a rather drab genus, occurrences, physical variations and variants of Plantago spp. are of interest.

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Henney, R. (1865). The Clydesdale Flora; a Description of the Flowering Plants and Ferns of the Clyde District. David Robertson, Glasgow.

First record of the scalloped ribbonfish Zu cristatus (Bonelli, 1819) (Lampriformes: Trachipteridae) from N.W. European waters

D.T.G. Quigley1 and G. Henderson2

1Sea Fisheries Protection Authority, Auction Hall, West Pier, Howth, Co. Dublin, Ireland E-mail: declan.quigley@sfpa.ie
2Fisheries Research Services, Marine Laboratory, PO Box 101, 375 Victoria Road, Torry, Aberdeen, AB11 9DB, Scotland E-mail: G.I.Henderson@marlab.ac.uk

On the 8th of September 2001, the MFV Audacious II (BF83) captured a single specimen of the scalloped ribbonfish Zu cristatus (Bonelli), east of the Rockall Bank (56°20’N, 14°00’W), while trawling at a depth of 380 metres. This specimen was identified from a photograph supplied by the skipper of the vessel (Fig. 1). Although most of the tail section was missing due to net damage, based on the photograph and the known dimensions of the tray on which the specimen was laid out (500 x 250

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