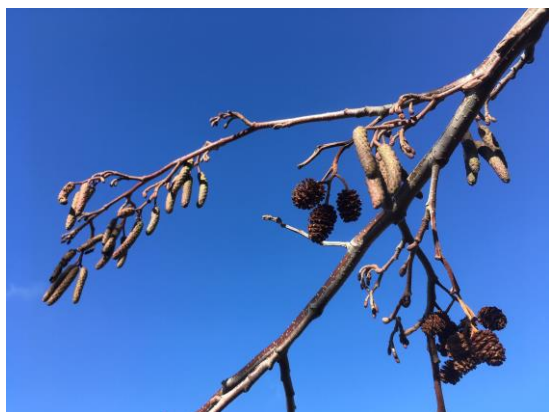


**Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2019**

Although cold, the bright light shows up different beauties in the garden. Today, the Alder tree has pretty catkins and small female cone shaped seeds, which are silhouetted against the blue sky.

Not far from the Alder, the Hazel has already got pretty catkins. As it has been cold, I have been reading up on plants. Hazel and Alder are common native plants. Many see Hazel as a magical plant. Divining rods were made from it and it was used in wattle and daub buildings.

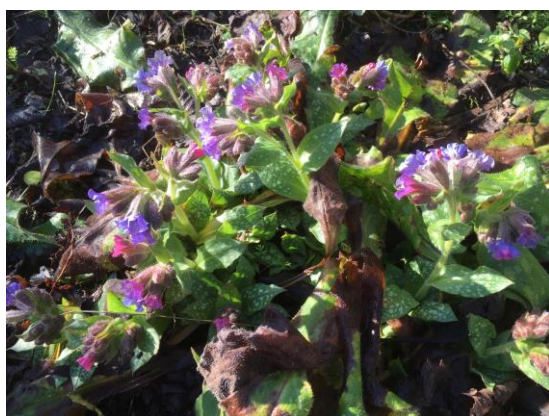


Alder catkins



Cerinthe leaves

Plants with common names that include wort have been used as food or for medicinal purposes in the past. Honeywort and Lungwort are two of these. Cerinthe is Honeywort and it seems that there is not a lot of information about it. Lungwort is *Pulmonaria Officinalis* and it seems strange that both these plants are in the family of Boraginaceae. Borage plants like our garden. Readers may be able to tell that the writer of this blog has been learning about plant naming and classification. It's all very interesting and at a times confusing.



Pulmonaria



Ice patterns on the pond

Enjoy the garden at Hengistbury Head and we look forward to having a chat with you on our Wednesday mornings.