

BRITISH BRYOLOGICAL SOCIETY

President - E.V. Watson, B.Sc., Ph.D.

BULLETIN No.2. July 1964

Weekend Meeting at Reading, October 24th and 25th, 1964.

Local Secretary Dr. E.V. Watson, Botany Department,
The University, Reading.

A paper-reading meeting will be held in the University of Reading, by kind permission of the Vice-Chancellor.

A detailed programme of the papers planned, also evening exhibits, and the venue of the field excursion planned for Sunday Oct. 25th will be available to those members who indicate that they will attend part or all of the meeting.

1. Hotels. The following are recommended:

<u>Name & Address of Hotel</u>	<u>No. of Rooms</u>	<u>Bed & Breakfast</u>	<u>Dinner</u>	<u>Whether Fully Licensed</u>
Upcross Hotel, Berkeley Avenue, Reading.	19 bedrooms (9 doubles & 10 singles)	from 29/6	from 11/6 (Luncheon from 9/6)	Residential Licence but no bar.
Caversham Bridge Hotel, Reading.	10 twin- bedded rooms & 4 single.	27/6 Hotel 25/- Amexe	from 10/6 Table d'Hote	Yes
Ship Hotel, Duke Street, Reading.	34	Single 32/6 a night double 60/- a night plus 10%	from 9/6 per head plus 10%	Yes 3 bars.
Gt. Western Hotel, Reading.	4 twin- bedded rms. 4 double rms. 6 single rms. for night of 24th Oct./64.	35/- plus 10% per person	12/6 per head plus 10%	Yes
The George Hotel, Reading.	40	30/-	12/6	Yes

Distances from University: Upcross 2m., Caversham Bridge 2m.
Gt. Western 1 m., George and Ship both $\frac{1}{2}$ mile.

2. Speakers. The speakers, it is hoped, will be:

Miss M.L. Bowering on Variation in Philonotis,
Dr. P.J. Grubb on Translocation in Bryophytes,
Mr. A.H. Norkett on the sections of the genus Fissidens,
Dr. M.C.F. Proctor on Bryophyte distribution patterns,
Dr. A.J.E. Smith on variation in Fissidens minutulus and
Mr. G.A. Yarraton on an ecological topic.

3. Excursion, Sunday, Oct. 25th. It is planned to visit certain areas of heath and bog S.W. of Reading (O.S. map no. 168) in the vicinity of Mortimer and Silchester. Plants of interest that have been recorded from the Mortimer area ("Pickling Yard", "Gibbet piece" etc.) include:

Dicranum spurium, Campylopus introflexus, Polytrichum nanum, Scapania compacta, Anthoceros husnotii etc.

The small area of bog at Silchester has been less fully worked but might well prove of interest.

4. Evening exhibits. In order that we may allocate adequate space in the Department of Botany it would be helpful if all those members kind enough to offer exhibits would notify me, well in advance, regarding the following particulars:
Name of exhibitor, title of display, approximate length of bench space required (or desired), number of (a) compound and (b) dissecting microscopes required. Please do this even if you have notified me verbally already.

5. Intention to come. It would be helpful if all members intending to come to the autumn paper-reading meeting would let me know in order that adequate catering facilities etc. may be provided. Please return the detachable slip to me, striking out where necessary.

I hope to come to the paper-reading meeting.

I wish to avail myself of (a) lunch (b) tea in the University if this can be arranged.

I expect to be present at the soirée (exhibits and coffee).

I hope to come on the Sunday excursion (all day Sun. 25th) and shall { have seats to spare in my car
{ wish to avail myself of a car seat.

(Signed) E.V. Watson
President and local organiser
for the October meeting:

Meetings in 1965.

The Annual General Meeting will be held at Llandrindod Wells, from April 6th to 13th. There will be a meeting for one week at Grasmere in September, and it is hoped to have a weekend meeting at Nottingham towards the end of October.

B.B.S. Map Scheme

The B.B.S. map scheme has been under way for just over three years. The ultimate aim of the scheme is to produce a distribution atlas of the bryophytes of Great Britain and Ireland on the basis of presence or absence of species in the 10 km squares of the National Grid (and an extension of the National Grid in Ireland).

Maps are already being produced of the rarer species whose distributions are known, twenty-two maps having appeared in vol. 4 part 3 and twelve in vol. 4 part 4 of the B.B.S. Transactions. Any additional records for mapped species that are received will be published in the Transactions periodically so that maps may be kept up to date.

Species lists for about 500 of the 3,500 10 km squares in Britain and Ireland have been compiled by B.B.S. members in the field and from the literature. The vice-counties of East and West Cornwall, Isle of Wight, South Hants, Oxfordshire, Berkshire, Cambridgeshire, Glamorgan, Caernarvonshire, Anglesey, Tyrone and Fermanagh have been or are in the process of being systematically worked. Records from the rest of Britain and Ireland are from widely scattered squares and many of the lists are far from complete. For the scheme to be as successful as that of the B.S.B.I. and for a worthwhile contribution to be made to British bryology comprehensive records from as many of the 3,500 squares as possible are required.

As visualised at present the scheme has another seven years to run. It is, however, desirable that as many squares as possible be worked during the next five years. This is so that in the last two years of the scheme efforts can be concentrated on unworked areas.

There are now seventy members actively engaged in recording but the scheme is proceeding rather more slowly than had been hoped. If, however, additional members were to co-operate there could be every prospect of the scheme being completely successful. This could be a very great and worthwhile achievement for British botany from a society of such small size and with such difficult plants to deal with as bryophytes.

Active assistance in the form of field records entered on record cards, and the loan of MS lists, (to the mapping secretary) could be of great value. Further details of the scheme are available from the mapping secretary Dr. A.J.E. Smith from whom, also, record cards with instructions are available at 2/9d per dozen (completed cards are replaced free of charge).

Dr. A.J.E. Smith,
Department of Botany,
University College of North Wales,
BANGOR, Caernarvonshire.

Owing to an absence in America, Dr. S.W. Greene, Dept. of Botany, University of Birmingham, will be unable to referee material of Plagiothecium and Orthotrichum until his return to Birmingham in October 1965.

E.C. Wallace
Hon. Secretary. July 1964.