

## Election of Officers and Elected Members of Council

The terms of the following four Officers expire at the end of 2012: Treasurer, Reading Circle Secretary, Recorder for Liverworts, and Website Editor. The current holders of all these posts are eligible for re-election. There are two vacancies for Elected Members.

Members are invited to submit nominations for Officers and Elected Members, sending them to the General Secretary of the BBS, Dr R.H. Carter, 6 Church View, Wootton, Northampton NN4 7LJ, (carter.rh@gmail.com) to arrive no later than **8 August 2012**. A nomination must not be made without the consent of the person whom it is wished to nominate. If elections are needed they will be held at the AGM in Dublin on 8 September 2012.

R.H. Carter *General Secretary, January 2012*

## Annual General Meeting 2012

The Annual General Meeting will be held at 4.30 p.m. on Saturday, 8 September 2012 at the National Botanic Gardens, Dublin (Ireland).

The agenda will comprise the standard business: namely, minutes of the 2011 AGM, the Annual Report of the Trustees for 2011, Accounts and Treasurer's Report for 2011, Report from Council, the election of Officers and Elected Members (see notice above), the place and date of the 2013 AGM, and any other business.

The agenda, minutes and reports are enclosed with this issue of *Field Bryology*.

R.H. Carter *General Secretary, January 2012*

## BBS subscriptions

The Annual Subscription for Ordinary Members of the BBS will be **£25 from 1 January 2013**.

The concessionary rate for Junior Members, Student Members and Senior Members (of 40 years standing) becomes £12.50. Family Members will continue to pay £1.00 per annum.

The subscription has been held at £20 a year for 15 years; unfortunately increasing costs eventually make an increase inevitable.

The new rate was approved by the Society at its Annual General Meeting held in Cardiff on 10 September 2011.

## Herbertus in the news

The subject of the article *European Herbertus and the 'Viking prongwort'* by David Bell & David Long, published in the last issue of *Field Bryology* (vol. 106, pp. 3–14) has been highlighted on the BBC website: [www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-highlands-islands-17342949](http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-highlands-islands-17342949)

Not only that, but it also got a mention on Scottish BBC news, and made it into *The Herald* a national Scottish newspaper not always renowned for its coverage of nature ([www.heraldsotland.com/news/home-news/new-plant-species-find-in-wester-ross.17003436](http://www.heraldsotland.com/news/home-news/new-plant-species-find-in-wester-ross.17003436))!



△ *Herbertus norenius* – the 'Viking prongwort'. D.G. Long

## Changes to the Membership List, May 2012

*These changes refer to the September 2011 list.*

### Changes of address and amendments

- Baker, Mr Ambrose*, Flat 62, Block B, Castle Mill, Roger Dudman Way, Oxford, Oxfordshire OX1 1AE (*and Georgina Baker at this address*)
- Bell, Mr David*, 33/12 Pilrig Street, Edinburgh EH6 5AR
- Charman, Mr Tom*, 24 Chains Drive, St Helen's Lane, Corbridge, Northumberland NE45 5BP
- During, Dr H.J.*, Ecology and Biodiversity Group, Institute of Environmental Biology, Utrecht University, H.R. Kruyt Building, PO box 800-84, NL-3508 TB Utrecht, The Netherlands
- Flagmeier, Maren*, Calle de la Luz, Las Matas-Las Rozas, 28290 Madrid, Spain
- Hanson, Mr Paul*, 50 Olive Mount Road, Wavertree, Liverpool, Merseyside L15 8AX
- He Quiang, Miss*, c/o Professor Rui-Liang Zhu, School of Life Science, East China Normal University, 3663 Zhong Shan, North Road, Shanghai 20062, China
- Humphreys, Mr B.M.*, 30 The Crescent, Stainton Grove, Barnard Castle, Co. Durham DL20 8UG
- Latham, Mark James*, 27 Emral Rise, Dothill, Wellington, Telford, Shropshire, TF1 3LG
- Marka, Mr Jani*, c/o Jonida Kicaj, Tirana International Airport, SHPK Administration, Building Rinas, Tirana, Albania
- Seppelt, Professor Rodney D.*, 530 Churchill Avenue, Sandy Bay, Tasmania 7005, Australia
- Stewart, Ms Sarah*, 16 Fairbridge Road, Islington, London N19 3HZ
- Taborska, Ms Marketa*, Jamborova 920, 66603 Tisnov, Czech Republic
- Vogel, Professor Dr Johannes*, Director General, Museum für Naturkunde, Invalidenstr. 43, 10115 Berlin, Germany
- Williams, Mr R.J.*, Troedyrhiw, Talgarreg, Llandysul, Ceredigion SA44 4HB
- Delforge, Quentin*, Chemin des bastidons, 13590 Meyreuil, France
- Devaney, Fiona*, Flat 1, 4 Grosvenor Place, Rathmines, Dublin 6, Ireland
- Dines, Trevor*, Rhyd y Ruwch, Bethel, Caernarfon, Gwynedd LL55 3PS
- Hall, Jeanette*, 42 Telford Gardens, Inverness IV3 5LQ
- Hardie, Molly*, 33 Palace Street, Berwick upon Tweed, Northumberland TD15 1HN
- Hartley, Stephen*, 15 Fen Road, Chesterton, Cambridge, Cambridgeshire CB4 1BS
- Hayward, Professor Richard*, Coed-y-Glyn, South Road, Caernarfon LL55 2HP
- Hoitomp, Torbjorn*, Haugerudveien 59, 1430 AS, Norway
- Johnson, Lee*, 18 Ty Brith, Dingestow, Monmouth, Monmouthshire NP25 4DP
- Johnston, Linda*, 7 Clos Brynderi, Rhiwbina, Cardiff CF14 6NN
- Kelly, Jayne*, 15 Church Road, Stow-cum-quy, Cambridgeshire CB25 9AF
- Malin, Russ*, Church Farm Cottage, 224 Main Street, Thornton, Leicestershire LE67 1AG
- McLay, Andrew*, 3 Unthank Mill, Stanhope, Bishop Auckland, Durham DL13 2PQ
- Monier, Richard*, 17 Rue Pertinax, 6000, France
- Napier, Di*, Curtis Cottage, Banbury Street, Kineton, Warwick CV35 0JU
- O'Brien, Kate*, Woodlands, Brae of Kinkell, Nr Conon Bridge, Dingwall IV7 8HZ
- O'Driscoll, Rebekah*, 15 York Road, Chatteris, Cambridgeshire PE16 6EB
- O'Hara, Rachel*, 1 Pine Cottages, Harpers Road, Aldershot, Hampshire GU12 6B2
- Pickard, Robert*, 96 Kenmore Crescent, Coalville, Leicestershire LE67 4RQ
- Poponessi, Silvia*, str. Ponte Rio 39/D, 06125 Perugia, Italy
- Preussing, Markus*, Ginsterstieg 14, 37603 Holzminden, Germany
- Robson, Keith*, 25 Hauxley Drive, Chester-le-Street, Co. Durham DH2 3TE
- Sadler, Emma-Jane*, 12 Hyacinth Close, Hampton, Middlesex TW12 3RW
- Saunders, Lewis*, 30 Clarkson Avenue, Wisbech, Cambridgeshire PE13 2EQ
- Warren, Aisling*, 137 Clonmagadden Fort, Navan, Co. Meath, Ireland
- Wilkins, Tim*, 6 St Peters Close, Blandford Forum, Dorset DT11 8UZ

### Deceased

*We regret to report the death of:*

*Battershall, Mr G.H.*, 15 Rhodfa'r Grug, Upper Colwyn Bay, Clwyd LL29 6DJ

### Resignations

*Wynn, Mrs Sheila J.*, 19 Brungerley Avenue, Clitheroe, Lancashire BB7 2JB

## Autumn 2012 AGM and Paper-reading session

National Botanic Gardens, Dublin, Ireland 7–9 September 2012

Local secretary – Joanne Denyer, 11 Brendan House, Brendan Road, Dublin 4, Ireland  
(e [joanne@denyerecology.com](mailto:joanne@denyerecology.com))

The 2012 AGM and Paper-reading session will be held at the National Botanic Gardens, Dublin. The gardens are close to both Dublin city centre and Dublin airport. There is public transport (bus) to the gardens and parking is available for a flat daily fee of €2. Accommodation will be available at the nearby Dublin City University (single en suite rooms, €45 per night B&B), or there is a choice of alternative accommodation in the area. A booking form and full programme are now available on the BBS website.

Speakers at the Saturday paper-reading session include Nick Hodgetts (*Rare & threatened bryophytes of Ireland*); Christina Campbell (*In situ & ex situ conservation of rare & threatened bryophyte species*); Rory Hodd (*The potential response of oceanic mon-*

*tane bryophytes in Ireland to future climate change*); Melinda Lyons (*Petrifying bryophytes – the ecology of lime-rich springs*); Maurice Eakin (*Bog wars and bryophytes – has Ireland done enough to safeguard a future for our raised bog species?*); Tom Blockeel (*Mountains and islands: in search of bryophytes in Greece*); Heike Hoffman (*Bryophytes online: a new flora on Swiss bryophytes*); Beáta Papp (*Balkan collection in the Bryophyte Herbarium of the Hungarian Natural History Museum*); and Jeff Bates (*Early results from the BBS Bryophyte Ecology project*).

On Sunday we will have an excursion to Glendalough (Wicklow Mountains). For those who would like to stay, there will be 2 additional days' informal field recording for the BBS Atlas project (Mon & Tue).

## Pleurocarp Identification Workshop

Preston Montford Field Studies Centre, Shropshire 9–11 November 2012

Organizer/Trainer – Martin Godfrey (e [martinandrosie@aol.com](mailto:martinandrosie@aol.com))

Aimed at beginners and improvers, this will be an opportunity to study the structure of pleurocarpous mosses in depth, dealing with the more tricky morphological features to help improve identification skills. Numbers will be limited to 15.

The cost will be £147 for a shared room and £167 for a single. This includes B&B, dinner on Friday and Saturday night, and lunch on Saturday and Sunday. To book, please email Martin Godfrey ([martinandrosie@aol.com](mailto:martinandrosie@aol.com)) to book a place on this course.

## Spring 2013 Meeting

Basse Normandie (Lower Normandy), France 16–23 March 2013

Local secretary – Jeff Bates (t +44 (0)1344 884500; e [j.bates@imperial.ac.uk](mailto:j.bates@imperial.ac.uk))

The meeting will be centred on the 'Suisse Normande' area, probably either at Thury-Harcourt, Clécy or Pont d'Ouille, small towns on the scenic River Orne in Calvados. However, at least one excursion will be made into each of the other two departments of Lower Normandy, Manche and Orne.

Much of the area lies on late Precambrian and Devonian schists of the Armorican massif, but there is also granite country and, further north and east,

the Jurassic limestone, all of which it is hoped we will visit. It is an area of attractive countryside with tall hedgebanks (the famous bocage), large forest, deep ravines and some peatlands, plus a varied coastline with large dunes, rocky seacliffs and landslips. Rainfall is relatively high, especially in the west and on the hills, the Collines de Normandie, which exceed 300 m at several points, but it is tempered by summer heat in the mildly continental climate.

## Future meetings

Despite extensive studies in the 19th century by the pioneer French bryologists, and in the 1970s by the late Prof. Alain Lecointe, the flora is still imperfectly known and there is the chance of making significant new finds. For comparisons with the British flora one needs to think in terms of the closely adjacent Channel Islands and southern counties of England such as Sussex, Dorset and Devon. Thermophilous taxa such as *Grimmia lisae*, *Pterogonium gracile*, *Pleurochaete squarrosa* and *Porella pinnata* are perhaps more frequently encountered than anywhere in Britain, and rarities to refind include *Southbya nigrella* and *Bartramia stricta*. Strongly hygrophilous species like *Bazzania trilobata*, *Blepharostoma trichophyllum*, *Dicranum scottianum* and *Plagiochila bifaria* tend to be more localized than they are in Brittany (see write-up of 1993 Spring Meeting), occurring in the highest rainfall areas of Manche but also in deep wooded ravines further east.

Following an earlier straw poll, the intention is to follow recent practice at BBS meetings and to book a large holiday cottage to serve as the HQ. Rooms will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis and sharing of rooms may be necessary. If there is sufficient demand a second cottage may be booked. It is hoped that the cost for one week will be around €100, with meals on top of that. Later applicants may have to book their own accommodation. Booking a gîte (self-catering cottage) is very simple to do via the internet through a multitude of websites. In March, it should be possible to find a small self-catering gîte for 2–4 people for 1 week for around €300 (2011 prices). Camping is also available. Hotel accommodation is quite limited in this area and the costs rather high, dependent on the level of luxury sought. Please email the organizer to book a place in the HQ house.

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## Summer 2013 Meeting – Week 1

### Kinlochewe 22–29 June 2013

*Local secretary* – Oliver Moore (e [o.moore10@imperial.ac.uk](mailto:o.moore10@imperial.ac.uk))

The aim of this week is to survey some outlying tetrads on the Letterewe estate in the north-west Highlands (to assist with the production of a local flora) and to visit quiet corners of local NNRs in order to boost records. Dormitory accommodation with self-catering facilities and laboratory space has kindly been offered by SNH at Anancaun Field Centre, Kinlochewe, in return for contributing

records. There are hotel, bunkhouse, caravan and B&B options available in Kinlochewe for those wishing to arrange their own accommodation. The nature of this meeting will be of the informal recording style and hopefully fun too. There will be plenty of midges and fantastic scenery. Please email expressions of interest to [o.moore10@imperial.ac.uk](mailto:o.moore10@imperial.ac.uk) stating if you wish to stay at the field station.

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## Summer 2013 Meeting – Week 2

### Raasay, Hebrides 29 June–6 July 2013

*Local secretary* – Nick Hodgetts (e [nick1901@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:nick1901@hotmail.co.uk))

Raasay is a medium-sized island off the east coast of Skye, between Skye and Applecross. It is rich in bryophytes, but surprisingly little is known about it in detail. If enough people turn up, we will be recording the island systematically on a tetrad basis. There will also be a boat trip to the neighbouring island

of Rona. Headquarters and main accommodation will be at Raasay House, although there is also a campsite and bed and breakfast options. I will be making a block booking at Raasay House so please let me know if you are interested in attending.