

Mugshots please

If you are a LIVING member of the BBS it's very likely that we don't have a portrait image of you. Can those of you who have not already supplied one please send an electronic 'mugshot' so that I can add yours to the photographic archive.

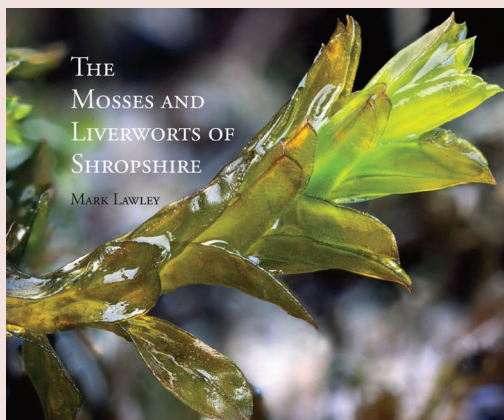
When you think what a complex process taking a portrait shot was in the early part of last century,

it's amazing that we have such good images of our predecessors, and a sobering thought that in this electronic age nobody seems to bother anymore. No fancy dress or tongues sticking out please!

Ken Adams & Phil Stanley

e. ken.adams@virgin.net

The Mosses and Liverworts of Shropshire



by Mark Lawley (2013)

133 pages, illustrated, including

- a bryological travelogue of good localities
- changes to the county's bryoflora
- annotated checklist of species
- Shropshire's bygone bryologists

Please make your cheque payable to 'Mark Lawley'. Available @ £19.95 including P&P from:

Mark Lawley

12A Castlevue Terrace, Ludlow SY8 2NG

The Mosses and Liverworts of Cheshire

Recording has begun for the first bryophyte flora of vice-county 58, with an aim to undertake satisfactory recording within each of the 700 tetrads by the end of 2018.

A website has been created that shows live maps of species records and indicates tetrads where survey effort has reached a satisfactory level for the purpose of the flora:

<http://cheshire-bryophytes.noodlefactory.co.uk>

Any species records from v.-c. 58 will be warmly received. Please send them to myself or get in touch if you would like further information.

Des Callaghan

51 Bishopdale Drive, Rainhill, Prescot,
Merseyside, L35 4QQ

e. des.callaghan@ecostudy.co.uk



Thank you

On 6 September 2013, Mark Hill chaired his last meeting of the BBS Conservation & Recording Committee as Recording Secretary. To thank him for all his work in that post, members of the Committee presented him with an engraved, Irish pewter tankard.

Monitoring the effects of ash die-back disease

The spread of ash die-back disease has been widely publicized in the last year. Several organisations (Botanical Society of Britain and Ireland, British Bryological Society, British Lichen Society, Centre for Ecology and Hydrology) have been developing plans for a co-ordinated survey to monitor the effect of the disease on vascular plants, bryophytes and lichens over the coming years. Defra and NERC have agreed to fund a pilot survey. We will be testing the methods and the draft recording card in the next few weeks. The methods will be relatively simple – to summarise very briefly, recorders will be asked to record the bryophytes on 10 ash trees and 10 trees of other species at each site surveyed. We will be contacting Regional Recorders directly, but we would like to hear from all other members who would be interested in taking part in this survey. Please contact Oli at the e-mail address below to express an interest. The project overview and map of the core monads to be surveyed can be viewed at <http://www.brc.ac.uk/splash>. We will provide further details in subsequent issues of *Field Bryology*.

Oli Pescott (olipes@ceh.ac.uk) & Chris D. Preston,
Biological Records Centre, CEH Maclean Building, Benson Lane, Crowmarsh Gifford,
Wallingford, Oxfordshire OX10 8BB

Journal of Bryology now fully digitised for members

The complete run of the *Journal of Bryology* and its predecessor *Transactions* have now been digitised and are available online for members via the BBS website. Please check the website for more information on how to access these.

Changes to the Membership List, October 2013

New members

Addlington, Zoe, 13 Maslan Crescent, Tibberton, Newport, Shropshire, TF10 8AB
Alexander, Alison, 8 Clarendon Court, Kew Gardens Road, Richmond, Surrey, TW9 3HE
Atkins, Simon, 2 Riverside Mews, St Mary Street, Cardigan, Ceredigion, SA43 1DH
Atkinson, Jeremy, 43 Brooklands, Horwich, Bolton, Lancashire, BL6 5RW
Ballantyne-Roome, Benjamin, 48 Hollingdean Road, Brighton, East Sussex, BN2 4AA
Barber, Mark, 1 New Cottage, Pen-y-Fai, Bridgend, CF31 4LX
Bell, Pam, Rose Cottage, Upper Cwm Nant Gam, Llanelli Hill, Abergavenny, NP7 0RF
Brooks, Victoria, The Coach House, Bishops Offley, Eccleshall, Staffordshire, ST21 6ET
Cross, Andrew, EPR, The Barn, Warren Corner, Micheldever Station, Hampshire, SO21 3 AR
Cutler, Nick, 12 Merton Walk, Hardwick, Cambridge, Cambridgeshire, CB23 7XP
Fackler, Kim, 45 Madeira Street, Edinburgh, EH6 4AJ
Gaunt, Nick, 23 Church Street, Bubwith, North Yorkshire, YO8 6LW
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Holder, Professor David, 14 Spencer Drive, London, N20QX
Langdon, Caroline, 17 Lambert Street, Newport, NP20 5FU
Kernohan, Ruth, 12 Rosewood Gardens, Marchwood, Southampton, Hampshire, SO40 4YX
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Oyesiku, Dr Olubukunola, Department of Plant Science & Applied Zoology, Olabisi Onabanjo

University, PBM 2002, Ago-Iwoye Ogun State, Nigeria

Rimington, William, 8 North End House, Fitzjames Avenue, London, W14 0RS
Rubinstein, Sue, 20 Clifton Terrace, Brighton, East Sussex, BN1 3HA
Stevenson, Diane, 38 Rue des Feuillardes, Samois-sur-Seine, 77920, France
Thompson, Jacqueline, Pinehurst, East Street, Mayfield, East Sussex, TN20 6TZ
Wilson, Emma, 62 Rupert Avenue, High Wycombe, HP12 3NF

Changes of address and amendments

Brinda, Mr J, 4066 Oleatha Avenue, Saint Louis, MO 63116, USA
Burley, Mr Brendan, 54 Woodhouse Lane, Sale, Manchester, M33 4JY, UK
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Day, Mr J J, 21 Balland Park, Ashburton, Newton Abbot, Devon, TQ13 7BS, UK
Hack, Valerie, 2 South Road, Kirkby Stephen, Cumbria, CA17 4SN, UK
Hicks, Mr Damien, School of Biological Sciences, Room 4.05 Ashworth, Kings Building, Edinburgh, EH9 3JT, UK
Landcare Research NZ Library, Library, PO Box 69040, Lincoln, Canterbury 7640, New Zealand
Mezaka, Ms Anna, Galdini, Jaunjelgavas novads, Jaunjelgavas lauku teritorija, LV-5134, Latvia
Middleton, Beccy, No. 2 Dalcruaidh, Inverewe, Poolewe, Achnasheen, IV22 2LD, UK
O'Leary, Dr Sean V, 51 Wood Street, Wallingford, Oxfordshire, OX10 0AX, UK
Rickerby, Miss Clare, East Cottage, Newton of Wormiston, Crail, Fife, KY10 3XH, UK
Taylor, Mr Ian, Melody Cottage, Haverthwaite, Ulverston, Cumbria, LA12 8AF, UK
Untereiner, Alain, 32 Rue de la Promenade, F-68480, Winkel France



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Future Meetings and Courses

In 2014, the BBS is inaugurating weekend meetings designed to bridge the gap that has existed hitherto between local meetings of one day's duration and the Society's longer field meetings

The aims are to encourage members who find it difficult to commit the time taken up by the Society's longer meetings to participate in field meetings, and to provide opportunities for local naturalists to improve their bryological skills in the company of BBS members. Details of the regional meeting programme for 2014 are given below. Many areas also have BBS local group meetings and details of these can be found on the BBS website. Check the BBS website for the latest news on meetings. Please contact the relevant local Secretary if you wish to attend any of these meetings, and for further details.

Regional meeting, East Anglia, Thetford Heath, 1st February 2014, 10.30 a.m.

Local Secretary: Chris Roberts (Norfolk) (email: chrisroberts_500@hotmail.com)

OS Landranger 143 - Joint meeting of the Cambridge and Norfolk groups, beginners welcome. Open Breckland grass heath which is of considerable importance for its periglacial 'patterned ground'. Some areas of pine and oak woodland as well as grass and lichen heaths. Turn onto Elveden Road off the A11 and then left at TL849794 towards the Gorse Industrial Estate – park in the pull-in near the entrance. Mark Hill moh@ceh.ac.uk may be able to offer a lift from Cambridge.

Regional meeting, Ludlow, 14th-16th February 2014

Local Secretary: Mark Lawley, 12A Castleview Terrace, Ludlow (email: m.lawley@virgin.net)

This Shropshire regional meeting will be based in Ludlow. Provided the weather is reasonable during the weekend, we will visit the Long Mynd (*Jamesoniella undulifolia*, *Barbilophozia kunzeana*, etc.), and Titterstone Cleve Hill for *Grimmia incurva* and friends. There are more sheltered localities on lower ground in the event of inclemency. All levels of expertise will be most welcome.

Details of various types of accommodation available locally can be obtained from Ludlow Tourist Information Centre (email: ludlow.tourism@shropshire-cc.gov.uk or Tel: 01584 875053).

Regional meeting, Cheddar Gorge, Somerset, 23rd February 2014

Local Secretary: Sharon Pilkington, 66 Newtown, Westbury, BA13 3EF (email: sharon.pilkington1@btinternet.com)

Cheddar Gorge is justly famous for its spectacular limestone cliffs but it is also very rich in bryophytes. We will visit limestone woodland, grassland and old lead workings in the upper gorge (Black Rock area) and see a wide range of characteristic limestone mosses and liverworts as well as some of the more locally uncommon e.g. *Porella arboris-vitae*, *Seligeria pusilla*, *Entosthodon mühlenbergii*, *Bryoerythrophyllum ferruginascens* and *Anomobryum concinnum*. All levels of expertise are welcome.

BRECOG meeting, Anglesey, North Wales, 4th-6th April 2014

Local Secretary: Lucia Ruffino (email: luciaruffino65@gmail.com). Further details to be announced.

Spring 2014 Field Meeting, Rolvenden, 17th-22nd April 2014

Local Secretary: Tom Ottley (tel. 01825 890544; email tom.ottley@virgin.net)

This meeting will straddle the border between East Sussex and East Kent, an area which appears to be rather under-recorded, notwithstanding the long history of distinguished botanists who have graced vice counties 14 and 15. Although East Sussex, in particular, has a good bryophyte flora on sandstone, this has been well-documented and we won't officially be going to any of the classic sites there. But there will, however, be an opportunity to go to Fairlight Glen since we will be so close to it and where there are still fine colonies of *Dumortiera hirsuta* and *Tortula freibergii* to be seen. A thorn-proof group will be recruited to refind *Calypstrochaeta apiculata* in nearby Covehurst Wood. Most of the effort will be directed at finding more common species than these. We will go to Rye Harbour to look at stabilised shingle and lake margins as well as making a visit to Camber Castle. We will study woodland, churchyards, chalk downland, coastal habitats and even pavements. One moss that has plenty of old records in this area is *Atrichum angustatum*; it would be really good if we could refind it and we'll be going to some of its old haunts to try. The event centre will be in Rolvenden, but the details are still being finalised. A list of accommodation will be made available on the BBS website and there should be a good choice, although these dates do encompass the Easter Weekend so early booking is going to be advisable.

Regional meeting, Clara Bog, Co. Offaly, Ireland, 10-11th May 2014

Local secretary: George Smith, 24 Lisle Road, Walkinstown, Dublin 12, (email: george.smith@blackthornecology.ie)

We will visit Clara Bog, identified in the Irish Red Data Book as an Important Bryophyte Area and one of the best raised bogs remaining in Ireland. Highlights will include flushes, bog woodland and lots of *Sphagnum*. We will try to refind *Tetraplodon angustatus*, recorded here in 1988 in its only Irish station. All levels of expertise are welcome and there will be a microscope session in the Visitors' Centre. Local information and accommodation can be found at <http://www.offalytourism.com/>. Transport from Clara Station can be arranged for those coming by train. Meet at Clara Bog Visitors' Centre, Clara, Co. Offaly (Irish Grid N25543247), co-located with the local library.

Regional meeting, Dumfriesshire, 24-26th May 2014

Local secretary: Liz Kungu, c/o RBGE, 20A Inverleith Row, Edinburgh, EH3 5LR (email: e.kungu@rbge.org.uk)

This meeting will be based in Moffat, with visits to the lesser known areas of the Moffat Hills, focusing on recording areas where there are few modern records. If weather conditions are bad then we will focus on the lower ground in the Annan valley. All levels of expertise will be most welcome. Details of various types of accommodation available locally can be obtained from Tourist Information Centre, Churchgate, Moffat, Dumfries and Galloway, Scotland, DG10 9EG (Tel: 01683 220 620 Email: moffat@visitscotland.com; Web: <http://www.visitdumfriesandgalloway.co.uk>) and there is also a camp site near the town.

Regional meeting, Mweelrea, Co. Mayo, Ireland, 31st May-1st June 2014

Local secretary: Rory Hodd, Coolies, Muckross, Killarney, Co. Kerry, Ireland (email: rlhodd@gmail.com)

This meeting will explore the area around the mountain of Mweelrea (c 815m). On Saturday, weather allowing, the large corrie to the northwest of Doo Lough will be explored. An effort will be made to refine a number of species, including *Ptilium crista-castrensis* (in its only Irish locality) and *Scapania nimbosa*. A range of rare montane and oceanic species will be seen, including excellent examples of hepatic mat vegetation and abundant *Sphagnum skyense*. Sites to be visited on Sunday will include the machair at Dooaghtry, where *Petalophyllum ralfsii* and *Catoscopium nigratum* are known. Louisburgh is the nearest village, but accommodation is limited, so it may be better to stay in Westport.

Summer meeting Week 1, Valbona Valley National Park, Albania, 5th-12th July 2014

Local secretaries: Beáta Papp (Hungarian Natural History Museum), Marko Sabovljević (University of Belgrade), Jani Marka (Faculty of Natural Sciences, Tirana) and Joanne Denyer (email: joanne@denyerecology.com)

Due to permit restrictions, the planned visit to Macedonia (previously advertised in *Field Bryology*) has been cancelled and we will be visiting Albania instead. This is a trip to Valbona Valley National Park (<http://www.akt.gov.al/natyra/item.php?id=31&lang=2>) in the Albanian Alps (Lugina e Valbonës, Valbonë; 42°27'26.23" N, 19°54'08.58" E, 900 m). The area comprises a valley surrounded by high mountains and the bedrock is limestone. The area is a five hour drive from Tirana where there is an airport. If you wish to express an interest in this trip, please e-mail your name to Joanne Denyer by the end of January 2014.

Summer meeting Week 2, Killin, Scotland, 26th July-2nd August 2014

Local secretary: Gordon Rothero (email: gprothero@aol.com)

The Breadalbane hills, and particularly the Ben Lawers area, were much visited by a previous generation of bryologists and have a wonderful bryophyte flora. The last visit by the BBS to the area was in 1981 and since then the hills have been rather neglected in favour of less well-recorded areas. This means that many bryologists are now unfamiliar with the assemblage of montane species of calcareous rocks, which are a feature of the area. The aim of this meeting is to go a little way towards rectifying that situation. So, the primary aim, weather permitting, is to visit a selection of these hills and to look at a range of species which are either absent or very rare elsewhere in the UK. It is a montane meeting and although the distances involved are not great, it will involve walking uphill, sometimes over rough and steep terrain, to reach the best ground. The meeting will be based in Killin, which will give us access to Glen Lochay and Glen Lyon. It is hoped that the base will be self-catering accommodation but this is yet to be arranged.

Autumn 2014 AGM and Paper-reading session, RBGE, Edinburgh 13th-14th September 2014

Local Secretaries: Liz Kungu (email: E.Kungu@rbge.ac.uk) and David Long (email: D.Long@rbge.ac.uk)

The indoor meeting on Saturday 13th September will be held at the Royal Botanic Gardens,

Edinburgh. On the Sunday there will be a field excursion to the East Lothian basalt and coast. Further details will be available later on the BBS website. An additional field meeting will follow the weekend for those who would like to extend their visit (see below for details).

Recording meeting, Newcastleton, Scotland, 15th-17th September, 2014

Local Secretaries: Liz Kungu (email: E.Kungu@rbge.ac.uk) and David Long (email: D.Long@rbge.ac.uk)

The autumn meeting will be followed by an additional field meeting based in Newcastleton, Roxburghshire. The Newcastleton area is quite oceanic and has a number of interesting wooded glens on limestone. One of these, the Black Burn is a valley system with a rich bryophyte flora, and is the only (but never re-discovered) Scottish locality for *Seligeria carniolica* (*Trochobryum*). A new concerted search for this will be a priority on Monday (15th), with the possibility of extending this on the Tuesday or visiting other sites. On the Wednesday (17th) there would be a morning excursion.

Regional meeting, Wetton Mill and Manifold Valley, Peak District, 8th November 2014

Local secretary: Martin Godfrey (email: MartinandRosie@aol.com)

We will visit Wetton Mill and the Manifold Valley. Woodland, grassland, rock exposures and river/flush will give a good range of limestone species and aquatics. Unusually parts of the river Manifold are often dry allowing easy examination of species which would normally be under water. Beginners welcome. For further details contact the local secretary.

BBS *Orthotrichum* Workshop, Dorset, 16th-19th May 2014

A BBS Workshop on *Orthotrichum* will be run by Tom Blockeel and Sam Bosanquet at the Kingcombe Centre in Dorset on 16th-19th May 2014. Dr Francisco Lara (University of Madrid) and Dr Ricardo Garilleti (University of Valencia), two of the world's leading experts on the genus, have agreed to join the workshop and their expertise will be invaluable. *Orthotrichum* is a fascinating genus, not least because new species are colonising our islands and others have extended their range following reductions in air pollution. A major objective of the workshop will be to stimulate searches for rare and incoming species, which are surely under-recorded. The workshop is intended for improvers and experts: you should at least be able to recognise a member of the genus even if you have trouble with the species!

The meeting will run from the evening of Friday 16th May until Sunday 18th, but there will be an optional extension on Monday 19th May for further field work. The expected cost is £180 per person for the main part of the meeting (Friday to Sunday), including dinner, B&B and lunch, and a further £90 for the additional day. There is a 10% reduction for those sharing rooms. Places at the workshop will be limited, so if you wish to attend please register as soon as possible. Between 11th November and 3rd December contact Sam Bosanquet (sambbryo@aol.com), and outside those dates Tom Blockeel (Tblockeel@aol.com; Tel. 01142366861). Further information about the Kingcombe Centre can be found at <http://www.kingcombe.org/>.