



WILDLIFE IN THE MARCHES

MARK LAWLEY

Wildlife in the Marches

Two of the editors of the BBS's Field Guide have collaborated on producing a new book 'Wildlife in the Marches', which contextualises bryology in the wider scope of natural history. The book can be ordered online from Amazon, or by post from Marches Publications, 12A Castleview Terrace, Ludlow, Shropshire SY8 2NG. Please make your cheque for £34.50 (which includes £6 P&P) payable to 'Mark Lawley'.

Bryological libraries for sale

The bryological libraries of Cliff Townsend and Michael Pearman have been catalogued and are being sold on their behalf by Acanthophyllum Books. They comprise some 300 Floras and several long journal runs including a set of the *BBS Transactions* from vol. 1 to *J. Bryol.* vol. 25 (2003), *Arctoa* vol. 1-13 (1993-2004), *The Bryologist* (1977-86), *Tropical Bryology* (1989-2008) and *Lindbergia* vol. 1-29 (1971-2004). Also included are some classic 19th century titles in leather bindings.

For further details please contact John Edmondson, Acanthophyllum Books, 243 Pensby Road, Heswall, Wirral, CH61 5UA, email a.books@mac.com

BBS Local Groups

The BBS has a growing network of active local groups which form a very valuable part of the Society's activities. Discussion at the BBS Council raised the question: – What defines a BBS local group? There's considerable variation in the way they are organised, and some of the activities overlap with other groups such as natural history societies. So Council has agreed a description of BBS Local Groups that defines them as part of the Society:

A BBS Local Group has to be formally registered with the General Secretary; it should be listed on the BBS Website with contact details. The organiser or group leader needs to be a member of the BBS and all group activities must take place with the authority of that person. An example of where this could be important is in connection with the BBS public liability insurance which does cover registered local groups. (This insurance is required by some land-owners, such as the Forestry Commission, for organised groups carrying out activities on their sites.) So please keep me informed about your local group details, and let me know if you are starting up a new BBS local group. A copy of the insurance certificate is sent to all groups after the annual renewal in February, together with the BBS Safety Policy, and a general purpose risk assessment which we recommend you use.

Rachel Carter, Hon. General Secretary

Errata



In *Field Bryology* volume 113, p. 48, Fig. 5 (reproduced above), the figure caption was printed as: “Fig. 5. West Mine, Alderley Edge, in 1997 (left) and 2014 (right). The red arrow marks the location of the, now locally extinct, population of *Cephaloziella nicholsonii*. D.A. Callaghan.”

This caption contained an error in the meaning of the red arrow and the photo credit. A corrected version reads:

“Fig 5. West Mine (‘sandhills’), Alderley Edge, in 1997 (left; S.R. Edwards) and 2014 (right; D.A. Callaghan). For reference, the red arrow indicates a common location in each image. *Cephaloziella nicholsonii* was present along the ditch in 1997 but by 2014 was gone due to vegetation succession.”

Special issue of *Biological Journal of the Linnean Society* on biological recording

Biological Journal of the Linnean Society volume 115 part 3 (July 2015) is devoted to biological recording, and it might therefore be of special interest to many BBS members. The issue (guest-edited by H.E. Roy, C.D. Preston & D.B. Roy) marks the 50th anniversary of the Biological Records Centre and many of the papers are based on talks given at the celebratory conference held at the University of Bath in June 2014.

There is an editorial introduction and 22 papers, of which three deal with bryophytes. In addition, there are papers on the Biological Records Centre as a pioneer of citizen science and on bias in biological records, and reviews of the uses of biological records in general and in IUCN Red List assessments, in understanding biological invasions and in tracking the spread and impacts of diseases in particular. Vascular plants are covered by further papers on hybridisation, phenology and ecological monitoring schemes. Studies of other groups cover the history of the water beetle recording scheme (‘the oldest insect recording scheme’), the relationship of the ranges of phytophagous insects to those of their hosts, recent trends in the insects of early successional habitats, the impact of climate change on the northern range margins of a range of invertebrate groups and the effectiveness of protected areas in conserving species with changing ranges. The remaining papers examine the future influence of emerging technologies and of molecular techniques on biological recording and discuss the pitfalls of ecological forecasting. A final paper sets out a 10-point plan for biological recording in the next decade.

For titles and abstracts of all articles, see <http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/bij.2015.115.issue-3/issuetoc>. The full text of most papers is no longer available free-to-download, but if you contact the author of any paper of particular interest to you he or she should be able to send you a copy.

C.D. Preston

Changes to the Membership List, October 2015

New members

Clark, Gustav, 4 Lisle Close, Newbury, Berkshire, RG14 1PT, UK

Colston, Adrian, Christmas Cottage, 3 The Avenue, Exton, Exeter, Devon, EX3 0PX, UK

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lane, Waldron, Heathfield, East Sussex, TN21 0NG, UK

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Tompkins, David, 121a Hadley Park Road, Leegomery, Telford, Shropshire, TF1 6QF, UK

Woodbridge, Abi, PO Box 107, Unalaska, AK99685, USA

Resignations

Boniface, A D, 40 Pentland Avenue, Chelmsford, Essex, CM1 4AZ, UK

Burniston, Paul, 139 Sandringham Drive, Leeds, West Yorkshire, LS17 8DQ, UK

Cunningham, Andrew, 9 The Close, Tiverton, Devon, EX16 6HR, UK

Ederra, Alicia, Departamento de Botanica, Facultad de Ciencias, Universidad de Navarra, E - 31008 Pamplona, Spain

Frey, Prof. Dr. W, Ortlerweg 39d, 12207 Berlin, Germany

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- Hudson, Sarah Louise*, 14 Fore Street, Loddiswell, Kingsbridge, Devon, East Sussex, TQ7 4QU, UK
- Kingsbury, Dr Sylvia*, Tingles, Wentnor, Bishops Castle, Shropshire, SY9 5EE, UK
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- Lock, Dr J M*, Glen Fern, Whitford Road, Musbury, Axminster, Devon, EX13 7AP, UK
- McIntosh, Joan*, 26 Loaning Hill Park, Uphall, West Lothian, EH52 5EB, UK
- Seaward, Prof. M R D*, Dept. of Environmental Science, University of Bradford, Bradford, Yorkshire, BD7 1DP, UK
- Siegel, Dr Manfred*, Bismarckstr. 29, D-01257 Dresden, Germany
- Wayne, David*, Rose Bank, Toadmoor Lane, Ambergate, Belper, Derbyshire, DE56 2GN, UK
- Change of address**
- Arroniz-Crespo, Maria*, C/Rafael de Riego No. 11, 6 A 28045 Madrid, Spain
- Blackstock, Dr Nigel*, 37 Leighton Drive, St Helens, Merseyside, WA9 3GS, UK
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- Brown, Samantha*, 3 Blacksmiths Cottages, Clarkes Lane, Ilketshall St Andrew, Beccles, Suffolk, NR34 8HR, UK
- Cameron, Fiona*, 21 Cart Lane, Grange over Sands, Cumbria, LA11 7AF, UK
- Coudert, Yoan*, School of Biological Sciences, Harrison Group, University of Bristol, Life Sciences Building, 24 Tyndale Avenue, Bristol, BS8 1TQ, UK
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- Denyer, Dr Joanne*, 11 Dargel View, Rathfarnham, Dublin, D16 XY51, Ireland
- Gadson, Sally*, 53 St Albans Road, Woodford Green, Essex, IG8 9EQ, UK
- Hoitomp, Torbjorn*, Livegen 300, 3803 Boi Telemark, N-Norway
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- Kaye, Timothy*, 43 Crossways, Peterchurch, Herefordshire, HR20TQ, UK
- Lye, Kaare Arnstein*, Kroervegen 243, NO 1430 AAS, Norway
- Perrin, Philip*, 37 Clonliffe Avenue, Ballybough, Dublin 3, Ireland
- Rimington, William*, 1 Lansdown Road, Tonbridge, Kent, TN9 1JB, UK
- Stanton, Dr Daniel*, 100 Ecology Building, 1987 Upper Buford Circle, Saint Paul, MN55108, USA
- Stevenson, Diane*, 22B En Chatagnis, Apples 1143, Switzerland
- Stow, Sarah*, 5 Victoria Yard, Victoria Row, Canterbury, Kent, CT1 1GZ, UK
- Taborska, Marketa*, Drobneho 12, 60200 Brno, Czech Republic
- Townsend, Cliff*, Laurel Dene, 117 Hampton Road, Hampton, Middlesex, TW12 1JQ
- Deaths**
- Greven, Dr H C*, Koninginneweg 2, NL 3941 DP DOORN, The Netherlands
- Stieperaere, Dr Herman*, Botanic Garden Meise, Nieuwelaan 38, B-186 Meise, Belgium

Future Meetings and Courses

Details of the BBS meeting programme for 2016 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, nr Ennerdale Lake, West Cumbria, 12-13 March 2016

Local Secretary: Diane Dobson (email: DDobson@openspace.gb.com)

A two day event to explore an under-recorded area, mainly south of Ennerdale Lake in West Cumbria. Saturday will be spent recording in the Kinniside Common area NY0712 (Lankrigg Moss/Latterbarrow Moss) – moorland and the River Calder. Sunday will be spent at two forestry commission sites: the Heckbarley area NY0714 and the Broadmoor area NY0815. Saturday meet initially at 10.00am at a small parking area NY 06095 11964. Sunday meet initially at 10.00am in the National Trust car park by Ennerdale Lake NY 08557 15310. For further information and to book please contact Diane Dobson.

BRECOG weekend meeting, Gloucestershire, 11-13 March 2016

Local Secretary: Jeff Bates (email: jwb.bryol@gmail.com)

This meeting will be based in either the Forest of Dean or the Cotswolds. More detail on the meeting will be available in the New Year. Please contact Jeff Bates for details or to express interest in attending.

Spring 2016 Field Meeting, Llandrindod Wells (VC 43), 7-12 April 2016

Local secretary: Mark Hill (e-mail: moh@ceh.ac.uk)

Llandrindod Wells is the county town of Radnorshire (VC 43), perhaps the least populous vice-county in Britain. There is a bryophyte flora (Woods, R.G., 1993, Flora of Radnorshire, Cardiff). The BBS had a very successful meeting at Llandrindod in 1965, when Jean Paton and David Chamberlain jointly found *Schistostega pennata*, new for VC 42 (Brecknock). There has been little systematic recording in the past 25 years, though Mark Lawley made several productive visits, finding *Barbilophozia kunzeana*, *Jamesoniella undulifolia*, *Jubula hutchinsiae*, *Plagiochila bifaria*, *Scapania paludicola*, *Grimmia montana* and *Platydictya jungermannioides*. I aim to record all the hectads of Radnorshire; there is much good upland country and some lowland. Most planned sites are not well known, but Sam Bosanquet will lead an excursion to Stanner Rocks. Except for the Saturday excursion to the Elan Valley, we shall split into smallish groups. The Glen Usk Hotel, offering rooms to BBS members at £35 per night, is our HQ. We are also hiring a lab and bunk room (price £10 per night) in Newbridge-on-Wye, 10 minutes' drive away.

BBS-SEB International Bryological Meeting, Western Andalusia, Spain, 30 May-6 June 2016

Local secretaries: Joanne Denyer (e-mail: joanne@denyerecology.com), Francisco Lara García and Maren Flagmeier

This is a joint meeting between the BBS and the Spanish Bryological Society. It will be based in Western Andalusia in the southernmost mountains of the Iberian Peninsula. The nearest airport is Malaga, with daily flights from many UK airports. The meeting will run from Monday to Monday. The field trip will include a few days visiting interesting sites that are well known from a bryological point of view (for example *Abies pinsapo* forests at Ronda mountains, Torcal de Antequera, etc.). In addition there

will be visits to more poorly known areas and a day (indoor) for scientific discussion. More details will be available on the website. Please email expressions of interest to joanne@denyerecology.com.

Summer meeting Week 1, County Tyrone, Northern Ireland, 30 July-6 August 2016

Local secretaries: [Joanne Denyer and Richard Weyl](#) (e-mail: joanne@denyerecology.com)

The first week of the BBS summer meeting in Ireland is based County Tyrone. The HQ will be confirmed early in 2016 and details will be available on the BBS website. Co. Tyrone (H36) is the largest county in Northern Ireland and has a surprisingly diverse and complex geology including Carboniferous limestone in the south and generally more acidic rocks elsewhere. The associated habitats are also varied and dominated by extensive peatlands and grasslands, hills reaching 670 metres, large river systems and scattered ancient woodlands. Co. Tyrone is the most under-recorded county remaining in Ireland. Some areas in the northern part of the county are better recorded such as in the mountains on the border with H40. However, outside of these areas the VC is very under-recorded, with many hectads having less than 50 recent records. We will focus on these under-recorded areas. Please email expressions of interest to joanne@denyerecology.com.

Summer meeting Week 2, County Donegal, Ireland, 6-13 August 2016

Local secretary: [Rory Hodd and Gordon Haycock](#) (e-mail: rlhodd@gmail.com)

The main aim of this meeting will be to tackle the largest block of very under-recorded hectads remaining in Ireland, covering parts of East and West Donegal (VC H34 and H35). The meeting will be centrally based in the Letterkenny area, from where most parts of Donegal can be easily reached. Although the focus will be on systematic recording, many elements of the rich oceanic bryophyte flora of western Ireland will be encountered. Contact Rory Hodd for more information or to express an interest in attending.

Autumn 2016 AGM and Paper-reading session, Manchester, 9-11 September 2016

Local secretary: [Jennifer Rowntree](#) (email: Jennifer.Rowntree@manchester.ac.uk)

There will be an indoor session on Saturday, followed by a field visit on Sunday. Further details will be available in the next issue of *Field Bryology* and on the BBS website.

***Grimmia* workshop, 16 – 18 Sep 2016**

Local Organiser: [Martin Godfrey](#) (email martinandrosie@aol.com), Trainer: [Ron Porley](#)

The workshop will be held at Blencathra Field Centre, Cumbria. The workshop will attempt to impart an appreciation of the characters and methods necessary for the successful naming of *Grimmia* collections. Because of the variability (environmentally induced) of most *Grimmia*, they do present a challenge especially to novices wishing to name them, and some specimens will inevitably remain enigmatic. *Grimmia* taxonomy has settled down in recent years but there is still disagreement over limits of variability and what constitutes distinct taxa, and some of these issues will be discussed. Many, if not most, *Grimmia* cannot be safely named in the field and require microscopical checking. Emphasis is therefore on developing skills (such as sectioning) in the lab, but it may be possible to do some fieldwork if time allows. The workshop is aimed at those wishing to improve their understanding/identification of *Grimmia*, although beginners should also derive benefit from the session. If you have any specimens you would like to work on please bring them along.

At the moment it is anticipated that the costs will be £150, please keep an eye on the website for any updates. Bookings to Martin Godfrey. Numbers will be limited to 18 to fit available classroom space.