

The BBS is managed by its Council, a friendly group which plays a crucial role in shaping the policies and activities of the Society. If you are a member of the BBS who values its contributions to the study of your favourite plants and would like to help shape its future initiatives, please consider standing for election to Council. All it involves is making an effort to attend the twice yearly council meeting (usually one at AGM and one at the spring meeting) plus occasional matters passed round by email. Also, Council members are the Trustees of the BBS.

The New Data Protection Regulations (GDPR)

New Data Protection laws come into effect on 25th May. The BBS is working on policies and documents to ensure that it complies with the regulations. The crucial intention of the law is that all data relating to an individual are kept secure. The BBS Privacy Policy will be posted on the Society website when it has been approved by Council.

The BBS now needs permission from members to contact them (other than for routine, essential

administration). There is a form enclosed with this issue of *Field Bryology* for you to complete. All members must fill in and return either this form or the similar one which can be downloaded from the website.

The Journal of Bryology: The new contract between the BBS and Taylor & Francis for the publication of the Journal provides on-line access for all members. There is now the opportunity to choose whether to receive the printed copies of the Journal as well. If you want the “hard copy” journal this will continue exactly as previously but you **must** indicate that you wish for it, on the same form.

R.H. Carter, General Secretary, March 2018

Election of Officers and Elected Members of Council

The terms of the following Officers expire at the end of 2018: Treasurer, Editors of *Field Bryology*, Meetings Secretary, Education Officer, and Website Editor. The current holder of the post of Treasurer has served for 10 years, the normal limit of tenure, and the Editors of *Field Bryology* do not wish to stand again. The present incumbents of the other offices are eligible for re-election.

The Recorder for Liverworts resigned at the end of 2017; Council co-opted N.G. Hodgetts to fill the position. The AGM will be asked to confirm this appointment. There are two vacancies for Elected Members, each to serve for a period of 3 years.

News and Society Business

Members are invited to submit nominations for Officers and Elected Members of Council, 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 6th September 2018. A nomination must not be made without the consent of the person whom it is wished to nominate. Elections will be held at the AGM in Llanrwst on 6th October 2018.

R.H. Carter, General Secretary, March 2018

Annual General Meeting 2018

The Annual General Meeting will be held at 4.30 p.m. on Saturday, 6th October 2018 at the Glasdir Business and Conference Centre, Llanrwst, North Wales.

The agenda will comprise the standard business: namely, Minutes of the 2017 AGM, the Annual Report of the Trustees for 2017, Accounts and Treasurer's Report for 2017, the President's report from Council, the election of Officers and Elected Members (see separate notice), the place and date of the 2019 AGM, and any other business.

The full agenda, minutes and reports are in the booklet enclosed with this issue of *Field Bryology* (vol. 119).

R.H. Carter, General Secretary, March 2018

It's goodbye from us!

After 5 years and ten issues of *Field Bryology* we feel it is time to hand over the editorial reins to a fresh team. We are delighted that Mari Whitelaw and Chris Preston have agreed to take on the role as your new editors.

Please continue to send submissions for *Field Bryology* to fieldbryology@gmail.com until new arrangements are confirmed.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who have contributed content over the last 5 years and to our proof readers Mark Lawley and Howard Matcham.

J. Wilbraham & S. Pressel

Council Newsletter no. 34: as given to the 2017 AGM at British Antarctic Survey, Cambridge, October 2017

I won't be very long, and the Presidential address consists mostly in reporting the work of Council to the Society and thanking all the excellent officers of the Society who keep the show on the road, but first I'm afraid I need to report the deaths of four members. The first is Elinor Wiltshire, who died at the age of 99 earlier this year, the second Malcolm McFarlane, a long-standing member (1956) who did not attend BBS meetings but did attend local meetings in Sussex, produced a liverwort *Flora of Northamptonshire* in 1962 and apparently also collected in Nigeria; the third is Dan Norris, the distinguished American bryologist; the fourth is

regional records section.

Field Bryology also continues to be a success under the editorship of Jo Wibraham and Silvia Pressel, and I know all Society members appreciate their efforts in producing such a professional and attractive publication. The recent production issues with the *Field Guide* were eventually solved, and we got a very favourable deal with the printers, in which they agreed to replace defective copies free of charge.

There have been some very successful and enjoyable meetings during the year. Since the last AGM, there was a taxonomic workshop on *Grimmia*, run by Ron Porley at the Blencathra Field Centre, and a Lake District field

Andreas Stansvik, a young Swedish bryologist who was tragically killed in a fall during the Nordic Bryological Society's meeting in the Faroe Islands this summer.

The Society continues to be very robust financially, and we should thank our Treasurer David Chamberlain for all his work ensuring that they remain so. The year ended with, at last, the new *Journal of Bryology* contract with Taylor and Francis being signed. Liz Kungu and Rachel Carter have done most of the work on this, in terms of dealing with Taylor and Francis, and they both deserve special thanks in view of the occasional difficulties encountered; and of course that is in addition to our thanks to Liz for continuing her editorial role with the Journal, which continues to be a success, with many bryologists submitting papers and many interesting articles published. It is a truly international journal, with, I think on a quick count, 11 separate nationalities represented in the authorship of papers in just the last issue, and that's not counting the New national and

Field Centre in the Lake District, which was extremely useful, and subsequently Ron has published his new key to British and Irish *Grimmia* in *Field Bryology*. I gather the Spring meeting in Jersey was, although rather warm and dry for bryophytes, enjoyed by the few who attended, so thanks to Anne Haden for organising that. The first week of the summer meeting, which relatively few people attended, was in Perthshire, and the second week, which was extremely well attended, was in Applecross in the west Highlands. Both weeks were great fun, and thanks to Julie Smith and Rory Whytock for organising the Perthshire week, and to David Long for the Applecross week. BRECOG continued, thanks to Jeff Bates, with a session in the New Forest in March. The AGM at the British Antarctic Survey headquarters in Cambridge was very well attended and a great success. I heard one member comment that it was possibly the best venue for an AGM that they had ever been to. During that meeting, I was delighted to be able to invite one of our most

eminent and influential members, Dr. Chris Preston, into honorary membership of the Society. Thank you to Lucia Ruffino, our Meetings Secretary, for overseeing the meetings, and for finding local organisers.

Many members of the Society continue to be very active in the field: a quick glance at *The Moss Year* and *The Liverwort Year* in *Field Bryology* shows a steady flow of new county records, including new sites for rare species like *Buxbaumia viridis* and *Orthodontium gracile*, and not only have we had *Ditrichum pallidum* published new to Britain and Ireland, but new morphological and molecular taxonomic work has meant there are new challenges for all of us in the field: *Ulota crispa* is no longer easy, because we now

Future Meetings and Courses

An overview of the BBS meeting programme for 2018 is given below (further details given on the BBS website). Many areas also have BBS local group meetings and details of these can also be found on the website. Please contact the local Secretary if you wish to attend.

Summer Field Meeting Week 1:

Isle of Arran (VC 100), 24th-30th July 2018

Local secretary: Rory Whytock

Email: Rory.whytock@gmail.com

Summer Field Meeting Week 2:

Isle of Man, joint with the BSBI, 16-23 July 2018

Additional information for the event, including links to travel options, is posted on the BSBI website at

have to distinguish it from *U. intermedia* and *U. crispula*; *Sphagnum fuscum* can now be either that or *S. beothuk*; *Tortella bambergeri* is no longer one species but two (although probably only one of them, *T. fasciculata*, occurs here); one result from the Applecross meeting was that Thomas Kiebacher discovered that we have *Hygrohypnum subeugyrium* in Britain as well as *H. eugyrium*, so that needs sorting out; and rumour has it that *Frullania tamarisci* and *T. tortuosa* may be split into several species before long.

Finally, as retiring President, I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to all the officers of the Society who have made my job so much easier, and especially to the indefatigable Dr. Rachel Carter, our General Secretary, surely unsurpassed for her efficiency and effectiveness, and altogether a pleasure to work with.

Nick Hodgetts, BBS President

<http://bsbi.org/annual-summer-meeting>

Autumn 2018 AGM and Paper-reading meeting:

Llanrwst, North Wales, 6-7 October 2018

Local secretary: Lucia Ruffino

Email: luciaruffino65@gmail.com

Didymodon Workshop, 26-28th October, 2018

This workshop will be presented by Tom Blockeel and Jan Kučera (University of South Bohemia) at the University of Leicester Botanic Garden on 26-28th October, 2018. Microscopes will be available. Those needing overnight accommodation will need to book rooms in nearby hotels or B&Bs. Further information will be provided nearer the time.

Please note that the workshop is intended as an intermediate/advanced level course. There will be an administration fee of around £40 per person to cover room hire and other costs. Numbers will be limited to 16, plus the presenters.

In view of the limited number of places, please register your interest as soon as possible by emailing Tom Blockeel (Tblockeel@aol.com).