

... And it's goodbye from him ...

Well it's not really 'goodbye'; more a case of 'see you soon'. I'm certainly not leaving the BBS, but after 5 years as Editor of *Field Bryology*, I have regretfully taken the decision to retire from the post and hand over the baton (hopefully without dropping it!).

I have thoroughly enjoyed every part of the job and I hope that I have managed to satisfy the Society and all its members with the content and presentation of each issue. Of course, the job would be impossible without all the contributions from authors, reviewers, photographers and artists, not forgetting my proof-reader and the Website Editor, and the support of the BBS Publications Committee. To all of you I am

deeply indebted and I say a heartfelt thank you. I must not finish without acknowledging my wife Alex who has often found herself to be an FB widow.

I am very pleased indeed to announce that the magazine will be in very safe hands with its two new Editors – Jo Wilbraham and Sylvia Pressel, bryologists from the Natural History Museum in London. I trust they will receive the same support that I have enjoyed. I wish them well and I look forward to seeing FB go from strength to strength in future.

Ian Atherton

Editor

NMW and BBSUK specimen lists available online at National Museum Wales

Amgueddfa Cymru-National Museum Wales in Cardiff holds an extensive collection of bryophytes, totalling close to 290,000 specimens, including the BBS herbarium (BBSUK), currently with just over 40,000 specimens.

Documentation projects are being undertaken as part of an ongoing programme of increasing access to the collections, and the data are being made available online. These include checklists of the bryophyte specimens held in NMW as well as data for the *Sphagnum* collection and BBSUK.

The lists of bryophyte specimens held include all the taxa represented in the herbarium. UK, then foreign species are listed in alphabetical order with each vice-county and/or country that NMW holds a specimen for listed alongside.

A catalogue of BBSUK specimens is available (currently up to 2008), and these are listed with full collection details separately.

Also online is a detailed catalogue of the *Sphagnum* specimens in NMW and BBSUK (approximately 17,000 specimens of 85 taxa). The *Sphagnum Catalogue* includes notes on incorporated herbaria and exsiccatae, and the collections include a number of significant personal herbaria, e.g. those of J.W. & R.D. Fitzgerald, Paul W. Richards, Francis Rose, E.W. Jones and E.C. Wallace amongst others.

To access these catalogues, go to the NMW home page www.museumwales.ac.uk, select 'Curatorial & Research', and then under 'Biodiversity & Systematic Biology' select 'Lower Plants'. The 'Collections' part of this section has links to the online catalogues. Alternatively, use this direct link: www.museumwales.ac.uk/en/biosyb/lowerplants/collections/

If you have any queries about the lists, or any comments or corrections, please contact Katherine Slade (katherine.slade@museumwales.ac.uk), Department of Biodiversity & Systematic Biology, Amgueddfa Cymru-National Museum Wales, Cathays Park, Cardiff, CF10 3NP

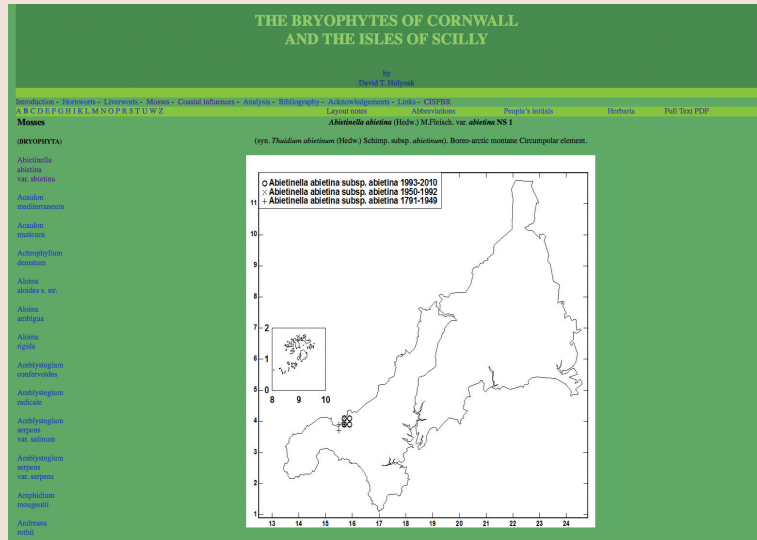
The Bryophytes of Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly – David Holyoak

This new bryophyte flora of Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly (in south-west England) has been published online at www.cisfbr.org.uk by the Cornwall and Isles of Scilly Federation of Biological Recorders (CISFBR). Open it by clicking on the 'Bryophytes' tab.

The flora is based on 48,532 tetrad records collected mainly by the author from 1993 to 2010. Comparisons are also made with 33,943

records made or assembled by Mrs Jean Paton from 1950 to 1992. The text consists of:

- ▷ Introduction, covering the scope and aims of the study, coverage and treatment of old records, recording since 1993 and presentation of data.
- ▷ Notes on species, covering hornworts, liverworts and mosses). The species accounts list the first records for each vice-county and comment on habitats, ecology and production of sporophytes. 625 maps show distribution by three date classes.



- ▷ Over 600 photos illustrate the majority of species.
 - ▷ Two analytical chapters that examine coastal influences on bryophyte distribution and analysis of changes in bryophyte distribution.
 - ▷ An extensive bibliography.
- A PDF of the full text can be downloaded.
- The CISFBR website also hosts the *Red Data Book for Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly* (2nd edn, 2009). This provides accounts of the threatened bryophytes of the same region and their conservation.

BBS on Facebook

The BBS now has a Facebook page. As with any aspect of the BBS it exists to promote the study of bryophytes and the work of the society and its members. Facebook promotes the communication between people with shared interests across the globe, allowing for pictures, videos and other information to be shared easily and quickly. This presents an opportunity to share knowledge, gain help with identifications and find links to bryological resources on the internet that you may have missed. The BBS Facebook page can be viewed even if you are not a member of Facebook, but if you are please 'like' the page (www.facebook.com/britishmoss).



Index of BBS publications 1896–2012

Some members may not be aware of the website www.pemas.demon.co.uk which includes a Cumulative Index of all publications of the Society, from the founding of the Moss Exchange Club (MEC) in 1896 up to the present day. It is compiled by Phil Stanley as an on-going work. It contains indexed items from the *Bulletin*, *Field Bryology*, *Journal of Bryology* and its predecessor (*Transactions of the BBS*) as well as books and booklets published by the Society.

The idea for the Index came from the late Professor Paul Richards and the late Dr Eustace Jones (Jonah) and Phil started work on it in 1988. Initially, it was to be distributed as a printed book, but this proved to be expensive. It was fortunate that, later in the 1990s, the web became generally available to members and it was decided that publication via this means would not only be much cheaper but also provide a means for routine updating.

Starting when the MEC was founded in 1896, the current version of the index (8.3) covers the period up to 14 October 2012 [up to *Field Bryology* vol. 107 and *Journal of Bryology* vol. 34(3)]. At present there are in excess of 42,000 citations and the file is in PDF format which can be downloaded from the website and searched. The Index is updated every 3–4 months.

The website also has a number of tables providing other details of the Society, for example the names of Presidents and Secretaries, details of Census Catalogues, and various individual special publications produced by the Society. It also has a set of Google maps showing where the BBS has held its annual Spring and Summer meetings since 1941.

Changes to the Membership List, October 2012

These changes refer to the September 2011 list.

Changes of address and amendments

Blackstock, Mr T.H., Eirianallt, Glanrafon, Llangoed, Anglesey, Caernavonshire LL58 8PG

Charman, Mr Tom, 20 Station Close, Riding Mill, Northumberland NE44 6HE

Headley, Dr A.D., PlantEcol, 5 High Clere Court, Margerison Road, Ben Rhydding, Ilkley, West Yorkshire LS29 8QU

Hoitomp, Torbjorn, Haugerudveien 60, 1430 AS, Norway

McLay, Andrew, 14 Radcliffe Road, Haydon Bridge, Hexham, Northumberland NE47 6ET

Motley, Mr G.S., 4 Bryn Celyn Way, Llangynidr, Crickhowell, Powys NP8 1LY

Schrijvers-Gonlag, Mr Marcel, Gamle Kongevei 51, 2480 Koppang, Norway

New members

Adcock, Pam, 2 Milburn Close, Hexham, Northumberland NE46 2NY

Allred, Kelly, 2015 Jordan Road, Las Cruces, NM88001, USA

Banks, Karen, Duros Road, Cornamona, Galway, Ireland

Bastos, Cid Jose Passos, Rua Vandick Reidner no. 1, Primeira etapa, Castelo Branco, Salvador-Bahia, 41322-095, Brazil

Biron, Elizabeth, 67 Addison Grove, Taunton, Somerset TA2 6JH

Cathcart, Declan, Heatherview, Annagh, Goreg, Co. Wexford, Ireland

Cowan, Carolyn, 60 Gilmerton Dykes Drive, Edinburgh EH17 8LF

Duff, Katharine, Brooklawn Lodge, Newtownpark Avenue, Blackrock, Dublin, Ireland

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Godfrey, Alistair, 18 Isla Road, Luncarty, Perth, Perthshire and Kinross PH1 3HN

Hack, Valerie, Ghyll House, Great Ormside, Appleby, Cumbria CA16 6EY

Hiscutt, Allan, 5 Horsecroft Way, Tilehurst, Reading, Berkshire RG31 6XW

Ingimundardottir, Groa Valgerour, Smaviltsgranden 9, Lund, 2262, Sweden

Jackson, Kirsty, Slipstones, Newton Reigny, Penrith, Cumbria CA11 0AY

Jobson, Helen, 2 Caraway Road, Fulbourne, Cambridge CB21 5DU

McCarthy, Andrew, Penn Hill Cottage, Dunchideock, Exeter, Devon EX6 7YE

McCormick, David, 65 Beechgrove Avenue, Belfast, Northern Ireland, BT6 0ND

Patchett, Paul, 7 Church Park, Lea Town, Preston, Lancashire PR4 0SJ

Penalosa, Javier, 435 W. Delavan Avenue, Buffalo, NY 14213, USA

Smith, Julie, 14 Chestnut Place, Cumbernauld, North Lanarkshire G67 3NW

Tonge, Katherine, 41 Grosvenor Gardens, Newcastle upon Tyne NE2 1HQ

Wallace, Geoff, 5 Newhouse Terrace, Dunbar EH42 1LG

Acrocarp Identification Workshop: **Preston Montford Field Studies Centre** 8–10 Feb 2013

Organizer – Martin Godfrey (e martinandrosie@aol.com); **Trainer** – Sharon Pilkington

For beginners and improvers, this workshop will enable participants to learn how to identify many widespread acrocarps. An intensive mixture of lectures, microscope exercises and a short excursion will provide opportunities to study acrocarps in depth. Workshop participants will hone field skills and master some of the trickier

microscope techniques required to identify genera and species with confidence. 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 e-mail the organizer.

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)

The meeting will be centred on the ‘Suisse Normande’ area, probably at Thury-Harcourt, Clécy or Pont d’OUILLY, small towns on the scenic River Orne in Calvados. However, at least one excursion will be made into Manche and Orne. 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 sea cliffs 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.

The intention is to book a large holiday cottage to serve as 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. In March, it should be possible to find a self-catering gîte for 2–4 people for 1 week for around €300. Camping is also available. Hotel accommodation is limited in this area and the costs can be rather high. Please e-mail the Local Secretary to book a place in HQ.

BRECOG Field Weekend 2013: **Rhyd-y-cruau Field Centre, North Wales** 26–28 April 2013

Local secretary – Martin Godfrey (e martinandrosie@aol.com)

The annual BRECOG field weekend, led by Jeff Bates, will be held at the Rhyd-y-cruau Field Centre in Snowdonia. There is a good selection of habitat types suitable for all surveying abilities. Costs for the weekend

are £110 for a shared room, £130 for a single; this will include meals from dinner on Friday 26 to lunch on the 28 April. If you would like to take part please book with the Local Secretary.

Summer 2013 Meeting Week 1: **Kinlochewe** 22–29 June 2013

Local secretary – Oliver Moore (e o.moore10@imperial.ac.uk)

The aim of this week is to survey some outlying tetrads on the Letterewe estate in the NW Highlands and to visit quiet corners of local NNRS in order to boost records. Dormitory accommodation with self-catering facilities and lab space has kindly been offered by SNH at

Anancaun Field Centre in return for contributing records. There are other options available in Kinlochewe for those wishing to arrange their own accommodation. Please email your interest to the Local Secretary stating if you wish to stay at the field station.

Summer 2013 Meeting Week 2: **Raasay, Hebrides** 29 June–6 July 2013

Local secretary – Nick Hodgetts (e nick1901@hotmail.com)

Raasay is a medium-sized island off the east coast of Skye. 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.