

Society business

Future meetings of the Society

Members are reminded to read the BBS Safety Code, which was published in *Bulletin* 43 and is available from local secretaries for inspection during BBS meetings. Please inform local secretaries well in advance if you intend to join a meeting, even if you are not staying at the headquarters accommodation.

Workshop 2007, Preston Montford, 9-11 March

Local secretary: Martin Godfrey, 6 Darnford Close, Parkside, Stafford, ST16 1LR; e-mail: MartinandRosie@aol.com.

This will be held at Preston Montford Field Centre in Shropshire. We plan to launch the Bryophyte Habitats Survey at this meeting and will endeavour to provide demonstrations of the methods for ecological survey and for studying reproductive biology, as well as undertaking sampling in different habitats. The cost for the meeting (accommodation, breakfasts, packed lunches, dinners) is £108 if sharing a room or £130 for a single room. Please direct your booking to Martin and make cheques payable to 'FSC'.

Spring field meeting 2007, Northamptonshire, 12-18 April

Joint local secretaries: Rachel Carter, 6 Church View, Wootton, Northampton, NN4 7LJ, tel: 01604 761 451; Joan James, 3 Finedon Hall, Mackworth Drive, Finedon, Wellingborough, NN9 5NL, tel: 01933 681044; joint e-mail address: BBSspring2007@googlemail.com.

The headquarters for the meeting will be Moulton College, which is located just to the north of Northampton. We have reserved 30 en suite single bedrooms. B&B will cost about £25 per night. Please let us know, by the end of January if possible, if you would like to book one of these rooms – some have been booked already and we are unlikely to be able to increase the number of rooms allocated to us. Evening meals (£5) and packed lunches (£5) are available. The college website (www.moulton.ac.uk) provides maps and information about accessibility by road and rail. If you do not have internet access and would like information about the location of, and transport to, the

college, or about alternative accommodation, please contact Joan.

On the first evening (Thursday 12 April) there will be an introduction to Northamptonshire and some of the sites to be visited; this will take place in a meeting room at Moulton College.

The focus on Friday will be quarries, including ironstone workings at Twywell Hills and Dales, and also Whiston and Irchester, where *Pterygoneurum ovatum* has been found comparatively recently. A favourite Wildlife Trust reserve, High Wood and Meadow, will be the starting venue the next day, before moving on to other sites in the south-west of the county. On Sunday we will go north to Ring Haw, where the Wildlife Trust has a project to re-create limestone grassland; there is 'a picturesque mosaic of limestone quarries, grassland, woodland and wetland'. Old Sulehay Forest and Bedford Purlieus National Nature Reserve (one of the richest bryophyte sites in Northamptonshire) are nearby. Much of the Nene Valley, which runs the length of the county, has been exploited for gravel extraction, and Monday's sites will include some of the resulting gravel pits, and maybe also reservoirs in other parts of the county. Since a significant factor in the choice of Northamptonshire for a BBS meeting is that it is an apparently under-recorded county, on the final day, Tuesday, we may spread out to cover little-known areas. And on Wednesday morning, as people head homewards, we can look at some churchyards – another good way of filling the gaps!

Summer field meeting 2007, first week: Mull, 14-21 July

Local secretary: Mark Lawley, 12A Castleview Terrace, Ludlow SY8 2NG; e-mail: m.lawley@virgin.net.

The first week of the summer meeting will be held on the island of Mull (vice-county 103), off the west coast of Scotland. The BBS has not hitherto met on Mull, and although several bryologists recorded on the island in the mid-20th century, little work has been done since 1970.

We will lodge in or near Salen, on the eastern side of the island, as it lies at the hub of the island's tortuous

network of roads, and also offers a range of accommodation and services.

Please inform the local secretary as soon as convenient if you wish to attend this meeting, as numbers will affect our programme of excursions.

Summer field meeting 2007, second week: Lewis, Outer Hebrides, 21 -28 July

Local secretary: Liz Kungu, Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh, 20A Inverleith Row, Edinburgh, EH3 5LR; e-mail: e.kungu@rbge.org.uk.

The second week of the summer meeting is planned as a recording session to tackle under-recorded 10-km squares on Lewis as a contribution to the update of the *Atlas*. There are 14 squares with less than 50 species recorded, four unrecorded squares, and another five with between 50-100 records.

There has not previously been a BBS meeting on Lewis/Harris and much of this area seems to have been very poorly recorded. A few of the squares are remote and will provide a real challenge but there are a number of squares that can be accessed relatively easily, so there will be a range for all. We will be based in Stornoway, as

this is the main centre of population and closest to most of the under-recorded squares.

Please inform the local secretary as soon as possible if you are interested in recording on Lewis, so we can gauge if there is enough support to allow this part of the meeting to take place.

Annual General Meeting and paper-reading session 2007, Liverpool, 29-30 September

Local secretary: John Edmondson, World Museum Liverpool, William Brown Street, Liverpool, L3 8EN; tel: 0151 478 4370; e-mail: john.edmondson@liverpoolmuseums.org.uk.

Next year's AGM will be held in Liverpool on Saturday 29 September. It will be followed by a field meeting in v.-c. 59 (South Lancashire) on Sunday 30 September.

The theme of the paper-reading session will be 'Bryology and bryologists, past present and future' and will be predominantly historical. To cater for future bryologists, an identification workshop will be held on Saturday morning at which beginners will be particularly welcome.

The local secretary would gladly receive offers of papers.

Other bryological meetings and courses in 2007

BBS Southern Group

All meetings start at 10.30 a.m. Contact Howard Matcham (hwlmatch@yahoo.co.uk; tel: 01243 781238) for further details. For details of South-East Group meetings contact Roy Hurr (e.r.hurr@ntlworld.com).

Sunday 14 January 2007. **Snelmore Common Country Park (SSSI)**, v.-c. 22. Dry and wet heath, valley mire with *Sphagnum* and wet woodland and scrub. Meeting point: car park and Ranger's office at SU464710, 4 km north of Newbury, close to Junction 13 of the M4 motorway (OS 1:50,000 sheet 174, Newbury and Wantage). The entrance to the reserve is across the road from the Mary Hare School. Leader: Jacqueline Wright. Please bring wellingtons. There is a good local pub 'The Blackbird'

which is recommended by the Ranger if anyone wants to warm up/drink/eat afterwards.

Sunday 25 February 2007. **Overton/Oakley area**, v.-c. 12. Meeting point: Overton Station, SU518508. We may move on in fewer cars. Leader: Fred Rumsey.

Sunday 18 March 2007. **Friston Forest**, v.-c. 14. Meeting point: car park at TQ518002. Two under-recorded 2-km squares. Leader: Malcolm McFarlane.

Sunday 22 April 2007. **Silchester Common**, v.-c. 12. Meeting point: the corner of the Common at SU635621. Leader: Fred Rumsey.

Field Studies Council Courses

- 9-11 February: **Mosses and Liverworts under the Microscope**. Tutor: Dr Martha Newton, Preston Montford Field Centre, Montford Bridge, Shrewsbury, Shropshire, SY4 1DX. A weekend course devoted to getting the best out of a microscope through close examination and dissection of material. Details from the Centre Director, Ms S. Townsend; tel: 01743 852040; e-mail: enquiries.pm@field-studies-council.org.
- 9-11 March: **Introduction to Mosses and Liverworts**. Tutor: Dr Martha Newton, Rhyd-y-creuau, The Drapers' Field Centre, Betws-y-coed, Conwy, LL24 0HB. Especially for beginners, but others welcome, too. Details from the Centre Director, Mr T. Orrell; tel: 01690 710494; e-mail: enquiries.rc@field-studies-council.org.
- 13-15 April: **Sphagnum Weekend**. Tutor: Dr Martha Newton, Rhyd-y-creuau, The Drapers' Field Centre, Betws-y-coed, Conwy, LL24 0HB. A chance to learn how to recognise most of the British species in the field, and to study them alongside keys. Details from the Centre Director, Mr T. Orrell; tel: 01690 710494; e-mail: enquiries.rc@field-studies-council.org.
- 25-30 April: **Mosses and Liverworts**. Tutor: Dr Martha Newton, Orielton Field Centre, Pembroke, Pembrokeshire, SA71 5EZ. Offering individual guidance in identification and ecology at all levels. Details from the Centre Director, Ms C. Millican; tel: 01646 623920; e-mail: enquiries.or@field-studies-council.org.
- 4-9 May: **Bryophytes: an Advanced Laboratory Course**. Tutor: Dr Martha Newton, Preston Montford Field Centre, Montford Bridge, Shrewsbury, Shropshire, SY4 1DX. An opportunity for experienced enthusiasts to explore special techniques, critical species and new developments. Details from the Centre Director, Ms S. Townsend; tel: 01743 852040; e-mail: enquiries.pm@field-studies-council.org.
- 29 June - 6 July: **Mosses and Liverworts**. Tutor: Dr Martha Newton, Kindrogan Field Centre, Enochdhu, Blairgowrie, Perthshire, PH10 7PG. Offering individual guidance in identification and ecology at all levels. Details from the Centre Director, Mr M. Jamieson; tel: 01250 870150; e-mail: enquiries.kd@field-studies-council.org.
- 6-10 July: **Sphagnum Mosses**. Tutor: Dr Martha Newton, Kindrogan Field Centre, Enochdhu, Blairgowrie, Perthshire, PH10 7PG. Three days to practise field identification of most species of this ecologically important genus. Details from the Centre Director, Mr M. Jamieson; tel: 01250 870150; e-mail: enquiries.kd@field-studies-council.org.
- 23-27 July: **Mosses and Liverworts of Wetland Habitats**. Tutor: Dr Martha Newton, Malham Tarn Field Centre, Settle, North Yorkshire, BD24 9PU. An opportunity to examine many of the significant ecological indicator species of these valuable and intriguing habitats. Details from the Centre Director, Mr A. Pickles; tel: 01729 830331; e-mail: enquiries.mt@field-studies-council.org.
- 27 July - 1 August: **Bryophytes for National Vegetation Classification**. Tutor: Dr Martha Newton, Rhyd-y-creuau, The Drapers' Field Centre, Betws-y-coed, Conwy, LL24 0HB. For everyone with a professional or amateur interest in bryophytes and their role in identifying types of plant communities. Details from the Centre Director, Mr T. Orrell; tel: 01690 710494; e-mail: enquiries.rc@field-studies-council.org.
- 3-10 August: **Mosses and Liverworts**. Tutor: Dr Martha Newton, Preston Montford Field Centre, Montford Bridge, Shrewsbury, Shropshire, SY4 1DX. Offering individual guidance in identification and ecology at all levels. Details from the Centre Director, Ms S. Townsend; tel: 01743 852040; e-mail: enquiries.pm@field-studies-council.org.
- 25 August - 1 September: **Mosses and Liverworts**. Tutor: Dr Martha Newton, Blencathra Field Centre, Threlkeld, Keswick, Cumbria, CA12 4SG. Offering individual guidance in identification and ecology at all levels. Details from the Centre Director, Mr T. Foster; tel: 017687 79601; e-mail: enquiries.bl@field-studies-council.org.

Membership subscriptions for 2006

At the time of writing (1 October) there are still no less than 49 people who have not yet paid their subscriptions for this year. Please could I ask any member whose payment is still outstanding (or who has lost interest) to put this matter in hand as soon as possible? Full payment instructions are available on the BBS website, and can also be obtained from me at the

address below. If anyone's payments are still outstanding at the end of the year, I shall regrettably have to cancel their membership.

Mark Pool (Membership Secretary), 91 Warbro Road, Torquay, TQ1 3PS, UK; e-mail: Mark.Pool@care4free.net.

Changes to the membership list, October 2006

As all changes since *Field Bryology* 89 are incorporated in the full list of members sent out with this issue, no separate list of changes has been published. Any queries concerning the members' list should be sent to the

Membership Secretary (Mark Pool, 91 Warbro Road, Torquay, Devon, TQ1 3PS, UK; e-mail: Mark.Pool@care4free.net).