

that this has been covered over by grasses and sedge.

Turning westward, shortly after the bridge, we made our way back across mainly dry heath, but with the occasional boggy pool, to the car park. Little new was found on the return leg, except for *Sphagnum compactum* and common heath species, including *Polytrichum juniperinum*, *P. piliferum* (much less common), *Campylopus introflexus*, *C. pyriformis* var. *pyriformis* and *Dicranum scoparium*.

The rare *Dicranum spurium*, once found at this site, was searched for, but in vain.

So ended a pleasant day with a total of 57 species (17 liverworts and 40 mosses) recorded. Not a large list, but certainly of interest for some of the smaller liverworts that are not common in Surrey.

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Southern group meeting

Five members enjoyed a very pleasant autumn day on 13 October 2007 recording the bryophytes and lichens in Roydon Woods, Brockenhurst (v.c. 11), a Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust reserve, which includes Woodhouse Copse and Bakers Copse where previously 122 bryophytes and 146 epiphytic lichens had been recorded (Brewis *et al.*, 1996). We concentrated most of our activities to the riverine habitat along the southern bank of the Lymington River in Bakers Copse. Here the wood consists of oak, (*Quercus robur*) ash, (*Fraxinus excelsior*), beech (*Fagus sylvatica*) and alder (*Alnus glutinosa*), with an understorey of hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*) and hazel (*Corylus avellana*).

The meeting began with finding the fungus *Stigmidium microspilum* (new to the wood) parasitising the lichen *Graphis scripta* on hazel, then re-finding a

27-year-old Francis Rose record, *Porella cordeana*, growing silt-encrusted on the base of an old ash, in all probability the same tree on which Francis had first discovered this exceedingly rare hepatic (in lowland southern England); it still remains its only locality in the vice-county. Alders alongside the river had two small *Orthotrichum* species on their lower trunks, above the water line: *O. affine* and, in the flood zone, *O. sprucei*, this latter species new to the wood and to the Lymington River catchment area. *Leskea polycarpa* and *Homalia trichomanoides* were also frequent on the lower trunks, *Orthotrichum tenellum* was nearby on a field maple (*Acer campestre*), and *Zygodon rupestre* was found on beech. Several streams leading down to the river had good colonies of *Hookeria lucens* on the banks and *Fontinalis antipyretica* in the stream.

Working our way upstream we came into an area rich with lichens, including *Chaenothecopsis nigra* on lignum inside a hollow alder (new to the wood), and some fine *Porina coralloidea* and *Leptogium teretiusculum* on an old ash. An old beech had a fruiting colony of *Bacidea incompta* in a wound track flowing from a knot hole and covering about 2.5 x 0.4 m. Here we came across a pleurocarpous moss growing on an ash that puzzled all of us, with strongly falcate, plicate leaves; it turned out to be a form of *Leucodon sciurioides*. Dixon's *The Students Handbook of British Mosses* mentions a *forma falcata* Boul. 'with branches long and arcuate, and the leaves decidedly falcato-secund': this describes the moss that we came across.



△ The Lymington River with riverine pasture woodland, Alder regeneration on course woody debris. Neil Sanderson

Epipterygium tozeri is an uncommon moss in v.c. 11, and we came across two colonies on clayey soil within the flood zone; neither of these small colonies had sporophytes, which are rarely seen in the south. Another moss seldom seen

Meeting reports – Southern group

with sporophytes is *Cirriphyllum piliferum*; this and *Eurhynchium striatum* were frequent members of the ground flora.

Finally we paid our respects to a large ash with a fine colony of *Pterygonium gracile*, a rare and declining species in the lowlands, *Homalothecium sericeum* with sporophytes and the lichens *Wadleana dendrographa*, *Leptogium lichenoides* and *Agonimia octospora*.

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Reference

Brewis, A., Bowman, P. & Rose, F. (1996). *The Flora of Hampshire*. Colchester: Harley Books (in association with The Hampshire & Isle of Wight Trust).

Journals looking for a good home

Andrew Allot has some journals that he is trying to find a home for. They were part of Peter Greig Smith's collection. They are free to anyone free to anyone willing to collect them or pay for the cost of postage.

They journals available are:

- *The Bryologist – Journal of the American Bryological Society* (1948–1961)
- *Revue Bryologique et Lichenologique* (1945–1966)
- *Sarracenia* (1–14, 1959–1971)

It would seem a shame to send them for paper recycling, but that is there other possible fate! If anyone would like to save these journals from their alternative fate in the recycling bin, please contact Andrew (email aja@shrewsbury.org.uk).

■ Back issues of *J Bryol* available

Also 'free to a good home', are volumes 24–28 of *Journal of Bryology*.

The postage for each volume is £4.25 (Royal Mail).

If you are interested, please email Sally Gadsdon (srgadsdon@yahoo.com).