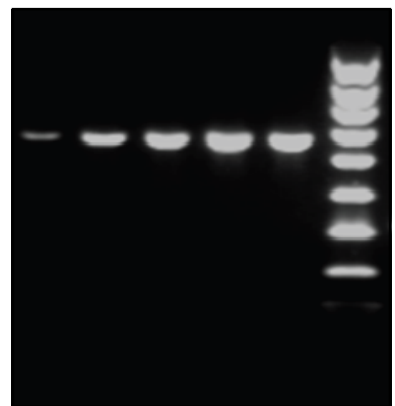
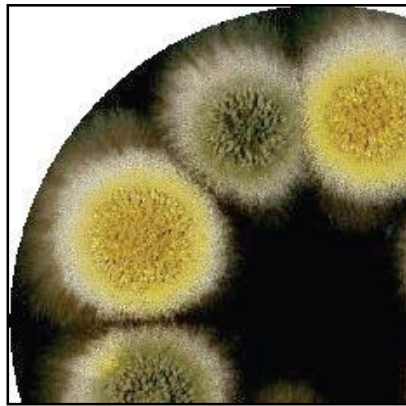
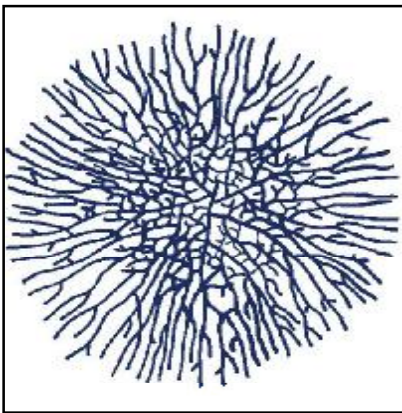


MYCOLOGIST NEWS



**British Mycological
Society** promoting fungal science

**The newsletter of the
British Mycological Society
2009 (3)**

Edited by Dr. Ian Singleton

2009 BMS Council

Honorary Officers

President:	Prof. Lynne Boddy, University of Cardiff
Vice President:	Dr P. Spencer-Phillips, University of the West of England
Vice President:	Dr F. Davidson, University of Aberdeen
Immediate Past President:	Prof. N. Clipson, University College Dublin
Treasurer:	Prof. G. Gadd, University of Dundee
General Secretary :	Position unfilled currently
Publications Officer:	Prof. N. Read, University of Edinburgh
Programme Officer:	Dr S. Avery, University of Nottingham
Education and Communication Officer:	Dr P. S. Dyer, University of Nottingham
Field Mycology Officer:	Dr S. Skeates, Hampshire
Membership Secretary:	Dr J.I. Mitchell, University of Portsmouth

Ordinary Members of Council

Retiring 31.12.09

Prof. R. Marchant, University of Ulster
Prof. D. Hawksworth CBE, Universidad Complutense de Madrid and
The Natural History Museum (London)
Ms S. Evans, Powys

Retiring 31.12.10

Dr. M. Fisher, Imperial College, London
Dr. P Crittendon, University of Nottingham
Dr. I Singleton, Newcastle University
Dr. E. Landy, University of Southampton

Retiring 31.12.11

Dr. D. Minter, CABI Biosciences
Dr. D. Schafer, Whitchurch
Prof. S. Buczacki, Stratford-on-Avon
Ms D. Griffin, Worcester

Co-opted Officers - Retiring 31.12.10

International Officer:	Prof. A. J. Whalley, Liverpool John Moores University
Public Relations Officer:	Dr. M. Fisher, Imperial College, London

Contacts

BMS Administrator
British Mycological Society
Works Business Centre
Union Street
Manchester M12 4JD

President: president@britmycolsoc.info
General Secretary: gensec@britmycolsoc.info
Treasurer: treasurer@britmycolsoc.info
MycologistNews: mycologistnews@britmycolsoc.info

Tel: +44 (0) 161 277 7638 / 7639
Fax: +44 (0) 161 277 7634

From the Office

Hello from the BMS office and the team.

Thanks to all of you who responded to the second issue of Mycologist News and rest assured all your comments and suggestions have been well received and discussed. As previously mentioned, we welcome all ideas and suggestions to improve content, as well as suitable articles and images you feel other readers would enjoy. With the foray season well under way we look to those field groups affiliated with the BMS, for a rich supply of features and articles to include in upcoming issues....Hint! Hint!...

The question we receive most often is 'why do we use such high quality paper to produce the Newsletter'? The answer to that is our printer manages to give us high quality paper at a low price, due to economies of scale gained in printing huge quantities of brochures for a large pharmaceutical client. The price they pay for the paper they require is passed onto us when he orders the large quantities from his paper supplier. If we asked them to use lower quality paper, specifically for us, it could actually cost more for the relatively short print-runs we require of Mycologist News.

One way of reducing our printing and postage costs of course, would be for members to choose to receive publications in electronic format. This would reduce the amount of paper, ink, postage and transportation resources consumed in production and distribution. It would also impact on the amount of added recycling of old copies (for those who don't choose to archive), whilst reducing storage problems in the home or office. The PDF should be saved and filed away on your PC or laptop for future reference.

By the time you read this, the opportunity to trial electronic access to BMS journals, both past and present, should be available free to all BMS members until the end of 2009. This echoes the points above, where access to articles and information are at your finger tips, without having to trawl through lots of hard copy looking for that one illusive article you need, but can't quite remember where you saw it!

Once again, we welcome any and all comments and suggestions for improvements.

Bye for now,
The BMS Office Team.



Norman Porrett
Administrator
BMS Office



Allie Brown
Membership
Assistant



Sophie Embleton
Field Mycology
Assistant

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Council News

The most recent Council meeting took place during the 2009 BMS Main Scientific Meeting in Dundee. The meeting, held over the week of September 1st to the 4th brought together mycologists from all over the world. Many members of the BMS Council contributed to the wide range of talks and presented papers across the week, amongst them Prof Nick Read, Dr Geoff Robson, Dr Simon Avery and Dr Fordyce Davidson: to name a few.

The Annual General Meeting of the BMS was also held here, with 4 new Ordinary Members' election to the BMS Council ratified. These four are:

Dr Paul Kirk

Professor Bruce Ing

Dr Richard Fortey

Ms Carol Hobart

The BMS President Prof Lynne Boddy, reviewed the activities and events of the previous year in which the BMS had been involved. Particular mention was made of the continued success the BMS enjoyed at RHS, Chelsea Flower show, where yet another Gold Medal was added to the growing collection.

Mention was also made of the survey that had gone out to members, to gauge attitudes and perceptions of the BMS as it currently stands. This informed the restructuring consultation document all members should now have received, either through email or post.

The changing face of publishing and how journals are received was also highlighted, with the introduction in 2010 of electronic access to BMS journals through Elsevier and Science Direct. This access would be available to all paid up members for the remainder of 2009 for free, and then be offered as part of the membership choices in the 2010 membership application/renewal form. As with the restructuring document, all members should now have received the instructions to enable them to take advantage of this for the trial period of the remaining months of 2009

Any member who has not had either of the above documents/information should contact the BMS office on 0161 2777638 or Email: admin@britmycolsoc.info

Newsletter Articles

Do you have any items you would like to see published in the Newsletter that would be of interest to members?

We would love to receive short reports of any activities, upcoming events, items of interest, etc.

Please send items to the office or email to mycologistnews@britmycolsoc.info

Do you have a UK event coming up where using some of the BMS's display/printed resources would assist in engaging people? We have display materials, printed leaflets, classroom packs, mushroom models available for use in the education of mycology. So whether it's in the classroom, at a local foray or an Exhibition we may be able to assist. To discuss further, contact: Sophie (sophie@britmycolsoc.info) or Norman (norman@britmycolsoc.info) or call them on: 0161 277 7638 at the BMS Office.

Membership Matters

SUBSCRIPTION RATES AND JOURNAL ENTITLEMENTS

by Julian Mitchell - BMS Membership Secretary

The subscription rates for membership and member journal entitlements will change for 2010. We plan a reduction in the cost of membership subscription by changing your journal entitlement. In future, journals will be subscribed to separately, although you will be offered a competitive package that will allow electronic access to all of our publications at a cost below your current subscription. The new rates of membership and journal subscription are outlined with an explanation of why we have made these changes.

THE CHANGING WORLD OF PUBLICATION

The publishing world is changing rapidly, with the development of new technologies and on-line formats, and these changes affect learned Societies in many ways. The costs associated with publishing printed versions of journals have increased rapidly in recent years. The greatest effect of these changes is on membership and journal subscription charges and how publications are delivered.

The activities of learned societies are dependent on raising revenue to match costs incurred. The main source of income for us, and most learned societies, is the selling of our publications. The revenues raised from membership subscription represent only a very small proportion of the total amount raised each year, so that the funding of our activities relies on the success of our journal sales and the relationship that we have with our publisher, Elsevier.

In the last decade many publishers, including Elsevier, Blackwell, and Sage, have developed electronic depositories that hold the publications from the learned societies they represent. *ScienceDirect*, for example, managed by Elsevier, is an electronic depository where you can find *Mycological Research*, *Fungal Biology Reviews* and *Fungal Ecology*. To access these depositories you, or your organisation, have to pay a subscription to the publisher.

In order to have the rights to offer these publications, the publisher has to enter into a partnership with the learned society, and it is via this agreement that the society receives its publication revenue. This represents a major change in the relationship between a learned society and its publisher. Most partnership contracts last several years, tying the society to a particular depository – *ScienceDirect* in our case – for that time; and it marks a move away from publishers supplying a printed version of the subscribed journal.

At present our contract with Elsevier, originally negotiated by Professor Nick Clipson, Professor Nick Read, and Dr. Geoff Robson, gives BMS members the opportunity to acquire printed versions of the

journals you choose. The cost of this is carried by the Society, outside of the fee we receive from Elsevier. The Society purchases the printed versions from Elsevier at cost and this is passed directly to individual members via the subscription.

Obviously the membership subscription rate could be reduced if members opted to take their journals electronically, and this is one option that will be offered from next year. Of course, many members may prefer to receive a printed copy of journals, and this option will still be available but at extra cost.

The move towards electronic delivery of journals and the existence of electronic depositories managed by publishers offers great opportunities for learned societies to develop, as well as potential threats. The fixed-term contract provides us with financial security for the duration of the agreement, and it allows us to develop new journals with support from Elsevier.

At present, learned societies are publishing a greater range of journals than ever before. According to the third Scholarly Practice report, 21,787 peer-reviewed scholarly and scientific journals were published in July 2008, 11% higher than in 2005. Last year we introduced a new journal, *Fungal Ecology*, edited by Professor Lynne Boddy. The amount of work needed to prepare a new journal for publication is considerable, and the speed with which *Fungal Ecology* was published is a measure of the help and support we received from Elsevier.

The subscription model, adopted by the BMS, is not the only one that can be used to generate income. Open access is another business model that is used in publishing. In this model journal articles are placed in an electronic repository, where there is no access or downloading charge for the customer. It is the author who pays for this article to be published and who carries the publication cost. Many top rated scientific journals, including *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the USA*, have adopted this model allowing anyone to log onto their site and download their papers.

The cost to the author, however, can be great. Some university researchers can afford this cost if they receive grants that cover publication costs, but this type of funding is not available to all, and is generally unavailable to people outside the university or research institute sphere, nor to researchers in developing countries. The open access model is therefore not an appropriate one for the BMS to adopt, at this time.

Many of the issues raised in this short article have been discussed in great detail in the academic, publishing and political worlds over the last decade. Learned societies have had to adapt to the changes that have been implemented in the publishing world, with little support or guidance from government, in order to stay financially viable. In making changes to your subscription dues and journal entitlements we have attempted to provide a fair selection of options that represent good value for money within our contractual arrangements.

NEW SUBSCRIPTION RATES AND JOURNAL ENTITLEMENTS

The membership subscription rates for 2010 agreed at the council meeting in June 2009 are shown in Table 1. The new rate entitles subscribers to membership of the Society at the appropriate level and to receive the *Mycologist News* free of charge. It does not include any journal subscription, which is why the new rate is lower than the previous one. If members wish to receive any of the journals published by the Society they will incur an additional cost (Table 2).

Table 1. Membership subscription rates

Membership category	Price
Member	£30.00
Associate member	£28.00
Postgraduate student member	£20.00
Undergraduate student member	£10.00
Life	£210.00

Each of the journals is offered for one year at cost price and can be ordered at the same time as membership renewal, on new forms. Members are also offered the choice of receiving the journals in different formats: the printed version, which will be sent as previously by post, or the electronic version that can be downloaded an unlimited number of times from the *ScienceDirect* repository site.

Table 2. Price of journal subscriptions

Journal	Price of Printed copy	Price of printed copy if electronic access is also purchased	Price allowing electronic access to all journals
Fungal Biology (formerly Mycological Research)	£38.50	£30 (+£25 for electronic access=£55)	£25.00
Fungal Biology Reviews	£28.95	£25 (+£25 for electronic access=£50)	
Field Mycology	£28.95	£25 (+£25 for electronic access=£50)	
Fungal Ecology	£36.75	£30 (+£25 for electronic access=£55)	

Access to the repository will be via the BMS website using individual BMS membership numbers. As a special concession to members the Society is able to offer all four journals electronically for the sum of £25. This deal will also allow subscribers to download archived copies of each journal, including the entire run of *Transactions of the British Mycological Society*. Back issues of *Field Mycology* will be available later in the course of 2010.

In setting the new membership subscription rates and changing journal entitlement, we have attempted to provide flexible options for you to receive your journals in different formats while keeping the cost to a minimum. In recent years the Society has had to increase the cost of membership and journal subscription to keep pace with the changes in the publishing world as we enter the electronic age. Now, members can have access to all of our journal publications and membership for £55, which represents a reduction in cost.

For our international members who come from countries with a low GDP, we will continue to offer a discount on membership. Please refer to the membership subscription renewal form for details on this offer.

Prices are correct at time of going to press

BMS News

RHS Gold at Malvern Again

The British Mycological Society has achieved the highest accolade from the Royal Horticultural Society once again, being awarded another Gold Medal for their educational 'Roadshow' stand at Malvern's Autumn Garden Show.

Hosted again this year by Sheila and George Spence, the nine metre long stand was visited by a vast number of people during the two day show. There was huge interest in the wonderful display of locally picked wild fungi collected by Diana Bateman and her team, from the Worcestershire Fungus Group, including Tom Meikle and Peter Thompson who helped collect the fresh material and Auriol Bateman who not only helped collect specimens but also assisted Di in putting the outstanding display together.

As always BMS members, both academic and field mycologist, travelled from across the



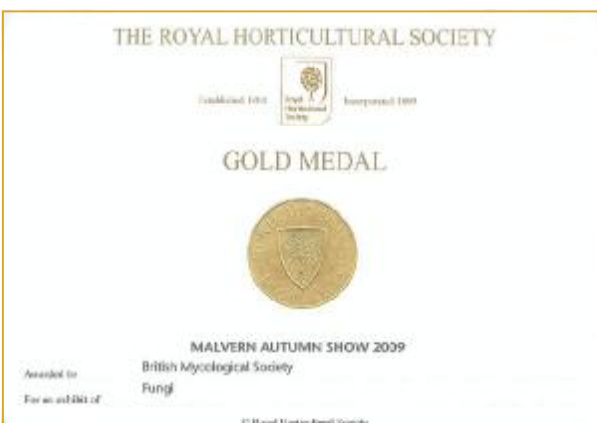
Helpers getting to know the stand before the influx of visitors

country to help 'man' the stand and chatted with the many visitors eager to learn more about this fascinating subject. Many, many thanks to all the helpers over the weekend, including Andy Bailey, Doreen & John Bailey, Di Bateman, Lynne Boddy, Paul Howland, Dinah Griffin, Mary Hunt, John Roberts, Mike & Shelly Stroud and not forgetting Norman and Sophie in the office who sorted the Roadshow's travel arrangements for us.

The Roadshow is not cheap to take to these events but as we had the chance to promote the kingdom of fungi to over 63,000 visitors to the event – we believe it is money well spent!

Oh, and we came home with another Gold medal too!

Sheila & George Spence
October 2009



BMS News

Fungal Keys accessible on the BMS Website

Over the years the BMS and its members have published a large number of keys to fungi in its journals and occasionally in the publications of other societies. We felt that it would be useful to digitise these keys and make them more easily accessible to all by placing them on the BMS website. Whilst this is still a work in progress and an ongoing project, it is now possible to report that many keys, including those published in recent editions of *Field Mycology* e.g. Alan Hill's *Xerocomus* key and Roy Anderson's *Hypoxylon* keys are now available on the existing website. This means that it is possible to download and print full colour copies using an ordinary computer printer – particularly useful for some of the synoptic keys that include colour charts as a part of the key. You can access them under 'Resources' - the introduction and each of the categories described below are presented as four separate links in the 'Ks'.

Many other keys are now 'out-of-date' but in some instances will still offer useful information for the identification of species when used in conjunction with current Checklists and more up-

to-date keys. They can also provide a useful service in allowing a better understanding of the species concept involved in some of the older species names recorded on the FRDBI and can provide an insight into the development of the taxonomic understanding of particular genera.

For ease of use the keys have been divided into three categories:

- A. Keys Current (recommended)
- B. Keys Recent/Historical - (best used together with other up-to-date keys)
- C. Keys Reference Only (of archival interest)

The keys from the series 'BMS KEYS' prepared by Jack Marriott between 1998 and 2006 will be found within the archive category.

If you have any suggestions or queries relating to this project then please contact either Archie McAdam or Liz Holden through the BMS office (email: norman@britmycolsoc.info).

Archie McAdam and Liz Holden
June 30th 2009

Obituary

It is with great sadness that we report on the recent death of Professor Faridah Abdullah formerly of the University Putra Malaysia. Faridah was a masters graduate of Durham and later obtained her PhD at UPM where she was a staff member. She was a member of the BMS for many years and attended the 2000 meeting on Tropical Mycology at Liverpool John Moores University. She also participated in seminars and workshops at the National Science Centre, Kuala Lumpur supported by the British Council along with Professors Roy Watling, Tony Whalley and Dr Margaret Whalley. Students from all over Malaysia attended lectures, workshops and field excursions over the one week event. Faridah was a lively, outgoing individual with a true love of nature and especially fungi. She will be greatly missed by her friends, colleagues and students.



Tony and Margaret Whalley

Membership News

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

We have had 25 new members join since the last newsletter and extend a warm welcome to them all:

MEMBERS

Professor A Di Pietro
Dr JA Dodgson
Dr D Kaloriti
Dr A Kortenkamp
Mr B Lapin
Ms O Mikhailova
Mr P Reade
Dr S Saxena
Mr J Stewart
Professor P Sudbery
Dr C Voisey
Dr T Yuki

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

Dr P Herring
Mr L Hughes

POSTGRADUATE

MEMBERS

Mr R Farrer
Dr G Guerriero
Miss SC Halliwell
Miss M Leach
Miss C McGuire
Mr JK Raut
YJ Rhee
Miss AC Tillmann
Mrs R Tonjock

UNDERGRADUATE MEMBERS

Ms C Korittova
Miss HG Pennington

ONLINE JOURNAL ACCESS

We have recently rolled out online access to our journals for all paid-up members. If you have not received details on accessing online journals please contact the office. Elsevier are still working to add Field Mycology to the available online library. We will let members know once they are available.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

It is almost membership renewal time again. We will be sending membership renewal notices to all members around the beginning of December.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS FOR LIFE AND HONORARY MEMBERS

We need all members, including life and honorary members to return their renewal forms if they wish to remain members. This is especially important for life and honorary members as we are no longer automatically renewing these types of membership. This is because an audit of the membership database showed that we were automatically renewing membership for members who had passed away, or moved house or who no longer wished to be

members. The resources of the BMS are limited, and it was felt that sending expensive journals to members who did not want them was not a good use of our resources. For that reason we need all members who wish to remain so to return a membership renewal form. We have made the forms as simple and quick to complete as possible, and are working on making membership renewals an online procedure in future.

If you have a query about your membership or journal delivery, please email Allie at membership@britmycolsoc.info

2009 JOURNAL DESPATCH SCHEDULES

MYCOLOGICAL RESEARCH

Vol/Issue	Cover date	Est. Despatch
113/ 10	October	15-Oct-09
113/ 11	November	12-Nov-09
113/ 12	December	11-Dec-09

FIELD MYCOLOGY

Field Mycology is running to schedule with no changes to the original dates:

Vol/Issue	Cover date	Est. Despatch
10/ 4	Oct-09	05-Oct-09

FUNGAL ECOLOGY

Issue 4 due to be despatched October.

FUNGAL BIOLOGY REVIEWS

Volume 23 (2009), issues 1-2 should be ready around October. Details TBC.

FUNGAL ECOLOGY BACK ISSUES

Some members have been enquiring about back issues of Fungal Ecology as they were unaware of its launch last year. They are available electronically but if you would like to receive hard copy of the four 2008 back issues please contact Allie and she will arrange it for you. The price is £36, with payments to be made by card, or by cheque made out to 'British Mycological Society'.

Email: allie@britmycolsoc.info

Fungi in the News

Fungus find phenomenal

The New Forest has confounded conservationists once again by yielding up a species hitherto unknown to science. But even as the new type of 'tooth fungus' was being discovered on the Forestry Commission estate, near Lyndhurst, its future was already uncertain. It belongs to the group of 'stipitate hydroid' fungi, which are in a rapid and worrying decline across the UK.

Ecologist Sarah Oakley said: "***The new fungus is a yellow form of *Phellodon melaleucus*. Like other species in its group, it can be distinguished by the small 'teeth' descending from its cap. They replace the gills or pores commonly found in other fungi. The most amazing thing about it is that it has remained undiscovered for so long in one of the most intensively studied natural habitats on earth.***"

(Fig 1 – right)

Sarah added that the fungus' true identity had been shielded because there were other similar varieties but with different colour patterns. The secret, she said, finally came out when scientists at Cardiff University isolated the fungus' DNA and found it to be unique. The research that led to the find was funded by the Forestry Commission and New Forest National Park Authority, and it will be these organisations' work in protecting Hampshire's world famous woodlands that will safeguard the fungus' future.

The reason so many rare and endangered wildlife species thrive in the forest is that most of the land has never been 'improved' by chemicals and artificial fertilisers. A key part of the New Forest's long-term management strategy is to protect the ancient 'commoning' way of life and agriculture that has made the landscape what it is.

Further information on this species can be found in *Mycological Research 111*: 761-777. Parfitt D, Ainsworth AM, Simpson D, Rogers HJ, Boddy L, 2007.

Source

Forestry Commission 28 AUGUST 2009



Photograph by Dr Martyn Ainsworth

Fig 1. 'tooth fungus' *Phellodon melaleucus*

Testing of Wild Mushrooms for Nicotine

The FSA's Chemicals Regulation Directorate (CRD) announced on 1 September 2009 that, in accordance with European Commission guidelines, it has put in place arrangements to test twenty samples of imported and four samples of UK-produced wild mushrooms.

The Commission guidelines on testing have arisen as a result of levels of nicotine found in wild mushrooms exceeding EU Maximum Residue Limits for pesticides. It is hoped that testing across the EU might clarify whether levels are due to natural background levels, contamination or pesticide use.

Results of the testing will be made available in due course.

Source: http://www.pesticides.gov.uk/food_safety.asp?id=2686

MiSAC Approaches 40th Birthday

John Grainger, Chairman
Microbiology in Schools Advisory Committee and Visiting Research Fellow,
School of Biological Sciences, University of Reading

As the Microbiology in Schools Advisory Committee reaches its 40th birthday Chairman John Grainger reflects on how it began and what the organisation has achieved.

MiSAC: A Brief History

Origins

In the late 1960s there was a movement among the major UK biological societies to establish means of discussing problems arising from the teaching of specialist aspects of biology. The SGM held a symposium *Teaching microbiology in schools* convened by Derek Smith (University of Birmingham) and chaired by John Norris (Shell Research Ltd.). The outcome was a resolution to establish a joint committee of representatives of SGM, Society for Applied Bacteriology (SAB) and the British Mycological Society (BMS) to promote and give help to the teaching of microbiology in schools. Thus began MiSAC in July 1969.

The aims were to publicise the relevance of microbiology in school syllabuses, encourage practical work, promote the safe use of micro-organisms, support teacher and technician training, and promote career opportunities. These aims have stood the test of time though with changes in emphasis according to current needs.

Organisation

The range of organisations represented on MiSAC was promptly enlarged to include the Association for Science Education (ASE), Association of Training Colleges and Departments of Education, British Mycological Society (BMS), Department of Education and Science (DES), Public Health Laboratory Service, Schools Council. Schools representation from DES through HM Inspectorate of Schools was an unusual and invaluable link which began with a decidedly equivocal reaction to MiSAC's aspirations but prospered until 1992 when HM Inspectorate was reduced in numbers and its role changed.

To start with the basic administrative costs were met by grants of £50 each from SAB (later SfAM) and SGM. Sponsorship was received from Society of Chemical Industry (SCI), Science and Plants for Schools (SAPS) and United Kingdom Federation of Culture Collections (UKFCC) for limited periods but financial support from SfAM and SGM continued and became enhanced by regular sponsorship from BMS, CLEAPSS, Institute of Biology (IoB), National Centre



Some of the members of the Committee (from L-R: John Schollar (NCBE), Sue Hunt (Kew), Brian Spooner (Kew) John Grainger (SGM) MiSAC Chairman, John Tranter - behind JG (CLEAPSS), Margaret Whalley (BMS) MiSAC Treasurer, Janet Hunt (SGM) MiSAC Secretary. Photograph was taken at Kew.

for Biotechnology Education (NCBE) and Scottish Schools Equipment Research Centre (SSERC). The present membership of MiSAC consists of a representative from each of these sponsors and others appointed for their particular expertise in microbiology education.

Among those who guided MiSAC through its early development, three people took on particularly demanding roles, rotating the positions of Chairman and Secretary between them for the first 10 years or so: Brian Bainbridge (Queen Elizabeth College, London), John Wray (Chelsea College, London) and Geoff Holt (Polytechnic of Central London). Links with these early years are maintained through present members Peter Fry and John Grainger who subsequently held various positions including that of Chairman.

For the first decade, the administration was carried out by the officers but this arrangement was not sustainable. The MiSAC secretariat has since been IoB, NCBE and, currently, SGM. MiSAC became a registered charity in 1984.

Advisory Work

In 1973 a national network of 'MiSAC local advisers' was created, consisting of members of BMS, SfAM and SGM willing to provide advice to local schools. The initiative prospered but was disbanded in 2000, as information became available on the web. MiSAC became a member of the Royal Society's working group on biotechnology education in 1982.



Invitations to advise on government booklets on the use of micro-organisms in schools published in 1977, 1985 and 1990, led to MiSAC becoming a recognised authority on safety in school microbiology, a status maintained through involvement with the current published authority, *Topics in Safety* (ASE, 2001). As MiSAC's profile rose, the number of direct enquiries from schools increased and expanded from safety issues to questions on the educational use of micro-organisms, and collaborations developed with publishers, schools suppliers, examination boards and industry.

MiSAC members also helped to promote microbiology as a career by writing articles for education, science and careers magazines, advising on the CRAC degree course guides on a regular basis, and contributing to the 1985 and 1990 editions of the SGM's *Careers in Microbiology*. Need for work in this area declined as other professional organisations developed their own career support activities.

Courses and Conferences

Soon after MiSAC was established, attention turned to providing training for teachers in practical microbiology and several well-attended, one-day courses were organised in London and Birmingham in the mid-1970s. However, these became difficult to sustain and were replaced by a small grants scheme to encourage microbiologists to give courses in their locality; 15 such awards were made in the 1980s. Training provision continued a decade later when MiSAC chairman John Grainger and John Schollar, Director of NCBE, were commissioned by SGM to deliver courses in basic practical microbiology for teachers and technicians: 9 years on these continue.

Eventually MiSAC felt that a more effective use of its members' limited time would be to take part in conferences rather than organise them. In 1985 MiSAC had its first exhibition stand at the ASE Annual Conference. This became a regular and rewarding commitment which expanded to joint sponsorship with SGM of talks in the *Biology in the Real World* programme, and in 2009 to organising a hands-on practical workshop as part of MiSAC's 40th anniversary year activities; taking part in the annual IoB Scottish Teachers Conference became another regular feature. However, as costs to exhibitors have escalated in recent years, MiSAC now takes a more selective approach to attending such events. Support of the sort that MiSAC provides is not a strong feature in other countries and so members are asked to speak about MiSAC's work or present its materials overseas, including China, Hong Kong, Japan, Malaysia, Thailand and several European countries.

Projects and Publications

In its early years, MiSAC published book reviews and lists of audio-visual materials and drew up analyses of school syllabuses but the first major project undertaken was the production of slide-sets on 7 microbiological topics through *Camera Talks* in the mid-1970s.

In 1984-85, SGM funded a project to develop a series of practical activities for secondary schools under the management of a MiSAC group. Teacher Paul Wymer was seconded to work with John Grainger at the University of Reading resulting in *Practical Microbiology and Biotechnology for Schools* published by Macdonald Educational. An immediate consequence was funding through the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) for them to found the National Centre for School Biotechnology (later re-named NCBE) at Reading in 1985. MiSAC later compiled *Practical Microbiology for Secondary Schools*, published by SGM in 2002, as a successor to the Macdonald resource.

The *MiSAC Competition* begun in 1985, aims to reach students directly. Each year it attracts up to 2,000 entries from the KS3 and KS4 (GCSE) age groups. Special sponsorship, currently from BMS, SfAM and SGM in turn, provides money prizes for students and their schools.

MiSAC factsheets was a new venture in 1998 resulting in 17 titles. Copies were produced in-house by SGM for free distribution and also put on the MiSAC website. In 2005 they progressed to being professionally designed and printed, and re-designated as *MiSAC activities*, *MiSAC briefings*, *MiSAC helps* and *MiSAC matters*. Preparing new titles in these series is now a main activity.

Looking back – and ahead

That MiSAC has reached its 40th anniversary is a tribute to the succession of officers and other committee members who have willingly given their time and expertise. Their commitment and the unfailing generosity of the sponsoring organisations have enabled MiSAC to flourish despite some difficult periods, and remain key to its continuing endeavours in sustaining and extending the encouragingly sound position of microbiology in school and college education.

John Grainger

First appearing in *Microbiology Today*

www.microbiologyonline.org.uk/misac

Do you have any items you would like to see published in the Newsletter that would be of interest to members?

We would love to receive short reports of any activities, upcoming events, items of interest, etc.

BMS Overseas Field Meeting

Interlaken 2009

Seventeen members and friends gathered at the Hotel Goldey, Interlaken, for the 2009 Overseas Foray. With the excellent Swiss transport system, Interlaken is ideally placed for access to some of the most dramatic Swiss Alpine scenery, with rail, boat and cable car links to many summits and their snow fields. Although the day before the start of the foray was marked by thunder storms throughout much of Europe, the weather for the duration of the foray remained dry and sunny.

Bruce Ing, the organiser, had arranged excellent accommodation in the Hotel Goldey, together with a spacious workroom on the top floor looking out over the river and town to the Jungfrau. Closer to hand, alpine swifts and red

kites flew over the town, and a variety of waterfowl and swans frequented the river banks.

On the first evening, Bruce, who has extensive experience of the area, its flora and fungi, gave an introduction to the geology, flora and fauna of the sites to be visited. This was followed up each evening with a more detailed talk on the sites to be visited on the following day. Although much of the area is calcareous, we were also to visit more acidic mountains with schistose outcrops. The programme was designed with ample opportunities for those who did not wish to spend all of their time on the edges of snow patches to foray at lower levels in alpine pastures and forests.



BRITISH MYCOLOGICAL SOCIETY - INTERLAKEN FORAY - 3RD JUNE 2009

Our first day set the pattern for much of the week with a train ride to Grindelwald followed by a short walk to the gondelbahn, and then by cable car to Grindelwald First at 2167m altitude. For those of us with limited experience of cable cars this was an intimidating experience, but one we soon got used to as the week progressed.

After pausing for refreshment at the café, and to acclimatise to the altitude, we proceeded through grassland studded with *Crocus albiflorus*, *Soldanella*, and *Primula farinosa*. The edges of snowfields soon revealed the tiny gems (sporangia) of *Diderma endoleucum*, *D. meyeri*, *Lamproderma ovoideum*, *Lepidoderma crustaceum*, and *Trichia alpina*.

Despite the recent rain, the woodlands were generally dry with very few macrofungi in evidence.

This set the pattern for subsequent days, although our trip to Niederhorn began with a boat ride to Beatenbucht, rather than a train. We were frequently accompanied on our high level forays by alpine choughs, who showed a particular interest in those of us carrying sandwiches or other supplies, and marmots were frequently heard, if less often seen. The twigs of *Alnus* and *Rhododendron* were particularly rich in myxomycetes where they emerged from the snow, with *Diderma meyeri* often abundant. Also found were *D. alpinum*, *Lepidoderma peyerimhoffii*, *Physarum vernum*, *Lamproderma carestii*, and *L. ovoideopyriforme*, to name but a few.

Among the few macrofungi found were *Fomitopsis pinicola*, *Bovista nigrescens*, and *Polyporus squamosus* - at least two clumps of which were identified from the train window near to the station of Alpighlen (1608m) on the way to Kleine Scheidegg.

On our final day, a lower altitude foray above Kandersteg produced an abundance of wild flowers including *Trollius* (globe flower), *Viola biflora*, *Pinguicula alpina*, *Hepatica nobilis*,

Dryas octopetala and *Convallaria majalis* (lily of the valley). Butterflies were abundant, including the Swallowtail, and shortly before the end of the foray we were rewarded with the discovery of two separate clumps of Lady's Slipper orchid (*Cypripedium calceolus*) - a fitting end to a thoroughly satisfying and enjoyable week.

Our warmest thanks go to Bruce and Ellie for their efforts in planning and leading this event.

John Holden

Sites visited:

28th May
Grindelwald First.

29th May
Niederhorn.

30th May
Stockhorn.

31st May
Kleine Scheidegg.

1st June
The Niessen.

2nd June
Magisalp, above Meiringen.

3rd June
Oeschinensee, above Kandersteg.

Participants:

Alan & Enid Braddock	West Yorkshire
Glenna Goodwin	Denbighshire
Ester Gortvai	Hungary
Martin Gregory	Essex
Lenke Gyarmati	Hungary
John & Jean Holden	Cambridgeshire
Barry & Clare Hughes	Surrey
Bruce & Eleanor Ing	Cheshire
Irene Ridge	Lancashire
Fiona & Ian Roy	Inverness-shire
Sherry Stannard	Cheshire

Larger Than Life

Dr Eleanor T Landy, Assistant Leader of Teaching and Learning in Science, Bulwell Academy,

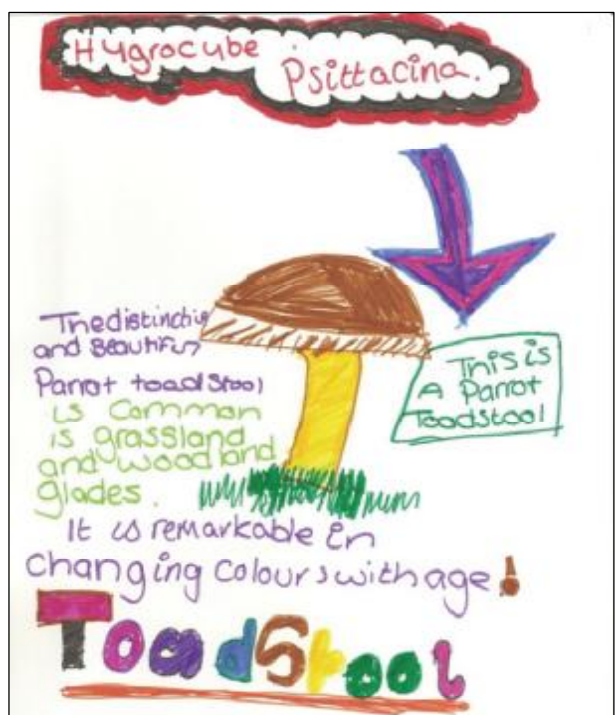
Think you know what edible, identification, toadstool, mushroom, diameter, scale and centimetres mean? Well maybe you do and/or maybe you don't but if you'd been to the 'larger than life' class you would!

After the Key Stage 3 SATS exams are complete, it's often a struggle to find activities for pupils that are relevant, engaging and scientific!!!! In order to facilitate continued learning for my Year 8 students after this exam, I embarked on a journey into what is still the mainly uncharted territory of 'Creativity in Science'.

The thoughts of modeling clay and paint in my classroom were definitely a departure in my teaching practice (some might say a miracle!); however, the benefits were astounding. I copied the description of 30 common mushrooms and toadstools from Pegler (1988) and allocated each pupil in the class with their own 'personal' fungus.

During the double lesson we had an initial brainstorming session on 'difficult' words (during which we established definitions for mushrooms and toadstools as well as information that was relevant to know about fungi). The pupils then went on to make 'information cards' about their species before ultimately making two models (one for school and one to bring home).

To add to the challenge, the models had to be to scale and at least twice the size found in the wild.



I knew the children would engage with this largely visual and kinesthetic task, and, the outcomes from the learning were amazing. However, in retrospect it was the smiling and dedication that the children displayed while making their 'perfect' replicas that were the real rewards (for everyone!). If you would like to do such a lesson with a class (or know a teacher who would) let me know (e-mail: e.landy@bulwellacademy.co.uk).



Tyrone's model

I would like to extend many thanks to the BMS for a small grant of £350 without which this project would not have been possible or reproducible.

Dr Eleanor T Landy
 Assistant Leader of Teaching and Learning in Science, Bulwell Academy, Nottingham.

Pegler, D. (1998) *Field Guide to the Mushrooms and Toadstools of Britain and Europe*. Kingfisher, London.



Kirsty and Charlotte making their "fungi" models

Fungus Amanita Excelsa
 Toadstool
 Found in woodland
 Cap: 9-12cm
 Stem: 8-10 x 1-2.5cm
 Flesh: firm, white Spores
 white, 8-10 x 6.8 micrometres
 Smooth, staining blue in iodine
 Season: July to October
 Edibility: best avoided, as it
 is easily confused with the
 poisonous panther

Small Grants Awards

West Weald Fungus Recording Group Coprinus Workshop, 28th June 2009

Thanks to another 'BMS Small Grant', the West Weald Fungus Recording Group held another of its annual one-day Workshops for its members, with invitations issued also to the Hampshire Group, some of whom attended.

This year Dr. D J Shafer came to update us on the overall genus 'Coprinus'. It offered very valuable information on the considerable changes to this genus published in the First Update (Winter 2006) of the Checklist.

Derek issued each of us with a substantial, well-illustrated, handout which made copious note-taking unnecessary. This included new keys (26.06.2009) to *Parasola*, *Coprinellus*, *Coprinopsis*, and *Coprinus* in Britain. These keys will be published in future issues of *Field Mycology*.



Photograph by Ray Tantram C Vann Lake, Surrey. October 2007

A preliminary Key, based on the sections within the original grouping 'Coprinus', provides a helpful guide to understanding the basics of the new genera.

Weather conditions ahead of the Workshop did not favour the collection of fresh specimens, but Derek brought a good selection of dried material, on which we enthusiastically, and mainly successfully, tried out the new keys.

A resounding thanks to Derek for a very interesting and informative day, and new knowledge that we hope to apply effectively in the coming season and beyond.

West Weald Fungus Recording Group
Barry Hughes, Woodbury Knoll
5 Hambledon Park, Hambledon
Godalming, Surrey GU8 4ER

Ray Tantram

Sponsorship and Grants

Small Grants Awards

The British Mycological Society offers Small Grants to its members for educational purposes that promote Mycology. **Maximum value: £ 300**

Grants can be used for the following costs:

- Travel to the British Mycological Society's meetings if the applicant is presenting a poster or paper.
- Fieldwork or research projects.
- Books or scientific equipment.
- To hire meeting rooms or attend forays.
- To support the cost of preparing applications to the Heritage Lottery Fund for mycological projects.

Grants cannot be used:

- To supplement existing undergraduate awards or replace institutional funding for undergraduate or postgraduate research.

Application procedure:

Application forms are available from the BMS Administrator, or BMS website.

This grant is offered at quarterly intervals and applications must be received by:

- 20 March
- 20 July
- 20 September
- 20 December

Key criteria:

Eligible applicants must be members of The British Mycological Society.

Contact

BMS Administrator

Union Street

Manchester

M12 4JD

Tel: 0161 277 7638

Email: admin@britmycolsoc.info



Undergraduate Bursary 2008 Reports

Natasha Cain, Imperial College, Dept of Life Sciences
London SW7 2AZ Supervisor: Dr Pietro D. Spanu

Characterising promoter expression from a powdery mildew fungus in transgenic *Magnaporthe grisea* by Natasha Cain.

Blumeria graminis is a powdery mildew fungus, an obligate pathogen, infecting over 9,000 dicot and over 650 monocot plants (Ridout *et al.*, 2006). The latter includes barley, oats, rye and wheat crops (Strange and Scott, 2005) which provide much of the staple food in our diets. Every year, \$380 million is spent on powdery mildew fungicides (Talbot and Hamer, 2000) including triazole fungicides. Certain strains of *B. graminis* are resistant to at least five different triazole fungicides and many more resistant strains are present and expected to emerge (Blatter *et al.*, 1998). It is therefore important that we understand the underlying genetic factors that result in the infection profile of this fungus in the hope of developing new, more effective fungicides.

Magnaporthe grisea is a close relative of *B. graminis* and a model ascomycete that has been suggested to cause comparable disease in grasses to *B. graminis* (Talbot, 2003). As *M. grisea* is not an obligate pathogen, and can therefore be grown on agar, we have suggested *M. grisea* as a good host for the expression of genes from promoters from *B. graminis* f. sp. *hordei* (*Bgh*), a strain that infects specifically barley.

Promoters from *Bgh* suspected to be involved in the expression of potential virulence factors were inserted into *M. grisea* using GATEWAY vectors to create transgenic fungi. The data used was previously collected by Both *et al.* (2004; 2005). Promoter expression was monitored by the addition of reporter gene, green fluorescent protein (GFP) which could be easily viewed under the microscope. A specific transgenic colony, P7, encoding a promoter of the H4 histone protein, was found to have been successfully transformed and the promoter expression has started to be characterised during different stages of its lifecycle.

Guy11, a wildtype strain of *M. grisea* was used as a negative control and PMJK 27.2 that constitutively expressed GFP was used as a positive control. Figure 1 shows an example of the results obtained indicating expression of GFP in infection structures called appressoria and spores called conidia. GFP was confirmed to be the cause of the fluorescence by conducting wavelength emission scans. *NB.* Red fluorescence is due to chlorophyll in barley leaves.

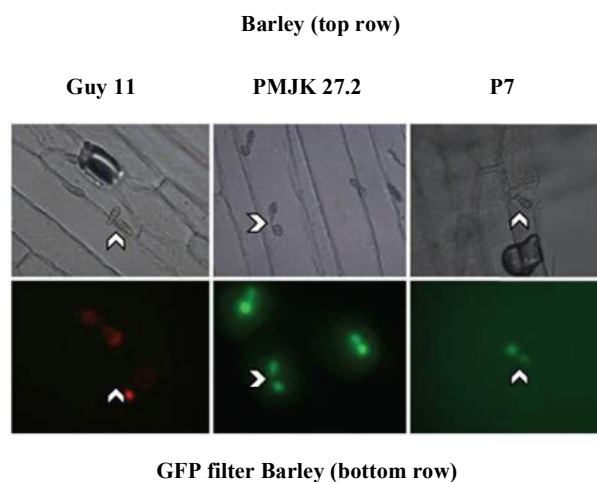


Figure 7. Inspection of inoculated barley 2 hours after inoculation on epifluorescence microscope.

Examination of wildtype Guy11 on barley 2 hours after inoculation showed the presence of conidia on bright field, and no fluorescence when examined using GFP filters (excitation 450-490nm, emission 515-565nm). PMJK 27.2 showed conidia with germ tubes and appressoria on barley. All structures showed strong fluorescence throughout. P7 showed the presence of conidia when examined on bright field but with much weaker fluorescence than PMJK on GFP filters. Bar = 30µm



P7 showed fluorescence at all stages of infection suggesting that gene transcription is expressed from this promoter throughout infection. This may be as H4 histone is needed to maintain the compact structure of DNA throughout the lifecycle and therefore has a constantly active promoter.

Other transgenic strains containing promoters showing fluorescence under the brightfield microscope began to be characterised including promoters for respiratory proteins, glutamate catabolism, carbohydrate metabolism and nuclear organisation, however,

wavelength emission scans still need to be carried out to confirm the fluorescence seen was due to GFP expression.

The 6 week project allowed initial characterisation of GFP expression from 5 different promoters suspected to be involved in infection in *Bgh*, and to my knowledge, this was the first time that these promoters had been seen to be successfully expressed in *M. grisea*. This may be a tool that will prove useful for further characterising gene expression from *Bgh* promoters in a heterologous host.

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BMS Grants, Sponsorship & Bursary Reports

If you are the recipient of a BMS grant or bursary, or BMS sponsorship, please send us your report as soon as possible after the event.

Reports should be no longer than 500 words and should include photographs if possible.

Please send all material to:
mycologistnews@britmycolsoc.info

Undergraduate Bursary 2008 Reports

Jane Dunn Smith

University of Aberdeen, Department of Plant and Soil Sciences, Cruickshank
Building, Aberdeen AB24 3UU, Scotland, UK *Supervisor: Dr Stephen Woodward*

The Influence of Foliar Fungal Pathogens on the Distribution of *Vaccinium myrtillus* in a Scottish Native Pinewood Ecosystem

My summer project, entitled The Influence of Foliar Fungal Pathogens on the Distribution of *Vaccinium myrtillus* in a Scottish Native Pinewood Ecosystem, was carried out in the Glen Tanar Nature Reserve, Deeside, Scotland, the eastern-most remnant of the Caledonian forest. Several trips were required to Glen Tanar through the summer of 2008, in order to identify the fungal pathogens affecting the common blueberry (blaeberry), *V. myrtillus*, and to determine the environmental conditions affecting disease development with time and distribution of the host in the Scots pine-dominated forest.

Four pathogens were identified on *V. myrtillus* foliage: *Podosphaera myrtillina*, *Pucciniastrum vaccinii*, *Valdensia heterodoxa* and *Leptosphaerulina myrtillina*. Disease incidence was positively correlated with abundance of *V. myrtillus*, suggesting a link between increased susceptibility to infection through intraspecific competition for resources, or increased infection rates due to close proximity of infected host plants. Increased disease was found in decreasing canopy cover, possibly due to increased humidity from incident precipitation in open areas, as illustrated by the positive correlation between disease and soil moisture.

No relationship was found between disease and photosynthetic (A) or transpiration (E) rates of individual leaves, although data were not collected

from the same leaves at different sampling times.

It was concluded that fungal pathogens caused severe, early defoliation of *V. myrtillus* but the shrub remained very successful in this habitat. The success may be due to vegetative reproduction of *V. myrtillus* and the low aggressiveness of foliar diseases. However, distribution of disease on *V. myrtillus* could increase with global climate change, through predicted increases in precipitation due to the positive correlation with water availability.

Working on this combined mycological-ecological project was of great benefit to my degree course: it has inspired me to discover more about plant diseases in general, particularly their effects in natural ecosystems. Thanks are due to Mr. Eric Baird, head ranger at Glen Tanar and to Scottish Natural Heritage for permission to undertake fieldwork in the Nature Reserve at Glen Tanar. I also thank my supervisors, Dr. Stephen Woodward and Dr. Jim McDonald, for their assistance in this project. Janet Woo instructed me in the use of equipment. Fieldwork was assisted by Janis Brodie, Robin Smith and Graeme Abel who bravely faced the Glen Tanar midges. Finally, I would like to thank the British Mycological Society who funded this project.

Jane Dunn Smith

Field Meeting 2010

Spring Meeting: Pencaitland, East Lothian

Sat 22nd - Sat 29th May 2010

Organiser: Neville Kilkenny

Closing Date: 1st Mar 2010

The foray will be cottage based in Pencaitland, East Lothian, close to several estates such as Yester, Coulston & Lennoxlove. The surrounds have varied habitats, including stunning ancient woodlands, and numerous SSSI sites. Yester itself has trees over 1000 years old, and is a mixed semi natural parkland habitat following a river valley which is particularly humid. To the south is Lammer law SSSI, a wonderful grassland site, notified for general upland assemblage, juniper scrub, blanket bog, and subalpine heath, to the

immediate east, SSSI Danskin Loch, which is a very rare ancient birch wood marsh. Further to the east and north is the East Lothian Coastline, most of which is also SSSI, and is where no less than 11 species of Geastrum have been collected. To the west, Dalkeith Country Park is one of the last ancient oak woods of Scotland, and beyond that there is Roslin Glen, another humid river gorge. The accommodation in two self-catering properties with a total of 11 bedrooms sleeping up to 22 (26 with 'Family style' room 'Z' bed) is on the historic Winton Estate, half an hour from Edinburgh.

Cost: £390 sharing a twin room (£370 for BMS members).

Overseas Meeting: Sampeyre, nr Cuneo, Italy

Wed 29th Sept - Fri 8th Oct 2010

Organiser: Steve Kelly

Closing Date: 1st Jul 2010

Tutor: Alfredo Vizzini (Turin University)

The foray will be hotel based in Sampeyre (www.vallevaraita.cn.it/eng/sampeyre.asp) the "capital" of Valle Varaita 971m up in the Italian Alps in the province of Torino. The area is described as "wild and luxuriant, with thick woods running alongside the road leading up to the Agnello Pass (altitude of 2748 m). This valley has managed to preserve its cultural provincial heritage and has extensive woodland including Pinus cembra forest". The foray is being arranged in conjunction with the local Italian mycological group and it is they who have recommended the hotel and will suggest the sites; they have also suggested the timing to coincide with their expectation of the most

productive fruiting period. Sampeyre has excellent transport connections, there is a train station in the village and there are connections from Turin Airport, 75 miles away by road. Turin receives cheap flights from Luton (Easyjet) and Stanstead (Ryanair). The mid-week dates allow significantly cheaper flights (and taxes) and also cheaper crossings via the Channel Tunnel for those wishing to drive all the way. The Hotel Ristorante Torinetto can accommodate 160 people and it is hoped that there will be a number of local mycologists joining us.

Cost: Administration and workroom costs only £70 (£50 for BMS members) Accommodation in the hotel is booked and paid for directly by the participants at a special discount currently estimated at €55 - €65 per person full board.

Autumn Meeting: Shorwell, Isle of Wight

Wed 13th - Thurs 21st Oct 2010

Organisers: Jacquy Newton

Closing Date: 1st Aug 2010

Tutor: TBA

The autumn foray will be based on the Isle of Wight possibly the first time that the BMS has visited this geologically interesting area and where we will hope to find new records for the island. A variety of superb sites for foraging exist these include unimproved grassland on the chalk downs, neutral grassland with woodland and scrub to the north and semi natural Ash and Oak woodland. There are also areas of sand, clay and limestone producing further varied habitats. Accommodation will be at the 17th century Northcourt (www.northcourt.info) manor house in Shorwell, in the

south west of the island near the downs. Accommodation is limited to 20 individuals with only two single rooms. A further 10 people can be accommodated in the workroom housed in a large music room on site. Non resident participants can book in nearby B&B accommodation. It is also anticipated that this cheaper workroom only option will also appeal to local mycologists, who will be encouraged to join our forays. The foray has been organised mid week as travel costs to the Isle of Wight by frequent car ferry can be cheaper than at the weekend.

Cost: (excluding eve meal): Shared twin room £328 (£308 for BMS members) Single room £496 (£476 for BMS members). Workroom only £70 (£50) BMS members.

Booking Procedure for Forays and Workshops

The programme of events organised by the Foray Sub-Committee appear on the Society's web site www.britmycolsoc.org.uk along with a booking form which can be downloaded from the website. There is a £20 non-refundable booking fee per person per event which should be sent to the Foray Manager with a completed booking form for each participant. For some events it is possible to attend on a part time basis or to be non resident. There will still be a fee for workroom space, administration and tutoring costs.

The Society welcomes non-members to its events but anyone with a keen interest in field mycology can become a member of the Society. BMS members and accompanying non participants are entitled to a £20 reduction for each event.

At least six weeks before the event (depending on the conditions imposed by the venue chosen), the organiser will ask for payment in full. If you do not pay this, then your place will be forfeited. Nearer the event and after full payment, refunds will need to be negotiated with the organiser, who may be able to find a substitute; otherwise a refund may not be possible.

Participants should consider travel insurance to cover late cancellation.

The Foray Manager will send your booking details to the organisers of each event. Your booking will be acknowledged by email. If you do not have e-mail please enclose a stamped, addressed envelope if you require acknowledgement. Please bear in mind that some events have a limited number of places and may become fully booked quite early.

The form also allows you to indicate your preferences for accommodation in more detail. The available accommodation varies with the venue and, while we would like to try to meet everyone's individual needs as far as possible, this may not always be possible. Additional charges will usually apply for e.g. single rooms or *en suite* facilities when they are available. Please contact the Foray Manager with any queries.

The BMS small grant scheme is open to students attending any field meeting and if you are eligible and would like to apply please contact the Foray Manager.

NOTES ON EVENTS

Workshops are usually held over a weekend, are mainly indoors and combine lectures and examination of prepared material from the workshop tutor with individual study using both fresh and herbarium fungal specimens as appropriate. A microscope is essential. In some cases, some outdoor foray activity may be part of the workshop. Numbers are limited, usually to approx. 25 participants, and the courses are generally fully booked.

Residential Forays have a long tradition extending back to the 19th Century and provide an opportunity for participants to study the fungi of a particular area. The days will include a programme of field outings to collect material to study after returning to the workroom where investigations often continue late into the evening or the early morning! Although there is only a limited programme of formal lectures, if any, the forays provide an opportunity for exchange of knowledge on current developments in taxonomy and conservation, and an intensive learning environment for those with a serious interest (though not necessarily extensive expertise) in fungal identification. The records of fungi made during BMS forays are added to the Fungal Records Database of Britain and Ireland which is then made accessible through the online NBN gateway. As part of this recording activity, forays also provide an opportunity to add herbarium specimens to the National collections and the active participation by members of the Kew Mycology Department, as well as other herbaria, is a welcome part of the events. The evening round-up sessions, in which the outstanding finds of the day are viewed and discussed, conclude each day's activities.

First time participants to a BMS event - The Society is keen to encourage new participants with an interest in fungi to extend their expertise and participate in its forays and workshops including field mycologists in affiliated local groups throughout the British Isles and beyond. The organisers provide help and encouragement to new or less experienced attendees and are happy to be approached to discuss your particular needs. The organisers are keen to foster a friendly atmosphere to make it possible for participants whatever their level of expertise to experience a friendly, informative and enjoyable event.

Booking Form 2010

Field Meetings 2010

SPRING MEETING Sat 22 nd May - Sat 29 th May 2010 (7 nights) Pencailand, East Lothian, Scotland Organiser: Neville Kilkenny Closing Date: 1st Mar 2010 Cost (£20 discount for BMS members) Sharing £390	Requirements: Attending forays Yes/No Workroom space Yes/No Lunches Yes/No Evening meals Yes/No Accommodation Yes/No P/T Start Date P/T Finish Date
OVERSEAS MEETING Wed 29 th Sep - Fri 8 th Oct 2010 (9 nights) Sampeyre, Italy Organiser: Steve Kelly Closing date: 1 st Jul 2010 Cost (£20 discount for BMS members) £70 to BMS. Accommodation booked directly with hotel (see full description)	Requirements: Attending forays Yes/No Workroom space Yes/No Lunches Yes/No Evening meals Yes/No Accommodation Yes/No P/T Start Date P/T Finish Date
AUTUMN MEETING Wed 13 th Oct - Thu 21 st Oct 2010 (8 nights) Shorwell, Isle of Wight Organisers: Jacquy Newton Closing date: 1 st Aug 2010 Cost (£20 discount for BMS members) Sharing £328 Single £496	Requirements: Attending forays Yes/No Workroom space Yes/No Lunches Yes/No Evening meals Yes/No Accommodation Yes/No P/T Start Date P/T Finish Date

£20 discount for accompanying non participants. Early booking is helpful for the organiser and wise for events with limits on numbers. Full payment is required 6 weeks in advance or when advised by the organiser. Payments should be sent to the Foray Manager NOT the organiser. It is suggested that those booking consider travel insurance to cover late cancellations.

PLEASE COMPLETE FOR EACH PARTICIPANT (BLOCK CAPITALS)		BMS member	Yes/No
Name		Dietary restrictions	Yes/No
Address		Specify	
		Prepared to share	Yes/No
Phone no		Share with	
		Ensuite	Yes/No
Email		Collect from station	Yes/No
Other requests			

I enclose £20 non-refundable booking fee for each person per event booked and understand that full payment is due when requested by the organiser and at least six weeks before the event.

Signed

PLEASE MAKE CHEQUES PAYABLE TO BRITISH MYCOLOGICAL SOCIETY. Send to:

Caroline Hobart, BMS Foray Manager, 84 Stafford Road, Sheffield, S2 2SF. foraymanager@tiscali.co.uk

Registered Charity No: 27650

UK Events

IMC9, Edinburgh Convention Centre 1st - 6th August 2010



The British Mycological Society is hosting the 9th International Mycological Congress (IMC9) in Edinburgh, Scotland in August 2010.



Besides the BMS, other Societies and Organizations that have also agreed to contribute and support IMC9 include the British Lichen Society, British Society for Medical Mycology, British Society for Plant Pathology, European Mycological Association, Society for Applied Microbiology, Society for General Microbiology, the Royal Botanic Gardens at Edinburgh, and the Royal Botanic Gardens at Kew.

Fungal biology has never been as important as it is today and this is undoubtedly the most exciting time to be studying the subject. The International Mycological Congress represents the most important forum to provide an up-to-date perspective of fungal biology in all its guises. The BMS will make sure that IMC9 contains a Scientific Programme which is tremendously stimulating, inspiring and balanced across the enormously diverse subject spectrum of fungal biology.

The keynote speaker will be John Taylor (UC Berkeley, USA) his opening lecture *The Poetry of*

Mycological Accomplishment and Challenge.

Edinburgh has everything to ensure a successful conference. The Edinburgh International Conference Centre will provide an outstanding venue for IMC9 with excellent facilities for up to 2,700 delegates. A wide range of accommodation from student halls of residence to all classes of hotels will be available to suit every budget, and this will be centrally bookable online. The opening reception will be held in the historic castle with its dramatic setting in the centre of the city.

The date for the conference will be the week before the Edinburgh Festival, which is the biggest arts festival on the planet. It will also coincide with the Jazz and Blues Festival. Numerous social and scientific activities before, during and after the meeting will also be available for delegates and their families, including tours around Edinburgh and Scotland, golf, fishing, field trips to major sites of international scientific interest, visits to research institutes, specialist workshops, field meetings and whisky tasting.



www.imc9.info



International Events

September 2010

7 - 12 September 2010

RUSSULALES - 2010

Massebre, Belgium

Website: http://www.amfb.eu/russulales_2010.htm

This Congress, organized by the mycologists of southern Belgium (Association des mycologues francophones de Belgique), will focus on the Russulales (*Lactarius* and *Russula*, as well as many other species recently transferred to the Russulales). It will be a scientific congress, with the participation of many of the best specialists of Russulales in Europe, lecture sessions and publication of the Proceedings. It will also be a field workshop, proposing excursions in selected sites with various ecological conditions, an exhibition of fresh sporophores of Russulales and a microscopy room where participants will be able to safely install their equipment (microscope, binocular, mushroom drier, laptop, etc) and study their collections.

All mycologists interested in Russulales, both amateurs and professionals, are welcome.



**British Mycological
Society** promoting fungal science

Fungi Photo Corner



These photos were submitted by
Mike McFayen.

They are *Clathrus ruber* and
appear in his garden from time to
time.

“Its always in the vicinity of an
aged cox tree (within 2 meters)”
he reports.

Thanks Mike!



Have you taken a stunning image of fungi that
you want to share?

Big or small, laboratory or field you could be
the next to appear in 'Fungi Photo Corner'.
Send your high resolution images to
mycologistnews@britmycolsoc.info

not forgetting to include as much information
about what, where and when it was taken.
Please note, that in sending your photographs
to us you are allowing the British Mycological
Society to reproduce the image to appear in its
printed and online versions of Mycologist
News.

British Mycological Society
Works Business Centre
Union Street
Ardwick
Manchester M12 4JD

Tel: +44 (0) 161 277 7638 / 7639
Fax: +44(0) 161 277 7634



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Society** promoting fungal science.

MycologistNews email:
mycologistnews@britmycolsoc.info

www.britmycolsoc.org.uk