

BMS Recording Network News

June 2022

To: BMS Recording Network Contacts
Cc: BMS Field Mycology & Conservation Committee members

From: Nathan Smith, BMS Recording Network Coordinator

1. Upcoming Online Talk: “Grassland fungi - recording and conservation in England”

The **BMS Talk** on 26 July will be given by Clare Blencowe, from the Sussex Biodiversity Record Centre and Sean Cooch, from Natural England. Previously scheduled for 6 July, this talk will be a fantastic two-for-one. Sean will present a new assessment of the distribution and conservation status of waxcap grasslands in England and will be followed by Clare who will present on “Local approaches to mapping mycologically-rich grasslands: integrating volunteer recording effort and conservation in Sussex”. The talk is likely to be of supreme interest for all those involved in the recording of fungi and for those interested in getting involved in the emerging world of fungal conservation.

Book via Eventbrite: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/371079216927>

2. BMS Recording Network News

Articles and news any size (but particularly those under 500 words) are also requested for future editions of the *BMS Recording Network News*. Please share upcoming events, news, and mycological top tips and tricks. Please send articles to myself at cwe.smith@gmail.com.

3. Group Leaders Meeting

The Group Leaders Meeting was successfully held from the 24-26 June. I would like to publicly extend my thanks for all those who gave presentations and for those who attended for making the event as good as it was. A report on the event will shortly be distributed through this mailing list as well as an opportunity for those who didn't attend to give feedback and thoughts on the issues raised at the meeting.

4. Featuring in the BMS members' newsletter

I'd like to feature news and updates from local fungus groups in the quarterly BMS members' newsletter, to raise awareness of the great work being done to identify, record, conserve and promote fungi. If you have some recent news, an event open to the public, guides or resources, or anything else that you'd like to publicise and share with other fungi enthusiasts, please do tell me about it by email. The newsletter is a digital publication, so I can include highlights and link to further information on websites or elsewhere. The next issue is due out in late June, which is a fast turnaround from now – but do send me something if you can! If not for June, then definitely for later issues. emma@britmycolsoc.info

Emma Thompson
Scientific Communications & Development Officer, BMS

5. **Advanced Notice: Waxcap Workshop**

Date: Sat/Sun 22/23 October 2022

Location: Moorland Discovery Centre, National Trust Longshaw Estate, Derbyshire

All those with an interest in the recording of waxcap grassland fungi are invited to book the following event.

This is a restart of the series of workshops on **(CHEG) Waxcap Grassland Fungi** - this year we are concentrating on the Waxcaps (**Hygrocybes**) themselves, leaving Clubs and Corals (**Clavariaceae**), Pinkgills (**Entolomas**) and Eathtongues (**Geoglossaceae**) to future years.

After a break of several years, the workshop will once again be based at the Longshaw Estate in the Derbyshire Peak District, ranked as one of the best waxcap grassland sites in the country. It is an all weekend event, hosted by the National Trust in the Moorland Discovery Centre.

The event will be organised by the Longshaw National Trust in combination with the Sorby Fungus Group, associated to the British Mycological Society. Members of the BMS and other fungus groups are invited to come along and contribute. The idea is it is a skill-share rather than a master-class.

It will be a combination of talks and forays out onto the site to collect specimens for identification. Steve Hindle – waxcap grassland expert from NT Hardcastle Crag - will be coming along to help me with the tutoring. Most of the talks will concentrate on how waxcaps can be identified in the field. However, some can be superficially very similar and their differentiation and identification is aided by the use of microscopy. We will have a projecting microscope set up for demonstration presentations.

All interested in fungi will be welcome. No previous experience with microscopy is required. It is especially hoped that many of those who have attended our previous workshops on waxcap-grassland fungi will attend, but no prior knowledge of these fungi will be assumed

Although it is possible to come for just one day, it would be better to attend both days.

Those travelling a fair distance can find B&B in nearby Fox House and Millstones Inns or the Peak District villages of Hathersage, Bamford, Hope, Castleton, Eyam etc.

There may be a charge of a few pounds per person, towards the costs of hand- outs etc.; this will be collected on the day. Numbers may be restricted, so if you want to attend please contact me now (robdfoster@yahoo.co.uk) to book a place.

Rob Foster

6. Fungus Groups and UK Fungus Day

UK Fungus Day will be on 8th October 2022 – please send information about your UK Fungus Day events and activities to Norman at ukfungusday@britmycolsoc.info

Our theme for this year's UK Fungus Day is *Connections & Connectivity*. We've been contacting nature organisations, museums and visitor attractions around the country to encourage them to get involved, and hope that some might team up with local fungus groups to work together to engage wider audiences. *Funding to support UK Fungus Day activities is available up to a maximum of £150. The event details including time, place and activity, the materials required and a breakdown of the costs will need to be supplied on the UK Fungus Day Funding Application Form. There are limited funds so early application is encouraged!* Contact Norman at ukfungusday@britmycolsoc.info

7. Memorial Foray for Tom Hering

A small memorial foray is being arranged for Dr Tom Hering on the morning of 8th of October 2022. at Charnwood Lodge near Coalville in Leicestershire; the site is a Leicester and Rutland Wildlife Trust site, open to the LFSG under a permit, and so any additional visitors on the foray will be there as guests of the LFSG.

Booking **needs** to be made with Irene Peat <peat.irene@gmail.com> who will provide further information time grid ref etc

Following the foray a meet up between 1-3pm at a local pub 'The Bulls Head' in Woodhouse Eaves is planned where we can look at specimens collected and some memorabilia of Toms life which will be on display. Refreshments will be provided by Toms family.

We all know how much Tom contributed to our forays and we will miss his presence at our forthcoming forays.

Irene Peat