



Botanical Society
of Britain & Ireland

BSBI Annual Review
31 March 2015

Contents

02	BSBI: Who We Are and What We Do	10	Publicity and Outreach
03	Message from the President	11	Botanical Publications
04	BSBI Staff, Science and Projects	12	Financial Report 31 March 2015
06	Training and Education	16	Thank You
07	Encouraging an Interest in Plants		

BSBI: Who We Are and What We Do

The Botanical Society of Britain and Ireland (BSBI) is for everyone who is interested in the wild plants of Britain and Ireland. We have welcomed both professional and amateur members since 1836, and the Society remains the biggest and most active organisation devoted to the study of botany in Britain, Ireland, the Channel Isles and the Isle of Man.

BSBI's objectives are to:

- promote the study, understanding and enjoyment of British and Irish wild plants and stoneworts;
- support, encourage and participate in research into the taxonomy, ecology, biogeography and conservation of the British and Irish flora; and
- co-operate with Continental and other botanists in matters of mutual interest and concern.

BSBI has a long and influential publications history, including plant distribution Atlases, handbooks and the scientific journal, *New Journal of Botany*. Our research, training and outreach programmes benefit botanists across Britain and Ireland, whether beginners or experts. BSBI pioneers new approaches to data collection and distribution mapping, and has become one of the world's largest contributors of biological records. BSBI's distribution mapping projects record new plant arrivals and changes in the distributions of both native and non-native plants.

These achievements are only possible thanks to our many volunteer members, whose records are validated by BSBI's network of 186 volunteer county recorders and 105 specialist referees, and to our voluntary officers, committee members and trustees, who are responsible for the governance of the Society.

BSBI has a team of 13 paid staff and contractors who support our volunteers and keep the Society active and functioning smoothly. This Annual Review includes messages and updates from many of these staff members and volunteer officers, telling you about our activities and achievements during the period from April 2014 to March 2015, starting with a message from BSBI President Ian Denholm.

Message from the President

At a time of cutbacks in government spending, it is apposite to reflect on the outstanding contributions made by volunteers to understanding the status of our native and non-native flora and fauna. Whether working alone or within natural history societies, their expertise and hard work underpins vital research on changes in the abundance and geographical ranges of organisms, and informs decision-making by conservation organisations.

As a pioneer of national and regional recording initiatives, BSBI exemplifies how the enthusiasm of volunteers can be supported and harnessed to greatest collective benefit. The Society is, however, fully aware that its past achievements and future successes are founded on productive partnerships with other organisations including universities, Government agencies, conservation charities and other recording societies. Working together strengthens our ability to promote recognition of the contributions of volunteers and attract more funding to support their efforts, and to meet the challenges of training and enthusing successive generations of naturalists. I therefore applaud members of BSBI's Training & Education Committee who authored a thought-provoking article on the decline in teaching field biology skills, which was published online in the *Times Higher Education Supplement*.

This Annual Review summarises activities during a busy and successful year, with an emphasis on collecting data for a third comprehensive atlas of the vascular plants of Britain and Ireland, currently scheduled for completion in 2020. In keeping with our emphasis on partnerships, we have helped launch a new National Plant Monitoring Scheme, expanded training initiatives and led on influential publications including *A Vascular Plant Red List for England*. In commending these achievements I extend heartfelt thanks to BSBI's dedicated and enthusiastic staff and contractors; to our recorders, referees, trustees and committee members who commit time and resources on a voluntary basis; and to the many other organisations and individuals that we had the pleasure of working with during the year.



Ian Denholm photographing *Campanula rotundifolia* (Harebell) on Harris.



BSBI Staff, Science and Projects

With 13 full-time or part-time staff and contractors, we are able to provide more effective support to our members and ensure efficient management of the Society and its finances.

BSBI Staff & Contractors:

Jane Houldsworth	Head of Operations
Kevin Walker	Head of Science
Bob Ellis	Projects Officer
Gwynn Ellis	Membership Secretary
Paul Green	Welsh Officer (job share)
Tom Humphrey	Database Officer
Alex Lockton	Website and Network Officer
Clive Lovatt	Administrative Officer
Maria Long	Irish Officer
Louise Marsh	Publicity and Outreach Officer
Jim McIntosh	Scottish Officer
Polly Spencer-Vellacott	Welsh Officer (job share)
Pete Stroh	Scientific Officer

As ever, a dedicated team of recorders, supported by BSBI staff and officers, continued to provide data of the highest quality, vital for achieving our scientific and conservation objectives. We have also forged partnerships with other organisations to launch new projects to deepen our understanding of changes in our flora. This year's achievements include:

Atlas 2020

In anticipation of the next Atlas, recording effort intensified and included field meetings in localities where recent data are sparse or lacking. Resources for Atlas 2020 Recorders were made available via the website, and our network of County Recorders continued to co-ordinate the efforts of volunteers throughout Britain and Ireland. http://www.bsbi.org.uk/atlas_2020.html

England Red List

September 2014 saw the publication of *A Vascular Plant Red List for England*, the result of a two-year project led by BSBI Scientific Officer, Pete Stroh, working with botanists and statisticians from partner organisations including the Centre for Ecology & Hydrology, the Natural History Museum, Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, Plantlife and Natural England. Analysis of BSBI data revealed some marked species declines in lowland England, especially

plants associated with open habitats and infertile soils, such as *Drosera anglica* (Great Sundew). More surprisingly, the analyses also detected steep declines in some widespread species such as *Campanula rotundifolia* (Harebell), which had been assumed to have relatively stable distributions.

<http://www.bsbi.org.uk/england.html>

National Plant Monitoring Scheme (NPMS)

March 2015 saw the launch of this new habitat-based plant surveillance scheme. BSBI has joined forces with the Biological Records Centre/Centre for Ecology & Hydrology and Plantlife to deliver the scheme, with funding from the Joint Nature Conservation Committee. The NPMS enables volunteers at all skill levels to get involved in recording and BSBI has been leading on providing training in identification skills. The scheme aims to provide quantitative data on the statuses of widespread plants and the habitats on which they depend.

<http://www.bsbi.org.uk/npms.html>

Threatened Plants Project (TPP)/Species Accounts

Data are currently being analysed for this flagship project investigating 4000 populations of 50 threatened species across Britain and Ireland. Accounts of some of these threatened species have been made available on the BSBI website, with more to follow.

http://www.bsbi.org.uk/species_accounts.html

Irish Species Project

Work started on this two-year project, co-ordinated by BSBI's Committee for Ireland, to study eight species of conservation concern in Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland. The Irish Species Project uses a similar sampling approach and methodology to the TPP, with volunteers revisiting historic localities to collect information including population size, habitat quality and management, and current or perceived threats.

<http://www.bsbi.org.uk/ireland.html>

Survey of Plants and Lichens associated with Ash (SPLASH)

Many BSBI members participated in this project to measure the potential impacts of ash die-back on the ground flora and epiphytes associated with ash trees in Britain and Ireland. The Society played a key role in the development of this project, launched in 2013, alongside partners in the British Bryological Society and the British Lichen Society.

<http://www.bsbi.org.uk/splash.html>

BSBI Database

Supported by this recording activity, our in-house database of plant records has continued to expand. Almost three million records were added during 2014 and our Database Officer, Tom Humphrey, continued to refine the software and add features to facilitate use of the database. As of March 2015, we have almost 400 registered users, including university-based researchers and partner organisations involved in land management and conservation such as Forestry Enterprise Scotland, Natural England, Natural Resources Wales (formerly the Countryside Council for Wales), RSPB, Plantlife, Kew, Scottish Natural Heritage.

Mertensia maritima (Oysterplant) growing on Orkney.



Training and Education

BSBI awarded 50 training grants in 2014 plus conference bursaries and Plant Study Grants. We also completed *So You Want to Know Your Plants*, a guide to getting started in plant identification, which can be downloaded free of charge from the BSBI website.

‘Training the Botanical Trainers’ ran for the fifth time with more than 30 attendees. Botany tutors from around the country were able to share their expertise and spend a day discussing how to inspire interest in difficult plant groups and how to ensure succession of referees for challenging taxa. We also continued to support the next generation of botanists, with a financial grant to the Field Studies Council’s Young Darwin Scholarships.

Field Identification Skills Certificate (FISC) tests ran in Leicester, Kent and twice in Shrewsbury and all were fully subscribed. Most participants were consultants who use their FISC grade as an endorsement of their

botanical field skills – a useful personal marketing tool in the jobs market. But FISCs are open to anyone to take, whether amateur or professional botanists, beginners, improvers or experts.

A *Euphrasia* (Eyebright) Study Group was formed, led by Chris Metherell (now the *Euphrasia* referee) and Fred Rumsey, co-authors of the BSBI Handbook on *Euphrasia*, due for publication in 2016. More than 60 botanists were trained in Eyebright identification in herbarium sessions at the Royal Botanic Gardens Edinburgh, University of Leicester, National Museum of Wales and University of Reading.

Euphrasia arctica subsp. *borealis* (Arctic Eyebright *borealis*) blooming on Colonsay.



Encouraging an Interest in Plants

Our meetings and events, held across the whole of Britain and Ireland, enjoyed record attendance and offered botanists at all skill levels opportunities for recording, training, networking and contributing to botanical research.

BSBI's Meetings Committee was renamed the Meetings & Communications Committee to encompass its increasing involvement in publicity and outreach activities. Committee members worked with country officers and local volunteers to organise successful indoor meetings and the annual Field Meetings Programme.

BSBI Field Meetings

For the 2014 field season, we again offered a varied programme of field meetings encompassing the whole of BSBI's geography. Forty-seven field meetings were held in total, including:

- seven training meetings including ones aimed at beginners in plant identification;
- four workshops on challenging plant groups: dandelions, eyebrights, sedges and brambles;
- four week-long recording meetings based at Glynhir and Caerdeon (Wales), and Arran and Glenshiel (Scotland);
- nine field meetings across the Republic and North of Ireland, which also contributed records for the Irish Species Project.

Many BSBI members volunteered suggestions for national and local field meetings and recorders were able, with permission from landowners, to reach areas previously inaccessible to botanists. Huge thanks are due to all the individuals and committees involved in making the 2014 programme such a success.

Scotland

BSBI's Annual Summer Meeting was held in Dunkeld in June 2014, offering three days of talks and excursions across Perthshire and attracting almost 100 attendees.

Our training and outreach programmes in Scotland included three Plant Families Workshops for beginners led by enthusiastic volunteers Faith Anstey and Jenny Farrar. Held in Edinburgh, Glasgow and St Andrews, they attracted 67 participants; a dozen follow-up meetings were also arranged.

The Scottish Officer organised three 'Introduction to' days for Sedges, Grasses and Ferns, and two field meetings aimed at newcomers to BSBI. An exhibition stand at the 2014 Scottish Birdfair in May helped us reach out to a wider audience, with 50 people taking part in our plant identification competition.

2014 was a busy year for Site Condition Monitoring by BSBI Scotland volunteers, who focused on the rare plants of five SSSIs. We attracted media interest assisting Scottish Natural Heritage with surveys of three other sites, including the north face of Ben Nevis.

A project to strengthen recording in the Cairngorm National Park, led by BSBI volunteer Andy Amphlett, provided 20,000 high quality records to the BSBI Database and to the Park authority who helped fund the project.

2014 saw the publication of Rare Plant Registers for Arran, Bute and Midlothian. Two of our long-serving Recorders – Ken Butler (Caithness) and Michael Braithwaite (Berwickshire) – retired at the end of 2014 after 36 years in post and successors are being sought. Jim McIntosh celebrated ten years as Scottish Officer in November 2014 with SNH funding for the post renewed until 2018.



Crithmum maritimum (Rock Samphire) and *Plantago maritima* (Sea Plantain) growing in Co. Wexford.

Encouraging an Interest in Plants (continued)

England

In September 2014, BSBI held a special event at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, to commemorate the outstanding contributions made to the Society by David Pearman over many years. This was followed by a press launch for *A Vascular Plant Red List for England*, where lead author Pete Stroh gave a presentation and answered questions from around 100 journalists and conservationists.

The Annual Exhibition Meeting and Annual General Meeting were held in November at the University of Leicester. The event attracted more than 180 participants and offered a stimulating mix of exhibits, talks and herbarium tours.

Wales

Twelve field meetings were held in Wales, as well as the annual recording week at Glynhir, Carmarthenshire, and a third annual meeting at Caerdeon, Snowdonia. These events provided several new records of county and national significance. The 52nd Welsh AGM was held at the Royal George Hotel in Tintern, accompanied by excursions that again led to new and important plant records. A training meeting held at Treborth Botanic Garden in April 2014 focused on *Taraxacum* (Dandelions) and helped promote wider interest in this complex and challenging genus.

BSBI recording activity in Wales was supported by our two job-sharing Welsh Officers, Polly Spencer-Vellacott and Paul Green, until Polly went on maternity leave in July 2014 and Paul temporarily assumed her duties.

Two issues of the *Welsh Bulletin* were published, with one issue including all the new Welsh Plant Records. Rare Plant Registers (RPRs) were completed for Brecknockshire, Merionethshire and Denbighshire, and work is underway to produce RPRs for Glamorgan and Pembrokeshire: Wales will then be the first country to have a complete set of RPRs.

A survey of local botany groups, some of which are run in conjunction with other organisations such as the Wildlife Trusts, showed that most counties in Wales now have an active local group of botanists.

Ireland

Nine field meetings were held during 2014 and local recording groups were formed in Co. Clare, Dublin and Co. Down.

Many recorders contributed to the new Irish Species Project and, in conjunction with the National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) and Northern Ireland Environmental Agency, work got underway towards the new *Vascular Plant Red List for Ireland*. A long-list of approximately 400 species was created and data collated so that the statuses of these species can be looked at in more detail.

A grant from NPWS was awarded in March 2015 to support additional work by BSBI's Irish Officer, Maria Long. She ensured that recorders were kept up to date via a third issue of the annual *Irish VCR Newsletter* and the BSBI Ireland webpage, where presentations from the Irish Members' Conference, held in Dublin in March 2014, were made available. The 25th issue of the annual *Irish Botanical News* was also published under the editorship of Paul Green.

A Rare Plant Register was produced for Co. Fermanagh, and is available for download from the BSBI Ireland webpage: <http://www.bsbi.org.uk/ireland.html>

The Irish AGM was held in Castlewellan, Co. Down in September 2014. As most members of the Committee for Ireland had served their full term, only three could continue to serve for the next year. The new members of the committee thank their predecessors for all their sterling work.



BSBI's Plant ID Quiz at British Birdfair 2014 in Rutland.

Publicity and Outreach

In 2014 our Publicity and Outreach initiative, launched in June 2012, entered its second phase, with a focus on working with partners.

Highlights included BSBI's contribution to the British Science Festival, held in Birmingham, where we collaborated with Botanic Gardens Conservation International; and exhibiting for the third time at British Birdfair, the world's largest wildlife event, where we shared a stand with the Biological Records Centre. We are grateful to the many volunteers who contributed their time and enthusiasm to help with presenting exhibits and promoting the Society at national and local outreach events.

Our network of local recording groups continued to flourish, with an increasing number of local groups having their own webpages hosted by or accessible via the BSBI website.

The BSBI News & Views blog continued to attract a wide readership, with around 100,000 page-views during the year. Coverage included BSBI projects, reports on national events and local activities, and links to resources, plant ID videos and other blogs by more than 40 BSBI members.

http://www.bsbi.org.uk/news_-_views.html

We continued to build our social media profile and, by the end of March 2015, more than 4,000 organisations and individuals were using the BSBI Twitter account to keep up with the latest botanical news from BSBI and partner organisations. Our Facebook page also continued to attract interest and helped us reach a different audience.

<https://twitter.com/BSBIbotany>

<https://www.facebook.com/BSBI2011>

We held a successful press launch in September 2014 for the *Vascular Plant Red List for England* and, with the help of volunteer Ryan Clark, our fourth New Year Plant Hunt in January 2015 was able to attract four times as many recorders as last year from across Britain and Ireland and achieve widespread media coverage. Our flourishing social media platforms and growing network of print and broadcast media contacts made it easier to publicise our activities and we were able to engage and enthuse new (and younger) audiences.

Botanical Publications

Periodicals

Volume 4 of our scientific journal *New Journal of Botany*, edited by Richard Gornall and published by Maney Publishing, featured 19 scientific papers or short notes from north-west European authors, including two papers from the highly successful BSBI/RBGE Mapping Conference held in Edinburgh in 2012, alongside Book Reviews and Plant Records.

BSBI News continued to be issued three times a year with the editors, Gwynn Ellis and Trevor James, ensuring a high standard and varied range of articles. The *BSBI Year Book* contained information about BSBI and its officers, committees, Vice-County Recorders and referees, as well as comprehensive field meeting reports and obituaries.

Summerfield Books

Summerfield Books have been a regular exhibitor at Society events this year, selling the latest botanical publications and continuing to expand their range of natural history titles, as well as field equipment. BSBI members receive a discount on all BSBI handbooks and other selected titles.

Visit www.summerfieldbooks.com for more details.

Books

September 2014 saw the publication of an important new BSBI title, *A Vascular Plant Red List for England*, with co-authors including Pete Stroh and Kevin Walker.

A new edition of BSBI Handbook 3 *Docks and Knotweeds* was published in 2014; work continued apace on two entirely new identification handbooks for *Alchemilla* (Lady's-mantles) and *Euphrasia* (Eyebrights), and neared completion for *Oenothera* (Evening-primroses) and *Viola* (Violets and Pansies).

Several local Floras which benefited from BSBI grants were published, including *A Short Flora of Berwickshire*, *The Flora of Northamptonshire and the Soke of Peterborough*, *The Flora and Vegetation of Shropshire* and *The Flora of Worcestershire*.

John Edgington, who sits on BSBI's Publications Committee, was awarded the President's Prize for his book *Who found our ferns?*; while several fellow members, led by Philip Oswald, ensured that Volume 2 of the *Flora of Great Britain and Ireland* made it to press despite the sad death in 2013 of lead author Peter Sell.

Tim Rich and *Hieracium attenboroughianum* (Attenborough's Hawkweed): described in *New Journal of Botany* Vol. 4.



Financial Report 31 March 2015

Independent Examiner's Statement on Summarised Financial Statements

I have examined the summarised financial statements of Botanical Society of Britain and Ireland for the year ended 31 March 2015.

Respective responsibilities of the trustees and examiner:

The trustees are responsible for preparing the summarised financial statements in accordance with applicable United Kingdom law and the recommendations of the Charities SORP. My responsibility is to report to you my opinion on the consistency of the summarised financial statements, within the Annual Review, with the full annual financial statements.

My report on the charity's full annual financial statements describes the basis of my report on those financial statements.

Opinion

In my opinion the summarised financial statements are consistent with the full annual financial statements of Botanical Society of Britain and Ireland for the year ended 31 March 2015.

E E Irvine FCA

WMT Chartered Accountants,
45 Grosvenor Road, St Albans, Herts, AL1 3AW

Treasurer's Report

I took over from Antony Timmins as Treasurer in December 2014. During his tenure, Antony steered through the reorganisation of BSBI, so that it is now fit to achieve its ambitions. On behalf of BSBI I would like to thank him for his considerable efforts.

This year we have reverted to independent examination of our accounts rather than audit. In the last three years the Society has deliberately committed to increasing expenditure on its charitable aims, using its substantial cash and investment reserves (£1.18m at 31 March 2015). Staff numbers have increased to achieve the core functions: support for the large number of volunteers involved in data generation, validation of that data and high quality interpretation, as well as increasing the Society's administrative competence.

As a consequence BSBI ran a deficit of £175.8k on its operations in the year ended 31 March 2015.

Comparison with earlier periods is made difficult because of the change in accounting periods and the reorganisation. In the period of five months post-reorganisation to 31 March 2014, the operating deficit was £41.6k; pre-reorganisation, there was a deficit of £114.3k in the ten months to October 2013. The increased deficits result largely from increased staff costs.

The operating deficit in the year to 31 March 2015 was offset by a gain in the value of investments (£42.1k) so that the net deficit was £133.8k (5 months to 31 March 2014 £41.3k net deficit; 10 months to 31 October 2013 net surplus £20.1k).

Looking ahead we expect to run a substantial deficit in the current year before investment gains and losses. BSBI is currently able to sustain its higher levels of expenditure by continuing to utilise its cash and investment reserves, balancing prudence against the charitable duty of adequately using that cash. In the medium-term, however, this is not sustainable and we need to broaden out our sources of income.

BSBI receives modest income from only a few government agencies and others (£158.9k to 31 March 2015), but this is becoming less dependable, and more output specific, rather than funding our core competence. BSBI's principal asset is its intellectual property – its data – which every year is substantially augmented by the vast volunteer effort. The Society receives very little income for access to this data resource and we have been guilty of allowing access at little or no cost to others who in turn generate significant income or value from it. We are beginning to address that imbalance.

We are also looking to find sponsorship and support for some of our headline projects, such as Atlas 2020. Such initiatives are embryonic but will be scoped out in the year ahead.



Terry Swainbank
Treasurer

Financial Report 31 March 2015

BSBI SUMMARISED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES For the year ended 31 March 2015	Year ended 31 March 2015	5 months ended 31 March 2014
Incoming Resources	£	£
Transfers from Botanical Society of the British Isles (Note 1)	–	1,353,109
<i>Voluntary Income</i>		
Subscriptions and Donations	70,360	30,301
Core Grants	64,715	27,600
Legacies and Development Fund Donations	33,174	41,436
Investment Income	43,450	16,665
<i>Charitable Activities Income</i>		
Botanical Survey and Interpretation	94,225	46,031
Botanical Education	13,949	2,664
Botanical Publications and Website	21,042	5,253
	340,915	1,523,059

Resources Expended		
<i>Cost of Generating Funds</i>		
Membership Administration, Publicity and Investment Management	60,959	24,700
<i>Charitable Activities</i>		
Botanical Survey and Interpretation	275,848	114,857
Botanical Education	30,954	5,001
Botanical Publications and Website	93,446	42,131
Governance Costs	55,548	24,896
	516,755	211,585

Net Outgoing Resources		
General Funds	(174,885)	930,214
Restricted Funds	(955)	381,260
Total Net (Deficit)/Surplus before Gains on Investments	(175,840)	1,311,474

Other gains		
Gains on Investments	42,065	384
(Deficit)/Surplus for the Year/Period	(133,775)	1,311,858

Financial Report 31 March 2015

BSBI SUMMARISED BALANCE SHEET As at 31 March 2015	31 March 2015	31 March 2014
Fixed Assets	£	£
Investments – at Market Value	1,180,698	1,266,044

Current Assets		
Stocks	12,993	14,218
Debtors, Prepayments and Accrued Income	53,569	89,077
Cash at Bank and on Deposit	69,840	59,667

Current Liabilities		
Creditors, Accruals and Deferred Income	(139,017)	(117,148)
	1,178,083	1,311,858

Represented By		
Endowment Funds	387,421	375,385
Restricted Income Funds	5,221	5,984
Unrestricted Funds	785,441	930,489
	1,178,083	1,311,858

Note 1:

As a result of the dissolution of the Botanical Society of the British Isles, the following net assets were transferred to the Botanical Society of Britain and Ireland. Accounting standards require the transfer to be shown as an incoming resource to the Botanical Society of Britain and Ireland.

Investments – at Market Value	1,334,828
Stocks	14,244
Debtors, Prepayments and Accrued Income	87,751
Cash at Bank and on Deposit	10,556
Creditors, Accruals and Deferred Income	(94,270)
	1,353,109

Statement of the Trustees

The summarised statement of financial activities, summarised balance sheet and note are not the full statutory accounts but are a summary of information relating to both the Statement of Financial Activities and the Balance Sheet. The full accounts from which the summarised financial statements are derived have been subject to Independent Examination and the report on them was unmodified.

The Annual Report and Accounts of the Botanical Society of Britain and Ireland made up to its reporting date of 31 March 2015 were approved by the Society's Board of Trustees on 9 September 2015 and have been filed with the Charity Commission and the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator. A PDF copy is available on the BSBI website at http://www.bsbi.org.uk/about_bsbi.html and hard copies can be obtained from the Company Secretary or Treasurer.

Approved by the Board of Trustees and signed on its behalf by:

Dr A I Denholm, President

Mr T Swainbank, Hon. Treasurer



Dryas octopetala (Mountain Avens) and *Orchis mascula* (Early Purple-orchid) at Mullagh Mor, The Burren.

Thank You

The Society gratefully acknowledges grants from Natural England, Natural Resources Wales and Scottish Natural Heritage.

The Society also wishes to thank all those members who have served, both nationally and regionally, as officers, on committees, as editors and indexers, in leading and arranging meetings and as assistant secretaries and minuting secretaries; and the many members who have participated in surveys, prepared reports and read papers.

BSBI would especially like to thank our network of 186 Vice-County Recorders and more than 100 Referees, acknowledging the invaluable work they do and their huge contribution to BSBI's success.

Many of these volunteers have served for very many years, and, whilst these are only a selection, the Society notes the sad deaths during 2014 of Oliver Rackham, Mary Briggs, Clive Jermy, Caoimhe Muldoon, James Iliff and Graham Wright.

Without the contribution of all these volunteers, and our wider membership, the work of the Society would not have been possible.

BSBI is indebted for the continued support of its many partners:

Biological Records Centre, CEH, Wallingford; British Bryological Society; British Lichen Society; Cairngorms National Park Authority; Cambridge Botanic Garden; The Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs; The Field Studies Council (in particular Kindrogan and Preston Montford Field Centres); Joint Nature Conservation Committee; Linnean Society of London; Manchester Metropolitan University; National Biodiversity Data Centre, Waterford; National Biodiversity Network Trust; National Botanic Gardens, Glasnevin, Dublin; National Museum Wales; Natural England; Natural History Museum, London; Natural Resources Wales; Plantlife (UK); Royal Botanic Garden, Edinburgh; Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew; Scottish Natural Heritage; Society of Antiquaries, London; Summerfield Books; Ulster Museum, Belfast; University of Edinburgh; University of Leicester; University of Reading; and The Wildflower Society.

Images supplied by Oisín Duffy, Paul Smith, Ian Denholm, Kevin Walker, Paula O'Meara, Louise Marsh & Joe Daggett.

Registered Address:

**Botanical Society of Britain
and Ireland**

BSBI
57 Walton Road
Shirehampton
Bristol
BS11 9TA

Charity Numbers:

England and Wales (1152954)
Scotland (SC038675)

Registered Company No.

England and Wales (8553976)

