

only detailed information is found under 'Resources' where it talks about promoting existing schemes like the Plant Surveillance Scheme and the UK Butterfly Monitoring Scheme. I think the former of these must be a proposed BSBI/Plantlife recording scheme designed as a follow-on to the previous Local Change Project, but that will cover a wide range of quality habitats, not just heathland.

Clicking within 'Resources' on the Pant Surveillance Scheme does give plenty of detail. It explains that three different levels of survey can be used depending on botanical ability. The idea is to identify plants within selected 'plots' of 100 square metres (which agrees with the Heathland Surveillance Network leaflet). These should default to 10m x 10m squares for most habitats, though for more linear features like arable field edges a 'plot' should be 100m x 1m instead.

At present the HSN is very much a pilot project so it remains to be seen whether it takes off. It is unsurprising that the Biological Records Centre is proposing that records are submitted using iRecord (because they helped with its development) but in my very personal view it is nothing like as good as Living Record.

Bryophyte Recording in Hampshire

A note by John Norton

I have taken over from Rod Stern (who has been in poor health recently) as the British Bryological Society's regional bryophyte recorder for VC11. Fred Rumsey (f.rumsey@nhm.ac.uk) remains the recorder for VC12. I would be interested to hear from anyone who records bryophytes in south Hants, or wants to, or has some records to send in. Please contact me for a record entry spreadsheet. I may be able to help with identifying the odd specimen but please let me know first if you want to send something.

The BBS has recently embarked on the preparation of a new national atlas (the last was published in 1992), so unfortunately any records submitted from now on will not be reflected in this. Nevertheless, any new records will be extremely valuable. Rod's excellent VC atlas (published in 2010) highlighted the fact that even much of the New Forest is poorly recorded: many older records of rarities have not been recently confirmed and many common species do not have specific localities recorded.

June Chatfield is currently the co-ordinator of the BBS Southern Group, which covers Hampshire, Berkshire and parts of Sussex, Surrey and South London, though in recent years most outings have been in Hampshire. June's contact details are on the BBS web site (see below), but because she is not easily contactable by e-mail I suggest anyone interesting in going on a trip this coming winter contacts me first. At the time of writing, no winter 2013-14 programme has been arranged.

Of significant news this year was the discovery by Phil Budd (accompanied by Eric Clement and myself) of a small liverwort *Cephaloziella baumgartneri*, on the wall of Netley Abbey. This was new to Hampshire and fills a gap in the distribution of this nationally rare species, which occurs in the limestone quarries of Portland, Dorset, on the Isle

of Wight and in Kent and formerly in Sussex. It is the only *Cephaloziella* species that grows on calcareous substrates.

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VC11 Records

Compiled by Martin Rand

Martin Rand's list of noteworthy botanical records from South Hampshire (VC11) will appear in the Spring 2014 edition of *Flora News*.

VC12 Records

Compiled by Tony Mundell

Here is a set of my personal selections from the records received recently. My choices for inclusion here are based mainly on scarcity in VC12 but other people's records always receive priority over my own. As I do such an enormous amount of 'square-bashing' myself I tend to find many scarce plants, but I would rather include records from others, so please keep exciting records coming in.

As usual I have omitted the 'SU' to save space, and I remind you that inclusion of a record does not imply that there is public access, as some of these records were obtained during surveys at the owner's invitation.

Amongst the more exciting finds listed here is Ian Ralph's discovery of *Colchicum autumnale* (Meadow Saffron) at Quarley Wood. This is in an area now being actively coppiced and like all the other native sites it is not very far from the Wiltshire border. It was not recorded here in the previous three surveys by HCC and HWT in 1979, 1986 and 1992 while the site was a derelict coppice. Coppice management was reinstated shortly after the 1992 survey. What is really interesting is that it was recorded in Townsend's 'Flora of Hampshire' at 'Quarley and Ashton Copse' by H. Reeks in c.1870. So this seems to be an example of how plants can respond to positive management like coppicing. Many of our woodlands are far too dark and shady for a rich ground flora. There is certainly a great need for more coppicing or woodland thinning.

Another example of plants responding to favourable management is provided by Chris Hall's recent record of over 500 stems of *Equisetum sylvaticum* (Wood Horsetail) in the MOD Training area at Beacon Hill, Ewshot. Due to increasing shading from a *Tsuga* plantation the colony there had declined down to only 18 weak stems by 2008. It was right on the verge of local extinction when MOD was persuaded to act to let some light in, and they felled a few trees there in Feb 2011.

I was delighted when Steve Povey was already out and about botanising just before Christmas and found that *Groenlandia densa* (Opposite-leaved Pondweed) is still at Lutcombe Pond, where I have had a few records since 1988. Later on near there in April he refound *Chrysosplenium alternifolium* (Alternate-leaved Golden-saxifrage) in the Lutcombe Bottom Stream where it had been feared lost.