Dear BPS member,

Welcome to a fantastic year of pteridology activities and celebration of all things ‘ferny’.

We are incredibly excited about our presence at BBC Gardener’s World Live at the NEC in Birmingham in June. We’d love for you to come along to see our display, but also your involvement in the running of our fern showcase. If you are interested in helping out, please see the ‘Education’ section in this newsletter for more information.

If you are a full-time student (of any subject), we would be really pleased to see you at our national meetings. We have some small grants available to assist with travel expenses to make it easier for you to join us. See the grants page on our website for details.

There are lots of exciting BPS events taking place this year, details of which are included in the ‘Meetings’ section within the mailing.

Have a great year of fern-filled fun in your gardens and exploring out in the field.

Best wishes,

Sophie

Sophie Walwin – Publicity Officer
publicity@ebps.org.uk

FOUNDED 1891 Patron: HRH THE PRINCE OF WALES
Registered Charity No. 1092399 BPS official address: c/o Department of Life Sciences, The Natural History Museum, Cromwell Road, London SW7 5BD
Monitoring of Vulnerable and Environmentally Sensitive Ferns of the British Isles

Compared with other plant groups, ferns do not comprise a large number of species in the British Isles, but a significant proportion are scarce. This may be because they have environmentally exacting requirements and are at their distribution limits within the British Isles, they are limited to a few sites, or there are changes in the climate in the shorter term relatively speaking, which has adversely affected population numbers. In addition, there are threats to the environment by direct and indirect effects of urbanisation, which are perhaps easier to appreciate on a daily basis.

Awareness of these issues has led to several groups and individuals within the society to undertake valuable monitoring of some of these species at a local or regional level, gathering information on the changes in plant populations and the potential viability of extant habitats. The BPS recognises the immense effort that has been undertaken to conduct these monitoring exercises and the wealth of diverse information held by various groups around the British Isles. Recent discussions in the BPS have led to the proposal that we should set up a co-ordination group under the general umbrella of the BPS conservation and recording officers, firstly to gather together all the information accumulated over the years, identifying individuals and groups undertaking such work along the way, and secondly to encourage and support further work, identifying needs for further monitoring and regions that have perhaps been neglected. Moreover, the exercise is to recognise and encourage those individuals and groups undertaking such work and provide a forum with some of the following (in brief) objectives:

1. Identify species and populations to monitor
2. Identify individuals and groups around Britain undertaking monitoring.
3. Collect and collate historical recording data.
4. Identify areas where monitoring would be valuable.
5. Recruit and support coordinators to implement local and national monitoring.
6. Agree on the scale of monitoring: Nationally or specific known sites.
Adapt, develop and publish robust and functional monitoring protocols for each species and/or site. (Ensuring the method will detect changes in attributes such as plant location and abundance, frond number, frond size and frond fertility).

With the cumulative knowledge gained suggest appropriate monitoring intervals for a given species or population.

Ongoing collection and interpretation

Provide a forum to which monitoring projects are presented and subsequently published in recognition of all the individuals involved.

Wider dissemination of data.

First Steps!
It is hoped that many individuals and local groups will respond to this initial article and convey their expressions of interest by contacting Barry Wright or Laurence Sutton at FernMonitoring@eBPS.org.uk

The BPS will endeavour to make contact with those whom it believes would be interested in such a project. It is hoped that both these approaches will garner all groups across the land. The first start up event is anticipated to be a workshop where amongst many things to discuss and share, including a session on documentation and mapping, the latter using a commonly available application.

We believe this is an excellent way for all interested and local groups to make a major contribution to the knowledge base on the effects of local and wider environmental changes on vulnerable fern species. Keep up-to-date with our work via www.ebps.org.uk/fern-monitoring/

We look forward to hearing from you.

Laurence Sutton and Barry Wright
13th Jimmy Dyce Award
David Hill - Secretary

The award is to the author(s) of the best paper, article, book or other substantial piece of work published during 2019, in any of the three BPS journals, website or as a special publication.

The award is open to everyone, whether a professional or amateur pteridologist, horticulturalist or fern enthusiast.

To nominate your favourite article, please email the author, title, and publication details to Secretary@eBPS.org.uk by the 31st March 2020. Winners will be announced at the AGM in April and will receive a £100 cash prize.

Reading circle & eReading circle
David Hill - Secretary

After the untimely death of Tim Pyner, the reading circle ground to a halt. I am keen for this to restart, and I am now in receipt of the American Fern Journal and Fiddlehead forum.

Likewise, the Society also receives various electronic publications, which I’ve made available via a Dropbox account for members to access. These currently include newsletters from The Australian Fern Study Group, CREW (South Africa), Nederlandse Varen Verbiging and the Western Australia Fern Society.

If you would like to be included in the reading circle, or would like access to the electronic newsletters please email Secretary@eBPS.org.uk.
BPS Officer post vacancy

Peter Blake
Treasurer@ebps.org.uk

The post of Honorary Treasurer will become vacant after the AGM in 2021, or 2022 at the latest. Anyone interested in taking up this important post are invited to contact Peter Blake for details at Treasurer@ebps.org.uk. The successful applicant would work alongside Peter Blake and the Finance Officer for a year and then take over the post. All of our officer posts are voluntary positions.

Education

Gill Smith

In June this year, BPS will be exhibiting at Gardeners World Live at the NEC Birmingham. The Show runs over 4 days from 18 to 21 June inclusive plus there will be extra time needed for setting up and striking down the stand. We need member volunteers to help run the stand over the duration of the Show – even half a day would be very helpful. We are hoping that we will be able to secure some accommodation close to the venue so that members are able to add an overnight stay to help with this. Please contact me via education@ebps.org.uk if you think you are able help us out.

***Photo request*** The Education Group will be creating some new posters this year, these can be used by anyone who is asked to talk or put on a display about Ferns or the Society to other Plant groups or the general public. We are looking for high resolution photos of ferns in the wild or in gardens, which we can use on these posters. I know from our publications that there are lots of members photos out there which we could use – please send in some photos for us - to David Hill initially via secretary@ebps.org.uk - and we will let you know if we need any further information.

Our society’s mission is to improve the understanding and appreciation of ferns, and your help with shows and contribution of photographs will go some way towards helping us achieve this objective.

Thank you – Gill Smith
This year’s meetings programme is outlined below. I urge you to show your appreciation to those people who have so willingly and kindly offered to lead meetings by giving them your support.

If you wish to find out more about a meeting and/or confirm that you will be attending, you can do so directly with the meeting organisers by email using the contact details, or on the BPS website under Events. For those people unable to use email or the website, they can either write to the organisers directly (e.g. using the membership list) or, in the absence of an address, contact me to let the organiser know.

At the start of each National and Regional meeting, participants will be asked to sign a form confirming that they agree to abide by the BPS Safety Code and the Code of Conduct for the Conservation and Enjoyment of Wild Plants, and that they acknowledge the BPS Generic Risk Assessment for Field Meetings. This also has the advantage of providing a record of the names of participants, for example, for Bulletin reports.

The information below is as up to date as possible, and additional details are given. In all instances the leaders should be able to provide more information, but please do remember that they are willing volunteers, and at this stage some of the meetings are still being planned. Any changes will be notified in the Bulletin mailing and, of course, to those who contact the organisers.

**BPS AGM Programme ‘Tropical Fern Cultivation’**

*Saturday 18th of April 2020*

**Flett Theatre, Natural History Museum, South Kensington, London, SW7 5BD**

10.00 Assemble (tea and coffee) and opportunity to view Photographic Competition entries.

10.30 Welcome and Introduction by Alison Evans

10.35 Peter Blake: Pleasures, pitfalls and pests in growing indoor ferns

11.05 Neil Armstrong: Experience growing some more tender ferns in Cornwall

11.35 Coffee and Tea Break

11.50 Valdy Pierozynski: Growing ferns in an amateur hot-house.
12.20 Louisa Hall – Oxford Botanic Garden: Ferns in a professional hot-house

12.50 Lunch, BPS Booksales and Merchandise, and Photographic Competition voting

14.15 AGM

15.00 Coffee and Tea Break

15.30 Dick Hayward: 'Growing tropica in less-than-tropical conditions'

16.00 David Redmore: Platyceriums, ant-ferns and others

16.30 – 17.15 Depart (Museum closes at 17.50)

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<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Leader</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>‘Tropical fern cultivation’ - Annual General Meeting – NHM, London. In addition to the main AGM business, there will be several illustrated talks on the theme of tropical and sub-tropical ferns, as well as merchandise and book sales and our own fern photographic competition - <a href="mailto:EastAnglia@eBPS.org.uk">EastAnglia@eBPS.org.uk</a></td>
<td>Peter Blake</td>
<td>18 April 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BBC Gardeners’ World, NEC Birmingham – this is a major gardening (and food) show, and BPS will have a stand to display and promote ferns and the Society. Please contact Gill or Bryan if you wish to help - <a href="mailto:education@ebps.org.uk">education@ebps.org.uk</a></td>
<td>Gill and Bryan Smith</td>
<td>18 – 21 June 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plant Societies Weekend, RHS Wisley – BPS will again have a stand at this event, promoting BPS, along with other plant societies. Please contact Jude if you would like to help - <a href="mailto:JudeLawton@ebps.org.uk">JudeLawton@ebps.org.uk</a></td>
<td>Jude Lawton</td>
<td>20 - 21 June 2020</td>
</tr>
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<td>Cumbria – this will be a weekend meeting either in Eskdale or Borrowdale. See details below table. <a href="mailto:NorthWest@eBPS.org.uk">NorthWest@eBPS.org.uk</a></td>
<td>Robert Sykes</td>
<td>11 - 12 July 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BPS Display Weekend, RHS Wisley – following the continuing successes of displays in previous years, we have again been invited by RHS to have a weekend-long display to promote BPS and ferns. Please contact Julian if you would like to help - <a href="mailto:SouthEast@eBPS.org.uk">SouthEast@eBPS.org.uk</a></td>
<td>Julian Reed</td>
<td>18 - 19 July 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seattle, USA – a chance to spend a week visiting botanical gardens, private gardens and native fern sites in the north-west of the USA. Early booking through Julian Reed is strongly advisable - <a href="mailto:SouthEast@eBPS.org.uk">SouthEast@eBPS.org.uk</a></td>
<td>Sue Olsen</td>
<td>1 - 14 August 2020</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Southport Flower Show, Southport – a chance for you to help at the show, enthuse to the public about ferns and/or display your ferns to try and win in various display categories. Please contact Michael if you would like to take part - archivist@ebps.org.uk

Scotland, Rarities and Specialities – this will be the second part to last-year’s trip rogergolding@ebps.org.uk

Fern Cultivars in the South-East – a weekend meeting to see fern cultivars in Riverhill Himalayan Gardens and in members’ gardens in South-east England.

South Devon – a weekend meeting to include ferning around Bovey Tracey - publications@ebps.org.uk

Autumn Indoor Meeting, Staffordshire – our theme for this year’s finale will be restoring Victorian ferneries with a number of talks and possible site visits. Exact details and dates will be available soon, keep an eye on our website for updates.

REGIONAL MEETINGS
I can fully endorse all our regional groups. If you are a new member and fortunate to have a group near you, it is a wonderful way of getting started and meeting fellow members of the Society. Many of our members travel miles to attend many of the local group meetings. For details of additional meetings in the following areas, please contact the regional organiser, or see their programmes on the BPS website. If you have no group near you, you can always start one. The Meetings Secretary and other regional leaders will always be willing to give advice.

Cornwall & Devon: Ian Bennallick, 01726 890384 Cornwall@eBPS.org.uk
East Anglia: Peter Blake, 07710417715 EastAnglia@eBPS.org.uk
Manchester & North Midlands: (pro-tem) Mike Canaway, ManchesterNorthMidlands@eBPS.org.uk
Midlands: Matt Busby Midlands@eBPS.org.uk
North Wales: David Hill NorthWales@eBPS.org.uk
North West England: Robert Sykes, 01539 568321 NorthWest@eBPS.org.uk
Scotland: Bridget Laue, Scotland@eBPS.org.uk
South East: Julian Reed, SouthEast@eBPS.org.uk
South Wales & Borders: Brian & Sue Dockerill, SouthWalesBorders@eBPS.org.uk
Wessex: Josephine Basil, Wessex@eBPS.org.uk
Yorkshire: Barry Wright, 01423 358791 Yorkshire@eBPS.org.uk

Please note, if you are travelling or holidaying in one of the above regions you would be welcome to join in any of the above region’s meetings. Contact the leader or see the website for a list of meetings.
FURTHER FERN EVENTS OF INTEREST

Botanic Cornwall Group
The Botanic Cornwall Group have many meetings a year with a few having a definite fern input. Please contact Ian Bennallick, address under Cornwall & Devon above.

The Field Studies Council
The Field Studies Council run fern-specific courses for the public, and courses in 2020 are planned at Rhyd-y-crénu, Blencathra and Preston Montford. Course fees include tuition, use of library and other centre facilities. Centre-organised transport and board and lodging are in simple but comfortable accommodation. In some cases course members may be non-resident if they wish. Further details will be available on the FSC website.

Other Courses
BPS members will be leading a 1-day fern course at Rouken Glen Park, south of Glasgow on 23 July 2020. Further details will be available on the Park’s website.

15th to 17th July 2020, Pteridophyte Symposium 2020 - Ferns in Focus
São Paulo, Brazil: https://fernsinfocus2020.com

NOTES FOR MEMBERS ATTENDING MEETINGS

*Please Read These Notes Carefully*
If you are attending a meeting, you will need to contact the meeting leader. The leader should make you aware of the Society’s Safety Code, the Code of Conduct and the Generic Risk Assessment. You should read or have read these carefully. Copies are in the Bulletin and on our website. At the start of a meeting you will be required to sign a form to confirm that you agree to abide by the codes and acknowledge the risk assessment. Early booking of accommodation is advisable. Unless accommodation has been prearranged, members should make their own arrangements, but in case of difficulty, please contact the leader.

Weekend and longer meetings normally begin with those attending having a get together on the evening preceding the meeting proper but it may not always be possible for leaders to be present so try to make yourself known to other members.

Private cars are normally used during a field meeting. Arrangements may be possible to put people in need of lifts in touch with drivers with spaces.

Any plant collecting must be within the relevant conservation laws and the Society’s Code of Conduct.

Members attending meetings should be prepared for poor weather and muddy or rough conditions underfoot. Meetings will normally go ahead regardless of the conditions. Walking
boots or Wellingtons plus waterproof clothing are often essential. Leaders will advise participants of any known unusually severe conditions that may be encountered.

Usually, you will need to bring a packed lunch, and the leader will advise if this is to be eaten in the field or back at the car park.

Remember that the BPS meetings are arranged for your benefit, so make the most of them. In particular, if you are a relatively new member, don’t be afraid to ask questions. The leader and other members will be very happy to explain things.

Important note for Minors
Minors (ie under 18 years) can only attend meetings if accompanied by their parent(s), Legal Guardian(s) or a BPS member acting in loco parentis. Further information can be obtained from the meeting leader or myself.

EXTRA DETAIL FOR MEETINGS

**BBC Gardeners’ World, NEC Birmingham, Thursday 18 – Sunday 21 June 2020**
This is a major gardening and food show with a large attendance throughout the week. We last had a BPS stand here in 2010, and have decided that this will be the venue for our display at a major show in 2020. If you would like to help out (and get free access to the show!) please contact Gill or Bryan.

**Leaders:** Gill and Bryan Smith. **Contact:** Gill at education@ebps.org.uk or Bryan at meetings@ebps.org.uk

**Plant Societies Weekend, RHS Wisley, Saturday 20 – Sunday 21 June 2020**
For several years now, we have been supporting this weekend-long event which showcases a variety of plant societies, and BPS will again have a stand here. With a large display of ferns, we will be promoting the appreciation of ferns, fern growing and of course, the benefits of being a member of BPS. If you would like to be involved in helping or loaning ferns, please contact Jude.

**Leader:** Jude Lawton. **Contact:** JudeLawton@ebps.org.uk

**Cumbria – Eskdale - July 10th to 12th 2020**
The base will be the Woolpack Inn, Boot, Eskdale, CA19 1TH. 01946 723 230. www.greendoor.me, then click Woolpack Inn, or try https://woolpack.co.uk/.
Accommodation is limited and some rooms have gone already so book soon. I have paid a deposit on ‘the Cabin’, which is a separate building with catering facilities and space for 7 people (1 single, 1 twin, 2 double of which I have bagged one). The cost for the whole building is £690, so £100 per person for the two nights, based on shared rooms. If you fancy that (I hope you do) contact me (Robert) not the hotel – contact details below. There are other accommodation options – email me.
We will revisit some of the places we saw on a meet in 1994,(1995 Bulletin 248). We will hope to see the usual Lake District acidic suspects, and Dryopteris aemula, (rare up here), Hymenophyllum wilsonii and H. tunbrigense, Cryptogramma crispa, and lots of Dryopteris of many persuasions.

**Leader:** Robert Sykes. **Contact:** NorthWest@eBPS.org.uk
BPS Display Weekend, RHS Wisley, Saturday 18 - Sunday 19 July 2020
We began these annual weekend events in the main glasshouse at Wisley during the BPS 125th Anniversary Year, and have repeated them every year since – with growing success and popularity. To accommodate the rest of the BPS Meetings programme, the 2020 event will be in July, a little earlier in the year than previously. We will have a fine display of ferns, fern cultivation, fern merchandise and fern sales to promote BPS and pteridology. Please contact Julian Reed if you would like to help.
Leader: Julian Reed. Contact: SouthEast@eBPS.org.uk

Seattle, USA, Saturday 1 – Thursday 13 August 2020
This will be a major fern tour of the north-west USA, taking in botanical gardens, private gardens and native fern sites. Transport will be by coach and accommodation will have been booked in advance, so you will be required to make non-refundable payments in advance. Sue Olsen has planned a mouth-watering programme and further details can be obtained from Julian Reed as the liaison point. Early booking is very advisable.
Leader: Sue Olsen. Contact: Julian Reed at SouthEast@eBPS.org.uk

Southport Flower Show, Thursday 20 - Sunday 23 August 2020
Once again, BPS will have a stand here promoting the Society, demonstrating spore propagation and answering questions from visitors. There will also be a number of fern display categories in which you could win prizes for your ferns. Please contact Michael if you would like to help or enter ferns.
Leader: Michael Hayward. Contact: archivist@ebps.org.uk

Scotland, Rarities and Specialities, Saturday 29 August – Thursday 3 September 2020
This will be the second part to last year’s meeting to see rare and special ferns in Scotland. Exact details will be available from Roger next year. Please note that some of the sites will involve significant hill walking and scrambling, so a good level of fitness will be required. Numbers will be limited.
Leader: Roger Golding. Contact: rogergolding@ebps.org.uk

Cultivars in the South-East, Saturday 12 – Sunday 13 September 2020
The Cultivar Group will be organising a weekend meeting with visits to see fern cultivars in Riverhill Himalayan Gardens and in members’ gardens in Kent and East Sussex. This coincides with the RHS Wisley Flower Show (8 - 13 September) so you could add this to your itinerary!
Leader: Julian Reed. Contact: SouthEast@eBPS.org.uk
South Devon, Late-September 2020
This will be a weekend, possibly based around Bovey Tracey, with possible visits to Buckfastleigh and Chudleigh Rocks. Exact details and dates will be available next year.
Leader: Martin Rickard. Contact: publications@ebps.org.uk

Autumn Indoor Meeting, Staffordshire, October or November 2020
Our theme for this year’s finale will be restoring Victorian ferneries with a number of talks from people with practical experience in this area. The meeting will be held on a Saturday, and it is possible that a visit to a local site will take place on the Sunday. Exact details and dates will be available next year. Sean Barton is organising, but preliminary contact should be made through Roger Golding.
Leader: Sean Barton. Contact: Roger at rogergolding@ebps.org.uk

FORWARD PLANNER FOR 2021
We have some ideas for meetings in 2021 and these include, in the UK:
East Anglia
and abroad:
Turkey

However, if there are any places you would like us to include in future programmes, or better still if you would like to lead a meeting (with plenty of support from a Meetings Sub-committee member!), please do let me know.

Bryan Smith
Meetings Secretary
Meetings@eBPS.org.uk
The 2020 Spore List has been available since the 1st January and the Spore Exchange will take orders until the 31st March. Details on how to access the list, and the ways to order spores, are given below. Additionally, we will be distributing short viability spores during the growing season. Please see the separate section for how this operates.

***Throughout the year we will welcome donations of spore to add to the list for 2021 (before November is desirable for inclusion on the following year's list) ***
If you need any help or encouragement, have a look at the spore donation pages of the website or contact us at Spores@eBPS.org.uk . We really appreciate your contributions.

**Accessing the Spore List.**
You are able view and/or download the list directly from the website spore donation pages until the end of March. If you would like to receive an electronic version (Adobe Acrobat ‘PDF’ attachment) of the list by e-mail then please request this by contacting us at Spores@eBPS.org.uk. If you prefer you may request a paper copy of the list, either by sending us an email or by post by writing to us at: Brian and Sue Dockerill, 19, Westfield Road, Pontypridd, CF37 3AG, United Kingdom.

**Ordering Spores**
There are several ways you can order spores. Firstly, you may order via the website. This is our preferred method for those able to do so. Information on using the on-line system will be available on the Spore Exchange pages of the website until the 31st March. Alternatively, the Spore List contains an order form which can be either posted to us or scanned and sent by e-mail.
As the exchange has been open for several weeks, many items are in short supply so please give plenty of second choices.

**Short Viability Spore Exchange 2020**
We have established a distribution list of e-mail addresses for those members who would like to receive information on the availability of short viability spores. As soon as we receive such spores from a donor we will e-mail everyone on that list to let them know what’s become available. If you promptly let us know of your request the spores will then be sent as soon as we can arrange it, usually within a very few days. After a week or so any surplus will be discarded.

Please let us know if you would like to be added or removed from the list of people sent notifications of short viability spores by contacting us at Spores@eBPS.org.uk .

If you are not on e-mail, we are very happy to continue to receive requests for short viability spores at any time by post and we will send you such spores if/when they are donated.
The BPS Plant Exchange

The Plant Exchange is primarily an on-line system accessed via the Members area of the website. A list of available ferns can be found from http://ebps.org.uk/ferns/growing/the-plant-exchange-scheme/ and clicking on the ‘Ferns available’ link on the far right of the screen. If there is something you are interested in, you will need to follow the additional instructions on the main Plant Exchange page.

If you don’t have access to the BPS website then please contact us, Brian and Sue Dockerill, at 19, Westfield Road, Pontypridd, CF37 3AG, United Kingdom to receive by post a list of ferns available at that time.

We believe this system has great potential but seems to be underutilized. If you have spare ferns, please consider adding them to the list – it is easy to use and allows interesting ferns to be spread around the membership. If you see something you fancy there is no need to have a plant to offer in exchange. A refund of postage and a good home for the plant is all that is required.

It also has an area for listing any ferns you are interested in acquiring. Why not have a look at this? Who knows, you may have just the plant that someone else has been trying to find!

If you have experience of the Exchange and have any comments on improving its use, we would welcome any feedback or suggestions. Please contact us via the above address or send us a mail at PlantExchange@eBPS.org.uk
BPS Special Publications

This list is for current (October 2019) stock and supersedes all previous lists. For postage rates see order form.

SPECIAL PUBLICATION No. 2

SPECIAL PUBLICATION No. 3

SPECIAL PUBLICATION No. 4

SPECIAL PUBLICATION No. 5

SPECIAL PUBLICATION No. 7

SPECIAL PUBLICATION No. 9

SPECIAL PUBLICATION No. 10
The Occasional Paper of the British Pteridological Society 1875. This is a facsimile copy of the original published by the forerunner of our Society with notes by Dr Michael Hayward. 2008. Price £2.50, plus postage.

SPECIAL PUBLICATION No. 11.
This CD contains volumes 1-9 of the British Fern Gazette along with a listing of British ferns by E.J. Lowe. Dr Hayward has hand-edited the files to allow accurate searching with Adobe Reader, and the original photographic illustrations have been enhanced. I am sure that this will be an essential and very useful addition to all Fern Society members’ collections. 2013. Price £15, plus postage.

SPECIAL PUBLICATION No. 12
Who found our ferns? by John Edgington (2013) tells the story of the discovery of Britain’s pteridophytes from Saxon times to the present. The lives of those who noticed, collected and described our ferns, horsetails, quillworts and clubmosses are interwoven with accounts of how, where and when they found them. Includes historical accounts supplemented by recent taxonomic research of 85 taxa that grow wild in Britain and Ireland, or have done so in the past, with details of almost all records before 1724, or later for subsequent discoveries. Price £15, plus postage.

SPECIAL PUBLICATION No. 14.
Col. Jones produced 48 sets of Nature Prints of varieties of British ferns, issued 1876-1880, each with around 300 sheets. This study is based on the 12 surviving sets of prints and the large archive of prints held by the BPS. For the included CD, the text that accompanied the prints has been digitised and formatted as a searchable file, together with around 380 high resolution images of the prints and images of the original text sheets. Price £20, plus postage.

NEW! SPECIAL PUBLICATION No. 15.
Fern Albums and Related Material covers the production of the albums of pressed ferns that became extremely popular in the second half of the nineteenth century, particularly in Britain and New Zealand. This attractive book by Michael Hayward and Martin Rickard (2019), with over 400 illustrations, will appeal to fern lovers and anyone who has an interest in this period of Victorian history. Patrick Brownsey writes: this book will undoubtedly become the standard reference point from which further research is launched. Price £25, plus postage.
New BPS Special Publication

Polypodium cultivars and species
by Martin Rickard

We are excited to announce the release of Martin Rickard’s new book, a comprehensive study of the genus *Polypodium*. In his book, Martin gives well-written descriptions of each species and cultivar worldwide, illustrated with excellent photographs. A great addition to a burgeoning fern literature home library.

6 + 320 pages, with over 400 illustrations!

All known species, hybrids and cultivars of *Polypodium* worldwide are included and the true identity of many, particularly cultivars, is discussed in detail.

Soon to go to print for the second time, BPS members can purchase this book for £25 (plus postage UK £3, overseas £9) by emailing Pat Acock: BackNumbers@ebps.org.uk or by using a form through this website link Special Publications Out-of-Print. It would make a great gift for all your fern friends!
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Special Publication</th>
<th>Price per copy</th>
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<td>2. Fern names &amp; their meanings</td>
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<td>5. BPS Abstracts &amp; papers</td>
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*Please note: Surface mail is used for ‘Rest of World’ - please double postage cost for airmail.

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- By PayPal - either through a PayPal account OR using a credit card as a one-off transaction. Please add a small charge of 5% to cover PayPal costs.
- Direct payment through your bank account using either BIC – NWBKGB2L or IBAN – GB06 NWBK 538116 82258813, or for overseas members, by way of an International Girobank Order in Sterling.

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Please send orders to:- Pat Acock, 13 Star Lane, St Mary Cray, Kent England BR5 3LJ
Or e-mail: BackNumbers@eBPS.org.uk

*SP16 is currently unavailable but will be reprinted - please express interest by e-mailing Pat Acock or using the Website form for Special Publications Out-of-Print.
Merchandise 2020

Gill and Bryan Smith
merchandise@ebps.org.uk

We’ve provided a list of all the currently available stock of our fantastic merchandise. There are some new items so it’s worth having a browse. You can order by printing the form below or directly through our website at www.ebps.org.uk/merchandise/

BPS BADGES - Enamelled metal badges, lapel sized (20mm diameter) with the logo in BPS colours, and butterfly clutch pin fastener. Price £2.50, (plus £2.75 for p&p to UK; £4.75 to Europe; £7.00 to rest of World).

BPS LOGO STICKERS - These stickers (for use in car windows etc.), approximately 3½“ in diameter, are made of self-cling plastic with the Society logo in green on a white background. Price: £1.00, (plus £1.50 for p&p to UK if no other items (bookmarks excepted) are ordered; £2.50 to Europe; £4.00 to rest of World; otherwise post free).

BPS BOOKMARKS - Bookmarks 1½“ x 9“ in bonded leather, green upper surface with the Society logo and print of fern frond in gold. The fun is trying to identify the frond (it is a true fern!). Price: £2.00, (plus £1.50 for p&p to UK if no other items (logo stickers excepted) are ordered; £2.50 to Europe; £4.00 to rest of World; otherwise post free).

BPS FERN POSTCARDS - Exclusive BPS postcards for you to send ferny messages to all your friends! All the designs are reproduced from the famous Henry Bradbury Nature-Prints (as published in Moore's Nature Printed British Ferns), and are both very attractive and, of course, 100% accurate. Details are: Postcards with Marsh Fern, Thelypteris palustris, Rigid Buckler Fern, Dryopteris submontana, Parsley Fern, Cryptogramma crispa, Soft Shield Fern, Polystichum setiferum ‘Confluens’, or Jersey Fern, Anogramma leptophylla. Front in colour, back in postcard format (6“ x 4“). Price £2.00 per pack of 10 (2 of each design), (plus £1.50 for p&p to UK; £2.50 to Europe; £4.00 to rest of World).

FERN CARDS (NEW) – Packs of 5 with 3 different fern designs – 1 printed Gold on green, and 2 other different ferns printed green on white. Price £4.00 per pack (plus £1.50 for p&p to UK; £3.50 to Europe; £4.00 to rest of World).

BOX OF MATCHES (NEW) – Square Matchboxes 110 x110mm contains approx.125 matches with Fem design £3.00 each, (plus £1.50 for p&p to UK; £3.50 to Europe; £4.00 to rest of World).
FERN BOTTLE OF MATCHES (NEW) – 2 designs either Green fern on white card, 125 plain wood matchsticks OR Gold fern on green card, 125 green wood matchsticks Price £6.00 each, (plus £3.50 p&p to UK; £6.50 to Europe; £8.50 to rest of World).

FERN NIGHTLIGHT (NEW) - Engraved Nightlight with Ferns, Acrylic, LED, USB, with 6 Laser Engraved Acrylic panels, so that you can change them at will. The Panels are 80 x 130mm or 3 1/8 x 5 1/8 inches nominal, with micro USB powered base, A wide range of colours can be selected from the remote, that edge lights the panel. Included in the pack, 6 Acrylic Panels, Led Base 40mm high 93mm diameter or 1 1/2" high 3 5/8" diameter, Remote Led controller, USB to Micro USB cable, and spare battery for remote controller. Power from that old phone charger that you have in the draw! Can be powered by 3AA (Batteries not supplied). The original images come from, Les Fougères de pleine terre et les prêles, lycopodes et sélaginelles rustiques, par H. Correvon 1896, That is in the public domain and are -Adiantum capillus-veneris, Asplenium trichomanes, Botrychium lunaria, Cystopteris fragilis, Equisetum sylvaticum, Ophioglossum vulgatum. Clean with care, acrylic can scratch easily, use a clean, dry, lint free cloth. Price £20 each, (plus £3.50 p&p to UK; £6.00 to Europe; £8.50 to rest of World).

BPS BALLPOINT PENS - Retractable ballpoint pen with green body, black rubber grip and the Society logo and British Pteridological Society in gold along the barrel. Price £0.50 each (plus £1.50 for p&p to UK; £3.50 to Europe; £4.00 to rest of World).

BPS / FSC KEY TO COMMON FERNS – A take-in-the-field waterproof colour guide to 38 British ferns on 1 double-sided sheet! 8 pages fold down to 7" x 10". Price £2.00 each, (plus £1.50 for p&p to UK; £2.50 to Europe; £4.00 to rest of World).

BPS "WHAT'S THAT FERN?" GUIDES – A take-in-the-field full-colour, simple photographic guide to 19 British ferns in a 16-page, fully waterproof A5 booklet. Price £2.00 each, (plus £1.50 for p&p to UK; £2.50 to Europe; £4.00 to rest of World).

BPS WALLET FOLDERS – A handy way to store your BPS papers, magazines, notes etc. Overall in BPS green, the cover of this sturdy folder has lots of coloured ferny photos and information about BPS. Internal space is 14" x 8.5" x 1". Price £1.50 each, (plus £4.00 for p&p to UK [up to 10 folders]; £6.50 to Europe [up to 5 folders]; £9.75 to rest of World [up to 5 folders]).

BPS TIES - These are in dark green polyester material with the Society logo (without the words) in gold. Price: £9.00, (plus £2.25 for p&p to UK; £5.25 to Europe; £8.50 to rest of World).
BPS T-SHIRTS – These are dark green and carry the Society logo embroidered in yellow-gold on the upper front left-hand side. Made of good quality 100% cotton, they are short sleeved. Sizes: small (S), medium (M), large (L), extra-large (XL) and extra-extra-large (XXL). Price: £10.00, (plus £3.50 for p&p to UK; £6.00 to Europe; £8.50 for rest of World).

BPS POLO-SHIRTS - These are dark green and carry the Society logo embroidered in yellow-gold in the 'shirt-pocket' position. Made of good quality polyester and cotton, they are short sleeved. Sizes: small (S), medium (M), large (L), extra-large (XL) and extra-extra-large (XXL). Price: £12.00, (plus £3.50 for p&p to UK; £6.00 to Europe; £8.50 to rest of World).

BPS FERN POLO-SHIRTS – The 125th anniversary black polo-shirts proved so popular that we have had them produced with the usual Society logo embroidered in green and the abstract multi-coloured depiction of a fern frond on the back. They are made of 100% cotton. Sizes: Women - small (S), medium (M), large (L) and extra-large (XL). Unisex – small (S), medium (M), large (L), extra-large (XL) and extra-extra-large (XXL). Price: £14.00, (plus £3.50 for p&p to UK; £6.00 to Europe; £8.50 to rest of World).

BPS SWEAT-SHIRTS - These are dark green and carry the Society logo embroidered in yellow-gold in the 'shirt-pocket' position. Made of good quality polyester and cotton, they are long sleeved. Sizes: medium (M), large (L), extra-large (XL) and extra-extra-large (XXL). Price: £13.00, (plus £4.00 for p&p to UK; £7.25 to Europe; £11.00 to rest of World).

BPS FLEECES - These are dark green and carry the Society logo embroidered in yellow-gold in the 'shirt-pocket' position. Made of good quality polyester and cotton, they are long sleeved. Sizes: small (S), medium (M), large (L), extra-large (XL) and extra-extra-large (XXL). Price: £21.00, (plus £6.00 for p&p to UK; £8.50 to Europe; £13.50 for rest of World).

DOUBLE HAND LENS – Make sure you can see all that fine fern detail with this quality compact double hand lens. It comprises an 18mm 3-element 10x lens and a 12mm 5-element 20x lens in a single metal holder. Price: £7.00, (plus £3.50 for p&p to UK; £4.75 to Europe; £7.00 for rest of World).

BPS JUTE BAGS – Here’s an environmentally-friendly way to carry around your shopping or potted plants, and at the same time advertise the BPS! This high quality jute bag measures 16” x 13½” x 6¾” and has woven carrying handles and an inner plastic coating. On one side is a large BPS logo with “The Society for Fern Lovers” and “www.ebps.org.uk” underneath, all in green. Price: £2.50, (plus £3.50 for p&p to UK; £6.00 to Europe; £8.50 for rest of World).
**BPS KEYRINGS** – Keep your keys together and advertise the BPS at the same time. The keyring has an enamelled disc with the BPS logo in green against a yellow background. Price £1.00, (plus £1.50 for p&p to UK; £3.50 to Europe; £4.00 for rest of World).

**BPS LANYARDS** – Just the job for keeping items (e.g. lens, pen, keys) just in reach on a round-your-neck lanyard. Made in strong green polyester with the Society logo and British Pteridological Society in gold repeated along the 34” (87 cm) length, and have a metal clasp and safety break. Note, the lettering is water-resistant, not water-proof. Price £1.50, (plus £1.50 for p&p to UK; £3.50 to Europe; £4.00 for rest of World).

**BPS BASEBALL CAPS** – Just the job for protecting your head and face from wind, sun and rain. In dark green with the BPS logo embroidered in yellow-gold at the front, they are one-size with an adjustable back-strap, and made in 100% heavy cotton. Price £6.50, (plus £3.50 for p&p to UK; £5.00 to Europe; £6.00 for rest of World).

**FERN SCARF** - A lovely, fine woven scarf designed by Susan Brooke with printed ferns. It is screen printed in India on 100% cotton (Fair Trade). Size is 20” (50 cm) wide by 71” (180 cm) long. Price £7.00, (plus £1.50 for p&p to UK; £2.50 to Europe; £4.00 for rest of World).

**FERN APRON** – Based on the same design as the fern scarf, Susan Brooke has now produced a unisex fern apron in beige with green printed ferns. It is 100% cotton and 23” (58 cm) wide by 35” (88 cm) long. The ties are black, 24” (61 cm) long and the neck loop also black and 21” (54 cm) long. Price £12.00, (plus £2.00 for p&p to UK; £4.50 to Europe; £5.50 for rest of World).

**BPS 125TH ANNIVERSARY**

To mark this occasion, we added three commemorative items to the list. The **BPS 125TH POLO SHIRTS** are sold out (but see above under BPS Fern Polo-shirts), but there is still time to buy the following:-

**BPS 125TH TEA TOWELS** - These are white, made of 100% cotton and approximately 28” x 19½” (71 cm x 49 cm). They carry the Society 125th logo printed in green on the front. Price: £3.50, (plus £2.00 for p&p to UK; £4.50 to Europe; £5.50 to rest of World).

**BPS 125TH FERN MUGS** – These are ceramic 330ml mugs with white inner and black outer. On one side is the BPS 125th logo in green against a white rectangular background, and on the other side an abstract multi-coloured depiction of a fern frond. Price £5.00 each, (plus £3.50 for p&p to UK; £6.50 to Europe; £8.50 to rest of World).

**Email enquiries to:** merchandise@ebps.org.uk
ORDER FORM

SEND ORDERS TO: –  YOUR NAME & ADDRESS: –  
Bryan & Gill Smith  
Rookwood  
1 Prospect Road  
LOWESTOFT  
Suffolk  
NR32 3PT  
Tel. No. 01502 565430

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Please note: Airmail is used for “Europe” and “rest of World”. All payments must be in Sterling.
Payment methods: By cheque payable to BPS Merchandising Account. By PayPal, either through a PayPal account or as a one-off transaction (please add a small charge of 5% of the total order to cover PayPal costs and request a PayPal invoice below). By International Girobank Order in Sterling for overseas members.

PAYPAL PAYMENT: Please send me a PayPal invoice. My email address is: …………………………………………

This list is for current (February 2020) stock and supersedes all previous lists. You can also order on the BPS website.
BPS Photographic Competition 2020

Bryan Smith

Entry requirements and rules of the Competition

BPS wishes to encourage members to take good photographs of ferns and fern-related items, and make these available for the enjoyment of other members and the general public. This annual competition is open to all members of the Society who have an interest in photography and wish to share their fern images with others.

Entries (which must be previously unpublished photographs) will be displayed at the AGM, and winning entries will be decided by members at the AGM. Closing date for entries is the 31st of March 2020.

Winning entries will be included in a special feature in *The Pteridologist* following the competition. In addition, and after judging, any or all of the competition entries received may be displayed on the BPS website for general viewing. (All website images will be downgraded in resolution prior to display to discourage unauthorised copying). Some entries will also be used in the annual BPS Fern calendar.

There are again three classes in the 2020 competition.

**Class One:** Fern(s) in a natural (wild) landscape.

**Class Two:** Cultivated fern(s) in a house, greenhouse or garden.

**Class Three:** Item or object with a fern-related theme.

Images must be submitted in the form of a printed copy and a digital copy. The printed copy should be no larger than 7inch x 5 inch (18cm X 13 cm) and sent to the address below. The digital copy should be at high resolution in a standard file format, such as JPEG or TIFF, and sent by email to brysmith72@gmail.com or on a CD, DVD or memory stick to the address below.

Prizes will be awarded for each class: first £30.00 and runner-up £10. In addition, the photographer with the highest total of votes in the competition will receive a prize of £10.00 (so, entry of photographs into all categories could be an advantage!).

Entries are restricted to a maximum of three photographs per class. All photographs and CD/DVD must be clearly labelled with the photographer’s name, the identity of the fern(s) or item(s), as well as when and where the photograph was taken. If possible, digital images should be accompanied by the camera “Properties” file normally associated with the taking of a photograph.

**Submission:** Entries should be clearly marked ‘Photographic Competition 2020’ and sent to:

**Bryan Smith**  
Rookwood, 1 Prospect Road  
Oulton Broad, Lowestoft  
NR32 3PT

Entries sent by post will only be returned to entrants if a suitable stamped addressed envelope is included.

**Closing date for entries:** 31st March 2020

**Judging:** entries will be judged by members at the 2020 AGM; each member will be allowed to cast two votes in each class, one for 1st and one for runner-up. The votes will be totalled at the AGM and the winners announced.

*Whilst all possible care will be taken of the photographs received, The Society cannot accept responsibility for the loss of, or damage to, entries sent through the post or subsequently handled by its members.*
Let’s get thinking about our 2021 edition of our magazine, have you got an idea for an article you’d like to share?

We would love your horticultural based articles and interesting snippets that could be about anything fern-related.

Are you growing unusual ferns in your garden, growing ferns in unusual situations or just simply finding that ferns grow unusually? Any ferny projects that you are involved with? Have you any images of a ferny nature; house/road names, furniture, sculpture, etc that could be used as short articles?

For help or advice please get in touch with the editor, Alec Greening, at alec.greening49@gmail.com

Articles should be sent to Chris Evans, the receiving editor at receiving@ebps.org.uk
Membership subscriptions

Ann Robbins
Membership Secretary

2020 Renewals

Thank you to those who have already renewed their membership for this year. Subscriptions are due each year on the 1st of January and 1st of February. Any membership which has not been renewed by the end of March will be lapsed on April 1st.

We would like to update our records for claiming Gift-aid. If you are a UK tax-payer and are happy for us to claim Gift-aid on your payment to us, please would you complete the Gift-aid form below or through our website at https://ebps.org.uk/membership/giftaid/ – unless you know you have done this in the last year. Thank you.

Newsletter delivery

Many members have opted to receive newsletters and other communications from the society by email. This is very helpful to the society saving both time and money. In order to comply with the data protection legislation, the society needs your permission to do this, we also need your up to date contact details.

Details of membership fees, how to renew membership, change personal details, and comply with the GDPR can be found under the Membership section of our website: ebps.org.uk/membership/

Payment methods:

- **By standing order** – if you already pay by standing order to our NatWest account, you don’t need to do anything. A standing order form is below for Members who wish to change to this method.
- **By PayPal** on the BPS website: hover over ‘Membership’ on the horizontal menu, click on ‘Renew your subscription’, complete and submit the form, then you will be taken to the payment page. Add the required membership to your ‘cart’, plus postage if outside the UK, then check out using PayPal.
- **By cheque** - please send the appropriate amount with this form to: Ann Robbins, Kirkby House, Scrooby, Doncaster S Yorks DN10 6AD.
- **Direct payment** through your bank account using either BIC – NWBKGB2L or IBAN – GB06 NWBK 538116 82258813 Please email membership@ebps.org.uk with details when you have made the payment.
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(Branch code no. 53 - 81 - 16), the sum of £ __________________ for credit to the account of
the British Pteridological Society, Account No. 82258813 on (date of first payment)
..........................................................……………., and make similar payments on the 1st
January / 1st February* of each year until further notice,
from my account no. ................................................
This order cancels any previous order in favour of the British Pteridological Society.
Signed .................................................................................................................................
Date .................................................................................................................................
Name (Block letters) .......................................................................................................................... Address .............................................................................................................................................................
This order cancels any previous order in favour of the British Pteridological Society.
Signed .................................................................................................................................
Date .................................................................................................................................

STANDING ORDER

Part 2  Please complete and return this section to:
Mrs. A. Robbins, Kirkby House, Scrooby, Doncaster, DN10 6AD.

Name (Block letters)..........................................................................................................................
Address ..........................................................................................................................................................
..........................................................................................................................................................
E-mail address .......................................................................................................................................... Membership Category: Full/Optional/Family/Student/Subscriber/Airmail*
Bank ............................................................................................................................... Branch code no. ...... / ...... / ......
Value of Standing Order £ ..................................................................................................................... Date of first payment .......................................................................................................................... (subsequently payable annually on 1st January / 1st February* until further notice) Signed
................................................................................................................................. Date ..........................................................................................

* delete as appropriate
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Revised May 16, 2019