# British Lichen Society (BLS) Bi-annual Update

Nov 2022

# Dear British Lichen Society Members,

The BLS aims to produce two newsletters a year, I am writing this one as President. Fay Newbery, our Vice President wrote the Spring Newsletter; thank you Fay. This was intended to be an Autumn newsletter but due to the rush to get as much field work done in the rather wet Autumn of this year, this one is out a bit later than intended. However, a lot of exciting lichens were found during this field work, including a new species, *Mycoblastus sanguinarioides* which may be a temperate rainforest specialist. As explained in the Conservation section, although looking very similar to the widespread *Mycoblastus sanguinarius*, this semi-cryptic species can be easily separated under the microscope, and those of you in the west and the uplands, or visiting, can all help work out what the status of this new species is.

The winter lichen season is now on us, and if it stops raining a bit, then the lichens are at their best, so time to get out there looking. Check the <u>BLS events calendar</u> for lichen meetings near you. If the weather is too bad there are also the lichen chat and improvement groups on the internet. As always, please consider sending your records through to our database manager at <u>records@britishlichensociety.org.uk</u>. Records are vital in understanding lichens and environmental change. Records of easily identified and rapidly changing species in urban areas are as important as records of rare declining species, but often we get fewer of the former type of records.

Very best wishes,

**Neil Sanderson** 

President

## Lichens for All.

Frank Dobson, author of "Lichens: An Illustrated Guide to the British and Irish Species", passed away in December 2021. To commemorate his huge contribution to lichenology



through publishing, recording and teaching, the British Lichen Society invited people to take part in "Lichens for All – A Month Commemorating the Contributions of Frank Dobson". The aim was to celebrate Frank's life by contributing valuable records and by learning from others. A BLS meeting was held in a lichenogically little known park in Frank's home county of Surrey at Hampton Park with the kind permission of the owner. This meeting had a good turn out with lots of records made.

#### (Picture Judith Allinson)

As is typical of veteran tree sites in this area the impact of past acidifying pollution was very evident in the many rather bare veteran Oaks, but encouragingly survival and recovery was also evident. This included the discovery of the Near Threatened veteran oak specialist *Zwackhia prosodea* (*Opegrapha prosodea*), the second county record of the mainly northern *Buellia schaereri* and a new county record for *Lecidella parasitica*, parasitic on *Pyrrhospora quernea* (newly described in our LGBI volume 25 Lecanoraceae).

A further 17 meetings were held by local groups from north Fife to Devon along with two Zoom meetings dedicated to a discussion of Young People and Lichens. Thanks to all involved in running the Lichens for All events.

#### **Cladonia Species Accounts**

In the publishing of the Lichens of Great Britain and Ireland edition 3 (LGBI3) volume 19 Cladoniaceae, I hope we have produced a more easily used and accurate authoritative account of these beautiful, if at times perplexing lichens. The complex three-D structure, subtle colours and distinctive features of these lichens, are difficult to describe in text. So, as something of a labour of love, I have copied the text of the *Cladonia* descriptions to the species accounts in the Species and Maps



section of the BLS website. In addition, I have also added as many useful photos as I could find and more identification hints and ecological data, which could not be fitted into the published volume (link). I hope this helps people with understanding this group and takes away some of the difficulty. It would be good to do this with more groups, but it takes a bit of time, howver, if anyone is enthusiastic about a group, please think about adding more accounts, and contact me. The editing is done through a simple web proforma but some photoshop knowledge is good to get the best results for the pictures and reduce loss of quality to compression (crop to maximum size 1280 x 960 pixels). (Picture *Cladonia pulvinata* squamules. Neil Sanderson)

#### Flora of Lichenicolous Fungi Volume 1 · Basidiomycota

Lichenicolous fungi, fungi parasitising other fungi, are a fascinating group, ranging from large obvious lichens that start their lives as parasites on other lichens such as *Diploschistes muscorum* and *Tylophoron hibernicum*, through neat little *Arthonia* species, to more difficult to spot small dots and smudges. They are poorly known and identification has been a problem. There have only been draft



keys and primary papers in scientific papers available and no authoritative flora. This is now changing, with Paul Diederich leading on the publishing of the first volume of a worldwide Flora of Lichenicolous Fungi; yes world-wide!! The first volume deals with the Basidiomycota, possibly the most difficult group for lichenologists used to dealing with Ascomycota. This is a remarkable publication, with detailed descriptions and colour pictures for all the known species and has proved very usable so far. The book can be purchased ( $\leq$ 43 plus postage) from the National Museum of Natural History of Luxembourg or downloaded as a high-quality PDF for free from the same site. I have already put it to good use identifying the bulbils of *Burgoa angulosa* over growing *Catinaria atropurpurea* on an old oak in temperate rainforest in north Wales. (Picture, *Burgoa angulosa* Neil Sanderson)

#### AGM

The Annual General Meeting 2023 will be held at the Herbarium Buildings, Royal Botanic Gardens, Edinburgh EH3 5LR, on the first weekend in March 2023. See the Winter Bulletin for details. A reminder that exhibits are welcomed. These can be put up in the Conference Room from 15.00 on Friday and should be ready for viewing by 17.30. They can be viewed during tea breaks until the close of the meeting on Saturday. Please advise Fay Newbery by e-mail (agm@britishlichensociety.org.uk) of your requirements for tables or display stands before Monday 20 February as these have to be ordered in advance, and arrange with her if you need access by car when bringing any bulky or heavy items.

## Lichens in the media

BBC Wildlife magazine - March 2022 - managed to get a "meet the lichenologist" in the last edition of the magazine's "meet the scientist section" (pg. 19) - led by April Windle (Education & Promotions Committee).

BBC Wildlife magazine - June 2022 - BLS contributed to the lichen element of the "rainforest" piece written in the June 2022 section. pg. 74 - 81 - led by April Windle (Education & Promotions Committee).

As mentioned in the last newsletter, April has been helping Caring for God's Acre to promote the exceptional lichen diversity that occurs in churchyards. is working for the lichen videos available through the Caring for Gods Acre project, the final two episodes (as a 3 part series) is available via their YouTube.

Part 1: <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WI7bdiigwig/</u> Part 2: <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E4qfZcGEcM4</u> Part 3: <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WI7bdiigwig</u>

April is representing the British Lichen Society and contributing to the Saving Devon's Treescapes Project. Here, a presentation was delivered to 140+ participants via Zoom on lichens and ash, where the video is available through the Devon Wildlife Trust's YouTube <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=okjTHrJA72w</u>.

## Member Services Committee

## **BLS Library & Herbarium**

Access to the BLS Library, held at the National Botanic Garden of Wales, is now back to normal. If anyone would like to visit or has any questions about the availability of materials, queries can be directed to Theresa Greenaway at <u>theresagreenaway@btinternet.com</u>

Unfortunately access to the BLS Herbarium is still being restricted. However, our curator, Richard Brinklow, can often send out fresh specimens of common lichens to aid beginners who would like to examine reliably named samples of species they are interested in. Please contact Richard at <u>herbarium@britishlichensociety.org.uk</u>

# **Education & Promotions Committee**

## Lichen Chat & Improvement Groups (LCIG)

The Zoom LCIG groups entered their third year in October. Over winter (until April) we are running fortnightly on Tuesday Evenings and Wednesday Mornings. This autumn we have been pleased to welcome guest speakers, some of whom are regular members too. (Becky Yahr, Alison Cutts, Peter Crittenden, Heleen Plaisir, Andy Cross, Caz Walker, and in summer, John Skinner). The backbone of the meetings are still the short talks by beginners and new and old hands. Zoom offers an excellent platform to show close up pictures of lichens and share opinions.

David Hill will be the visiting speaker on 17-18 January with a talk on Lichens used for Dyeing, We are looking for volunteers / suggestions for speakers for rest of the Spring term now.

Numbers this term have ranged from 12 to 34 people at each meeting (mean=24). (Other stats: There are 118 people on my list who have been in touch with me since October 2021. 80% of them open the emails, and 76 people have attended at least 1 LCIG meeting since October.)

To join contact Judith Allinson at <u>zoom-improvement@britishlichensociety.org.uk</u>.

## LABS groups

Ten groups ran during the first last couple of years (late autumn 2020 to summer 2022)

Four new groups started this October, led by Raymond and Sue Griffiths, by Pete Martin, by Caz Walker, and by Mark Stevens and Sue Knight. We hope to start a new group in January for the people on the waiting list, providing we can find two more leaders. Thank you to Mark Stephens for organising the people into groups.

## **Post-LABS groups:**

Three of the original LABS groups continue under their own steam as Post-LABS groups

**Intermediate Group**: (Post-Post LABS group?) A new group is starting in January coordinated by Graham Pyatt called LINT (Lichens for Intermediates) with the aim of aim of enabling people to be able to recognise at least 100 species by the end of the year. Perhaps producing two illustrated PDF files (or PPT) a session, each of four related or similar looking lichens.

**Microscope groups**: four sessions of a beginners group were run in the autumn led by Di Napier, and there will be some follow-up sessions in the spring. An intermediate/more experienced group is meeting monthly for peer-to-peer support.

The groups are currently full, but contact zoom-microscopy@britishlichensociety.org.uk if you might be interested in hosting or joining future sessions.

#### **GCSE in Natural History**

In January 2020, the Education & Promotion Committee (EPC) signed the British Lichen Society (BLS) up as an official partner to OCRs campaign for a new GCSE in Natural History. Amazingly, in April 2022, the Department for Education (DfE) accepted the proposal for a new GCSE. Now the approval has been granted, the next stage is for the DfE to hold a consultation on GCSE subject content. Here, the BLS will be sure to contribute content at this stage, after our own internal consultation. Subsequent to this, there will be another consultation on assessment requirements and guidelines. The GCSE aims to be launched in September 2025 – more information can be found <u>here</u>.

## **Species Descriptions**

There are a variety of useful resources available through the BLS website, with descriptions of frequently encountered <u>lichens</u> and <u>lichenicolous fungi</u>. These projects have been coordinated by Fay Newbery and we regularly welcome volunteers to write and review more content for us. If this is of interest, please contact

education-promotion@britishlichensociety.org.uk.

#### Local groups

Learning about lichens as part of a group is often the best way to progress - and more fun. The sharing of knowledge and experience helps lichenologists at all levels and, most importantly, encourages beginners. There is now a <u>Local Groups</u> page on the BLS website where you can find your nearest group and see what they are up to. The Local Groups Working Group (a subset of the EPC), aims to connect and support members across the Society, whilst encouraging more people to get involved. Please do get in contact if you would like help setting up a new group.



Bristol & Gloucestershire Lichen Group.

Many of the local lichen groups continue to be busy. Details of all the groups and their activities are at <u>link</u>. You can also contact <u>webmaster@britishlichensociety.org.uk</u> to get your local group on the BLS website as well. Many of the groups post their upcoming events on the <u>BLS events calendar</u>.

In order to help local groups hold public events during the Lichens for All celebrations, resources were made available. These consist of FSC fold-out keys, lenses and lanyards to be lent to guests. These items can either be kept on long-term loan or returned to the BLS so

that they are available to other individuals or groups who would like to run events to publicise lichens.

If your local group, or you as an individual or as a group of friends, get involved in giving a talk or leading a walk, for example for a local Natural History Society, do contact our vice-president@britishlichensociety.org.uk to ask for a resource loan and to see if any other resources are available which would be useful to you.

<u>Bristol and Gloucestershire Lichen Group</u> has started meetings for the winter including Lichenology Seminars. The microscope session on Saturday the 10<sup>th</sup> December is open to all, see <u>link</u>.

<u>The Cumbria Lichen & Bryophyte Group</u> has continued their series of monthly field meetings with recent trips to Sunbiggin Tarn and Bowscale. An indoor session is being held Saturday 21st Jan 2023 near Kendal, which will be a general identification session with microscopes. Email for more info <u>info@cumbrialichensbryophytes.org.uk</u>.

Cennau Cymru / Wales Lichen Recording Group see BLS web page to contact.

The <u>Devon Lichen Group</u> held three meetings during the summer including a coastal meeting. Find them on the <u>South West Lichens Facebook page</u>.

<u>Lichens in South-East Scotland</u> has now held seven field meetings. At each meeting they have been working to a 'List of target species'. Having access to this list beforehand gives people an opportunity to familiarise themselves with any species that they haven't seen before through reading accounts in Dobson and in the flora.

North-east England Lichen Group see BLS web page to contact

The <u>PALE</u> (Petersfield Area Lichen Enthusiasts) became a BLS Local Group in July. The group was formed when two friends who had been meeting up regularly to look at lichens, decided to open up their meetings to others. Since then, they have run a stall at an Eco-fair, led public walks and have held some group meetings. By concentrating on public spaces, they are making attendance easy for a wide variety of people.

The <u>Tayside Lichen group</u> held monthly meetings through the summer.

The <u>Shropshire Lichen Informal Group (SLIG)</u> has held out two meetings a month over the summer and is continuing into the winter

The <u>Sorby Natural History Society lichen group</u> continue to list their events on the BLS calendar. Trips cover the area around Sheffield. All BLS members are welcome.

The Wessex Lichen Group has now restarted and held its first meeting in September to The

Wildgrounds, Gosport, this had been intended to be part of the Lichens for All event in August, but had had to be rescheduled. An important assemblage of specialist lichens of dry bark on veteran oaks was found, confirming the site to be of county importance. Further meetings are planned. Check the event page or contact Neil to be put on the email list.



(Picture ancient oak with *Syncesia myrticola* m. *sorediata* (*Enterographa sorediata*) new to SE Hampshire, N. Sanderson)

## **Conservation Committee**

## Lichens and Ash Dieback

The report written by Dave Lamacraft and Neil Sanderson "Impacts of Ash Dieback *Hymenoscyphus fraxineus* (*Chalara*) on priority lichens and potential mitigation options (NECR428)" providing mitigation advice on the impact of Ash Dieback on lichen rich sites is finally published and is available as a <u>download</u>.

#### **Beaver Introduction Consultations**

Over the summer the most significant work for the committee was the consultation on Beavers in Scotland: A National Strategy. Andy Acton represented the BLS in what were quite difficult meetings with significant differences of opinions. The BLS pointing out that there were negative as well as positive impacts on biodiversity conservation from beavers was somewhat at variance from the views of other conservation groups. The Nature Scot process, however, was well set up for achieving consensus, and a strategy that all parties, including the BLS, could sign up to was produced. We were very pleased that it was accepted that beavers could cause a negative impact to existing biodiversity interest and that there was a need for appropriate assessment and mitigation measures to minimise negative impacts to important lichen assemblages.

#### The following is the BLS's position statement on Beavers

Beaver reintroduction is happening and is likely to have benefits to some aspects of biodiversity.

There are little or no benefits to the international important lichen assemblages of Scotland that mainly depend on stable habitat with veteran trees. There are likely to be significant losses of old trees and shrubs near water bodies/water courses. Beaver activity thus poses a threat to the assemblages associated with old trees/shrubs (especially on hazel, aspen and veteran willow). At the landscape scale, the impact is likely to be greatest in areas where veteran trees and shrubs supporting assemblages/rare lichens are local and concentrated along edges of watercourses/waterbodies.



The BLS views appropriate assessment and mitigation measures to minimise any losses of internationally important lichen assemblages as vital. Monitoring of the impact will be important and the information should be used to devise and inform implementation of practical mitigation measures.

In Scotland, the BLS was involved with the consultations for Beavers in Scotland: A National Strategy and supports this as the way forward and has signed up to the strategy.

Picture: a Beaver damaged Hazel with Lobarion with Red Data Book lichen species Knapdale, Andy Acton.

#### **Lichen Survey**

As always exciting lichen finds continue, too many to innumerate here, so see NRI in the Bulletin. Further to the first record of *Scytinium fragrans* (previously *Collema fragrans*) from Wales for several decades by Neil Sanderson last winter, April Windle and John Douglas recently refound it in Dinefwr Park, Carmarthen. This was where the previous last record of the species in Wales was made in 1994. This record was made on a Horse Chestnut that had been recorded as having *Bellicidia incompta* (*Bacidia incompta*) in 2013 but not *Scytinium fragrans*.

A similar return from the dead was made in the incomparable old growth pasture woodlands of Cwm y Esgob by Elan Village, Brecon by Neil Sanderson. Here the only Welsh record of

*Toniniopsis separabilis* (*Bacidia subincompta*) had been made by Ray Woods on a dead Elm in 1983. This Autumn Neil refound a strong colony on an old Oak a few hundred meters from where it was last seen. The survey was monitoring the restoration of the pasture woodland habitat here by the RSPB. The restoration work was found to be exemplary and has transformed a dark, shaded and declining site into one with near ideal conditions for the rare lichen assemblage. It seems one

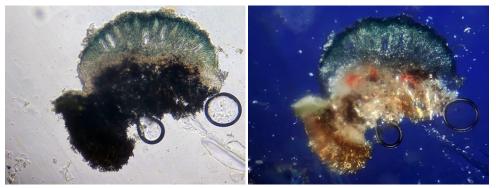


can never quite be sure a lichen has gone, even after 30 or 40 years, if the habitat survives. (Picture *Toniniopsis separabilis*, Cwm y Esgob, Neil Sanderson)

One very interesting find was made last month by Neil Sanderson in a temperate rainforest ravine in Coed Cymerau NNR, Meirionnydd. A small piece of apparent *Mycoblastus sanguinarius* was collected from a Birch to check for the possibility that this might be *Mycoblastus sanguinarioides*, a recent semi-cryptic segregate from *M. sanguinarius* s. str. by sequencing. *Mycoblastus sanguinarioides* appears to be an obligate epiphyte confined to more humid habitats than *M. sanguinarius* s. str. Originally described from Tasmania, but also occurring in humid regions in eastern Eurasia and coastal western and eastern North America and recently discovered in Scandinavia. Astonishingly this random specimen proved the new species.

Although similar to *M. sanguinarius* s. str. in most features, well developed M. *sanguinarioides* has flat apothecia surrounded by a thin ring of whitish thalline tissue, while the apothecia *M. sanguinarius* s. str. have a distinctly convex disk and a constricted base. There is one morphological character, however, that definitively distinguishes *Mycoblastus sanguinarius* s. str. from *M. sanguinarioides*: the hymenium of the latter has crystals visible in polarised light, while these are totally lacking from *M. sanguinarius* s. str. Pictures and more detail can be seen at the <u>UK Fungi website</u>. Dave Lamacraft has now found more *M. sanguinarioides* from Wistams Wood, Dartmoor. Now there are lots of questions which those with access to the upland habitats of "*M. sanguinarius*" can help answer: How much *M. sanguinarioides* is out there? Is it a rare rainforest species or is it widespread? Is *M.* 

sanguinarius s. str. the dominant species? Please go out and have a go with *M. sanguinarius* s. lat. from different areas and habitats and see if we can get a handle on what the situation with these two species is. Neil will be happy to confirm any specimens.



*Mycoblastus sanguinarioides* apothecium cross section, in normal light left and polarized light right, showing the crystals in the hymenium visible as bright white speckles

# Website Working Group

## Website changes

The BLS website was upgraded to Drupal 9 in the spring. This will give the website a stable platform for the next few years.

Alongside the rearrangement of pages on the website and the implementation of some changes in the way pages are presented, this has completed the work of the Website Working Group. The group has therefore disbanded.

Going forward our president will act as Website Editor for the time being. He can be contacted at <u>president@britishlichensociety.org.uk</u>. Chris Cant will continue as webmaster. Please report any problems to Chris at <u>webmaster@britishlichensociety.org.uk</u>

## Data Committee

## Lichens of Great Britain and Ireland edition 3 (LGBI3)

Another eight parts of the Lichens of Great Britain and Ireland edition 3 have been published since the last members' update in April: Catillariaceae, Leprocaulaceae, Physciaceae, Lecanoraceae, Cladoniaceae, Pilocarpaceae, Psoraceae and Tephromelataceae. For those of us not used to dealing with family names, these parts cover the following genera:

Ameliella	Fellhanera	Micarea	Protomicarea
Anaptychia	Fellhaneropsis	Miriquidica	Protoparmeliopsis
Aquacidia	Glaucomaria	Mischoblastia	Psora
Brianaria	Halecania	Mycoblastus	Pycnothelia
Bryonora	Heterodermia	Myriolecis	Pyrrhospora
Byssoloma	Hyperphyscia	Palicella	Rinodina
Calvitimela	Japewia	Phaeophyscia	Solenopsora
Carbonea	Japewiella	Physcia	Tephromela
Catillaria	Lecanora	Physciella	Tornabea
Cladonia	Lecidella	Physconia	Traponora
Claurouxia	Leimonis	Pilophorus	Violella
Clauzadeana	Leprocaulon	Protoblastenia	

Some of these names will be totally new as they are the result of splitting some of our wellknown genera. Splits rarely result in species moving to other families, however, so searching for a name that you know using Ctrl+F on the LGBI3 webpage will usually find you the correct part to look in.

The current name for any species in the BLS database can be found using the Taxon Dictionary. Simply type in the name you know, click on 'Apply' and look in the 'Current Taxon Name' column.

The new K/UV tests are now appearing in the sections of the flora where these are particularly helpful, such as the K/UV (dry) + bright neon yellow for atranorin.

# The Lichenologist & BLS Bulletin

The next deadline for the BLS Bulletin will be is spring 2023. So plenty of time to write an article, a report, a poem... or to share a photo or some artwork. The Bulletin editor is always happy to receive contributions. These can be sent to <u>bulletin@britishlichensociety.org.uk</u>. Our editor, Maxine, is always happy to discuss ideas with people before articles are written.

One of the best features of the BLS Bulletin is that the contents vary so much. Some items appeal to all and others are aimed at people on different parts of their lichen learning journey.

# **Field meetings**

We have now run two post COVID field meetings. The early spring meeting in North Harris, Outer Hebrides in April and the Autumn Meeting 2022 at St Breward, Cornwall in October. Sadly the Summer Meeting 2022 to Aberdare, south Wales had to be cancelled due to accommodation providers having gone into liquidation. (Pictures, supplied by Graham Boswell):



Left, Harris some beginners getting а lesson from Tracey & Heather. Right, Cornwall, Trabartha Estate, an oak covered Ricasolia virens in (Lobaria virens).



The Lichen Throne: Moira Lathams Usneoid bench. Moira was our host to Trabatha Estate where she lives and promotes the conservation aspects of the site (Picture, supplied by Graham Boswell

The next meetings are the BLS Winter Workshop 2023 - Cloughton Scarborough, Friday 24<sup>th</sup> to Monday 27<sup>th</sup> February 2023 <u>link</u> and the BLS Spring Meeting 2023 - Southern Uplands, based at Moffat Sunday 23th to Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> April 2023 <u>link</u>.

There are still places for the Southern Uplands meeting: there are very limited records for this part of Scotland and the meeting will focus on upland rock outcrops and screes (sandstones, shales, mudstones), together with heathland and freshwater. Some of the hikes may be long and rough going in places. The crags around Hart Fell, Cold Grain, Black Hope Burn and Carrifran Gans will be visited and possibly White Coombe at 821m (weather permitting). Good outdoor kit is essential, including wellies for the freshwater work. OS Explorer map 330

## **Get Involved**

Special thanks go to those who take on an administrative role within the society – whether that's a large role or a small one. Please get in touch if you would like to learn more about how the society works by learning from the working side!!

If you would like to help in a very ad-hoc way and you enjoy social media, why not Tweet about lichens and mention our Twitter account @BLSlichens?

Or if you like writing or photography, why not write up a lichen find or trip for the Bulletin or or for the news section of our website? Or submit a photo as a candidate for the front cover of the Bulletin? Items for the Bulletin are always welcome at bulletin@britishlichensociety.org.uk Offers of news items can be sent to news@britishlichensociety.org.uk.

There are also two specific requests for volunteers

## **Grants Committee**

Grants Committee: the grants committee membership has fallen to only three members. It would be better if this was five. The committee's only tasks are to: oversee the BLS grants scheme including making recommendations for change to Council; and to award grants. Most decisions are made via email. Meetings (normally once a year) are likely to be conducted on Zoom in the future.

We would particularly welcome enquiries from anyone who has previous experience with grant awards for another natural history group; from an early career academic (any

discipline); and from non-academics who are reasonably new to lichenology but have definitely 'caught the bug'. Please contact Fay at <u>vice-president@britishlichensociety.org.uk</u>.

## New, Rare & Interesting Data Entry

We are looking for a volunteer to translate the entries in the New, Rare and Interesting reports in the BLS Bulletins into spreadsheet entries so that they can be uploaded into the BLS Database. Pdf versions of the Bulletins are available for use and also the standard BLS recording spreadsheet. The task requires accuracy but cut and paste should avoid the need to be able to spell names of species, people or places! If this is a task that you could help us with, either by keeping pace with two editions of the Bulletin per year or by helping with the accumulated backlog, please contact Janet Simkin at <u>records@britishlichensociety.org.uk</u>.

#### **Annual Association of Science Education Conference**

Eluned Smith has booked a stall for the BLS at the AASE Conference and is asking of help to run the this: come along to Stand C6 at the Annual Association of Science Education Conference to be held at Sheffield Hallam City Campus, Howard Street, Sheffield between Thursday 5th – Sat 7th January 2023. The BLS will be displaying and selling beautiful posters of lichens and some beginners guides which will be useful to educator's interested in teaching the new GCSE in Natural History. Three days of all sorts of biological education, and entry to the Exhibition area is free. Come along and see what is going on, and help raise the profile of Lichenology among British science educators. Eluned Smith <u>ehsbiol@gmail.com</u>.

Best wishes and hope to see some of you at the BLS Winter Workshop 2023 or the AGM

**Neil Sanderson** 

President

Thanks to Judith Allinson, Graham Boswell, Fay Newbury, Maxine Putnam, John Skinner, Eluned Smith, Caz Walker & April Windle for their contributions to this newsletter.