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BSBI: Who We Are and What We Do

The Botanical Society of Britain and Ireland 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 and our series of identification Handbooks. 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 almost 200 volunteer County Recorders and more than 100 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 ten paid staff who support our volunteers and help 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 2018-9, starting with a message from BSBI President Chris Metherell.

Message from the President

“At a time when there has been much focus on climate change and the effects of pollution on our environment, the completion of the monitoring period for our Atlas 2020 project takes on a new and even more important significance.”

One can only guess at what the results will reveal when the period of analysis is complete and those results become available. What is already clear, however, is that the huge effort put in by our volunteers and members of staff will have provided a very important dataset which will continue to impact environmental considerations for many years to come.

But other important developments have also occurred since our last Annual Review. Our new scientific journal *British & Irish Botany* was launched in February 2019 and is attracting high quality papers on a range of topics, which for the first time are freely available online to BSBI members and non-members alike. The change to an online, open access journal reflects, I think, the overall power of the BSBI to respond to changing conditions and circumstances.

We must not, however, forget our botanical heritage. We are the heirs to magnificent

herbarium collections which provide priceless information about our flora in times past. Equally we must look to the future, improving our resources and utilising modern digital techniques to make them publicly available. So we are reaching out to new audiences via social media, encouraging an interest in botany and its place in the wider scientific community... and promoting the use of herbaria!

As the new decade dawns the BSBI will rise to meet new challenges safe in the knowledge that it is the Society's strength in depth which provides the foundation for all we achieve. It is the close working relationship between volunteers, staff and partner organisations which epitomises that foundation and I must record my thanks on behalf of the whole BSBI for all that they do”.

Chris Metherell



Road-testing Chris Metherell's new BSBI Eyebrights Handbook on Colonsay



BSBI: Staff, Science and Projects

With ten full-time or part-time staff at any time during the period under review, we have been able to provide more effective support to our members and ensure efficient management of the Society and its finances.

BSBI Staff:

Jane Houldsworth	Head of Operations
Kevin Walker	Head of Science
Barbara Brown	Welsh Officer (from November 2018)
Gwynn Ellis	Membership Secretary
Julie Etherington	Finance Manager
Paul Green	Welsh Officer (to June 2018)
Tom Humphrey	Database Officer
Maria Long	Irish Officer
Louise Marsh	Communications Officer
Jim McIntosh	Scottish Officer
Peter 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

Recording effort notched up another gear during the 2018 field season in anticipation of the next Atlas, with national and local field meetings held across Britain and Ireland. Atlas 2020 coverage maps were prepared quarterly for every county in Britain and Ireland and were disseminated via BSBI's Country Officers. Our network of County Recorders continued to do a splendid job collating and uploading data collected by volunteers throughout Britain and Ireland. Work started on editing captions and verifying the maps that will appear on the 'online atlas' as well as on the statistical analyses that will look at long- and

short-term changes in the British and Irish flora.

www.bsbi.org/atlas-2020

National Plant Monitoring Scheme (NPMS)

BSBI worked throughout the year alongside partners from the Centre for Ecology & Hydrology and Plantlife to deliver this scheme, launched in March 2015 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 methodology and assessment of the results, as well as providing training in identification skills and promoting the scheme via social media. The NPMS aims to provide quantitative data on the status of widespread plants and the habitats on which they depend. Early in 2019, work started on developing trends from the first five years of data and national indicators of habitat quality based on NPMS data.

www.bsbi.org/npms

BSBI Species Accounts

The Species Accounts available to download via the BSBI website provide another valuable resource for botanists. Drawn up by the BSBI Science Team, the 84 recent Species Accounts and c60 archived accounts provide information on the identification, habitat, biogeography, ecology, threats and suitable management for a range of species in decline. BSBI's Science Team also worked with colleagues from the country conservation agencies towards the publication of a forthcoming book about 109 species of threatened lowland grassland plants.

www.bsbi.org/species-accounts

www.bsbi.org/research

BSBI Database (DDb)

Supported by our members' recording activity, our in-house database of plant records has continued to expand. More than 3.6 million records were added during the year ending March 2019, taking the total to more than 43,600,000. The Database, which was set up in 2010 and is still run by BSBI Database Officer Tom Humphrey, supports the ongoing

recording and validation work for Atlas 2020 and provides external users with reliable data for academic research, land management and conservation uses. Over the past year, 500 people or organisations have continued to access the Database directly, alongside many others who made one-off requests for BSBI data.

www.bsbi.org/maps-and-data

Thyme Broomrape (*Orobanche alba*) on a carpet of Wild Thyme, Colonsay



Training and Education

BSBI awarded 28 training grants during the year covered by this Review and we continued to support the FSC Young Darwin Scholarships.

Our Training & Education Committee worked with the Communications Officer to promote BSBI training opportunities and successes via social media. We were also able to bring successful grant applicants into the fold, by offering each of them a guest spot on the BSBI News & Views blog and inviting them to attend, and/or exhibit at, the Society's Annual Exhibition Meeting. As part of our botanical training and outreach activities, we also actively supported the University of Reading's 'Botanical University Challenge'.

The Identiplant on-line plant identification course, supported by BSBI and the Field Studies Council, went from strength to strength and is rapidly becoming the "go to course" for new botanists.

Field Identification Skills Certificates (FISCs) ran at FISC centres in Kent and Shrewsbury. 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, and one that an increasing number of employers are calling for – but FISCs are open to anyone to take, whether amateur or professional botanists, beginners, improvers or experts. We also ran FISCs at several locations across England for staff at Natural England, who have adopted FISCs as their industry standard in assessing botanical field skills. Vacant spaces on these FISCs were made available via the BSBI website on a first come, first served basis. We were delighted that all FISCs in 2018 were fully subscribed.

www.bsbi.org/training

BSBI entered the second year of a two-year contract with Speyside Distillery, producers of Byron's Gin, which uses botanicals selected by one of BSBI's County Recorders; the contract stipulates that for every bottle sold, a financial contribution is made to BSBI's Training and Education programme.

www.bsbi.org/byrons-gin

Mountain avens (*Dryas octopetala*) in the Burren



Encouraging an Interest in Plants

In 2018, we once again offered a varied programme of field meetings and indoor events across Britain and Ireland, offering botanists at all skill levels opportunities for recording, training, networking and contributing to botanical research.

Volunteers from BSBI's Meetings & Communications Committee worked in conjunction with Country Officers, County Recorders and local volunteers to deliver this programme. Meetings ranged from week-long residential events to one-day excursions and encompassed both recording for the forthcoming Atlas 2020 and training events for both beginners and more experienced botanists. Many thanks are due to all who contributed to making the 2018 programme such a success.

Our 2018 Annual Summer Meeting was held in the Isle of Man. It was a joint meeting with the British Bryological Society, although botanists significantly outnumbered bryologists. Participants enjoyed a range of fieldtrips, evening identification sessions and talks; they made more than 2000 records of 489 species for Atlas 2020.

The BSBI Annual Exhibition Meeting was held in November 2018 at Edge Hill University in Lancashire and attracted a larger than usual proportion of undergraduates and early career botanists. The programme featured talks by the University's researchers and alumni alongside an Atlas 2020 update from BSBI's Head of Science.

A Recorders' Conference was held at FSC Preston Montford in October 2018 and attracted 69 delegates, who enjoyed 12 talks and 13 workshops. Our social media platforms enabled many more people to follow and comment on the weekend's activities, and presentations from the Conference were made available to members and the wider botanical community via the BSBI website.

During the period under review, 44 field meetings took place at locations around the four countries of the BSBI, as well as six longer residential Atlas 2020 recording meetings. We also offered eight training meetings and workshops on the identification of challenging plant groups: Oraches, Brambles, Conifers, Dandelions, Roses, Sedges, Violets and Willows.

England

National field meetings were held across England, from Devon to Northumberland, from Cumbria to Kent, and included a four-day recording event in Rutland. These meetings were complemented by a very large number of field meetings and identification workshops organised by our network of local recording groups. Meetings were promoted via the BSBI website and across our social media platforms. We made sure that all skill levels, from beginner to expert, were catered for.

Ireland

2018 was another busy year for BSBI in Ireland, with events, field meetings, new members and of course lots of new plant records.

Plant recording is at the heart of BSBI's work, and this is doubly true as we approach Atlas 2020. The 2018 field season included 33 days of field meetings, including five days in Mayo for our main recording event. We estimate that over 11,000 plant records were collected during these field meetings. In addition, our local groups have been more active than ever. These now cover counties Clare, Cork, Dublin/East Coast, Leitrim, Galway, Kerry, and Ulster. As always, the Rough Crew tackled

Encouraging an Interest in Plants (continued)

some of Ireland's more challenging sites, with a particular focus on Ireland's islands this year.

Between field meetings, individual efforts, and digitisation of older records, over 320,000 Irish plant records were added to the BSBI Database during the period under review: a superb effort. We also continued to build Ireland's botanical community, with a total of 211 members by 31st March 2019.

The BSBI Ireland Autumn Meeting and AGM 2018 took place at the National Botanic Gardens in September and was a huge success. It featured talks on the Rare Plant Monitoring Scheme, BSBI Charophyte course, Rough Crew Adventures and Oraches around the Irish coast. A County Recorders' Day was held in December 2018 at the National Botanic Gardens; 23 County Recorders attended and validated data in a structured and comprehensive way.

The Irish BSBI Conference was held at the National Botanic Gardens in March 2019 with almost 90 attendees. Talks included 'The State of Ireland's Environment', Rough Crew Adventures, several flash talks, and workshops on water-starworts and on dead-nettles – there was even a botanical quiz!

www.bsbi.org/ireland

Scotland

Scottish recorders had a very busy year in 2018: over 250,000 records were collected, digitised and uploaded. Many of these were collected during the 13 field meetings held in Scotland including the three recording weeks we organised in Argyll, Wigtown and Westerness.

A total of fifty-two recorders and members enjoyed two one-day Recording Workshops at RBGE and Strathpeffer in April, with sessions on Atlas 2020 recording, digitisation and validation and practical sessions on identifying bladderworts and deergrass. Other training events in Scotland included an introduction to

recording day workshop attended by eight members; two one-day Plant Family beginners' workshops in Aberdeen and Dumfries and follow-up field days (with a total of 29 participants); a workshop for beginners to grass identification attended by 18 folk; and a specialist training event on Brambles in August.

The Scottish Botanists' Conference held at RBG Edinburgh in November attracted a record 175 people making it the biggest ever meeting of Scottish botanists. One hundred and forty of those attending selected two out of a choice of seven mini-workshops on a variety of training topics, also making it one of the biggest training events ever arranged by the BSBI! Presentations from our indoor meetings were made available to the wider botanical community via the BSBI website.

We also provided an update of Scottish BSBI plant records to NBN Atlas Scotland where they are freely available to all conservationists, researchers, land managers and fellow botanists.

www.bsbi.org/scotland

Wales

Paul Green stepped down from the Wales Officer role in June 2018 and Barbara Brown replaced him in November 2018.

There were seven general recording meetings held across Wales between June and September 2018, from Monmouthshire in the south-east to Anglesey in the north-west, taking in Caernarvonshire, Breconshire, Montgomeryshire and Merionethshire on the way. Paul Green ran two specialist training events, one on *Violas* in Glamorgan and another on *Willows* at Llanelli Wetlands Centre; and County Recorders across Wales also ran field meetings programmes for their local botany groups.

The Llanbrynmair recording session in July yielded 350 records in 3 monads including



Road-testing the new Twig Key at the 2018 BSBI Recorders' Conference

such gems as Royal Fern (*Osmunda regalis*) and Ivy-leaved Bellflower (*Wahlenbergia hederacea*).

We also held two very successful residential recording meetings. The Glynhir residential recording week in July focused on brambles: 677 records of 59 species were made. The four-day Caerleon Merionnydd residential meeting, also in July, took a wider approach with recorders visiting ten sites, including a farm near Afon Lliw, which had a wide range of interesting habitats and was not intensively managed. Notable plants they found included Globeflower (*Trollius europaeus*) and White-beaked sedge (*Rhynchospora alba*).

Two issues of the Welsh Bulletin were published in the period and 111,693 records made and uploaded to the BSBI database. In the first few months of 2019, the new Wales Officer gave presentations to three recorder forums across Wales, reporting on Atlas progress and promoting the Society's work.

www.bsbi.org/wales

BSBI website

The BSBI website was refurbished in February 2019 with a streamlined menu, an improved search facility and 20+ new webpages. The site attracted more than 331,000 page-views during the period under review; the homepage and the Maps page were still our most popular pages but the Identification and Local Botany pages proved increasingly popular, and the new 'Record-a-Plant' contact form helped the wider public take their first steps in plant recording.

Our booklet *So You Want to Know Your Plants*, a guide to getting started in plant identification produced by the Training & Education Committee, remained the most popular of the downloadable documents stored on the website. It was downloaded 2,741 times during the period under review. Other popular downloads included the Botanical Skills Pyramid and the revised (2017) BSBI Code of Conduct, written by Sarah Whild and Fred Rumsey.

Spreading the Word

We continued to build on our communications strategy of seeking out low-cost but effective ways to raise BSBI's profile. We focused on harnessing the power of social media, building up our network of media contacts and providing display material for volunteers attending national conferences and local and regional recording events and Bioblitzes.

Our network of local recording groups continued to flourish in 2018-9, with an increasing number of local groups having their own webpages hosted by or accessible via the BSBI website. Some groups also set up their own blogs and social media platforms to keep local botanists updated on activities and resources in their area.

The BSBI News & Views blog continued to attract hundreds of readers each day. Increasingly, posts were provided by County Recorders, local group administrators, staff, volunteer officers and "ordinary members" across Britain and Ireland, offering them all a chance to share the latest news about BSBI projects and publications, reports on national events and local activities, and links to plant ID resources. By the end of March 2019, blogs by 71 BSBI members were also listed on the News & Views blog.

www.bsbi.org/news-views

We continued to build our social media profile and by the end of March 2019, more than 23,000 organisations and individuals were

using the BSBI Twitter account to keep up with the latest botanical news from BSBI and partner organisations. Regular promotions such as the weekly #wildflowerhour helped new audiences take their first steps in plant identification, with BSBI staff and members leading the way in sharing photographs, offering ID tips and pointing people to further sources of information about plant distributions. Our new volunteer-run Instagram account had attracted more than 1000 followers by the end of March 2019; it and our Facebook pages helped us reach different audiences.

www.twitter.com/BSBIbotany
www.facebook.com/BSBI2011
www.facebook.com/IrishSectionBSBI/
www.instagram.com/bsbibotany/

With the help of volunteers Mary Dean, Ellen Goddard, Natalie Hunt, Brian Laney and Ciara Dwyer, working alongside Head of Science Kevin Walker, Communications Officer Louise Marsh and Database Officer Tom Humphrey, our eighth New Year Plant Hunt was the most

Promoting BSBI at Ireland's first National Biodiversity Conference



successful yet. More than 1,400 people used our on-line recording form (either in the field via their smartphones or once home on their computers) to submit 14,193 plant records from across Britain and Ireland. They recorded a total of 627 wild or naturalised plant species or cultivars in bloom during the 2018-9 New Year holiday. Our increasingly popular social media platforms and growing network of print and broadcast media contacts made it easier than ever to publicise our activities and achieve media coverage, allowing us to engage and enthuse new audiences: the Communications Officer was interviewed by John Humphrys on BBC Radio 4's Today programme and County Recorders from

Somerset and Cambridgeshire appeared on local TV news programmes.

www.bsbi.org/new-year-plant-hunt

BSBI membership continued on an upward trend, with 2,804 members by 31st March 2019. We are very grateful to the many volunteers across Britain and Ireland who helped with promoting the Society at outreach events, who contributed their time and enthusiasm to join in activities such as the New Year Plant Hunt and #wildflowerhour, and who regularly promote the Society, and botany in general, via social media platforms.

www.bsbi.org/wildflower-hour

Botanical Publications

Books

Several new titles were added to BSBI's publications portfolio during the period under review. The latest in the series of BSBI Handbooks, *Eyebrights of Britain and Ireland*, was published in June 2018; the occasion was marked with a launch at the Natural History Museum, London and a complementary soft launch on social media.

John Poland's *Field Key to Winter Twigs* was published in November 2018 with the aim of making winter botany more fun, as botanists can now identify native and planted trees throughout the year. Dedicated webpages and interviews with the authors of both these titles helped promote these BSBI publications and drew more traffic to our website.

Work continued apace on BSBI Handbooks for *Alchemilla* (Lady's-mantles), southern hawkweeds and gentians. A new Flora of Cornwall, and the first ever Flora for the Isle of Bute – both of which benefited from BSBI publications grants – went to press in March 2019.

www.bsbi.org/publications

Periodicals

Moves to revitalise BSBI's periodicals portfolio continued with the launch of *British & Irish*

Botany, the Society's new online, Open Access, scientific journal replacing *New Journal of Botany*. The new journal opened for submissions, via a new user-friendly website and under the editorship of Dr Ian Denholm, in October 2018 and the first issue of volume one was published in February 2019.

Alongside our refreshed membership newsletter *BSBI News*, and the *BSBI Yearbook* (both exclusive to members), annual newsletters for Ireland, Scotland and Wales, and *BSBI eNews*, our monthly e-newsletter for botanical recorders (all available free to download from the BSBI website), we hope we are meeting the challenge of providing a periodicals portfolio which meets the needs of both BSBI members and the wider botanical community.

www.bsbi.org/periodicals

Summerfield Books

Summerfield Books have been a regular exhibitor at all national 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.

www.summerfieldbooks.com



The fashionable botanist matches her wildflowers to her hair!

Financial Report 31 March 2019

Treasurer's Report

BSBI's Summarised Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA), Balance Sheet and Notes thereto appear on the next two pages of this Annual Review.

For the year under review, the Board reports a Surplus for the Year (after gains on investments) of £21k (2018 Deficit; £49k) and Net Assets at year end of £975k (2018; £954k). It is pleasing that Income rose by +18% in the year to £475k whereas Expenditure increased by just 4% to £479k.

The Board is pleased to report the underlying Operating Deficit (before gains on investments) has once again reduced year on year from (£61k) in 2018 to (£3k) in 2019 such that there is now a 5 year trend of reducing deficits:

	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
Operating Deficit £k	(3)	(61)	(146)	(128)	(178)

Trustees are delighted that in Autumn 2018, BSBI was awarded £60k from Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) under its Resilient Heritage initiative. This grant will allow BSBI's Board to guide the Society through a project in 2019/20 where, once completed, it will place BSBI on a more focussed and sustainable footing by producing a Strategic Plan to steer its activities over the next 5-10 years and face the future with increased confidence. £30k of this grant was received in 2018/19.

Even if we were to disregard the £30k income received from HLF, the 2019 Operating Deficit of £3k would have been (£33k); still better than each of the last 5 years and better than budget and this represents the continued hard work by BSBI staff and Trustees to focus on creating new opportunities and on delivering the Society's operations in a financially sustainable manner.

Turning now to investments; at £47k, Total Return on investments (net gains and income) was higher than last year (2018: £35k). As a %, this amounts to 5.5% (2018: 3.9%) of the average investment during the year and is at a level that broadly reflects a long-term average Total Return. Also, Trustees are mindful of the relevant issues around charities investing in a socially responsible and ethical manner and the Board, guided by professional advisers and Investment Committee, is currently considering how BSBI might better align its investment activities with its charitable objectives.

The Society continues to benefit from generous legacies and donations, some of which are gifted anonymously, and it expresses its grateful appreciation for all of them. Examples of the enduring generosity of those supporting BSBI is a total donation of £30,000 from a single anonymous donor, with £15,000 significantly boosting the Atlas 2020 funding and £15,000 towards the cost of the BSBI Scottish Officer post. Another member answered our ongoing Atlas 2020 Appeal with a £10,000 anonymous donation for which we are extremely grateful.

In summary, the Board is delighted with the Society's continued progress made on many fronts this year. In last year's report, the Board felt that the future outlook for BSBI was increasingly positive and we are delighted that 2018/19 has met those expectations and, especially in the light of the upcoming Heritage Lottery funded project, we look to the future with anticipation.

While the search for a Treasurer continues, the Board collectively and capably manages its financial affairs and future sustainability with the support of BSBI's Finance Manager. The Board of Trustees has therefore delegated authority for preparing this Report to the three undersigned Trustees.

Dr Chris J Miles
Chair of the BSBI Board of Trustees

Dr Ian Denholm
Trustee

Prof Alastair Fitter FRS
Trustee

Financial Report 31 March 2019

SUMMARISED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (SOFA)	Year ended 31 March 2019	Year ended 31 March 2018
	£	£
Incoming Resources		
<i>Voluntary Income</i>		
Subscriptions and Donations	170,169	170,447
Core Grants	110,992	95,127
Legacies	2,000	2,000
Investment Income	31,816	32,972
<i>Charitable Activities Income</i>		
Botanical Survey and Interpretation	97,251	58,251
Botanical Education	43,997	18,407
Botanical Publications and Website	18,690	23,846
	474,915	401,050
Resources Expended		
<i>Cost of Generating Funds</i>		
Membership Administration, Publicity and Investment Management	53,593	49,821
<i>Charitable Activities Expenditure</i>		
Botanical Survey and Interpretation	257,854	259,933
Botanical Education	46,901	25,794
Botanical Publications and Website	61,308	76,742
Governance	58,927	49,319
	478,583	461,609
Surplus (Deficit) for the year		
Unrestricted Fund Surplus (Deficit)	(33,143)	(60,309)
Restricted Funds Surplus (Deficit)	29,475	(250)
Operating Surplus (Deficit)	(3,668)	(60,559)
Gains (Losses) on Investments	24,277	11,159
Surplus (Deficit) for the Year	20,609	(49,400)

Financial Report 31 March 2019

SUMMARISED BALANCE SHEET	Year ended	Year ended
	31 March 2019	31 March 2018
	£	£
Fixed Assets		
Investments at Market Value	826,057	878,483
Current Assets		
Stocks	23,065	23,954
Debtors	51,424	40,784
Cash at Bank	203,222	121,494
	277,711	186,232
Liabilities		
Creditors	(129,240)	(110,796)
Net Assets	974,528	953,919
Funds		
Unrestricted Fund	939,182	948,193
Restricted Funds	35,346	5,726
Total Funds	974,528	953,919

Notes to the Summarised Accounts

The Summarised Accounts presented here are not the full Statutory Accounts.

The full statutory Annual Report and Accounts of the Botanical Society of Britain and Ireland for the year ended 31 March 2019, which have been approved by the Board of Trustees and have been subject to Independent Examination, will be filed with the Charity Regulators and at Companies House during October.

They may also be downloaded from the “About Us” page on the BSBI website and a paper copy can be supplied to any member upon request.

www.bsbi.org/about-bsbi

Thank You

The Society gratefully acknowledges grants received in 2018-9 from the Finnis Scott Foundation, Hugh Fraser Foundation, Joint Nature Conservation Committee, Kew Millennium Seed Bank Partnership, Lindeth Charitable Trust, National Museums of Northern Ireland, National Parks and Wildlife Service, Natural England, Natural Resources Wales, Scottish Natural Heritage, The Seven Pillars of Wisdom Trust, the Steel Charitable Trust and United Kingdom Research and Innovation.

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, represented the society at outreach events and promoted our work via social media. BSBI would especially like to thank our network of 193 Vice-County Recorders and 110 expert plant 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 the period under review of Paddy Braithwaite, Gill Gent, Charles Gimingham, Liz Howe, Anthony Smith, Roderick Stern, Hugh Syngé, Geoffrey Wilmore and Rob Wilson.

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 donations received and for continued support from many organisations:

Biological Records Centre/ Centre for Ecology & Hydrology, Wallingford
Cambridge University Botanic Garden
Centre for Environmental Data and Recording
The DS Smith Charitable Foundation
Henry Hoare Charitable Trust
Edge Hill University
Manchester Metropolitan University (Shrewsbury campus)
The Lord Farringdon Charitable Trust
National Botanic Gardens, Glasnevin, Dublin
N. Smith Charitable Settlement
Natural History Museum, London
Royal Botanic Garden, Edinburgh
The Wild Flower Society

Thank you also to the many other unnamed organisations and individuals who have made donations, often anonymously - we are very grateful for all your support.

Images supplied by: Barbara Brown, Clare Heardman, Louise Marsh, Jim McIntosh, Pete Stroh and Kevin Walker.

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