



Botanical Society
of Britain & Ireland

BSBI Annual Review
31 March 2020

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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 2019-20, starting with a message from BSBI President Lynne Farrell.

Message from the President

“During much of the period under review, the BSBI was concentrating on our most recognised and valued activities: being out in the field, recording plants for the forthcoming Atlas 2020, entering data, validating them and writing species accounts. Congratulations are in order to everyone who has contributed in any way.

We have also been looking to the long-term future of the Society. Thanks to funding from the National Lottery’s Resilient Heritage Fund, we were able in 2019 to engage the expertise of the Centre for Charity Effectiveness (Cass), to help us develop our thinking on many aspects including our organisational aims and improvements to our governance and structure. This work is on-going and will enable better and easier communication at all levels. Our new Strategic Plan will allow us to move forward in a sustainable and resilient way, building on almost two centuries of achievements while being ready to grow and adapt to the challenges of a rapidly changing world.

Since assuming the presidency in November 2019 from my predecessor, Chris Metherell, to whom we express our thanks for his guidance over the past two years, I have tried to set the scene for a more inclusive, informative, influential and interesting Society, in which we can all play a part. Early in 2020 I was making plans to visit each country, meeting members in the field, listening and taking on board your views. Those plans are on hold for now thanks to the pandemic but I’m confident that our Society will rise to whatever challenges lie ahead: our Resilience will truly come to the fore in unexpected, entertaining and resourceful ways”.

Lynne Farrell



Stinking Chamomile *Anthemis cotula*



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	Wales Officer
Gwynn Ellis	Membership Secretary
Julie Etherington	Finance Manager
Tom Humphrey	Database Officer
Maria Long	Ireland Officer (to April 2019)
Louise Marsh	Communications Officer
Jim McIntosh	Scottish Officer
Sarah Pierce	Ireland Officer (from June 2019)
Peter Stroh	Scientific Officer/England 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

The 2019 field season saw the final flurry of recording activity towards the next Atlas, with national and local field meetings held across Britain and Ireland, during which volunteers visited remote and under-recorded parts of their counties to achieve maximum coverage. Throughout the winter of 2019-20, our network of County Recorders put in a huge amount of time and effort collating, uploading and validating data ahead of our self-imposed February 2020 deadline. A team of volunteers working alongside BSBI's Science Team continued to edit the captions and verify the maps that will appear on the 'online

atlas' and carried out further statistical analyses looking at long- and short-term changes in the British and Irish flora. Consideration was also given to post-Atlas projects: this involved seeking our recorders' views to refine a whole list of possible subjects.

www.bsbi.org/atlas-2020

BSBI Database

The "final flurry" of Atlas 2020 recording activity by our members and supporters generated a flood of plant records to our in-house database. More than six million records were added during the year ending March 2020, taking the total to more than 48 million. 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 also provides external users with reliable data for academic research, land management and conservation uses.

www.bsbi.org/maps-and-data

National Plant Monitoring Scheme (NPMS)

BSBI worked 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 Scheme aims to provide quantitative data on the status of widespread plants and the habitats on which they depend; it also enables volunteers at all skill levels to get involved in recording. BSBI has been leading on methodology and assessment of the results, drawing out trends from the first five years of data and helping to develop national indicators of habitat quality based on NPMS data. BSBI has also provided

training in identification skills and promoted the scheme via social media: as March 2020 drew to a close, a national 'tweetmeet' was held, using social media to summarise results so far, to celebrate volunteer effort and to encourage wider participation.

www.bsbi.org/npms

Plant Alert

This new citizen science project, launched in summer 2019, is a partnership between BSBI

and Coventry University. Plant Alert enlists British and Irish gardeners to report any ornamental plants which are proving difficult to control in their gardens. The aim is to discover which garden plants have the potential to become invasive and problematic in future. Data will be stored by BSBI and will be used for risk assessments of species as well as reports to the horticultural industry.

www.bsbi.org/plant-alert

National Plant Monitoring Scheme - taking a break during a training session in Snowdonia



Training and Education

BSBI awarded 22 training or plant study grants during the year covered by this Review and we continued to support the FSC Young Darwin Scholarships.

Our Training & Education Committee recruited new members and worked closely with the Communications Officer to promote BSBI training opportunities and successes via social media. All grant recipients were encouraged to provide a report of the course they attended for the BSBI News & Views blog and were also invited to attend, and/or exhibit at, the society's Annual Exhibition Meeting.

As part of our botanical training and outreach activities, we actively supported the third 'Botanical University Challenge' organised by Liverpool University and hosted in February 2020 at the Botanic Gardens at Ness. The event attracted a large audience and a great deal of interest on social media.

Spaces on the Identiplant on-line plant identification course, supported by BSBI and the Field Studies Council, were snapped up within a month; many BSBI members acted as tutors, guiding new botanists as they

examined and answered questions on common plant species.

Seven Field Identification Skills Certificate (FISC) tests ran at FISC centres in Kent and Shrewsbury and were fully booked. Natural England, who have adopted FISCs as their industry standard in assessing botanical field skills, also ran FISCs at several locations across England for staff and any vacant spaces were made available via the BSBI website on a first come, first served basis. Most participants work in botanical or ecological consultancies, Government organisations and NGOs and 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.

www.bsbi.org/training

Using flashcards to learn about plant family ID at our training workshop in Lampeter



Encouraging an Interest in Plants

In 2019, 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 Events & 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 2019 programme such a success.

During the period under review, 35 field meetings took place at locations across Britain and Ireland. This included 11 longer residential Atlas 2020 recording meetings and our week-long Annual Summer Meeting, held in July 2019 at FSC Malham Tarn in Cumbria, at which participants made more than 9000 records of 866 species for Atlas 2020.

As always, we made sure that all skill levels, from beginner to expert, were catered for, so as well as training meetings and workshops on the identification of challenging plant groups - Conifers, Cotoneasters, Water-starworts, Dandelions and Sedges - we also held a plant family ID workshop and a weekend-long wildflower workshop aimed at beginner botanists. Participants headed up mountains in Argyll and Co. Galway in pursuit of alpinines and bog plants, recorded the urban flora around Inverness and spent a day looking at arable weeds at two of the world's longest-running ecological experiments: Park Grass and Broadbalk at Rothamsted Research in Hertfordshire.

All these national meetings were complemented by hundreds of field meetings

and identification workshops organised across Britain and Ireland by our network of local recording groups. Meetings were promoted via the BSBI website and across our social media platforms.

Once the field season was over, our Annual Exhibition Meeting was held in November 2019 at the Natural History Museum, London. It attracted 237 visitors over the course of the day; they enjoyed 41 exhibits, nine flash talks and six full-length presentations, including a keynote talk from Prof Clive Stace about the birth and evolution of his *New Flora of the British Isles*.

England

Eight national field meetings were held across England, from Westmorland and Upper Teesdale to Norfolk, Devon and Kent. A new Committee for England was set up and an inaugural meeting held at the Natural History Museum, London, in February, providing a new forum for English botanists to exchange ideas and report on interesting botanical finds. www.bsbi.org/england

Ireland

2019 was a time of endings and new beginnings for BSBI in Ireland, as Maria Long, our Ireland Officer since 2012, said goodbye for pastures new and we welcomed Sarah Pierce as her replacement.

County Recorders, supported by Robert Northridge, focused on recording in under-recorded areas and managed to achieve at least a 60% re-record rate. Almost 260,00 new records from across Ireland, covering more than 1750 species, were added to the BSBI

Encouraging an Interest in Plants (continued)

database by the end of March 2020. A workshop held in November helped County Recorders deal with any issues they encountered as they worked through validation of all these records.

In 2019 BSBI ran a major project to increase aquatic plant recording across Ireland. Thanks to funding from the National Parks and Wildlife Service and the Centre for Environmental Data and Recording, the Aquatic Plant Project was able to train more than 100 people in aquatic plant identification. The Project visited 239 sites across 27 vice-counties and 6397 aquatic plant records were collected, including 370 new hectad records.

We also offered two Conifer ID workshops with Matt Parratt in Co. Down in early March 2020, attracting 19 participants to learn about this often-ignored group.

Field meetings were held across Ireland, from West Galway to Louth and from Derry to East Cork. A four-day residential meeting in Connemara attracted 39 people who made almost 5500 plant records. Our local groups and Rough Crew were also very busy throughout the summer, with at least one event taking place somewhere around Ireland most weeks.

Our Autumn Meeting and AGM took place in September and attracted around 40 people. We were hoping for a similar turn-out for our Spring 2020 Meeting in March but sadly we had to cancel due to Covid-19.

www.bsbi.org/ireland

Scotland

By the end of March 2020, Scottish County Recorders had collected, digitised and uploaded a total of 359,000 Atlas 2020 records to the BSBI Database, many collected during the 12 field meetings held in Scotland during 2019. A highlight was the residential

week in Easternness where 22 members collected 11,000 records in a great week of botany, scenery and convivial company. A particularly surprising find was Cornish Moneywort *Sibthorpia europaea*. BSBI also provided 6 million Scottish plant records to NBN Atlas Scotland, where they are freely available to all conservationists, researchers, land managers and fellow botanists.

Two recording workshops, held at Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh (RBGE) and RSPB's offices in Aberdeen in spring, attracted 40 botanists who enjoyed sessions on Atlas 2020 and how to identify Male-ferns and Dandelions. As part of our joint training programme with Plantlife Scotland, we held a one-day Plant Family beginners' workshop in Aberdeen (with 18 attendees); two workshops for beginners to grass identification in Dumfries and Stirling (39 participants in total); and a workshop for sedge beginners in Milngavie with 25 people.

The Scottish Botanists' Conference held in November 2019 at RBGE attracted a record 200 people, who had the choice of any two of eight mini-workshops on a variety of training topics. With 150 people participating, this became one of the BSBI's biggest ever mass training events. Angus Hannah, BSBI County Recorder for the Clyde Islands was presented with the 2019 Presidents' Award for his groundbreaking *Isle of Bute Flora* which was published earlier in the year.

www.bsbi.org/scotland

Wales

Recording and training events in Wales during the summer of 2019 included a well-attended visit to view the botanical highlights of Stanner Rocks; a water-starwort workshop at Llangors Lake led by aquatics expert Richard Lansdown; and the Glynhir residential week during which participants made more than 5582 records of 589 taxa: a magnificent



Finding White Waterlily *Nymphaea alba* on the edge of Roundstone Bog, Connemara

contribution to Atlas 2020 recording. The 2019 Wales Annual Meeting, based in Llanelli, offered a chance to explore a variety of interesting sites including Burry Port Harbour, Capel Dyddgen SSSI and Pembrey Country Park.

Many exciting first county records were generated by County Recorders and in Cardiganshire, Irish Lady's-tresses *Spiranthes romanzoffiana* was recorded, the first record for this orchid in the whole of Wales.

Wales Officer Barbara Brown ran seven training workshops from Lampeter to Guilsfield which attracted 69 beginner botanists; she also took student groups to notable botanical sites to see Purple Saxifrage *Saxifraga oppositifolia* and the Radnor Lily *Gagea bohemica*, gave talks about the BSBI to natural history groups and worked with County Recorders in Radnorshire, Flintshire, Montgomeryshire and Monmouthshire to update their Rare Plant Registers.

www.bsbi.org/wales

BSBI website

Our website now features more than 250 pages, a separate digital archive of botanical publications and a 'members-only' area. The site attracted almost 380,000 page-views during the period under review, an increase of 14% compared to the previous year; new webpages added early in 2019 pointed both beginner and more experienced botanists to videos and other resources for plant identification, produced both by BSBI members and by other organisations and individuals; these proved very popular, attracting a combined total of 9,333 pageviews in just a few months.

The five most popular, freely downloadable, documents on our website were *So You Want to Know Your Plants*, a guide to getting started in plant identification; the Botanical Skills Pyramid; Prof Mick Crawley's Snowdrop identification key; the BSBI list of accepted plant names; and the revised BSBI *Code of Conduct*, which offers guidance on how to pick, collect, photograph and enjoy wild plants with conservation in mind.

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 2019-20, 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 and offered County Recorders, local group administrators, staff, volunteer officers and "ordinary members" across Britain and Ireland 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. www.bsbi.org/news-views

We continued to build links with print and broadcast media; during the period under review, the society was featured or mentioned in *The Telegraph*, *The Times*, *Horticulture Week* and *BBC Wildlife* magazine, in regional newspapers and on local radio stations. We also continued to build our social media

profile and by the end of March 2020, more than 28,500 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, which was mentioned on BBC Countryfile in February 2020, helped new audiences take their first steps in plant identification, with BSBI members leading the way in sharing photographs, offering ID tips and pointing people to further sources of information about plant distributions. Our volunteer-run Instagram account had attracted more than 2,000 followers by the end of March 2020; it and our Facebook pages helped us reach different audiences.

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

With the help of volunteers from BSBI's Events & Communications team, working alongside Head of Science Kevin Walker,

Zigzag Clover *Trifolium medium*



Communications Officer Louise Marsh and Database Officer Tom Humphrey, our ninth New Year Plant Hunt was the most successful yet. More than 1,700 plant-hunters from Shetland to Guernsey, from Norfolk to West Cork, used our recording app to submit 14,724 plant records from across Britain and Ireland. They recorded a total of 615 wild or naturalised plant species or cultivars in bloom during the first four days of 2020.

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

BSBI membership continued on an upward trend, with 2,868 members by 31st March

Botanical Publications

Books

Three new titles published in autumn 2019 joined BSBI's publications portfolio, augmenting the Society's reputation and influence:

Grassland Plants of the British and Irish Lowlands: ecology, threats and management was co-authored by Kevin Walker and Peter Stroh (the BSBI Science Team) and four representatives of country conservation agencies; it focused on 109 species of threatened lowland grassland plants.

The latest in the series of BSBI Handbooks, *Gentians of Britain & Ireland* by Tim Rich and Andy McVeigh, helped botanists identify the 18 species and four hybrids in this beautiful but challenging family.

The second edition of the ground-breaking *Vegetative Key to the British Flora* by John Poland (outgoing Chair of BSBI's Publications Committee) and Eric Clement was published. The 'Veg Key' greatly extends the season in which it is possible for botanists and consultants to identify plants.

Dedicated webpages, social media campaigns and interviews with the authors of all three titles helped promote the Society and drew more traffic to our website. These titles, and all BSBI publications, can be purchased from our book sales agents, Summerfield Books.

2020, an increase of 2.3% compared to the previous year. 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

Work continued apace in 2019 on BSBI Handbook no.20, *Hawkweeds of southeast England*, scheduled for publication in April 2020.

www.bsbi.org/publications

Periodicals

BSBI's online, Open Access, scientific journal *British & Irish Botany*, launched in March 2019, got into its stride during the period under review, with 23 scientific papers published in the first (2019) volume and a further seven papers in the first issue of volume 2, published in February 2020. Under Ian Denholm's editorship, *British & Irish Botany* was able to disseminate botanical research by academics and amateurs relevant to the study of the British and Irish flora at no cost to authors or readers.

Alongside our 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



Pasqueflower *Pulsatilla vulgaris* at Therfield Heath SSSI, Hertfordshire

Financial Report 31 March 2020

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 Net Expenditure for the Year, after losses on investments, of £149k (2019; Net Income £21k, after gains on investments) and Net Assets at year-end of £826k (2019; £975k). Although Unrestricted Income fell by -2% vs 2019, the reduction in Expenditure was commensurate at -4%.

The Board is delighted to report the underlying Operating Deficit has once again reduced year on year such that there is now a six-year positive trend which reflects our unwavering focus on delivering the Society's operations in a financially sustainable manner.

	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
Operating Deficit £000	(25)	(33)	(61)	(146)	(128)	(178)

Total Return on investments (net losses and income) was -£82,899 (2019: £47,574). As a percentage, this is -10.5% (2019: 5.5%) of the average investment during the year. This is a very disappointing outcome reflecting the economic damage wreaked by the Covid-19 pandemic which was emerging in March 2020 and has now touched everyone's lives.

On a more positive note, BSBI has always benefited from generous donations, many gifted anonymously. This year, some chose to boost BSBI's important Atlas 2020 Appeal, others have contributed to the cost of the BSBI Scottish Officer post, our Strengthening Wales' Volunteer Network project or valuable funds towards book publications. BSBI is extremely grateful for all of them.

Member subscriptions and the related Gift Aid rose by +4% to £97k; 23% of unrestricted income, (2019: 21%). A decision was taken to increase subscription rates in January 2020 for the first time in five years and we are pleased that this increase was well received, with membership numbers remaining buoyant.

We reported here last year that The National Lottery Heritage Fund had awarded BSBI a grant of £60,000 in October 2018 under its Resilient Heritage initiative. 2019 saw BSBI starting to work with the acclaimed Centre for Charity Effectiveness (Cass) with the aim of distilling the Society's priorities and actions into a new Strategic Plan to steer its activities over the next 3-5 years. As March 2020 drew to a close, the project culminated with the BSBI Board's approval of a Strategic Plan focused on three clear goals. This Strategic Plan will enable BSBI to move forward in a sustainable and resilient way, building on almost two centuries of achievements while being ready to grow and adapt to the challenges of a rapidly changing world.

Overall, we report on another successful year which also saw the completion of fieldwork for BSBI's important new national plant atlas – Atlas 2020 – and a continuing move towards long-term financial sustainability, albeit now embarked upon through the challenges of a post-Covid-19 backdrop.

Finally, the Board is pleased to mention here the considerable contribution made by Susanna Reece, BSBI Trustee and Treasurer from October 2019 until June 2020. We now continue anew our search for a Treasurer and the Board capably manages its financial affairs and future sustainability as before, 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 2020

SUMMARISED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (SOFA)	Year ended 31 March 2020	Year ended 31 March 2019
	£	£
Incoming Resources		
<i>Voluntary Income</i>		
Subscriptions and Donations	143,324	170,169
Core Grants	125,151	110,992
Legacies	80	2,000
Investment Income	30,427	31,816
<i>Charitable Activities Income</i>		
Botanical Survey and Interpretation	90,110	97,251
Botanical Education	27,869	43,997
Botanical Publications and Website	24,627	18,544
Journal Support and Royalties	18,277	146
	459,865	474,915
Resources Expended		
<i>Cost of Generating Funds</i>		
Membership Administration, Publicity and Investment Management	55,434	53,593
<i>Charitable Activities Expenditure</i>		
Botanical Survey and Interpretation	307,127	257,854
Botanical Education	34,561	46,901
Botanical Publications and Website	71,225	61,308
Governance	35,257	58,927
	503,604	478,583
Surplus (Deficit) for the year		
Unrestricted Fund Surplus (Deficit)	(24,638)	(33,143)
Restricted Funds Surplus (Deficit)	(19,101)	29,475
Operating Surplus (Deficit)	(43,739)	(3,668)
Gains (Losses) on Investments	(105,223)	24,277
Surplus (Deficit) for the Year	(148,962)	20,609

Financial Report 31 March 2020

SUMMARISED BALANCE SHEET	Year ended	Year ended
	31 March 2020	31 March 2019
	£	£
Fixed Assets		
Investments at Market Value	668,160	826,057
Current Assets		
Stocks	26,521	23,065
Debtors	77,185	51,424
Cash at Bank	181,598	203,222
	285,304	277,711
Liabilities		
Creditors	(127,898)	(129,240)
Net Assets	825,566	974,528
Funds		
Unrestricted Fund - General Fund	713,137	939,182
Unrestricted Fund - Strategic Development Fund	100,000	-
Restricted Funds	12,429	35,346
Total Funds	825,566	974,528

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 2020, 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 and other support received in 2019-20 from: Centre for Environmental Data and Recording- National Museums of Northern Ireland, D'Oyly Carte Charitable Trust, the Finnis Scott Foundation, Joint Nature Conservation Committee, National Lottery Heritage Fund, National Parks and Wildlife Service, Natural England, Natural Resources Wales, Sabina Sutherland Charitable Trust, Scottish Natural Heritage and Thriplow Charitable Trust.

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 188 Vice-County Recorders and 109 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 covered by this review of George Argent, Marjorie Blamey, Martin Cragg-Barber, Gigi Crompton, Chris Ferreira, Alan Hill, Bruno Ryves OBE, Alan Showler, Robin Stevenson and Martin Wigginton.

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

BSBI is indebted for donations received and for continued support from many organisations:

Banister Charitable Trust
Biological Records Centre/ Centre for Ecology & Hydrology, Wallingford
Butterfly Conservation
Cambridge University Botanic Garden
Manchester Metropolitan University (Shrewsbury campus)
Oakdale Trust
National Botanic Gardens, Glasnevin, Dublin
Natural History Museum, London
Plantlife
Royal Botanic Garden, Edinburgh
The Wild Flower Society

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

Images supplied by: Barbara Brown, Louise Marsh, Sarah Pierce and Pete Stroh.
Front cover: Large-flowered Hemp-nettle
Galeopsis speciosa.

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