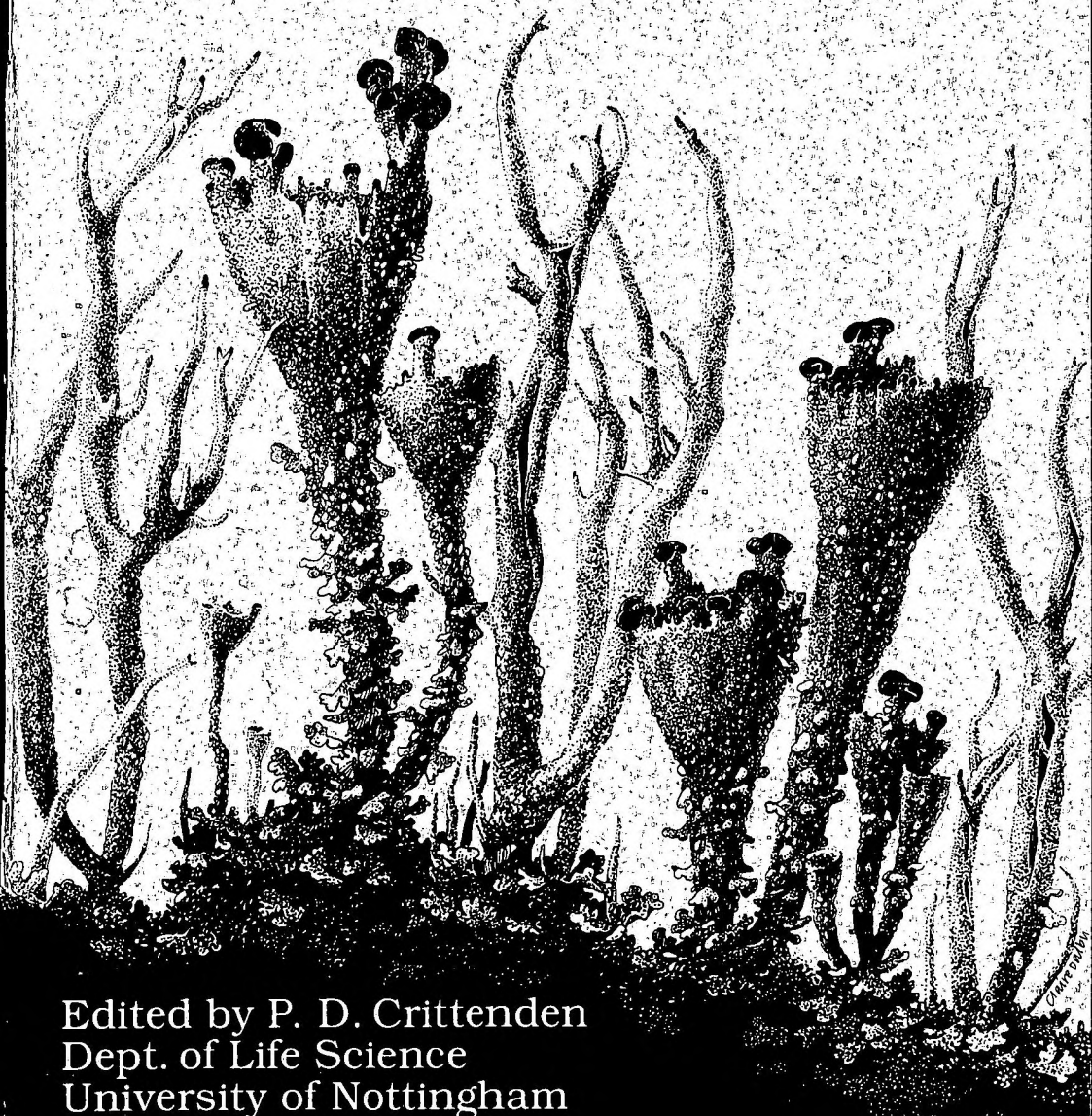


# BRITISH LICHEN SOCIETY BULLETIN

No. 76 Summer 1995



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## FIELD MEETING TO NONSUCH PARK AND ST MARY'S CHURCH, EWELL, SURREY

A field meeting was held on 8 January 1995 to follow the AGM on the previous day. Nonsuch Park was chosen for this visit as it is the subject of an ongoing survey for many groups of organisms. A report of this survey to date appeared in a recent edition of *The London Naturalist* 74: 1994 pp 77-142. This included a lichen list that was obtained during a short visit made in 1993. This produced a list of 41 species but it was clear that a closer examination, especially of the house and walled garden, would greatly extend this list.

A group of members therefore assembled at the park on a damp and rather miserable morning. We were joined by Dr June Chatfield (the co-ordinator of the Nonsuch survey) and a number of local naturalists. We discovered that two enthusiastic BLS members (Ishpi Blatchley and Keith Palmer) had been working at the site since dawn and had already greatly extended the previous lichen list.

The park formed part of the Little Park attached to Henry VIII's Nonsuch Palace and was surrounded by farm land until the rapid urban development of London's suburbs in the early 1930s. The two adjoining areas of Cherry Orchard and Warren Farm were cultivated until recently but are now overgrown with lush vegetation and are therefore of little lichenological interest. An earlier farmhouse in the park was incorporated into the large house that was built in the early 19th century. This house and the surrounding parkland were purchased by the Surrey County Council in 1937. The remainder of the area is open parkland with isolated trees and areas of secondary woodland. The upper chalk in the south is on the highest point of the site which then drops down through a layer of the Thanet sand to alluvium and finally London clay. The drainage from the chalk causes these lower layers to be very damp and the trees along the drainage ditches and around the ponds have the most varied lichen flora of the park.

A group of willows at the round pond now has several pollution sensitive species that had been absent or overlooked in the 1993 survey. In the earlier survey *Parmelia caperata* and *P. revoluta* were present but in 1995 there were also two small thalli of *Usnea subfloridana* and, as is now becoming usual in the outer London parks, *P. perlata*.

The old wall to the garden is constructed of brick with flint and chalk and is partially overgrown with ivy. This proved to be the best site investigated in the park and 28 different species were recorded from this wall. These included four species of *Cladonia*: *C. coniocraea*, *C. fimbriata*, *C. pyxidata* and *C. pocillum*, this last species being much parasitised by *Diploschistes muscorum*.

A fairly brief survey of the limestone window sills to the house together with a stone urn and the base of a sundial produced a list of 18 species all of which are frequently found in this part of London. These species included *Caloplaca flavovirescens*, *Sarcogyne regularis* and *Verrucaria glaucina*.

A large iron plant trough bore *Candelariella vitellina*, *Catillaria chalybeia*, *Lecanora muralis*, *L. polytropa*, *Lecidella scabra* and *Scoliciosporum umbrinum*.

The party then moved to St Mary's Church, Ewell. As it was by then raining hard, a break was taken for lunch at a nearby pub. The rain had eased off after we had eaten and a short visit was made to the church. This site has a very large churchyard on both sides of the road. The present church was built in 1848 but the old part of the churchyard still has the perpendicular tower from the earlier church. As dusk was approaching the party broke up leaving Isphi Blatchley still working on the churchyard. A total of 39 species was found. This is a good list for this area but, due to the large size of the churchyard and the short time available, even common species such as *Xanthoria parietina* were not recorded. A return visit is definitely required.

Lichens recorded during the field meeting, compiled from members' information and lists supplied by I Blatchley, F Dobson, K Palmer and P Scholz.

Lichens recorded from Nonsuch Park (including mansion and walled garden)

<i>Acrocordia salweyi</i>	<i>holocarpa</i>	<i>Cladonia chlorophaea</i>
<i>Agonimia tristicula</i>	<i>teicholyta</i>	<i>coniocraea</i>
<i>Bacidia sabuletorum</i>	<i>Candelariella aurella</i>	<i>fimbriata</i>
<i>Buellia punctata</i>	<i>medians</i>	<i>pocillum</i>
<i>Caloplaca citrina</i>	<i>reflexa</i>	<i>pyxidata</i>
<i>flavescens</i>	<i>vitellina</i>	<i>squamosa</i>
<i>flavovirescens</i>	<i>Catillaria chalybeia</i>	

<i>Cliostomum griffithii</i>	<i>Lepraria incana</i>	<i>Porpidia tuberculosa</i>
<i>Diploicia canescens</i>	<i>lesdainii</i>	<i>Psilolechia lucida</i>
<i>Diploschistes</i>	<i>Leproloma vouauxii</i>	<i>Ramalina farinacea</i>
<i>muscorum</i>	<i>Leptogium</i>	<i>Rinodina gennarii</i>
<i>Evernia prunastri</i>	<i>teretiusculum</i>	<i>sophodes</i>
<i>Hyperphyscia</i>	<i>Micarea denigrata</i>	<i>Sarcogyne regularis</i>
<i>adglutinata</i>	<i>prasina</i>	<i>Scoliciosporum</i>
<i>Hypocenomyce</i>	<i>Mycoblastus sterilis</i>	<i>chlorococcum</i>
<i>scalaris</i>	<i>Parmelia caperata</i>	<i>umbrinum</i>
<i>Hypogymnia physodes</i>	<i>perlata</i>	<i>Toninia aromatica</i>
<i>Lecania erysibe</i>	<i>revoluta</i>	<i>Trapelia coarctata</i>
<i>Lecanora albescens</i>	<i>subaurifera</i>	<i>involuta</i>
<i>campestris</i>	<i>subrudecta</i>	<i>Trapeliopsis flexuosa</i>
<i>chlarotera</i>	<i>sulcata</i>	<i>Usnea subfloridana</i>
<i>conizaeoides</i>	<i>Parmeliopsis</i>	<i>Verrucaria glaucina</i>
<i>dispersa</i>	<i>ambigua</i>	<i>hochstetteri</i>
<i>expallens</i>	<i>Phaeophyscia</i>	<i>macrostoma</i>
<i>muralis</i>	<i>orbicularis</i>	<i>nigrescens</i>
<i>polytropa</i>	<i>Physcia adscendens</i>	<i>viridula</i>
<i>saligna</i>	<i>aipolia</i>	<i>Xanthoria calcicola</i>
<i>symmicta</i>	<i>caesia</i>	<i>candelaria</i>
<i>Lecidella elaeochroma</i>	<i>dubia</i>	<i>elegans</i>
<i>scabra</i>	<i>tenella</i>	<i>parietina</i>
<i>stigmatea</i>	<i>Physconia grisea</i>	<i>polycarpa</i>

85 species

Lichens recorded at St Mary's Church Ewell by members and from the list compiled by I Blatchley

<i>Acrocordia salweyi</i>	<i>conizaeoides</i>	<i>Psilolechia lucida</i>
<i>Aspicilia calcarea</i>	<i>dispersa</i>	<i>Rhizocarpon</i>
<i>Buellia aethalea</i>	<i>muralis</i>	<i>obscuratum</i>
<i>Caloplaca citrina</i>	<i>polytropa</i>	<i>Scoliciosporum</i>
<i>flavescens</i>	<i>Lecidella scabra</i>	<i>umbrinum</i>
<i>teicholyta</i>	<i>stigmatea</i>	<i>Toninia aromatica</i>
<i>Candelariella aurella</i>	<i>Lepraria incana</i>	<i>Trapelia coarctata</i>
<i>medians</i>	<i>Leproloma vouauxii</i>	<i>involuta</i>
<i>vitellina</i>	<i>Parmelia mougeotii</i>	<i>Verrucaria baldensis</i>
<i>Catillaria chalybeia</i>	<i>Phaeophyscia</i>	<i>macrostoma</i>
<i>Cladonia chlorophaea</i>	<i>orbicularis</i>	<i>f. furfuracea</i>
<i>Diploicia canescens</i>	<i>Physcia adscendens</i>	<i>muralis</i>
<i>Lecania erysibe</i>	<i>caesia</i>	<i>viridula</i>
<i>Lecanora albescens</i>	<i>Physconia grisea</i>	
<i>campestris</i>	<i>Porpidia tuberculosa</i>	

40 taxa

Frank Dobson