



HERBARIUM NEWS 42

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Christmas and New Year Greetings

We send the Seasons' Greetings to all our readers and wish everybody the best for the forthcoming year. We are sorry that it is so long since the last issue was produced. Future contributions, notes and queries should be sent to the Herbarium Curator, Dr Stephen L. Jury, at The School of Plant Sciences, The University of Reading, Whiteknights, Reading, RG6 6AS; Tel. +44 (0)118 378 8169, Fax +44 (0)118 378 8160, s.l.jury@reading.ac.uk

Further changes in the School have been made with Dr Bob Froud-Williams taking over from Professor Nick Batty as Head of Research. The new Biocentre building works seem completed, except for some trouble-shooting and the installation of more equipment. Thank goodness we do not have to suffer so much noise and dust! Major works continue in the Lyle Tower which has now has all its asbestos removed and is now being stripped of old ducting and pipe-work. Most of the Tower will be given over to computing with the new University Super computer at the bottom and Computer Science at the top. Two floors are likely to be given over to biodiversity informatics and molecular systematics (including Zoology). A further refurbishment phase on the remaining parts of PSL is being mentioned, when the Lyle Tower work is completed. There are also likely to be some significant changes to the structure of all the schools making up Life Sciences at Reading. Discussions are ongoing and it is far too early to speculate about the outcomes.

Royce Longton retires

Royce retired at the end of September (Reading academics retire at the end of the academic year in which their 65th birthday falls). A party was held on 22nd October in the foyer of the School when Royce was presented with a decanter and glasses by Professor John Barnett on behalf of the University and a pair of binoculars incorporating a digital camera amongst other gifts by Dr Mike Dennett from the School to mark his 25 years with us. Royce is expected to be in Plant Sciences regularly to use the Bryophyte Herbarium and complete his work on the collections made on Mount Mulanje, Malawi and to undertake some teaching. He also hopes to be playing more golf and continuing his work as leader of West Berkshire Unitary Authority.

Royal Horticultural Society news

We are delighted to report that the Royal Horticultural Society has become an **Associated Institute of the University of Reading**.

We congratulate **Dr Simon Thornton-Wood** on his promotion to Assistant Director for Science and Learning.

Congratulations also to **Dr John David** of CABI Bioscience on becoming the new Head of the Wisley Botany Department. John takes up his appointment in the New Year. John was one of our MSc graduates in 1985 and obtained his Reading PhD in 1993. John was responsible for restarting the Botanical Collections Managers Group as a Linnean Society Specialist Group.

Congratulations are due to **Mike Grant** who is leaving Wisley for a new job in RHS publications at Peterborough. Mike was well-known at Reading as he undertook several joint research projects with Dr Alastair Culham and lectured on our MSc course. Mike is now the Deputy Editor of *The Plantsman*.

Mike's job of botanist at Wisley is now taken by **Dr Neil Lancaster** who graduated earlier this month with our MSc. Congratulations Neil! He will join James Armitage, another of our recent MSc graduates, in the herbarium there.

Nicola Beharrel has become the first student on our MSc course to receive the new **RHS Annual Fellowship**. Nicola will be undertaking her project on the horticulturally important genus *Caryopteris* (*Lamiaceae*).

Congratulations

Besides those above, we are pleased to congratulate **Ross Bayton** on his new job with John Grimshaw.

Congratulations to Richard Eden, who has just graduated with our MSc on obtaining a job in Edinburgh with the Scottish Executive Environment and Rural Affairs Department. Richard will be concerned with the identification of plant diseases and their hosts in Scotland.

BSBI Annual Exhibition Meeting

The Herbarium presented three posters at the Annual Exhibition Meeting of the Botanical Society of the British Isles at the Manchester Museum at the end of November. Although Stephen Jury was off on his travels and had to present his apologies, Clare Coleman (current MSc and BSBI Council member) was able to go.

- A Rum Affair in Reading: the Herbarium of the University of Reading contains vouchers for a number of Heslop-Harrison's dubious discoveries. (S.L. Jury & Clare Coleman)
- The Herbarium of Mrs Katharine Murray Lyle (1817—1915): The Herbarium contain an important collection of c. 2500 pteridophytes, including specimens from J.D. Hooker (from his Erebus and Terror voyage), A.R. Wallace (Borneo), as well as relations, influential friends and a number of important collectors of the day. (Noor Juna, S.L. Jury & R.W. Rutherford)
- A Major Weed Herbarium now in RNG: A display of some of the parasitic plants in the incorporated WRO collection. (S.L. Jury & R.W. Rutherford)

Top Class Management in the Centre for Plant Diversity & Systematics

We are very pleased to congratulate Mrs Sue Mott, our Senior Technician, on completing last September a supervisory management course accredited by the Institute for Leadership and Management.



Our photo shows Janet Cubey (left), Senior Botanist at Wisley, with Nicola Beharrel, our first RHS MSc Scholar in one of the Reading greenhouses.

Herbarium activities

New website

A new website for the Herbarium was planned by Messrs Jury and Rutherford and the computer work undertaken by Mr Tarik El Atechi and Mr Hassan Rankou. The site was launched by Professor Sir Ghillean T. Prance on 16th February at a reception in the Herbarium. This had a follow-up when British Satellite News came and made a three-minute news video for broadcast in the Middle East. The website allows the data of about 32,000 specimens held in BRAHMS, our Herbarium database, to be queried over the Internet, as well as the 976 Jill Smythies paintings to be viewed and queried (they had data on cards which is entered into BRAHMS). Also available for consultation are data on some of the individual collectors represented, plus surplus books for sale and exchange, and our *index seminum*. To save on costs, the Moroccan websites (Moroccanplants.net [English version] and Plantesdaumaroc.net [French version]) have been moved to the Herbarium site. They have both been running on our server for some time. The site has had 109,747 page views since the launch and now occurs linked in 82 other websites.

Bruno Ryves

We have been fortunate in that Bruno has been visiting us regularly in order to name and check the identifications of our *Poaceae* holdings. This has been invaluable and we are extremely grateful to Bruno. He reports that we have a good collection of *Hyparrhenia* and a new species for Mexico.

Cenk Durmuskahya

The herbarium hosted Cenk for one-months training during July. He was able to help with databasing some of our Turkish holdings.

WRO

We reported on the acquisition of this herbarium last year (the old Weed Research Station was at Oxford before moving to Long Ashton), after the closure of the Station. The collection data has been entered into BRAHMS by Mrs. Sue Rumsey and the rapid data entry files are presently being edited, and as each is completed, imported into the main database and displayed through our website. We can now report that the collection amounts to 7557 gatherings and is rich in tropical weeds with emphasis on *Poaceae*, *Cyperaceae* and

Orobanchaceae. There were also several hundred British gatherings by Ivens, a former WRO employee.

Progress on Ron Payne's grass herbarium

Ronnie continues to go through this collection, repairing and remounting some of the specimens before laying in. We are simply recording the numbers of specimens made by the most represented collectors and the geographical regions as to enter into BRAHMS at this stage would be beyond our resources.

Committee on Archives and Collections

Stephen Jury now meets each term with the curators of the other major University collections (The Museum of English Rural Life [<http://www.rdg.ac.uk/rhc/index.html>], The Ure Museum [which houses the largest collection of Greek ceramics in Britain: <http://www.rdg.ac.uk/Ure/index.php>], The Cole Museum of Zoology [<http://www.ams.rdg.ac.uk/zoology/colemuseum/>], Department of Typography collections [http://www.rdg.ac.uk/AcaDepts/lt/home.html?centres/ephemera_studies/index.html], The University of Reading Main Library and Archives [<http://www.library.rdg.ac.uk/home.html>], etc.). The group was set up after a recommendation by the Museums and Galleries report on collection in the Universities of Southern England and has proved invaluable in developing policies and support for the collections under Kate Arnold-Foster, our Head of Museums and Collections Services. It is chaired by Professor Michael Fulford of Archaeology.

Recent Acquisitions

Professor W. D. Hamilton Amazon

This is a collection of some 300 herbarium specimens from Amazonia, collected by the late W. D. Hamilton, Royal Society Professor in The Department of Zoology at Oxford and left unlabelled with notes on his death. The collection has been worked-up by Professor Sir Ghilleen T. Prance and presented to RNG with duplicates sent to Oxford and Kew. Ronnie Rutherford is busy mounting these at present. The plan is then to put the collection back in numerical collection order and enter into BRAHMS.

Natural History Museum/ The University of Reading Herbarium Expedition to Morocco

This was led by Dr Mark Carine of the NHM with his colleague Dr Fred Rumsey, Mr Ronald Rutherford of RNG and Mr Mohamed Ait Lafkih and driver Hassan of the Institut Agronomique et Vétérinaire Hassan II (IAV), Rabat. The U.K. party flew to Gibraltar and then took the ferry over to Tangier from Algeceiras for a rendezvous with the Moroccan party. This proved a time-consuming and awkward route, but gave considerable savings over direct flights to Tangier. The expedition concentrated on *Convolvulus* species for Mark's research, diatoms (very under recorded in Morocco), checking potential areas for *Hymenophyllum* and other pteridophytes, as well as making a general herbarium collection of some 300 numbers for the IAV, RAB (Institut Scientifique, Rabat), NMH and RNG herbaria.

Jenny Dodds

This small private herbarium was given to RNG by Royce Longton's neighbour and consists of mounted British flowering plants and packets of mosses. It is yet to be processed.

Fred Ambrose

Fred Ambrose made a significant collection of bryophytes and lichens, together with a few flowering plants and ferns from Buckinghamshire and surrounding counties. Fred regularly visited RNG to consult our Bryophyte holdings. He was known for producing a second-hand book catalogue of mainly cryptogamic books for sale at very reasonable prices. He also most kindly presented the Herbarium Library with his copy of R. Braithwaite's *The British Moss Flora* (3 vols, London: Reeve & Co.), a classic work and now very valuable. Stephen Jury visited Fred at home in Princes Risborough to receive these valuable gifts.

Serbia & Menorca

Stephen Jury made a collection of 100 on a visit to Menorca, for although RNG has collections from Mallorca, including those of Dr Elspeth Beckett, there are very few from

Menorca. He also was given permission to collect in the Tara Mountains of Serbia on the OPTIMA excursion and an export permit, so added another 100 gatherings to RNG. This is probably the first significant Serbian collection for our herbarium and includes a sample of *Picea omorika*, the Serbian Spruce.

Spain and Morocco

The Herbarium received 203 duplicates from Spain and Morocco as part of our ongoing exchange programme with the Real Jardín Botánico de Madrid.

The Algarve, Portugal

Although RNG has very splendid holdings of Spanish plant specimens, Portugal is very poorly represented. Thus it was especially pleasing to receive an Algarve collection from The University of Oxford made on their undergraduate field courses to the area with Caroline Pannell, David Mabberley and colleagues.

Liège

A further 104 specimens in continuation of our exchange programme were received from the University of Liège.

Bruno Ryves

Further small gifts of Poaceae were received from Bruno's travels in South Africa and elsewhere.

Eric Clement

Eric Clement continues to send specimens to RNG of new records and recent aliens finds in Britain and thus continues to maintain the Herbarium's strength and reputation in this area.

Welcome

We welcomed Dr Ben Warren to our Centre for Plant Diversity and School last August. Ben is working as part of the South African Big Genera Group (SABIG). This academic network is run from Reading and funded by the Leverhume Trust and includes both South African and European scientists. It aims to synthesise the phylogenetic information available for Cape plant clades to give some insights into the origins of the Cape flora.

We also welcome Mr Chris Yesson, employed on the BioDiversity World Project for the Phylogenetics Demonstrator. Chris is now also registered for a higher degree.

New PhD graduates

Peter Brewer PhD July 2004: Modelling the global distribution patterns of *Leguminosae* species in past, present and future climates.

Pete has been using bioclimatic modelling algorithms to model areas with suitable climates for a variety of Legume species. Previous research has concentrated on the application of bioclimatic modelling algorithms to restricted geographic regions. However, Peter has explored the problems associated with scaling these tools to a global perspective. In addition, Peter has been the first to use bioclimatic modelling tools in conjunction with palaeoclimate models to post-predict species distribution patterns back to the last glacial maximum. Peter is continuing this research in the BBSRC BiodiversityWorld project (www.bdworld.org) here at Reading where he is involved in developing a 'Problem Solving Environment' for biodiversity research.

George Gibbins PhD July 2004 for his thesis 'Transcript analysis in cereals'. George is our molecular biology research technician.

Felix Forest PhD July 2004 for his thesis 'Systematics of *Fabales* and *Polygalaceae*, with emphasis on *Muraltia* and the origins of the Cape flora. He was supervised by Professor Sir

Peter Crane and Dr Julie Hawkins and undertook the work at Kew. Felix is now Smuts Fellow in South Africa, a position jointly awarded by Kirstenbosch, NBG, Claremont and the University of Capetown, South Africa. Felix was examined by Dr Toby Pennington of the Royal Botanic Garden, Edinburgh.

Jovita Yesilyurt PhD December 2004: 'A Systematic Revision of the Genus *Doryopteris* J.Sm. (*Pteridaceae: Cheilantheae*)'. Jovita was supervised by Dr Mary Gibby at the NHM (before she left for Edinburgh!) and Dr Alastair Culham and undertook the work at The Natural History Museum, London.

Caroline Ford PhD December 2004: 'Investigations into the genetic and physiological basis of self-incompatibility in cocoa (*Theobroma cacao* L.). Caroline completed our MSc in 1996. Her external was Dr Peter Gibbs of St Andrews.

Rolando Barcenas has had his thesis on The Systematics of *Grusonia* F.W.Rchb. ex Britton & Rose (*Cactaceae: Opuntioideae*) accepted, subject to some minor corrections. Rolando was examined by Dr Reto Nyffeler, the Phanerogam Herbarium Curator of the Institute of Systematic Botany of the University of Zurich.

Esme Roads has had her thesis 'Reproductive strategies and population dynamics of two annual shuttle mosses' accepted, subject to some minor corrections. It was supervised by Dr Royce Longton and examined by Dr Heinjo J. During from Utrecht, The Netherlands. Like Rolando, this took place only a few days ago and to short a time to meet the Senate deadline for inclusion in the recent December graduation.

Nicola Toomey has submitted her thesis 'Changes in cycloidea-like genes during angiosperm floral evolution' and awaiting her viva.

Dylan de Silva has submitted his thesis 'Molecular phylogenetics of the genus *Echium*' and awaiting his viva.

Louise Cross, née Dyga has submitted her thesis '*Echium pininiana*: threat or threatened?' and also awaiting her viva.

Laura Kelly has submitted her PhD entitled 'Development of low copy nuclear gene regions for inferring pattern and process of evolution of flowering plants' and is awaiting her viva.

New students

Chris Yesson

Although working for BioDiversity World, Chris is registered for a PhD investigating plant diversity in Mediterranean climates.

Ahmad Abdul Fuad

Abdul is working with Dr Michael Keith-Lucas on the taxonomy of mangroves in Malaysia, from where he has recently arrived back in Reading after extensive field work. Abdul joins us from the Department of Biological Sciences, KUSTEM, Mengabang Telipot, Kuala, Tereggana, Malaysia.

Montfort Mwanyambo

Montfort started his PhD on 1st May to work on the phylogeny and taxonomy of *Plectranthus* (*Lamiaceae*) with Alan Paton at Kew. Montfort obtained his MSc here in 1992 and has returned from the National Herbarium and Botanic Gardens, Zomba, Malawi.

Angelica Bello Gutierrez

Angelica came from Bogotá, Columbia, to start a PhD last October on the floral development of the *Polygalaceae* and is jointly supervised by Dr Julie Hawkins and Dr Paula Rudall at Kew.

Obituaries

John Whiteman

We are very sad to report the death last September of MSc student, John Whiteman, just two weeks before submitting his project. John was awarded his MSc posthumously at the recent graduation. The congregation gave him a long dignified applause. After the ceremony, members of the School went to The Harris Garden with John's son and planted a *Magnolia wilsonii* in his memory.

John's family kindly gave the University his botanical books which have been placed in the University Main Library and MSc Laboratory collection. John had been Treasurer of the Saxifrage Society and had some runs of their *Magazine* which the Society said should be offered to interested students. I am pleased to report they were rapidly snapped up.

Robert (Bob) A. DeFillips (1939—2004)

Bob DeFillips died suddenly of heart disease last July. I knew him as one of the Research Assistants on *Flora Europaea* in Reading in the early 1970s. I remember his triumphal appearance in the Herbarium Prep Room for afternoon tea (those were the days!) announcing "Here's *Cyperus!*" as he threw down his completed *Flora Europaea* manuscript. I also remember another afternoon teatime when the plumber was trying to unblock the herbarium sink, Bob appeared from the next room in a white shirt covered in dark splashes to announce: "There's been some sort of explosion in our room...." Bob returned to Washington in 1974 to a distinguished career of 30 years in taxonomy and conservation at the Smithsonian. Their journal, *The Plant Press*, 7(4): 6 (Oct—Dec) contain a fuller obituary.

Past Meetings organised in Reading

Conference to facilitate and support the contribution of PlantNet members to the Global Strategy

This conference was attended by over 100 delegates and took place 7—8 January.

Molecular systematics short course

The usual spring molecular systematics short course, 23 March—5 April, was again full with 20 participants. It will be repeated again this year.

Legume workshop

This informal gathering took place 23rd September with Julie Hawkins in the chair. Current work on legumes was reviewed and presentations given, including by our Dawn Edwards: Systematics of the Genistoids with emphasis on the South African genus *Aspalathus* and Peter Brewer: Biodiversity World – legume demonstrator projects.

Making databases interoperable

13—16 July, an advanced workshop sponsored by the EU ENBI (European Network of Biodiversity Information) Programme and GBIF (Global Biodiversity Information Facility).

Carnivorous Plant Society Meeting

The 18th September saw the Carnivorous Plant Society here again for a lecture on *Nepenthes* by Robert Cantley, proprietor of Borneo Exotics and now living in Sri Lanka.

Fern Meeting

A one-day symposium for students and visitors was held on Saturday 20th November on Reproduction in Ferns. The meeting was sponsored by the British Pteridological Society who provided the lecturers and demonstrations. Dr Fred Rumsey and Dr Johannes Vogel of the Natural History Museum both gave presentations.

Reading systematists around and about

Dr Stephen Jury presented a joint paper with his colleague Mr Tarik El Atechi and Mr Abdoun Otman at the PlantNet meeting held in the School of Plant Sciences on a collaborative project to set up a botanic garden in Morocco, 7—8 Jan. Professor Heywood and Dr Alastair Culham also gave presentations.

Dr Stephen Jury gave a joint paper (with Dr Fred Rumsey) at a COST meeting on parasitic plants in Córdoba, Spain, 18—22 Feb: 'A new system for *Orobanche* taxonomy in Europe'.

Dr Stephen Jury and Mr Ronald Rutherford help Dr Jim Ross run the annual part III field course to SE Spain, 18 March—3 April.

At the 2nd World Botanic Gardens Congress held in Barcelona 19–23 April, Professor Heywood co-chaired a session on 'The botanic garden as a cultural and scientific heritage' and presented a paper on 'The changing cultural and scientific heritage of botanic gardens'. Dr Etelka Leadley, a former MSc and PhD graduate of the School arranged a dinner for other Reading graduates at the Congress, most of them students of Professor Heywood, including: Professor Sir Peter Crane (Kew, UK), Professor and Dr Al Eisawi (Jordan), Dr David Bramwell (Las Palmas, Spain), Dr James Cullen (Cambridge, UK), Dr Mike Maunder (Florida, USA), Dr Wendy Strahm (Gland, Switzerland), Dr Tim Upson (Cambridge) and Professor Benito Valdés (Spain).

Dr Stephen Jury attended as an advisor the Plant Genetics Research Forum (an EU-funded network) in Mahon, Menorca, 19—26 April.

On 5 May, on the occasion of the bicentenary of the death of the leading Spanish botanist Antonio José Cavanilles Professor Heywood gave an invited lecture 'La botànica europea en temps de Cavanilles' (European botany in the times of Cavanilles) as part of a series on the Legacy of Cavanilles at the University of Valencia Botanic Garden.

In May, Professor Heywood was one of the organizers of a scoping workshop by the DIVERSITAS programme on biodiversity science on 'Biodiversity conservation during agricultural transitions towards sustainability' held at the Library of Alexandria, Egypt and subsequently at the North Sinai Desert Station for Research and Extension at El Arish followed by an excursion to St Catherine's Protectorate to see the work being undertaken by the GEF project on Conservation and Sustainable Use of Medicinal Plants used by the Bedouin who live in area.

On 5 June, Professor Heywood gave an invited lecture on 'The Biodiversity crisis and global change' at a symposium held in Berlin on the occasion of the Centenary of the Botanic Garden of the University.

Dr Julie Hawkins and Dawn Edwards attended a meeting in at the Institute of Systematic Botany, University of Zurich, 3—5 July on 'Recent floristic radiations in the Cape flora'. Julie chaired a workshop on Cape flora phylogenetics and Dawn gave a paper on the legume genus *Aspalathus*.

All Hands Meeting - Nottingham - 31stAug - 3rd Sept 2004

Attended by Peter Brewer, Chris Yesson, Neil Caithness, Frank Bisby, Alastair Culham

Paper presented: Building a biodiversity problem-solving environment

Authors: Richard White, Andrew Jones, Nick Pittas, Alex Gray, Xuebiao Xu, Tim Sutton, Oliver Bromley, Neil Caithness, Nick Fiddian, Alastair Culham, Frank Bisby, Shonil Bhagwat, Peter Brewer, Chris Yesson, Paul Williams.

<http://www.allhands.org.uk/2004/proceedings/papers/255.pdf>

Professor Vernon Heywood and Dr Stephen Jury attended the OPTIMA meeting in Belgrade, 3—17 September and afterwards SJ attended the field excursions. Both gave presentations.

Professor Vernon Heywood gave an invited Master Lesson on 'Conserving species *in situ* – a review of the issues' at the IV Planta Europa European Conference on the Conservation of Wild Plants held in Valencia, Spain, September 17–19. On 19 September at a special ceremony to celebrate the anniversary of the opening for signature of the Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats (Bern Convention), he was awarded a hemiglobe with the logo of the Convention for his contributions to the work of the treaty, especially his chairmanship of the Plants Committee. He was also one of the recipients of the special award of the Botanic Garden of the University – a three-dimensional representation in metal of the Garden's logo – for his services to Spanish botany and support of the work of the Garden.

Dr Julie Hawkins and Dr Ben Warren visited South Africa for a meeting of the SABIG network.

Dr Stephen Jury gave the opening plenary lecture at the First Croatian Botanical Congress 30 Sep–3 Oct, in Zagreb: "The Euro+Med PlantBase Project: Past and Future".

TDWG 2004 - Christchurch, NZ 11-17Oct 2004 (Peter Brewer, Tim Sutton, Neil Caithness)

- Paper presented: Problems and solutions to modelling species distributions at a global scale: the importance of taxonomic and specimen databases (Peter Brewer and Frank Bisby).
- Paper presented: BDWorld: A grid-based workflow manager for high-throughput distributed computing in biodiversity research. (Neil Caithness, Shonil Bhagwat, Peter Brewer, Oliver Bromley, Frank A. Bisby, Alastair Culham, Nick J. Fiddian, W. Alex Gray, Andrew C. Jones, Malcolm Scoble, Tim Sutton, Richard J. White, Paul Williams, Xuebiao Xu, and Chris Yesson).
- Paper presented: openModeller - An open, collaborative environmental niche modelling toolkit (Tim Sutton, Mauro Muñoz, Ricardo Pereira Scachetti, Peter Brewer, Renato De Giovanni, Neil Caithness).

Dr Stephen visited the EU Commission inn Brussels, 28 Nov–3 Dec.

Some Recent grants

Julie Hawkins

- £500 from the Mesembryanthemum Study Group for further *Carpobrotus* research. This follows on from work undertaken by Paul Simmonds, a recent graduate.
- £107,000 from the Leverhume Trust for the SABIG Network (see above).

RHS Annual Scholarship to Nicola £5000.

Frank Bisby

- £15020 from The Royal Society for Legumes of China: International Legume Database and Information System.
- £11,000 from BBSRC for International Scientific Exchange Scheme: Towards a Working List of Known Plant Species: Coverage, Gaps and Metadata. (Workshop travel and subsistence for invitees.)

Books

VHH Festschrift

This book with a collection of papers is a tribute to Professor Vernon Heywood and is now with Cambridge University Press. It was edited by Etelka Leadlay and Stephen Jury. It is expected to be out at the International Botanical Congress in Vienna next year. Vernon has done so much, but has never had a festschrift. With contributions from taxonomists and also the users of taxonomy, the volume provides a balanced treatment, suitable for advanced students, researchers and conservation professionals. We hope this book highlights the important role of scholarship, training and collaboration for plant conservation that he has been so good at.

Umbellifers of Great Britain and Ireland

This book is a second edition of T.G. Tutin's earlier work, and will be published by the Botanical Society of the British Isles in their series of handbooks next year. Mervyn Southam,

Sabina Knees and Stephen Jury are working with Philip Oswald, the series editor, on the final editorial work for publication next year.

Recent publications

Bakker, F.T., Culham, A., Hettiarachi, P., Touloumenidou, T. and Gibby, M. Phylogeny of *Pelargonium* (Geraniaceae) based on DNA sequences from three genomes. *Taxon*, 53(1), 17-28.

Bisby, F.A., Froese, R., Ruggiero, M.A. and Wilson, K.L. eds. *Species2000 & ITIS Catalogue of Life, Annual Checklist 2004: Indexing the world's known species*. CD-ROM, Species2000: Los Baños, Philippines.

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[This was kindly presented by Dr Tim Upson who undertook much of this work for his PhD at Reading.]

Horn, R. et al., 1986. *Porophyllum Saxifragae*. Byam Grounds: Stamford.
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[Presented by Professor Sir Ghilleen Prance along with numerous systematic botany reprints]

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Kurtto, A., Lampinen, R. & Junikka, L., 2004. *Atlas Florae Europaeae, 13: Rosaceae (Spiraea to Frageria, excl. Rubus)*. Helsinki.
[Presented by Professor Pertti Uotila and the Atlas Florae Europaeae team]

Species 2000

Species 2000 on behalf of the Catalogue of Life partners has issued a new annual CD for 2004, the fourth, containing the names of 308,000 species of plants, animals, fungi, bacteria and viruses. Each year the total increases dramatically. The citation is given under Bisby *et al.* in the publications above. For a free copy, write to Species2000 Secretariat at the Reading address in the first paragraph on page one or email Species2000@species2000.org

Euro+Med PlantBase

Sadly, the funding in Reading on this project has now ended and Mr Tarik El Atechi has left after over three years of work. He has been an invaluable assistant and was able to advise and undertake a great array of computer-related projects. Happily, Professor Werner Greuter in Berlin has been able to put together some small sums of monies and continue the Euro+Med work there. We look forward to further developments in the near future. Meanwhile, all participants are investigating ways in which further monies can be obtained and the project continued. At present, very substantial work is being done on the Asteraceae, so watch this space, as they say!