

Editorial

The International congresses of Myriapodology provide opportunities for reflection as well as stimulation. A week to take time out from everyday activities and think solely (or almost solely!) about millipedes and centipedes in the company of like-minded people. The week in Serbia in July was no exception. We need these times of stimulation in order to give our work impetus, perhaps especially those of us for whom our work is carried out by ourselves rather than within an institution and for whom this is essentially a hobby. The BMIG annual field meetings provide similar stimulation and from a personal perspective I value them enormously, returning invigorated and refreshed (and often tired too!). At both meetings this year it was heartening to see so many new and younger faces. There are lively research groups working on aspects of Myriapodology from Serbia to Colombia and Georgia (USA). In the UK we have been fortunate in the last few years to have increased interest in the field meetings and the attendance has increased relative to pre 2020. It does seem that what we have in the UK is unique, an organisation that meets regularly, maintains an excellent website and social media feeds and involves a mix of professional and amateur myriapodologists/isopodologists. Perhaps seeing it from the outside is important in valuing the community that we have here.

The BMIG field meetings have benefitted in recent years from input from, and participation in, the Darwin Tree of Life Project with staff attending the meetings to give regular updates. Providing specimens for their genomes to be catalogued has added additional impetus for collecting and recording. In the current time in the UK however, there are very few people employed to work on Myriapods or Isopods and it is difficult to see how this situation might change. On a more positive note, in recent years we have been fortunately in recruiting a new Isopod recording scheme organiser in Thomas Hughes, a new Conservation Officer in Annie Northfield and we welcome Jessica Thomas-Thorpe as our new Project Officer (a post filled for the first time). Annie and Tom started our juices flowing with a presentation about a suggested conservation project concerning the subspecies of *Oniscus asellus* at the field meeting and we look forward to working on some conservation and other projects in due course. Do come and join us at the annual field meeting or get involved with BMIG in other ways.

As in previous years this Bulletin continues to document new species being found with an additional woodlouse to the list, *Chaetophiloscia elongata*. The slow march (or should it be a quick scurry) across the country of *Scutigera coleoptrata* is also documented and it seems this species has become established out of doors now – definitely a species to look out for. Tony has continued his review of the work of British Myriapodologists from earlier years, this time focussing on Reginald Pocock. We also include an article about synanthropy, a topic Tony has been interested in for many years and here he presents a method for using information from the recording schemes to categorise the degree of synanthropy in British species.