

**BRITISH MYRIAPOD
GROUP, NEWSLETTER No. 16
March 1992 Editor: Dick Jones**

A TOUCH OF THE BLARNEY

Well, are you all set for a weekend in Gloucester? To tell you the truth I do not know what we will find, the millipedes are thin on the ground and the centipedes also. I will not stick my neck out this time, no, I'm not sulking, I just don't know what to expect.

Jon Daws brought back a number of tubes from the Shetland Islands and found at least four new species for the islands, *Boreoiulus tenuis*, *Nanogona polydesmoides*, *Polydesmus denticulatus* and *P. inconstans*. *Archiboreoiulus pallidus* probably occurs as well. There are plenty of islands around our coast to look at yet so keep looking.

P. Lee has found *Lithobius lapidicola* at Halvergate in Suffolk and I suspect it must also be in Norfolk as well.

Just before Christmas D. Doogue, C. P. Fairhurst, P. T. Harding and R. E. Jones finally laid the tricky problem of Irish millipedes to rest (?). Spurred on by Paul (who did most of the work) we were able to provide a Poster for the conference of the Irish Biogeographical Society called the Biogeography of Ireland: Past, Present and Future, which showed the current state of play for Irish millipedes. There are some surprises, *Cylindroiulus parisorum* and *Stygioglomeris crinita* for example, both new to Ireland, and what about the reference, Irwin A. G. (in press) *Metatriconiscoides* sp. (ISOPODA: TRICHONISCIDAE), *Epipsocus lucifugus* (PSOCOPTERA: EPIPSOCIDAE) and *Leptoiulus belgicus* (DIPLOPODA: JULIIDAE) New to Ireland and Confirmation of *Rhyncodemus sylvaticus* (TRICLADIDA: RHYNCHODEMIDAE) as an Irish Species. *Ir. Nat. J.*! I wish I hadn't started this.

The paper, entitled "A Review of Irish Millipedes (Diplopoda)", will be published in the I. B. S. journal and edited by M. J. Costello. In the meantime see the Irish Vice-county distribution below. I'll also put a map of Ireland in to show how much, or rather how little of it is covered. There is the north of Ireland for a start. Now how about a nice, quiet holiday!

I have just finished three boxes of East Anglian millipedes and a few centipedes for English Nature. There were hundreds and hundreds of *Polydesmus denticulatus* but the best things were *Craspedosoma rawlinsii* and a few *Lamyctes fulvicornis*.

The vice-counties below contain the definitive Irish records at present. We await the republication of the Peterson records by Colin (soon?) which will no doubt add some more to the list.

IRELAND

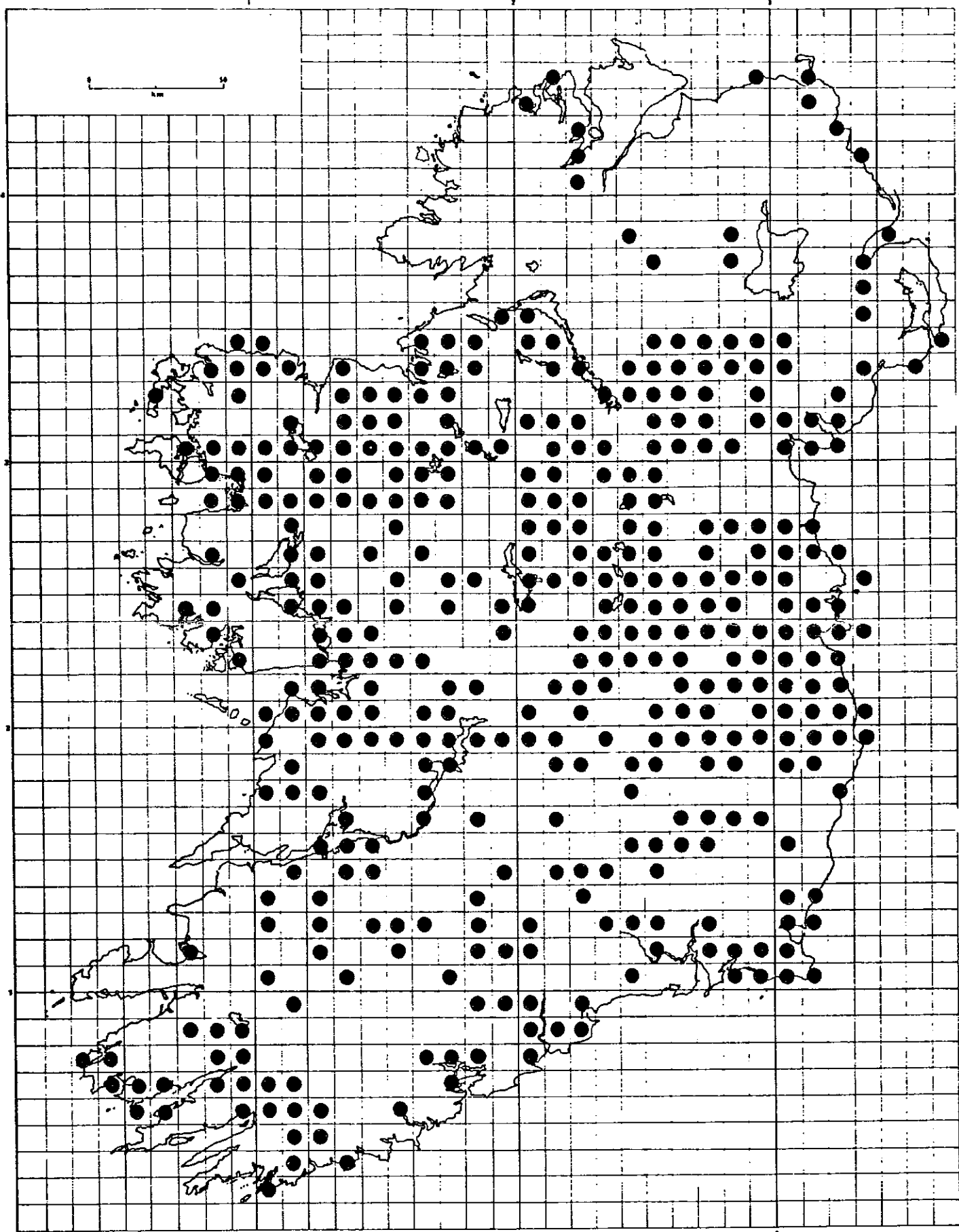
Species	Vice-county									Vice-county									
	H0									H1									
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
<i>Adenomeris gibbosa</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Archaeoboreoiulus pallidus</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	■
<i>Baniulus guttulatus</i>	-	■	■	-	-	-	-	-	■	-	■	■	■	■	-	■	■	■	■
<i>Boreoiulus tenuis</i>	-	■	■	-	-	-	-	■	-	-	■	■	-	-	■	-	■	■	■
<i>Brachychaeteuma bagnalli</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Brachychaeteuma melanops</i>	-	-	■	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Brachydesmus superus</i>	■	■	■	■	■	-	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	-	-	-	-	-	■
<i>Brachyiulus pusillus</i>	-	-	-	-	■	-	■	■	■	-	■	-	-	■	■	-	■	■	■
<i>Choneiulus palmatus</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	■
<i>Chordeuma proximum</i>	■	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Craspedosoma rawlinsii</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Cylindroiulus britannicus</i>	-	■	-	-	-	■	■	-	■	■	■	-	-	■	■	-	■	■	■
<i>Cylindroiulus caeruleocinctus</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Cylindroiulus latestriatus</i>	■	■	■	-	■	■	-	■	■	■	■	■	-	-	■	■	■	■	■
<i>Cylindroiulus londonensis</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Cylindroiulus parisiorum</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Cylindroiulus punctatus</i>	■	■	■	■	■	-	■	■	■	■	■	■	-	■	■	■	■	■	■
<i>Cylindroiulus vulnerarius</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Glomeris marginata</i>	■	■	■	■	-	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
<i>Julus scandinavicus</i>	■	-	■	-	-	■	-	-	■	-	■	■	-	-	■	-	-	-	-
<i>Leptoiulus belgicus</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Macrosternodesmus palicola</i>	■	■	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	■	-	-	-	-	-	-	■	-
<i>Melogona gallica</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Melogona scutellare</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	■	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Nanogona polydesmoides</i>	-	■	■	■	-	-	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
<i>Nemasoma varicorne</i>	-	■	-	-	-	-	-	■	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	■
<i>Ommatoiulus sabulosus</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	■	-	■	■	■	■	-	-	-	-	■	■
<i>Ophiodesmus albonanus</i>	-	■	■	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Ophiulus pilosus</i>	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	-	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
* <i>Oxidus gracilis</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Polydesmus angustus</i>	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	-	■	-	-	■	■
<i>Polydesmus denticulatus</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	■
<i>Polydesmus gallicus</i>	■	-	■	■	■	■	■	■	-	■	■	■	■	■	■	-	■	■	■
<i>Polydesmus inconstans</i>	■	-	■	-	-	-	-	-	■	-	-	■	-	-	■	-	-	-	■
<i>Polyxenus lagurus</i>	-	■	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Proteroiulus fuscus</i>	■	■	■	-	-	-	■	■	■	■	■	■	-	■	-	■	■	■	■
<i>Stosatea italica</i>	-	-	-	-	■	■	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Stygioglomeris crinata</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	■	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Tachypodoiulus niger</i>	-	■	-	-	-	-	■	■	■	■	■	■	-	■	■	■	■	■	■

	H2									H3									H4			
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	
<i>Adenomeris gibbosa</i>	-	■	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Archaeoboreoiulus pallidus</i>	-	■	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	■	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Blaniulus guttulatus</i>	-	■	■	■	■	-	-	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	-	-	■	■	■	-	-
<i>Boreoiulus tenuis</i>	■	■	■	■	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Brachychaeteuma bagnalli</i>	-	■	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Brachychaeteuma melanops</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Brachydesmus superus</i>	-	-	-	■	-	■	■	■	■	■	-	-	■	-	■	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Brachyiulus pusillus</i>	■	■	■	■	■	-	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Choneiulus palmatus</i>	■	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Chordeuma proximum</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Craspedosoma rawlinsii</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	■	-	■	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Cylindroiulus britannicus</i>	■	■	■	■	■	-	-	■	■	■	■	-	-	■	■	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Cylindroiulus caeruleocinctus</i>	-	■	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Cylindroiulus latestriatus</i>	-	■	■	-	-	-	-	■	■	■	-	-	■	■	-	■	-	-	■	■	-	-
<i>Cylindroiulus londinensis</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	■	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Cylindroiulus parisiorum</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	■	-
<i>Cylindroiulus punctatus</i>	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	-	■	-	■	■	■	■	■
<i>Cylindroiulus vulnerarius</i>	-	■	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Glomeris marginata</i>	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	-	■	■	-	■	■	■	■
<i>Julus scandinavicus</i>	■	-	■	■	■	■	-	■	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	■	-	-	■	■	■	■
<i>Leptoiulus belgicus</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	■	-	-
<i>Macrosternodesmus palicola</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Melogona gallica</i>	■	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Melogona scutellare</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	■	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Nanogona polydesmoides</i>	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
<i>Nemasoma varicorne</i>	-	-	■	■	-	-	-	■	-	-	-	-	■	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Ommatoiulus sabulosus</i>	■	-	-	■	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	■	-	-	-	■	-	-	-
<i>Ophiodesmus albonanus</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Ophiulus pilosus</i>	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
* <i>Oxidus gracilis</i>	-	■	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	■	-	-
<i>Polydesmus angustus</i>	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
<i>Polydesmus denticulatus</i>	■	-	-	-	-	-	■	■	■	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	■	-	-
<i>Polydesmus gallicus</i>	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
<i>Polydesmus inconstans</i>	■	■	■	■	-	■	-	■	-	-	-	-	■	■	■	-	■	-	-	■	■	-
<i>Polyxenus lagurus</i>	-	■	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	■	-	-
<i>Proteroiulus fuscus</i>	■	■	-	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
<i>Stosatea italica</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Stygioglomeris crinata</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Tachypodoiulus niger</i>	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■

VICE-COUNTY DISTRIBUTION: MILLIPEDES

Species	Vice-counties	Finders
<i>Boreoiulus tenuis</i>	112	J. Daws
<i>Cylindroiulus nitidus</i>	72	G. B. Corbet
<i>Nanogona polydesmoides</i>	112	J. Daws
<i>Polydesmus denticulatus</i>	112	J. Daws
<i>Polydesmus inconstans</i>	112	J. Daws

Please update lists given in PRELIMINARY ATLAS 1988 and see also the list in this Newsletter.



RECENT NOTES FROM THE PALM HOUSE AT KEW GARDENS

In December 1991 Zoltan Korsos from Budapest, Hungary came to visit me for a couple of weeks. Apart from doing some work on the *Cylindroiulus horvati* group of millipedes we also made a visit to Kew Gardens to see what we could find. Unfortunately we were on our way to the British Museum at the time and could only afford half an hour which we spent in the Palm House. Even in such a short time we found quite a few millipedes. The species list consisted of *Cylindroiulus truncorum*, *Proteroiulus fuscus* (including mature ♂♂), *Oxidus gracilis* and *Prosopodesmus panporus*. This last species was described by Blower & Rundle in 1980 and is only known from hot houses at Kew. It is reassuring to find this species flourishing in the Palm House despite it being cleared out for rebuilding after the storms in 1987. (The isopodologists may be interested to know that we also found *Reductoniscus costulatus*).

Helen Read

BMG MEETING IN HUNGARY?

Helen Read writes that Zoltan Korsos has invited the BMG to have a field meeting in Hungary. A few years ago he started a mapping scheme for the country and would appreciate some help in exchange for helping us to see a little bit of the country and some different animals. Having spent two weeks there last September I can thoroughly recommend it. Even just in three days' collecting we found a wide variety of species, mostly new to me, including *Polydesmus collaris* which is large and spectacularly coloured, *Trachysphera noduligera*, *Cylindroiulus boleti* and plenty of *Unciger foetidus*. Opportunities exist for seeing a large number of (to us) unusual species and help to provide some information.

A provisional programme might be to spend 10 days in the country based in two localities with intermediate nights in Budapest. Orfu is to the southwest where there are several lakes and a cave famed for its rare millipedes, some so rare that we were unable to find them last year, and some lovely woodlands. From here we would travel across the Hungarian Plain (stopping for a night) to the mountains of the northeast and stay at Aggtelek. There is another interesting cave here which has a very long passage with stalactites which extends underground into Czechoslovakia. This area should be very interesting for myriapods.

It is estimated that costs may be in the order of £10 per day each for accommodation and food plus travel costs to Hungary and travel in the country when we arrive. Flights to Budapest are approximately £250 (1992 prices) and it is possible to hire a minibus there for between £60 and £133 per person plus petrol (depending on how many people go). Alternatively it may be cheaper to fly to Vienna and hire a minibus which is only 150 miles from Budapest. This method would leave us flexible to visit places within reach of our accommodation. A different method may be to arrange for a Hungarian tour company to put together an itinerary for us including transport in the country and meals etc. I have provisional details which include notes about the other sites in each of the areas.

The autumn is probably the best time of the year to visit from the myriapod point of view. No definite time or year has been arranged so far, this will depend upon who is interested. We will try to be democratic about the dates!! I have more details including a Hungarian species list, maps and the provisional programmes which are available on request.

Would anyone who is interested please contact me, Helen Read, preferably before or at the field meeting in April. I am not asking you to commit yourselves to anything but I need to establish if this is a viable project or not. Any comments or ideas will also be welcome.

A WEEKEND IN THE PEAK DISTRICT

During the weekend of Nov. 29 - Dec. 1 Derek Whiteley and I ran a field course at Youlgreave Youth Hostel in Derbyshire entitled "Nice legs, shame about the face". The aim was to offer an introduction to ground invertebrates. We covered millipedes, centipedes, woodlice, pseudoscorpions, harvestmen and anything else that we were presented with! We were amazingly lucky with the millipedes, turning up 17 species in two days including: *Brachychaeteuma bagnalli* ♂ & ♀, *Macrosternodesmus palicola*, *Melogona scutellare* and even two specimens of *Stygioglomeris crinita*! All this and only one tiny *Tachypodoiulus niger*!!

We are running another course from 3 - 5 April 1992 (Approximateley £42 for all accommodation, food and tuition). If anyone is interested, contact the Youth Hostel direct, (you don't have to be a member), or Derek and I at Sheffield Museum (0742 768588). The tuition might be a bit basic for most of you but it's a good opportunity to see the Peak District (and do some recording for me!)
Paul Richards

BULLETIN OF THE BRITISH MYRIAPOD GROUP

Volume 8 looks as though it will be published fairly soon, you might even get it before this.

ADDRESSES OF CONTRIBUTORS

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NEXT BMG NEWSLETTER

Material for inclusion in the next Newsletter should reach R.E.Jones by the end of July. I will be away for most of September so I want to get it completed before I go away. Material should preferably be typed but floppy discs using Locoscript 1 or 2 for Amstrad 8000 series PCWs are especially acceptable as they save me extra typing.