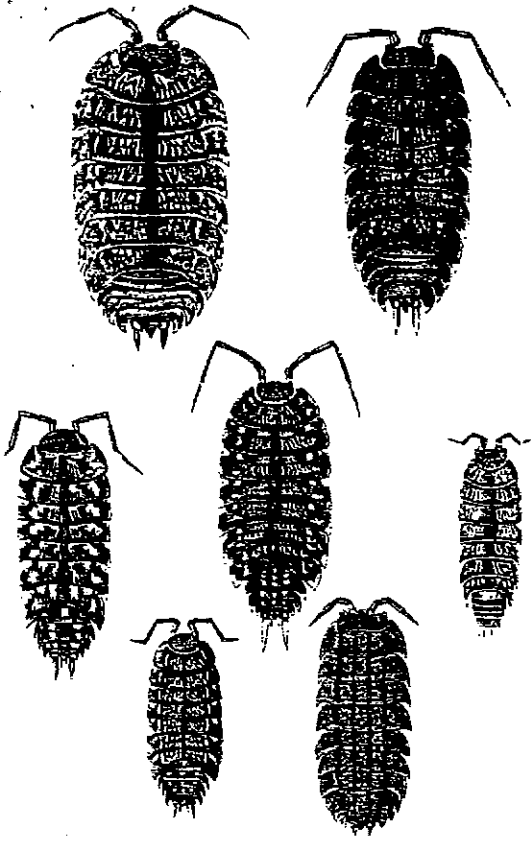


## BRITISH ISOPOD STUDY GROUP

Newsletter 34 Oct. 1992

Edited by David Bilton



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This newsletter is rather brief, going out chiefly to inform you of next year's BISG meeting, and a change in my address, as from January. Nothing much in the way of new records has arrived over the summer, but many thanks to those who sent them in, despite postage rates to Sweden! Jon Daws has turned up red-eyed Trichoniscoides in Cambridgeshire, and another Leicestershire site, but unfortunately all specimens taken were females so cannot be positively identified. One thing is for sure though—T. helveticus/sarsi do seem to be present in quite a few places in southern England, the infrequency with which they are recorded having more to do with their small size and elusive habits than genuine rarity. I made a short excursion to Ireland in September, and took 17 species in Waterford, including Porcellio dilatatus which was found dead in a well, Oritoniscus flavus and Miktoniscus patiencei. The Miktoniscus were discovered below stones in the garden of the cottage I was staying in, easily a quarter of a mile from the sea. All the Oniscus asellus taken in the area belonged to the new subspecies, whose previous absence from Ireland was very difficult to explain. Obviously the "sunny south-east" as the tourist brochure describes it is more to its liking than the west coast! The paper describing this form is finally in press and should appear next year. The new subspecies has been named occidentalis in view of its western European distribution.

Please remember that I intend to produce updated maps for all species in 1993. If you have any outstanding records, particularly of the rarer species, please send them to one of the addresses at the end of this newsletter.

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### News from North America

Isopod Symposium, Vancouver, Canada 27th December 1992

Professor M.A. Alikhan (Dept. of Biology, Laurentian University, Sudbury, Ontario P3E 2C6, Canada Tel: (705) 675-1151, ext. 2277, Telefax: (705) 673-6532) is organizing a one-day symposium as part of the Annual Meeting of the American Society of Zoologists at Vancouver. The isopod symposium is sponsored by the Crustacean Society, and has the theme "The evolution of structural and eco-physiological adaptation of isopods to life on land." There are four sections: Morphology and evolution, behaviour and ecology, structure and physiology and ecology and films. Delegates presenting the 13 papers and one film are from Germany, Hungary, Israel, Tunisia, Morocco, Canada and the USA.

Anyone wishing to attend should contact Professor Alikhan as soon as possible.

Isopod Newsletter 19 (September 1992)

Brian Kensley (Dept. of Invertebrate Zoology, NHB-163, Smithsonian Institution, Washington D.C., 20560 USA) is compiling a computerized list of the families, genera and species of isopods of the world. Each taxon has its author and date, and for each species the list will include the type locality and the original generic designation. An associated bibliography is also being compiled. Brian is seeking help with coverage of the Oniscidea. Anyone wishing to provide some input into this ambitious cooperative project should contact Brian at the above address.

### Smithsonian Institution Fellowships in Residence

The Smithsonian is offering four types of fellowship for 1993/4 to support research in residence at the institution, in association with the staff, using the institution's resources. Fellowships vary in length and stipend according to qualifications and experience, and are available for a variety of topic areas in biological sciences.

For more information and application forms write or call:  
Office of Fellowships and Grants, Smithsonian Institution, Desk P, 955 L'Enfant Plaza, Suite 7000, Washington D.C., 20560 USA. Tel. (202) 287-3271.

Paul Harding

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## BISG/BMG Meeting 1993

(22-25 April)

The meeting next year will be based at Stafford House, Hassocks, Sussex, from 22-25 of April. The house is set in its own grounds, along with the local library and a large car park. Hassocks is a small town 10km due north of Brighton, so we will be centrally based with easy access to the whole of Sussex and - judging by last year's excursions - beyond!

The full-board accomodation will be in single rooms, each containing a wash-basin. There are also two double bedsit rooms available for anyone who needs them. There are adequate showers etc. at the end of each corridor. Unfortunately no towels will be provided - not even hand towels - so bring your own! **Smoking is prohibited in bedrooms** (Too bad!- Ed.) We will also have two rooms set aside for our own use, one of which can be locked up when we are not using it.

The meals will consist of a full English breakfast at 0800hrs, a three-course dinner at 1830hrs, with a pack-up for lunch. Vegetarians and anyone with a special diet can be catered for if you let me know of your requirements in advance. There will be tea and coffee making facilities available at all times from either of the small kitchens.

There is a small bar which will be open before dinner and can be opened for an hour or two afterwards if there is a demand (I'm sure there will be!-Ed.). It sells spirits and wine by the glass, but beer and lagers are in cans. Anyone wishing to bring their own alcohol may do so.....but don't forget the glasses this year! There are also a couple of pubs within easy walking distance. The cost of full board is £ 34.37 each per day. All prices are inclusive of VAT. If you only want to stay part of the three days, then the following prices apply:

Bed and Breakfast	- £ 21.00
Packed Lunch	- £ 4.00
Dinner	- £ 11.00

At present I have provisionally booked 17 places, so it will be appreciated if people return the booking form with a non-returnable deposit of £ 30.00 as soon as possible, so more accomodation can be booked if necessary.

**NOW COMPLETE THE ENCL. BOOKING FORM!!**

Jon Daws

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### Addresses

As I will almost certainly be in Spain for the period Jan-June 1993, and do not yet have an address, during that period it is best that **all correspondence** is sent to me **C/O Paul Harding @ BRC**. Until the end of the year my address is still the one given below.

**Record cards, newsletter articles, specimens etc. to:**

**(Until Dec. 1992 ONLY)**

Dr. D.T. Bilton,  
Department of Genetics,  
Uppsala University,  
Box 7003,  
S-750 07 UPPSALA,  
SWEDEN.  
Fax. +46-18 67 27 05

**Blank cards, and correspondence Jan-June 1993:**

Biological Records Centre,  
Monks Wood Experimental Station,  
Abbots Ripton,  
Huntingdon,  
Cambridgeshire PE17 2LS.  
Tel. (04873) 381  
Fax. (04873) 467

**BISG Meeting 1993 - Booking and enquiries:**

Jon Daws,  
19 The Portway,  
LEICESTER LE5 0PT.  
Tel (Day) (0533) 473031, (Evening) (0533) 701756.