

REPORT ON THE FIELD WEEK

AT JUNIPER HALL FIELD CENTRE - AUGUST 1968

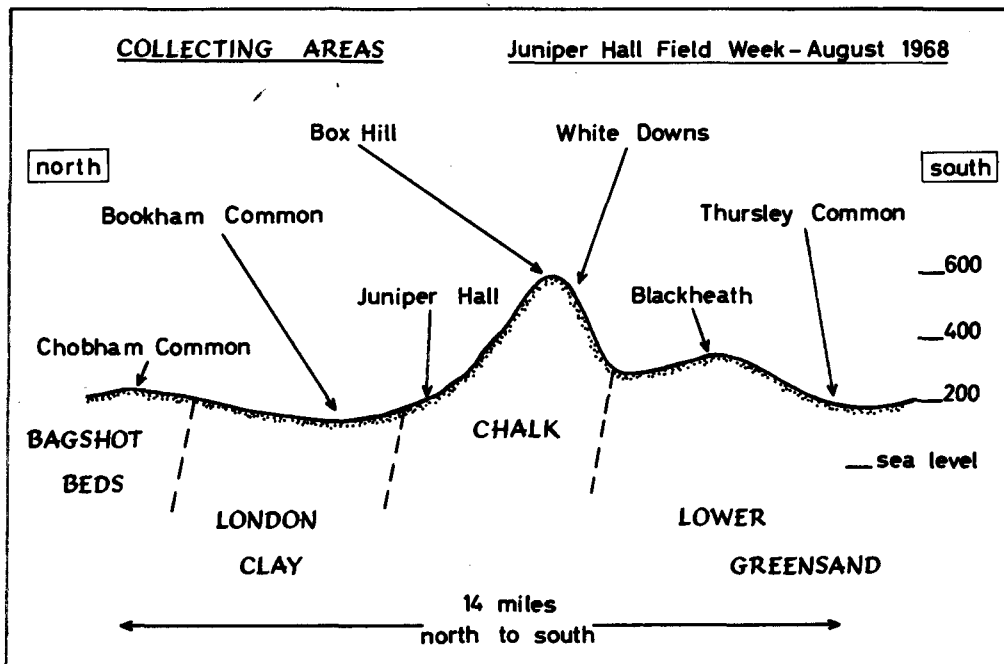
by D.R.NELLIST.

Certainly Juniper Hall is an ideal venue for a field week. Standing between Dorking and Leatherhead, where the line of the North Downs is broken by the river Mole, it is admirably sited at the edge of country which offers a rich variety of scenery and habitats. From this Field Centre one has easy access to the Surrey commons, where many of the larger rare spiders are to be seen - an exciting prospect for the visitor from the north - and also to Box Hill where a high proportion of the species on the British List have been found. Juniper Hall itself was bought by the National Trust in 1945 and since that time has been converted to accommodate some fifty students. A new laboratory was opened in 1966 and houses an excellent library on all aspects of natural history.

Twelve members of the Society assembled there in August under the leadership of Mr. David Mackie and found the countryside, accommodation and - surprisingly after a dismal summer - even the weather perfect for their activities. The party included Mr. Rod Allison, Mr. John Gray, Mr. and Mrs. Crocker, Mr. and Mrs. Mackie, Mr. and Mrs. Murphy, Miss Barbara Rouse, Mr. Clifford Smith, Mr. Philip Swann and myself. In addition we were pleased to welcome the several visitors who were present for short periods during the week; Mrs. P. Allison, Dr. W. Bristowe, Mr. Andy Callow, Dr. John Cooke, Mr. G.H. Locket and Mr. and Mrs. Wanless.

The pattern of our activities followed that established at previous field weeks. Collecting in the chosen locality occupied us until late in the afternoon when we adjourned to the laboratory to begin sorting the material, and this would continue until late evening, the more energetic members being back in the laboratory again by 7.0 a.m. for an hours work before breakfast! In addition, some of the party gave talks and showed their colour transparencies and there was, of course, a great deal of general discussion all very much to the benefit of the less experienced members. In fact, the post-dinner period in the laboratory, when the experts held the floor, provided some of the most enjoyable moments of the week. Andy Callow demonstrated his mastery of insect photography by showing a selection of his colour slides of quite exceptional quality, while Frances Murphy, John Crocker and David Mackie showed colour slides of interesting British spiders. John Cooke introduced us to rather more exotic species, photographed during his visits to Jamaica and Africa, including shots of the Black Widow which is apparently found under the seats at Jamaica's International Airport; he also demonstrated his equipment used for close-up photography and this aroused considerable interest. Dr. Bristowe's enthusiasm became very apparent as we listened to an informal and fluent talk describing some of the more memorable of his adventures in such places as Java and Krakatoa whilst hunting spiders.

For many of us the attraction of Juniper Hall lay in the opportunity it provided for visiting interesting areas in Surrey, and on our first evening Frances and John Murphy, who by virtue of their first-hand knowledge of these areas, gave an illustrated account of the areas to be visited during the week. The sites chosen are shown in the following diagram, prepared from an original sketch by John Murphy.



Chobham Common, on the Bagshot Beds, is a very large area of heather, pine and birch with a fascinating spider fauna which lived up to its reputation on our visit by providing such species as Cheiracanthium pennyi, Thomisus onustus, Araneus alsine and juveniles of Uloborus walckenaerius and Oxyopes heterophthalmus. Araneus alsine is a new county record which is rather surprising for so large and beautiful a species. Perhaps the most abundant species during our visit was Evarcha arcuata.

Phrurolithus minimus and Theridion aulicum were notable captures at Blackheath Common, an area of open heath, heather and pine with scattered woodland similar to Chobham but standing instead on Lower Greensand.

Bookham Common comprises a mixture of oakwood and meadow on the London Clay and has been under survey for many years by members of the London Natural History Society. Most of the work on spiders has been done by A.E. LeGros who has kindly sent me an up-to-date list, including the Linyphiids, which totalled 171 species. I have thus been able to compare this with the 67 species we recorded, no less than 11 being additional to those listed by LeGros. Fifteen species were recorded solely by John Gray who obviously enjoyed himself grubbing in a very rich area near one of the ponds.

Happy Valley, Box Hill, was the site chosen for a very successful field meeting in 1967 and many of the party were anxious to go there again. We were not disappointed. John Crocker found a male of Gonatium corallipes, having taken a female at the same spot in the previous year and John Murphy, who has the ability to find precisely the species he requires, decided to locate the characteristic web of Hyptiotes paradoxus, and did so, high up in the Yew woods. Perhaps the most valuable record was of Anacotyle stativa, both sexes being found by John Gray by grubbing in grass. This is a new county record for Surrey and is quite an

achievement in a county which has been so thoroughly worked.

Thursley Common shows a variety of habitat. There are two large ponds, narrow ditches, a plain area of boggy ground with bladderwort and sundew, and a drier area of heather. Collecting in and around Moat Pond where females and a single male of Argyroneta aquatica were recovered from the pond vegetation occupied most of the morning. The afternoon was spent amongst the heather, where males of Aelurillus v-insignatus were found on bare patches of ground.

Our final day was spent at White Downs, on the south face of the North Downs a few miles west of Dorking, an interesting area of beechwoods and chalk grassland. An abandoned chalk quarry was of particular interest, eleven species of spider being recorded from its dry floor - among stones and in the isolated patches of vegetation. A single male of Myrmarachne formicaria was taken from a grassy area nearby but in spite of intensive searching by other members of the party, following its discovery, no more were found. John Gray found, on his return home, that a female Heliophanus cupreus taken at White Downs was parasitised with four nematode worms, each over one inch long, and no doubt he will himself write an account of this interesting and unusual observation.

On the following morning we left Juniper Hall after a most stimulating and successful week. The value to the beginner of attending such a gathering has been excellently expressed by Derry Ribolla in a previous bulletin (BSSG Bull. 38, p 11) and need not be reiterated here, but I am sure that even the expert members of the Juniper Hall party found something that was new and of interest, in what is after all one of England's richest counties.

Species List

In the following tables, the nomenclature follows the check-list in Vol. II of British Spiders by Locket & Millidge, unless otherwise stated.

The collecting areas are identified as follows:

A. Chobham Common	SU 9964	22-8-68
B. Blackheath Common	TQ 0345	23-8-68
C. Bookham Common	TQ 1256	24-8-68
D. Happy Valley, Box Hill	TQ 1852	25-8-68
E. Thursley Common	SU 9041	26-8-68
F. White Downs	TQ 1249	27-8-68
G. Juniper Hall Grounds	TQ 172527	22-8-68 to 27-8-68.

Where information is available, the habitat types are listed thus:

- a) Ground zone - from open ground, under stones or vegetation a few inches above the ground.
- b) Field layer - from vegetation 6" to 6 ft. above the ground.
- c) Shrub layer - from foliage or trunks of trees.
- d) Substrate - from below ground, under water or in culverts.

♀ or ♂ indicates that a single adult specimen was collected, while ♀♀ or ♂♂ indicates that two or more adult specimens were collected.

SPECIES	COLLECTING AREAS							HABITATS
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	
ATYPIDAE								
<i>Atypus affinis</i>				♀♀				d.
DICTYNIDAE								
<i>Ciniflo ferox</i>							♀	d.
<i>Dictyna arundinacea</i>		♀♀						b.
<i>Lathys humilis</i>					♀			a.
ULOBORIDAE								
<i>Hyptiotes paradoxus</i>				♀♀				c.
DYSDERIDAE								
<i>Dysdera erythrina</i>				♀		♀		a.
<i>Harpactea hombergi</i>			♀♀ ♂	♀♀ ♂♂			♀♀	a, c.
GNAPHOSIDAE								
<i>Drassodes lapidosus</i>		♀						
<i>Zelotes latreillei</i>	♀	♂		♀				a.
<i>Z.apricorum</i>				♀♀	♀			a,b.
<i>Z.petrensis</i>			♀					a.
CLUBIONIDAE								
<i>Clubiona reclusa</i>			♀					c.
<i>C.phragmitis</i>			♂		♀			a.
<i>C.terrestris</i>			♂					
<i>C.neglecta</i>				♀				
<i>C.compta</i>		♀♀	♀♀					b,c.
<i>C.brevipes</i>			♀					c.
<i>C.trivialis</i>	♂	♀♀ ♂♂			♂♂			a,b,c.
<i>C.diversa</i>		♀	♀♀			♀		a.
<i>C.subtilis</i>			♀♀ ♂♂					a.
<i>Cheiracanthium pennyi</i>	♀♀							b.
<i>Agroeca proxima</i>	♂	♀♀ ♂♂	♀	♀♀ ♂♂	♂			a.
<i>A.inopina</i>				♀				a.
<i>Scotina celans</i>				♂♂				a.
<i>S.gracillipes</i>	♀ ♂	♀ ♂♂			♀ ♂			a.
<i>Zora spinimana</i>		♀	♀		♀ ♂	♀♀ ♂♂		a,b.
<i>Phrurolithus festivus</i>						♀		a.
<i>P.minimus</i>		♀♀						a.
THOMISIDAE								
<i>Thomisus onustus</i>	♀ ♂							b.
<i>Diaea dorsata</i>			♀	♀				c.
<i>Xysticus cristatus</i>	♀	♀♀		♀♀		♀		a,b.
<i>X.erraticus</i>		♂		♀♀ ♂♂				a.
<i>X.sabulosus</i>	♂	♀ ♂♂			♀			b.
<i>Oxyptila simplex</i>						♂		a.
<i>O.atomaria</i>				♀♀ ♂♂	♂	♀♀ ♂		a,b.
<i>Philodromus aureolus</i>		♀♀			♀			b.
<i>P.aureolus caespiticolis</i>	♀♀	♀♀			♀♀			b.
<i>Tibellus oblongus</i>	♀♀ ♂			♀		♀♀		a,b.
SALTICIDAE								
<i>Heliophanus cupreus</i>						♀♀		
<i>H.flavipes</i>			♀			♀		a,b.
<i>Euophrys frontalis</i>		♀♀	♀♀			♀♀ ♂♂		a.
<i>E.aequipes</i>						♀		a.
<i>Evarcha falcata</i>	♀♀ ♂♂	♂♂		♂♂	♂♂	♂♂		a,b,c.
<i>E.arcuata</i>	♀♀ ♂♂	♂♂ ♀♀			♀♀ ♂♂	♂♂		a,b.
<i>Ælurillus v-insignitus</i>	♂				♂♂			a,b.
<i>Myrmarachne formicaria</i>						♂		a.
LYCOSIDAE								
<i>Lycosa pullata</i>			♀♀	♀♀ ♂	♀♀	♀♀		a.
<i>L.prativaga</i>			♀			♀		a.
<i>L.amentata</i>	♀							
<i>L.nigriceps</i>	♀♀	♀♀	♀		♀♀	♀		a,b.
<i>L.lugubris</i>		♀						
<i>L.hortensis</i>	♀♀	♀						
<i>Xerolycosa nemoralis</i>					♀			a.
<i>Trochosa ruricola</i>						♂		
<i>T.terricola</i>		♀	♀♀	♀♀ ♂♂	♀			a.
<i>Arctosa perita</i>		♀ ♂						a.

SPECIES	COLLECTING AREAS							HABITATS
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	
<i>Pirata piraticus</i>			♀	♀	♀♀ ♂♂			a.
<i>P.hygrophilus</i>	♀♀				♀			a.
<i>P.latitans</i>	♀♀							a.
PISAURIDAE								
<i>Pisaura mirabilis</i>	♀	♀♀		♀♀				a,b.
AGELENIDAE								
<i>Argyroneta aquatica</i>					♀♀ ♂			d.
<i>Agelena labyrinthica</i>	♀♀				♀			a,b.
<i>Tegenaria silvestris</i>						♀	♂♂	a.
<i>Amaurobius terrestris</i>		♀		♀		♀	♂♂	a.
<i>Antistea elegans</i>			♀♀		♀♀ ♂♂			a.
<i>Hahnia montana</i>		♂♂	♀♀ ♂♂					a,b.
<i>H.nava</i>				♀				a.
<i>H.helveola</i>		♀						a.
MIMETIDAE								
<i>Ero cambridgei</i>					♀		♂	a,b.
<i>E.furcata</i>	♀		♀	♀♀				a.
<i>E.tuberculata</i>		♀						a.
THERIDIIDAE								
<i>Euryopis flavomaculata</i>					♀			b.
<i>Crustulina guttata</i>	♀ ♂♂							a.
<i>Theridion vittatum</i>			♀					c.
<i>T.aulicum</i>		♂						
<i>T.tepidariorum simulans</i>			♀					c.
<i>T.sisyphium</i>	♀♀	♀♀	♀		♀♀	♀		b,c.
<i>T.impressum</i>	♀♀	♀♀ ♂			♀			b,c.
<i>T.neglectum Wiehle</i>		♀						
<i>T.tinctum</i>		♀		♀♀	♀			b,c.
<i>T.ovatum</i>	♀♀	♀		♀ ♂	♀			a,b.
<i>T.bimaculatum</i>	♀♀	♀	♀	♀		♀♀		a,b,c.
<i>T.pallens</i>		♀	♀♀	♀				c.
<i>Robertus lividus</i>	♀		♀		♀ ♂	♀♀		a.
NESTICIDAE								
<i>Nesticus cellulanus</i>							♀♀ ♂♂	d.
TETRAGNATHIDAE								
<i>Tetragnatha extensa</i>					♀			b.
<i>T.pinicola</i>	♀		♀					
<i>T.montana</i>			♀					
<i>Pachygnatha clercki</i>			♂♂		♀♀ ♂♂			a.
<i>P.degeeri</i>		♀♀	♀ ♂♂	♀♀ ♂♂		♀♀ ♂♂	♀♀ ♂♂	a,b.
ARGIOPIDAE								
<i>Meta segmentata</i>	♀		♀♀	♀	♀♀	♀		b,c.
<i>M.segmentata mengei</i>	♀							b.
<i>M.merianae</i>							♀ ♂	d.
<i>M.menardi</i>							♀	d.
<i>Araneus diadematus</i>		♀♀		♂				b.
<i>A.quadratus</i>	♀	♂♂	♀		♀♀ ♂♂	♂♂	♂♂	a,b.
<i>A.alsine</i>					♂			b.
<i>A.cornutus</i>		♂						
<i>A.adiantus</i>	♀	♀♀ ♂♂			♀♀ ♂			b,c.
<i>Singa pygmaea</i>			♀			♀		a,b.
<i>S.sanguinea</i>				♀				a.
<i>Ceroidia prominens</i>				♀		♀		a,b.
<i>Zygiella atrica</i>	♂		♂					b.
<i>Mangora acalypha</i>	♂	♀♀	♀		♀			a,b.
LINYPHIIDAE								
<i>Walckenaera acuminata</i>		♀		♀				a.
<i>Cornicularia cuspidata</i>			♀					a.
<i>C.vigilax</i>						♂		
<i>Entelecara acuminata</i>			♀♀	♀				c.
<i>E.flavipes</i>				♀♀		♀♀		a,b.
<i>Gnathonarium dentatum</i>			♀					a.
<i>Gongylidium rufipes</i>			♀♀ ♂	♀♀		♀		b,c.
<i>Hypomma bituberculatum</i>					♀			a.
<i>Dismodicus bifrons</i>			♀		♀♀			a.
<i>Metopobactrus prominulus</i>					♀			b.

SPECIES	COLLECTING AREAS							HABITATS
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	
Goniatium rubens		♀	♀♀ ♂♂	♀♀ ♂♂		♀♀ ♂♂		a, b, c.
G. rubellum			♀♀ ♂♂	♂				b, c.
G. corallipes (O.P.-C.)				♂				a.
Peponocranium ludicrum					♀			
Pocadicnemis pumila			♀♀			♀		a.
P. pumila juncea			♀					a.
Oedothorax gibbosus/tuberosus	♀							b.
Oe. fuscus			♀		♀ ♂♂	♀♀		a.
Oe. retusus			♂		♂			a.
Oe. apicatus					♀	♀		b.
Cnephalocotes obscurus			♀♀ ♂♂			♀	♂	a.
Anacotyle stativa				♀	♂	♀		a.
Monocephalus fuscipes						♀		a.
Lophomma punctatum					♀♀ ♂			a.
Gongylidiellum vivum		♀ ♂						a.
Micrargus herbigradus				♀		♀		a.
Diplocephalus cristatus						♀♀		a.
Scotargus inerrans		♀♀ ♂		♀		♀♀		a, b.
Erigone dentipalpis	♀♀		♀		♀		♀	b.
E. atra		♀♀		♂	♀		♂	a, b.
Leptorhoptrum robustum					♀			a.
Ostearius melanopygius		♀						a.
Hillhousia misera	♀							a.
Porrhomma pygmaeum			♀♀					a.
Syedrula innotabilis		♀	♀					a, c.
Meioneta rurestris	♀	♀♀ ♂♂	♀			♀♀ ♂		a, b.
M. mollis						♂		a.
M. saxatilis				♀	♀	♀		a, b.
Microneta viaria		♀						a.
Maro minutus			♀					a.
Oreonetides abnormis		♀						a.
Macrargus rufus			♀♀					a, b.
Bathyphantes approximatus					♀♀ ♂♂			a.
B. pullatus			♀♀		♀♀			a.
B. gracilis	♀♀ ♂♂	♀♀ ♂	♀♀ ♂	♀♀ ♂♂	♀♀ ♂♂	♀♀ ♂♂	♀♀	a, b.
B. parvulus					♂			
B. setiger					♀♀ ♂♂			a.
Poecilometes globosa					♀			
Drapetisca socialis	♀	♀	♀	♀				c.
Tapinopa longidens	♀♀		♀ ♂		♀ ♂			a.
Floronia bucculenta				♀♀		♂		a, b.
Taranucnus setosus			♀					
Labulla thoracica			♀					c.
Stemonyphantes lineatus						♀		a.
Lepthyphantes minutus			♀		♀			a, c.
L. tenuis	♀	♀♀ ♂	♀♀ ♂	♀♀ ♂♂	♀♀ ♂♂	♀♀ ♂♂	♀♀ ♂♂	a, b.
L. zimmermanni		♀♀ ♂♂	♀♀ ♂♂	♀♀ ♂♂	♀♀ ♂	♀♀ ♂♂		a, b.
L. mengei			♀♀		♀♀ ♂	♀♀		a, b.
L. flavipes				♀♀ ♂		♀ ♂		a, b.
L. ericaeus	♀	♀♀		♀♀	♀			a.
Linyphia triangularis	♀♀ ♂♂	♀♀ ♂♂	♀♀ ♂♂	♀♀ ♂♂	♀♀ ♂♂	♀♀ ♂♂	♀	a, b, c.
L. clathrata					♀♀	♀		a.
L. hortensis	♀							
L. impigra					♀♀			a.
TOTALS 168 Species & Sub-sp.	48	57	67	54	63	57	12	
HARVESTMEN (Opiliones)								
Trogulus tricarinatus (Linn.)							+	
Anelasmaocephalus cambridgei (Westw.)				+				
Homalenotus quadridentatus (Cuv.)							+	
Leiobunum rotundum (Latr.)								
L. blackwalli Meade		+	+					
Mitopus morio (Fabr.)	+	+	+		+			
Oligolophus tridens (C.L.K.)	+			+				
O. agrestis (Meade)		+	+					
O. hanseni (Kraep.)		+						
Phalangium opilio Linn.	+						+	