

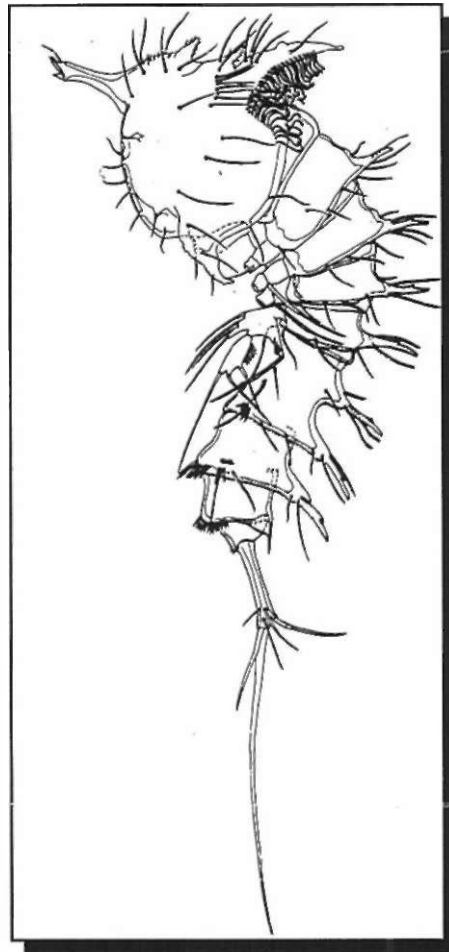
PSAMMONALIA

Newsletter of the
International Association of Meiobenthologists



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Composed and Printed at The University of Gent,
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*New copepod catalogue (Bodin, 1997)
now available*

This Newsletter is not part of the scientific literature for taxonomic purposes

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International Association of Meiobenthologists - Founded 1966

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You may make your donations to the Bertil Swedmark Fund directly to the IAM bank account (account number 6586667) of the Lloyds Bank (Sort code 30-96-68), 8 Royale Parade Plymouth PL1 1HB, UK.

EDITORIAL BOARD

Marleen De Troch, Tom Moens, Ann Vanreusel,
 Dominick Verschelde, Magda Vincx.



EDITORIAL

Even in late February I take the opportunity to send my best wishes for 1998 to all meiobenthologists. I hope that we will have a very productive year (in terms of publications) and a very interesting and nice meiofauna meeting this summer.

Perhaps most of you have noticed earlier that my editorials are either lacking or very short. I will use this forum now to stress the illness of time which is the high amount of work pressure on all scientists, not only on the ones involved in meiofauna work. Nevertheless, I hope we can use the opportunity this summer in Plymouth to chat more about science but also to keep our warm personal contacts alive.

This newsletter is despite the good friendship which exists between meiobenthologists, still too much a newsletter of mainly science. I would like to see a broader response on more 'personal' issues, about interesting journeys, Ph.D. defences, informal meetings of people..

See you this summer !

Magda Vincx

Bertil Swedmark Fund. Statement of Accounts to 31st December 1997.

This fund was originated from a bequest of £1000 from Dr. Bertil Swedmark, to encourage the study of meiofauna amongst students. However, the money was held within the general IAM funds until 1993 when the treasury was handed over from Plymouth to South Carolina. The money is held in the IAM Account Number 6586667 of Lloyds Bank (Sort code 30-96-68), 8 Royal Parade, Plymouth, PL1 1HB, UK. The account opened in October 1993 with the original £1000 and a sum of money donated by the organizers and participants of the Maryland Conference. The accounts to December 31st 1997 are as follows:

	Capital (£)	Interest (£)	Total (£)
Oct. - Dec. 1993	1267.06	5.03	1272.09
Jan. - Dec. 1994	125.01	38.95	163.96
Jan. - Dec. 1995	388.17	54.39	442.56
Jan. - Dec. 1996	710.65	47.78	758.43
Jan. - Dec. 1997	-	71.33	71.33
TOTAL	2490.89	217.48	2708.37

UK bank interest rates are not very good (Jan. - June 1997 at 2.33%; June - Dec. 1997 at 2.57% on accounts between £500 - £5000) so interest is only accumulating very slowly. No capital income was received in 1997 and I have not heard from the Treasurer that any contributions were received from members. You may make a donation to the BSF either directly into the bank account (in sterling) or by sending it to the treasurer or assistant treasurer with your subscription.

Mike Gee & Richard Warwick

Reports of the treasurers

The Belgian treasurer received 16 697 BEF (about 440 US \$) from membership dues in 1997. We spent however 64 184 BEF (1690 US \$) to produce the issues 115 to 118. About 50 % of this costs were made to multiply the issues and the other 50 % to distribute the numbers by mail. Since we started with 5.200 BEF left from 1996 and we also received 52.436 BEF from the American treasurer, the capital left on our Belgian account amounts 10 149 BEF (267 US \$). We received about 1 600 BEF (42 US\$) as donations for the Swedmark Fund which are not yet incorporated in the former table.

Ann Vanreusel

The U.S. Assistant Treasurer received dues payments from 31 members during 1997 totaling \$630. Expenditures included postage (\$100) and transmittal of \$1,500 to the Treasurer for production costs of Psammonalia. A total of \$40 from 3 members was donated to the Swedmark Fund. This left a balance on 31 December 1997 of \$3,581.39.

Robert J. Feller

ANNOUNCEMENTS



10TH INTERNATIONAL MEIOFAUNA CONFERENCE (XIMCO)

TO BE HELD AT THE UNIVERSITY OF PLYMOUTH, U.K., 27TH TO 31ST JULY 1998

Full information on the conference organization and scientific content was published in Psammonalia No. 118 in November 1997. However, the wrong accommodation booking form was included in that issue, so would everyone please use the booking forms to be found in this newsletter or on the IAM homepage on the Internet (<http://inlet.geol.sc.edu/~nick/meiofauna.html>). From enquiries received so far the following additional information may be useful to prospective participants:

FINANCIAL SUPPORT

We have managed to obtain sponsorship from the Linnean Society of London, the Marine Biological Association of the UK and the Systematics Association, which we are using to subsidise student registration. We are extremely grateful to our sponsors. Regrettably the Plymouth organising committee for XIMCO has no access to funds to assist our colleagues who are having difficulty in finding funds to attend the conference. We suggest that overseas colleagues looking for funds should contact their local British Council office (usually located in the capital city; consult web page for more details: www.britcoun.org) or for post-doctoral workers you could write to: The Royal Society, 6 Carlton House Terrace, London SW1Y 5AG (Tel: (+44) (0)171-839 5561, Fax: (+44) (0)171-930 2170, Email: webmaster@royalsoc.ac.uk web site: www.royalsoc.ac).

TRAVEL

A number of people have asked about travel times and costs by rail and road between London, Heathrow Airport and Plymouth. The summer timetables are not yet available but the following is the information we can pass on.

Rail. There are 8-10 trains per day from London Paddington to Plymouth. An *Open Return* ticket, costing £105, allows travel on any day at any time. A *Saver Return* ticket, costing £53, allows you to travel on any day of the week, but not in the rush hours. A *Super Saver Return* ticket, costing £42, allows you to travel on any day of the week except Friday, but travel in the rush hours is excluded. The telephone numbers for Rail enquiries and ticket booking are: from within UK 0345 484950; from overseas +44 1752 221377. □

Bus. *National Express Coaches*, run about 8 coaches a day from London Victoria Coach station and Heathrow to Plymouth. The return fare varies between £30-40 depending on day and season but prices are subject to review at the end of May 1998. The telephone numbers for coach enquiries and booking of tickets are: from within the UK 0990 808080; from overseas +44 141 3524410.

ACCOMMODATION

The rooms in the Robbins Conference Centre are all SINGLE rooms. The price of £25.67 per day for an en suite room and £22.08 per day for a standard room includes breakfast.

For those wishing to occupy a DOUBLE room we have provisionally reserved 10 double rooms at the New Continental Hotel (about 20 minutes walk from the conference centre) at a bed & breakfast rate of £63.00 per room per night. We will book the room for you but you will be responsible for settling the bill direct with the hotel on departure. Those wishing to take up this option should let Mrs Denise Horne know as soon as possible (postal address: Faculty of Technology, University of Plymouth, Drake Circus, Plymouth PL4 8AA. E-mail address: D.Horne@plymouth.ac.uk). Any rooms not booked by May 1st 1998 will be relinquished.

MEALS

The Senior Common Room Cafeteria will not be available for lunch and evening meals but the information pack you receive on registration will contain a list and map of suitable establishments at which to refuel.

CONFERENCE CENTRE ADDRESS

Robbins Conference Centre, University of Plymouth, Drake Circus, Plymouth, PL4 8AA. The telephone number of the Robbins

Security Office is 01752 232690; and of the conference rooms is 01752 232698/9. For those arriving by car or taxi the Conference Centre is located in Gibbons Street.

DEADLINES

DO NOT FORGET THE DEADLINES that were given in the last issue of Psammonalia. For the greater good of you all, and in order that the organization can proceed smoothly, THESE DEADLINES MUST BE TAKEN SERIOUSLY.

1st March 1998 - submission of abstracts for papers or posters.

1st April 1998 - Notification by organizers of type of presentation.

1st May 1998 - Registration, payment of conference fees and booking of accommodation.

REGISTRATION AND ACCOMMODATION FORM FOR XIMCO.

To be returned by mail to Mrs. D. Horne, Faculty of Technology, University of Plymouth, Drakes Circus, Plymouth PL4 8AA UK.

Title and family name
 Forename(s)
 Organization
 Address for communication

 Post or Zip Code Country
 Tel. No Fax. No
 e-mail address (Please write clearly)

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

I wish to register as: A full participant, Fee £125;
 A student participant, Fee £85; I have/have not been awarded a BES grant. (Delete as appropriate)
 I will be accompanied by person(s), Fee £65 per person
 who will probably go on the following outings (indicate with *): A. Saltram House; B. Tour of old Plymouth; C. Historical day in Tamar valley; D. Cornwall coast walk.....

ACCOMMODATION BOOKING.

Date	Standard £22.08 p.n.	En Suite £25.67 p.n
Saturday 25th July		
Sunday July 26th		
Monday July 27th		
Tuesday July 28th		
Wednesday July 29th		
Thursday July 30th		
Friday 31st July		
Saturday 1st August		
Total:		

I do/do not have difficulty with stairs.
 I will/will not require a parking space at the conference centre.
 Please given details of any special dietary requirements (e.g. vegetarian, vegan).

Now fill in the payment form overleaf

PAYMENT FORM FOR XIMCO

I am paying my conference fee(s) of £..... pounds sterling
and
my accommodation costs of £ pounds sterling
by the method indicated below.

A. Credit card.

My Visa/Mastercard/Delta/Switich (delete as appropriate) credit card details are as follows

Number (16 digits)

Expiry date

Cardholder name

Signature (you must sign)

B. Bank Draft/ International money Order (delete as appropriate). These should be paid to:

Bank: Midland Bank, 4 Old Town Street, Plymouth, PL1 1DD, UK

Account Name: University of Plymouth - General Account

Account Number: 61485946

Sort Code: 40-36-22

Payment Reference: XIMCO.

C. By a cheque in pounds sterling drawn on a UK bank. Cheques to be made payable to University of Plymouth and please write XIMCO on the back of the cheque.

NEWS FROM MEMBERS

Congratulations

We would like to express our congratulations to the following meiobenthologists for the accomplishment of their PhD research:

Sandra Vanhove, 1997. *Antartic sublittoral meiofauna: focus on the ecology of free-living marine nematodes*. University of Gent, Marine Biology Section, Belgium.

Simon G.M. Ndaró, 1998. *Ecological aspects of soft bottom meiofauna in Eastern Africa*. University of Stockholm, Department of Zoology, Sweden.

Meiofauna and pollution research in Cuba

I'm working on the spatial and temporal distribution of meiofaunal communities and its relationships with the environment physicochemical parameters in estuarine and marine ecosystems of shallow waters around Cuba. The main interest of my work is to study the free-living marine nematodes in different environments and its relationships with pollution.

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Interests: I am working on my Ph.D. thesis in Laboratorio de Biología Marina, University of Sevilla. I am studying marine free-living nematodes which live in the muddy bottom influenced by urban sewage in Algeciras Bay (Strait of Gibraltar). I am interested as well in the nematodes associated with invertebrates such as Bryozoa and sponges. The main objective of this work is know which species of nematodes are present in this area and its spatio-temporal distribution, comparing different environmental situations. I started my doctoral thesis two years ago and I had just finished the sampling period. I am interested in publications about taxonomy these animals. I would like to know people who work in this theme and contact with them if possible.

Eugenia Bandera
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Interests: I am working on my Ph.D. at the Marine Biology Laboratory of the University of Sevilla under the guidance

of Dr. P.J. López-González. My research deals with the taxonomy and ecology of harpacticoid copepods in Algeciras Bay (Strait of Gibraltar, Southern Spain). I am studying the development and structure of the copepod community through the bay for one year. I am trying to relate species composition and some diversity indices of copepod populations along Algeciras Bay with the effect of environmental factors. For the moment, my work is mainly the identification of the species and possible taxonomic problems.

Matthew R. Lee
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 e-mail: jcorrea@genes.bio.puc.cl

Interests: I am currently working at the Catholic University in Santiago (Chile), where I am using meiofaunal community structure to assess the impact of copper mine tailings disposal. I will also, in the next 12 months, be setting up microcosm experiments to determine the effects of copper on meiofauna.

In addition to the ecotoxicology, where I get paid for, I'm also interested in the general ecology of meiofauna on exposed beaches, and taxonomy. I'm currently working on Kinorhyncha of the genus *Caberia*.

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A WORD FROM THE PRODUCTION EDITOR

Due to the 'illness of time and some amount of work

pressure' in organising an exhibition in the museum, I had to give the production of this issue out of hand to a dedicated person who didn't want to see her name mentioned for this. But : all credits for the production of this issue have to go to Drs. Marleen De Troch who has been the 'acting production editor' for this issue. Many thanks to her and to all of those who cooperated.

I hope to be able to present some more details of our Zoological Museum when we meet at the XIMCO. See you then.

Dominick Vershelde.

International Association of Meiobenthologists

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP OR RENEWAL

The International Association of Meiobenthologists is a non-profit scientific society representing meiobenthologists in all aquatic disciplines. The Association is dedicated to the dissemination of information by publishing a quarterly newsletter and sponsoring a triennial International Conference. The newsletter, *Psammonalia*, is published mid-month in February, May, August and November.

Membership is open to any person who is actively interested in the study of meiofauna. Annual membership dues are 300 Belgian francs (\$ 10 US) and you may pay up to 3 years in advance, i.e. 900 BEF (\$30). New members will receive *Psammonalia* beginning with the February issue of the current year. If you are able, please add extra money to be contributed to the Bertil Swedmark Fund, which is used to help students or others who wish to attend the triennial International Conference.

Please check appropriate boxes:

- New member (*) Renewing member 300 BEF or \$10 Change of address
 Regular membership 300 BEF or \$10 Patron or Sustaining membership 1500 BEF or \$50

Name _____ E-mail address _____

Address _____ Telephone _____

FAX number _____

City, St/Prov _____

Zip/Postal Code _____

Country _____

BEF / \$US enclosed for ___ years. Regular member at 300 BEF or \$10 /year. Patron or Sustaining member at 1500 BEF or \$50/year.

BEF / \$US enclosed to contribute to the Bertil Swedmark Fund.

BEF/ \$US TOTAL

VISA/MASTER/EUROCARD number _____ Expiry date _____ Signature _____

For **North American members** : dues can be paid in US dollars. Make checks payable to Intl. Assoc. of Meiobenthologists. Send dues and applications to: Dr. Robert Feller , Belle W. Baruch Institute, Univ. of South Carolina, Columbia, SC 29208 USA

For **all other members** : dues can be paid in Belgian francs. Make (euro)checks payable to Ann Vanreusel. If possible make use of the creditcard transaction possibilities. Send dues and applications to : Dr. Ann Vanreusel, Marine Biology Section , Ledeganckstraat 35, B-9000 Gent , BELGIUM

Interests:

(*) New members please introduce yourself in 10 lines