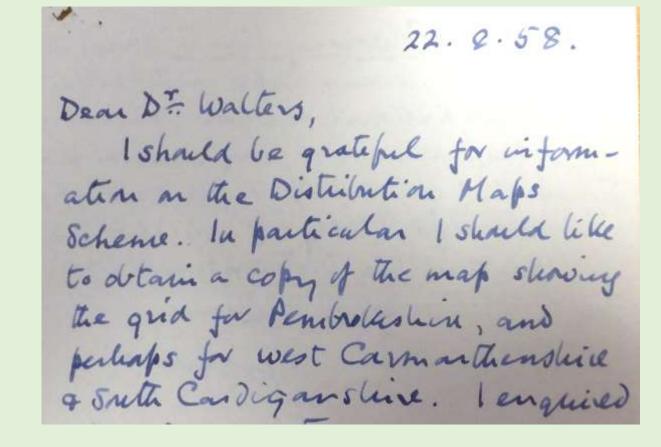
Dear Dr Perring ... correspondence in the Atlas of the British Flora archive

Much of Frank Perring and Max Walter's correspondence while they were working on the 1962 Atlas survives in the CEH archive, thanks to Paul Harding who rescued it from bin bags when Frank decided to throw it away. It provides a fascinating insight into this unique project and deserves detailed study. A few items are illustrated here. Chris Preston & Oli Pescott, CEH

RECRUITING

Much effort was made to recruit recorders – many fell by the wayside but others became keen botanists. Here Tommy Warren Davis (Pembs.) offers his help



I have duly secencin for circular

I have a very great roumber of plant

letter and card relating to the less worked

(botamesty) areas of Bostain. To I can bethe materially with these I am replying to

seconds from many atations in wire 66, vir. 61, v-e bt, v=, bx, v-c 103 v-c 104 v-e. 110, as well

as a less number from warrons on arreland counties

If you will let me have the necessary

be glad to let you have them. I have not the

material for compley there for you use I when

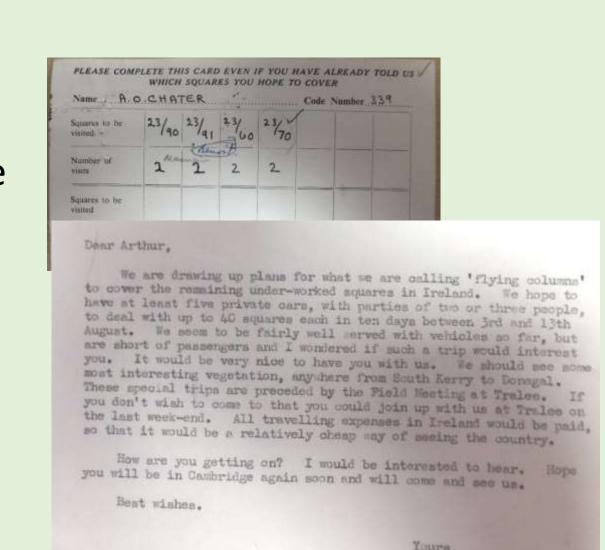
faintent knowledge concerning the geographical houtions of your various squares or what you symbols mean Thomworld have to be replained

you signed at once.

in the North of Scotland

EXPLAINING THE

The national grid was new to many – in this letter Prof. J.W. Heslop Harrison says that he "has not the faintest knowledge concerning the geographical positions of your various squares"

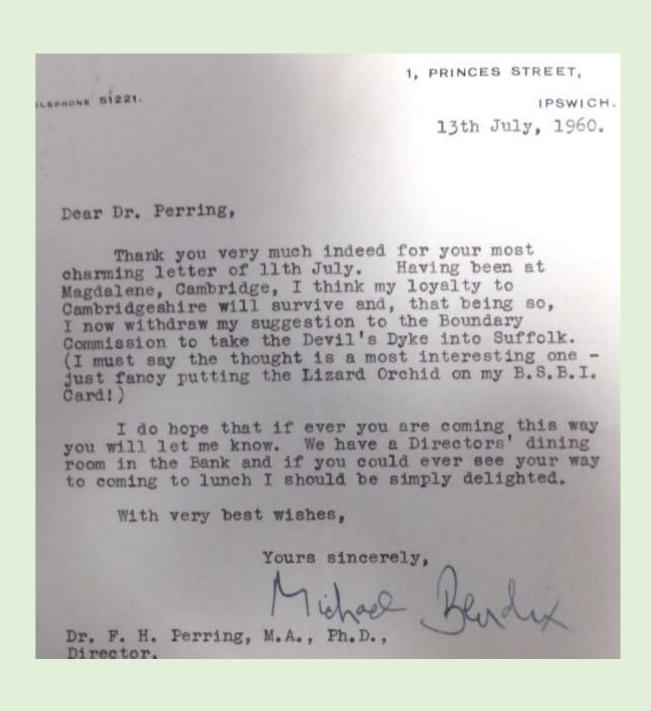


PLANNING

Slips were sent so people could name the squares they could record – Arthur Chater's is one of the few to survive. In Frank's reply, Arthur is invited to join a 'flying column' planned to cover ground in Ireland

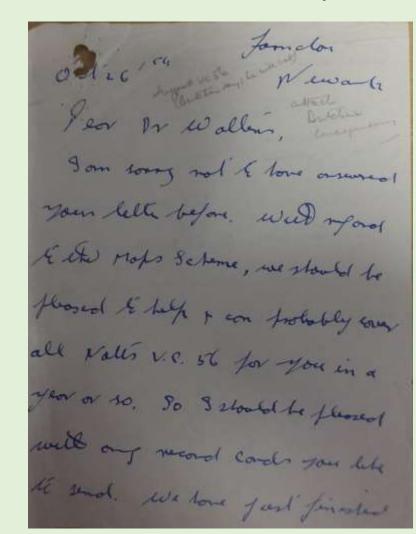
IDENTIFICATION AND CHECKING

Innumerable specimens were sent in and identified. Potentially new v.c. records were queried. Michael Bendix, initially slightly put out by such a query, is so charmed by Frank's emollient reply that he invites him to lunch in the Directors' Dining Room, Barclays Bank (Ipswich)



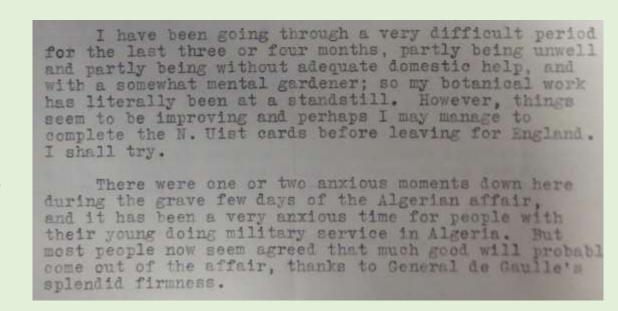
OPTIMISM

R.C.L. Howitt assures Max that he and his wife Brenda "can probably cover all Notts. v.c. 56 for you in a year or so"



EXCUSES

Some did less that they had hoped. Maybud Campbell, writing from Menton, blames illness, inadequate domestic help and "a somewhat mental gardener"



About the possibility of providing copies of all the master cards

to Regional recorders, this is certainly a good idea and something which

the species I may put some records aside as doubtful. This doubt may later be confirmed by the recorder and though I destroy the record card, there isn't time at the moment to delete the error from the master card.

can now easily be done. We have a reproducer in the Botany School, and if the B.S.B.I. can find the funds, then this work can be done at a very

economical rate. It may cost about £5 for a county. You probably know all about this, but I am just enclosing a copy that Mr. Gardiner sent me some time ago to show you the sort of thing. There is only one difficulty, the master cards may not be as accurate as the maps, for when I am vetting

However, the County referee ought to be able to spot errors better than I.

NEW TECHNOLOGY

When David Allen asked for copies of cards, Frank says that "we have a reproducer in the Botany School" and the work can be done at a cost of £5 a county

GOSSIP

Evelyn Booth reports that Prof. J.W. Heslop Harrison is "curiously inaccurate" in the field and "a nice old man but my goodness how he talks and <u>how</u> slowly he eats, intolerable to a gobbler like me"

PUBLICATION

Asked for his opinion on the title page, Dick David ended his letter "Haven't Nelsons got any views on this? (Sorry, but I still feel terribly sore on this point)". He must have hoped to secure publication for C.U.P.

