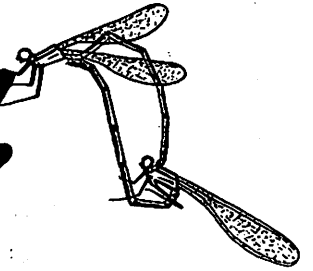


Selysia



THE NEWSLETTER OF THE SOCIETAS INTERNATIONALIS ODONATOLOGICA
AND THE U.S. NATIONAL OFFICE

Vol. 14, No. 2

Gainesville, Florida

September 1, 1985

DR. M. A. LIEFTINCK

We were filled with a sense of great loss this spring as we learned of the death of Dr. M.A. Lieftinck on April 13, barely one week after Easter Sunday. He had celebrated his 81st birthday on February 18, 1985.

From the days of encouragement by his early mentor, Dr. J. Heimans, teacher of biology at the Amsterdam Lyceum, Dr. Lieftinck began a lifelong pursuit of entomological knowledge, with special interests in dragonflies (Odonata) and solitary bees (Hymenoptera). Upon graduation from the Amsterdam Lyceum, he attended the University of Amsterdam from 1923-1929. It was during this time that one of his important early publications, "Odonata Neerlandica" (1925-1926), appeared.

In September 1929, Dr. Lieftinck was offered the position in Buitenzorg, Java, of Zoologist (Entomologist) at the Zoological Museum and Laboratory of the Botanic Gardens. This was an ideal situation for Dr. Lieftinck, allowing him to combine his fine administrative capabilities with his keen desire to continue active field studies of Odonata. In 1939, he was appointed head of the Buitenzorg Museum, a position he retained until 1954. He became Curator at the

Museum of Natural History in Leiden in 1954, and he assumed the task of reorganizing the Museum's Odonata collection.

Dr. Lieftinck's research and publications were abruptly interrupted in 1942 by the Japanese military invasion and occupation of the Dutch East Indies. Deemed a prisoner of war, he was jailed in Buitenzorg (now Bogor) from December 1942-April 1943, and interned in P.O.W. camps of Buitenzorg, Tjimahi, and Batavia (April 1943-1946). As a result of his internment, his physical health deteriorated drastically, resulting in lasting damage. A period of recuperation from December 1946 to September 1947 was spent in Holland. It was an indication of his determination and strength of character that he was able to continue his superior contribution to Odonata research for almost four decades.

In addition to his numerous other affiliations and honors, Dr. Lieftinck was a charter member of the Societas Internationalis Odonatologica, participating in the initial meetings of S.I.O. in 1970 and 1971. At Ghent in 1971 he was awarded the first MEMBERSHIP OF HONOUR of S.I.O. In 1981 at the Symposium in Chur, Switzerland, Dr. Lieftinck was unanimously elected

SELYSIA

A Newsletter of Odonatology

Compiled at

Department of Zoology
University of Florida
Gainesville, Florida 32611

by

Minter J. Westfall, Jr.
and
Margaret S. Westfall

This newsletter is designed to disseminate facts and news about the activities of Odonatologists and Odonatology. It is not intended as a journal nor an organ for the publication of articles or technical papers. The name is based upon that of the "Father of Odonatology," Baron Edmond de Selys Longchamps. Founded in 1963 by Dr. B. Elwood Montgomery at Purdue University, SELYSIA is now issued semi-annually, March 1 and September 1. With V. 13, #1 it was recognized as the official newsletter of the Societas Internationalis Odonatologica as well as the U. S. National Office of S.I.O.

Honorary President of S.I.O., a position he held until his death.

A comprehensive list of Dr. Lieftinck's prolific writings and publications from 1919 to 1933 appears in ODONATOLOGICA, Vol. XIII, No. 1.

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THURGAU DRAGONFLY INVENTORY, SWITZERLAND

by

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Peter MÜLLER-MEYRE
Organizer of the Thurgau
Dragonfly Inventory Group
Eggässli 14, CH-8596 Scherzingen,
Switzerland

On March 30, 1985, Thurgau dragonfly workers met in the Natural History Museum and in the Canton High School, Frauenfeld. Colleagues from Zürich and interested entomologists from other cantons had also been invited, particularly so from the neighbouring canton of St. Gallen, which has its own program of dragonfly inventarisation. The Zürich group, led by Claude Meier, gave us valuable tips for the planning of our work in Thurgau, which will be supported by the Cantonal Bureau for Regional Planning. Also Professor Kiauta and Josef Zoller of the St. Gallen Dragonfly Inventory Group gave some valuable suggestions.

In the canton of Thurgau dragonfly inventories will be prepared in the forthcoming years. The results will be evaluated annually, and will be published in the "Mitteilungen der Naturforschenden Gesellschaft Thurgau." The cooperation of a wider circle of interested people will be sought by giving more publicity to the project.

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FORMALITIES CONCERNING DRAGONFLY COLLECTING IN NEPAL

The S.I.O. "Informal Agent" in Nepal, Mr. G. B. KALIKOTE (General Manager of the Nepal Research Centre, P. O. Box 180, New Baneshwar, Kathmandu, Nepal), informed us that he is regularly receiving requests from S.I.O. members to arrange for official

collecting permits, as required by the Nepalese Government. All entomologists collecting in Nepal, whether local residents or foreigners, need such a formal license.

Unfortunately, due to the Government Regulations, such a license cannot be provided and mailed to the person concerned before his/her arrival in Nepal. The following information was provided by Mr. Kalikote, dated May 26, 1985:

"To get a permit it is necessary for the scientist to go personally to the Department of National Park and Wild Life Conservation (P.O. Box 860, Kathmandu), and to submit there an application, accompanied by a recommendation/statement of his/her institution (or the S.I.O. Central Office), stating that collecting is required for scientific work and research. In the application the approximate number of specimens to be collected has to be stated. The tax to be paid is Rs 10.-per 100 specimens of any order, but it is Rs4.-for each butterfly."

Although it is not likely one would ever have to show such a license while collecting in the remote areas outside the Kathmandu Valley, the license will be definitely needed for customs formalities upon departure from the country.

As a number of S.I.O. members have experienced, Mr. Kalikote continues to assist in all matters concerning research trips to Nepal, including arrangements of transportation, portage, lodgings, assistance with customs formalities, etc. He also will help with trekking permits, but to obtain these, the applicant has to appear in person in the Governmental Office concerned.-B. Kiauta

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"MATING PAIRS" IN ODONATA

by

Sidney W. Dunkle
Entomology Department
University of Florida
Gainesville, FL 32611

In many collections of Odonata, a male and female preserved together are labeled as a "Pair" or "Mating Pair." Since Odonata have several stages in the mating process, such labels are ambiguous. Odonates typically have 2 major steps during mating: 1) Male grasps female head or prothorax with his terminal abdominal appendages and they become a Pair in Tandem, 2) Female bends her abdomen forward to engage the male secondary genitalia and they become a Pair in the Wheel Position. For taxonomic decisions on whether a female is correctly associated with the male of her species, a Pair in the Wheel Position carries much more weight than a Pair in Tandem. The female in the wheel position was actively cooperating with the male and we can assume that she recognized the male as the opposite sex of her species. While such an assumption has a high degree of probability, we still must be cautious because a female will occasionally copulate with a male of a different species (which may even be in a different genus). A Pair in Tandem label usually does not tell much more than that the male was stimulated to grab the female. In fact, an interspecific pair may remain in tandem longer than usual as the female struggles to disengage herself rather than copulate. A Pair in Tandem has some taxonomic significance if the species in question is known to have a courtship. In this case, we can tentatively assume that the male has performed the proper courtship behaviors and that the female has cooperated. However, some odonate

species, e.g. some Calopterygidae, are known to have territorial males which court females, and other satellite males which merely pounce on females. Thus even if a species is known to have a courtship, a Pair in Tandem label still may not have much taxonomic significance. A special case of a Pair in Tandem is a Pair in Tandem Ovipositing, in which we can assume that the female was fully cooperating with the male, and thus is of the same species as the male. Probably all Odonata which oviposit in tandem copulate before oviposition.

In Odonata a problem exists in defining copulation, because many male odonates first remove sperm which have previously been deposited in a female before injecting their own sperm. In behavioral/physiological terms only the sperm injection phase of mating is actual copulation. Therefore for regular taxonomic and field collecting purposes a label stating "Pair in Wheel Position" is better than "Pair in Copulation."

In my own collecting, I place the male and female of a pair taken in Tandem in the same envelope or in envelopes clipped together. I mark the envelopes of pairs collected in the Wheel Position by inserting pieces of leaves into the envelopes in non-ambiguous combinations.

In summary, a male-female pair labeled as a "Pair" can not be regarded as more than a Pair in Tandem. In fact, a "Pair" might mean that the collector thought the male and female were of the same species and the insects were collected separately, not associated in any way. A "Mating Pair" label also can not be regarded as indicating more than a Pair in Tandem, because we do not know if the female was cooperating in the mating attempt. Only pairs labeled as taken in Copulation, in the Wheel

Position, or Ovipositing in Tandem have much taxonomic significance. Even in the case of a Pair in Copulation label, a pair in tandem might be regarded as being in copulation by some collectors, especially non-odonatists. Thus for the reasons given above I suggest that pairs of Odonata should be labeled with one of these designations: 1) Pair in Tandem, 2) Pair in Tandem Ovipositing, or 3) Pair in Wheel Position.

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WALKERIA

CANADIAN NEWSLETTER PUBLISHED

The editors have received a copy of the new Canadian Newsletter WALKERIA, No. 1, 1 June 1985, edited by Dr. K. Deacon. Editor Deacon explains the title was chosen in honor of Dr. E. M. Walker, the "father of Canadian odonatology." In addition to information about the next Symposium in Paris, and an announcement of the Second Indian Symposium of Odonatology in the fall of 1986, there is also information about the International Symposium of Odonatology in Nepal during August 1987. Ken Deacon wrote under Drop-in Centre, "I would like to encourage contact between odonate enthusiasts, especially within Canada; therefore, I am instituting what I hope will become a Canadian network of drop-in centres. If you are willing to become involved, please let me know. If you are interested in collecting dragonflies in the Thunder Bay area; or if you are just passing through, then you are welcome to stay with me." Perhaps members in other parts of the world might do something like this. Issued semi-annually, this is a welcome addition and should further interest and participation in collecting and studying dragonflies in Canada. WALKERIA is free for members of S.I.O. residing in Canada and Canadian subscribers

to ODONATOLOGICA. The cost to all others is \$1.00 (U.S.) per issue. Orders should be sent to Editors of ODONATOLOGICA, c/o Department of Animal Cytogenetics and Cytotaxonomy, University of Utrecht, Padualaan 8, Utrecht, The Netherlands.

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BRITISH DRAGONFLY SOCIETY
Newsletter No. 7

The Spring 1985 Newsletter of the British Dragonfly Society contains several items of general interest. A listing of several field meetings includes one in Scotland (22/23 June); Wales (29 June); Essex (7 July); and Anglesey (20 July). An announcement of a second indoor meeting on 26 October is an early reminder of that meeting. Scheduled for this fall meeting are several interesting talks by Dr. Peter Miller, Bob Kemp (Some dragonflies of Greece), Dr. Elliot Pinhey (African dragonflies) and J. Beaumont and K. Wilson.

Dr. Pinhey spoke in March, 1985 to the newly established Welsh Dragonfly Group. County fauna lists are being compiled, and future meetings will include field trips in areas where little in the way of dragonfly collecting has been done.

Also in this newsletter is an announcement of dragonfly cards which are available. By the artist Kaye Mash, 12 species are depicted as postcards at the price of 12p each; postage for 10-20 cards, 40p; 20-40 cards 60p; 30 cards, 50p. Four species are available in fold-over form with envelope at a price of 20p each. Postage for the fold-over cards and envelopes is 10 for 50p; 20-30 for 85p; 40 for £ 1.60. Dr. Mash's address is: Old Thatch, 12 Havelins, Stourpaine, Dorset DT11 8TH.

Cards by Roderick Dunn depict two species and are available for £ 1.20

for 10 (including p & p). These may be ordered from Nick Brown, Derbyshire Naturalists' Trust, Elvaston Castle Country Park, Derby DE7 3EP.

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BRITISH DRAGONFLIES
BY RODERICK DUNN

In the Bull. amat. Ent. Soc., Vol. 44, No. 346 of February 1985 there is the following article by Brian O. C. Gardiner:

British Dragonflies by Roderick Dunn. A set of 4 colour prints (13.5 x 11.5 inches overall). In a limited edition of 500. Woodall Publishing, Townhead, Tideswell, Derbyshire SK7 6LX. Price £ 20.00 (post included).

These prints of four species of male dragonfly are primarily designed for framing and displaying as a unified set although of course those who in any case collect limited edition prints may well prefer to keep them in their print drawers where they will be equally at home to be looked at and enjoyed as the mood takes the owner.

The species depicted are Calopteryx splendens, Cordulegaster boltonii, Libellula quadrimaculata and Sonatochlora metallica. They are about twice life-size (The C. splendens rather more) and are beautifully executed and printed. All four species are shown at rest clinging to a suitable fragment of plant and occupy the centre of the print and are on a pure white ground. This is then enclosed by a heavy black frame beyond which is a light grey wide border. So no further mount is required and they can be put straight into a suitable frame. The name of the insect and the number of the print is printed, at the bottom, just inside the black border. In our opinion however, this would have been better placed outside the border and further down

near the edge.

Artistic appreciation is a very individual taste and to our view the pure white background to these long-bodied and narrow-winged creatures is rather obstructive and we would have preferred a pastel tone such as a pale cream or blue.

There are numerous limited editions of artistic prints published on all sorts of subjects and it is encouraging to see some on insects. In price these compare very favourably both with other subjects on the market and with plates cut out from old books. Indeed more modern productions such as these could help take the pressure off the demand to dismember old books for the sake of their plates, and the enterprise of both artist and publisher in producing modern works of this nature should be encouraged.—Brian O.C. Gardiner

* * * * *

AESHNA MUTATA IN NEW YORK

by

Thomas W. Donnelly
2091 Partridge Lane
Binghamton, NY 13903

The firm establishment of this interesting species in New York was prompted by a report circulated by George Drewry a few years ago. This report listed several possibly endangered U.S. Odonates and sought comment or further information on them. Under *AESHNA MUTATA* Drewry included specimens from the Cornell collection from "Cinnamon Lake" and noted that this lake could not be located on maps.

This comment stirred a faint memory. When I first met J.G. Needham in September, 1950, he told me (among other things) of a "Cinnamon Lake" where he had found six species of *AESHNA*. It was west of Watkins Glen, and he advised that it was a fine collecting place. The

number of *AESHNA* species did not stir my curiosity (he didn't tell me which ones they were!), and I never thought to ask him in subsequent meetings where this lake was. When I saw Drewry's note, I went into our topo map file and started looking at quadrangles. Sure enough, the lake appeared on the boundary between Schuyler and Steuben Cos., just north of Corning.

In June of this year I set out to find the lake. It is hidden from the dirt road, but a sign on a mailbox announcing the way to "Megan's Birthday Party" provided an inspiration. I told my wife that I bet Megan (who turned out to be seven years old) might know where *AESHNA MUTATA* was. Megan's father, Frank Bourke, owned the lake and kindly loaned us a canoe. The *MUTATA* was there all right, and we took a male. The vegetation of this lake is very much unlike Ten Acre Pond, Pennsylvania: it is vegetated on only about 10 per cent of the lake surface, and most of the vegetation is *Castalia*. There are clumps of *Sagittaria*, and only very sparse *Nymphaea*.

A few days later, I decided to look at a small pond with abundant *Nymphaea* located between the lanes of a superhighway just west of Binghamton, in Tioga, Co. There were very few Odonates, but a fine *AESHNA MUTATA* flew very close. I caught a female on 7 July. Thus we now have two state records for this species.

The persistence of this species is remarkable. Williamson took it at Vanemon Swamp from 1907 to 1932. It has been found regularly at Ten Acre Pond, near State College, Pennsylvania, for 30 years! The Cinnamon Lake occurrence spans fully 46 years! Apparently this very local species is also a very persistent species and is capable of surviving major

vicissitudes suffered by small ponds and lakes.

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MORE ABOUT NEW YORK STATE ODONATA

Dr. Donnelly's remarks on Cinnamon Lake above made me remember the first collecting trip I took with Dr. Needham September 14, 1941. He, his son-in-law, and I went to Cinnamon Lake and had a great time collecting five species of Aeshna in large numbers. They were Aeshna canadensis Walker, A. clepsydra Say, A. constricta Say, A. tuberculifera Walker and A. u. umbrosa Walker. Needham's sixth species must have been mutata which we did not take that day.

This also reminded me of specimens sent to the FLORIDA STATE COLLECTION OF ARTHROPODS long ago by Fred Hough of Accord, New York. I intended to get the records into print but never did. Mr. Hough (pronounced as HOW), sent three males of Aeshna mutata collected in Ulster County, Krumville, June 22, 1963 and Kripplebush, June 11 1973. He wrote November 24, 1973 "Concerning Aeshna mutata, only three were seen and all three were in the field back of my residence. Two were collected, the dates (June 11, 1973) shown on the label and the third was seen at close range but not collected. I would bracket their occurrence between the dates of June 5th and June 25th. None were seen before or after those dates or elsewhere at anytime." Also in the specimens Mr. Hough sent was a male of Somatochlora cingulata (Selys) also taken by him in Ulster County, Slide Mountain, July 13, 1966. This is till the only record of this species for New York state of which I know.--M.J. Westfall

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ADDITIONS AND CHANGES TO LIST
OF S.I.O. MEMBERS
(See SELYSIA, V. 11, #1 to date)

(Starred * names are those of new members)

BELGIUM

Michiels, Drs. Nico
Department Biologie
Universitaire Instelling
Antwerpen
Universiteitsplein 1
B-2610 Wilrijk

CANADA

*Conrad, Kelvin
Department of Biology
University of Calgary
Calgary, Alberta T2N 1N4

Deacon, Dr. Ken
121 Banning Street
Thunder Bay, Ont. P7B B3J

*Jeffrey, Mrs. Paul G.
Wentworth Woodhouse
RR3
Uxbridge, Ontario L0C 1K0

Walker, Dave
379 Browndale Cres.
Richmond Hill, Ont. L4C 3H9

COLOMBIA

Roldan, Prof. Gabriel
Apartado Aereo 56771
Medellin

DENMARK

*Pedersen, Henning
Sct. Ibsgade 27, 1.th.
DK-8800 Viborg

GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

*Donath, Herrn Helmut
Jahnstrasse 6, 36-04
DDR-7960 Luckau

*Müller, Herrn Dr. Joachim
Pablo-Neruda-Strasse 9
DDR-3034 Magdeburg

GERMAN FEDERAL REPUBLIC
(Bundesrepublik Deutschland)

Franke, Dr. Ulrich
Altbohlstrasse 25
D-7760 Radolfzell

Jacob, Dr. Udo
Beethovenstrasse 7
D-5000 Köln - 40

*Lamlinger, Herrn Richard
Loherstrasse 10
D-4772 Bad Sassendorf

*Ott, Herrn Jürgen
Rheinstrasse 23
D-6520 Worms

Rösch, Herrn Walter
Gartenstrasse 27
D-7148 Remseck - 4

HOLLAND

Geene, P.A.
Het Zwanenvlot 101
7206 CE Zutphen

*Huijs, Drs. Leon
Jan luijkenstraat 38 B
6531 AR Nijmegen

INDIA

Babu, Mr. B. Suri
c/o Dh. Ramam
Murti Lines
Post Office
Jagdapur, 49400
Dt. Bastar (M.P.)

*Khan, Mr. Mohd. Waseem
Lecturer in Zoology
Adarsha Science College
Dhamangaon Railway - 444709

JAPAN

*Ishikawa, Mr. Hajime
6-2, Higashigaoka 1-chome
Meguro-ku
Tokyo, 152

*Kakuda, Mr. Hiroaki
Ecological Laboratory
Dept. of Biology
Fac. of Science
Kanazawa University
Marunouchi 1-1
Kanazawa, 920

*Miyatake, Mr. Yorio
Osaka Museum of Natural
History
1-23, Nagai Park
Higashisumiyoshi-ku
Osaka, 546

Miyazaki, Mr. Toshiyuki
23-10, Habikigaoka 3-chome
Habikino, Osaka Pref., 583

*Jakano, Mr. Yuji
A-406, Yamate-di 4-8
Ibaraki, Osaka Pref., 567

*Sasaki, Mr. Akira
No. 501, Look Heights
Uguisu-dani
2-3-2 Shitaya
Taito-ku
Tokyo, 110

*Shiraishi, Mr. Sadayuki
5-14, Katsuyama 3-chome
Tennoji-ku
Osaka, 543

Ueda, Dr. Tetsuyuki
Ishikawa Agricultural College
Suematsu
Nonoichi-machi
Ishikawa Pref., 921

MEXICO

*Novelo-Gutierrez, Rodolfo
Insectario, DPAA
Division C.B.S.,
Universidad Autonoma
Metropolitana-Xochimilco
Apartado Postal 23-181
04960 Mexico, D.F.

SPAIN

*Betoret, Carlos Bonet
C. Linterna 28
ES-46001 Valencia-1
Ferrerias Romero, Dr. M.
Siete de Mayo, 10, 2°C
ES-14005 Cordoba

SWITZERLAND

Schiess, Heinrich
Neuhof
Schalchen
CH-3492 Wila

*Schläfli, Herrn Dr. A.
Thurgauische Naturforschende
Gesellschaft
Naturmuseum Thurgau
CH-8500 Frauenfeld

*Treagust, Herrn Alec
Hofmattstrasse 15
CH-9202 Gossau, SG

UNITED KINGDOM

Cleland, Mr. Gary
14 Waylands Drive
Hunts Cross
Liverpool L25 0NA
England

*Gravett, Dr. P.
Flat 16, Block 2
Moss Side Hospital
Maghull
Liverpool
England

Nicholls, Dr. Steve P.
BBC Natural History Unit
Broadcasting House
Whiteladies Road
Bristol BS8 2LR
England

Paul, Mr. John
45 Beaufort Crescent
Stoke Gifford
Bristol 12
England

*Uttley, Dr. M. G.
Dept. of Biological Sciences
Plymouth Polytechnic
Plymouth, Devon PL4 8AA
England

UNITED STATES

*Erickson, Carl John
Psychology Department
Duke University
Durham, NC 27706

McDowell, W. T.
910 West Prairie
Marion, IL 62959

Nimz, Curt
P.O. Box 1551
Seattle, WA 98145-2511

*Walls, Jerry G.
657 Second Street
Trenton, NJ 03611

* * * * *

DR. HENNIG SCHUMANN DIES

Recently news came from Bastiaan Kiauta that a charter member of S.I.O., Dr. Hennig Schumann, had died at the age of 79. We recalled having met him at the International Symposium of Odonatology held in Karlsruhe in 1973. It is with sorrow that we announce the passing of this member of our S.I.O. "family".-M.J. Westfall

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DR. THOMAS TOWNELY MACAN DIES

The loss of another distinguished scientist through death this year has saddened S.I.O. members. Dr. Macan died suddenly at his home at Ambleside Westmoreland, England, on January 12, 1985.

Dr. Macan became a major in the RAMC, serving in Iraq, Persia(Iran), India, Burma, and later became active in the British Legion. During World War II he was chiefly involved with malarial problems. While a student at Cambridge, Dr. Macan participated in the 1933-1934 oceanographic expedition to Near East waters and the Indian Ocean. Some of his many publications were a result of this research.

In 1935 Dr. Macan joined the staff of the infant Freshwater Biological Association based at Wray Castle. He held the position of General-Secretary Societas Internationalis Limnologiae from 1953-1968. Before he retired in 1976, he became assistant director, and he authored many papers and several books. His studies on the biology of invertebrates provided vital basic knowledge useful as a foundation for further research.

Many S.I.O. members will remember with great pleasure the Symposium Dr. and Mrs. Macan hosted at Lancaster University in July 1975. Those attending were delighted to meet at such a lovely location,

enabling us to be comfortably billeted, and on field trips to enjoy the picturesque scenery of the famed Lake District of England.

The editors of SELYSIA have warm memories of attending the Second S.I.O. Symposium with the Macans at Karlsruhe, Germany in 1973, and renewing of the friendship in Lancaster two years later.-M.J. Westfall

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NICK DONNELLY OFF ON ANOTHER TRIP

Dr. Thomas W. Donnelly has informed us that this summer he will be collecting Odonata with his family in Samoa, with a stop in Hawaii on the return trip. I am sure we will be hearing wonderful things about this trip later. Wish we could be with him but we will be in Europe at the Paris Symposium where we will miss Nick.

Nick has indicated also that he will be in Florida for meetings this winter and may be able to make a stop with us in Gainesville.