On August 2nd (Bank Holiday) the members and friends of the Bournemouth Society had an enjoyable picnic at Broadstone. Arriving about 11 am. they were met by Mr. Rivers-Hill, of the famous Dorset lavender farm, who showed them over the laboratory, explaining the processes by which scent is distilled. Afterwards, Mr. Tollemache escorted them to the farm (over 100 acres of land) where the lavender and various other plants and flowers used in the scent manufacture were growing. After an open-air luncheon, the party, by invitation of their hon. president, Dr. Alfred Russel Wallace, the eminent scientist, visited him at his home, “Old Orchard,” and enjoyed a ramble through his picturesque garden. The aged gentleman, whose contributions to the scientific world are so well known, was unable to spend much time with the party, owing to his enfeebled health and great age (86). After tea, and an evening spent in games and other recreations, the friends returned, satisfied that pleasure and instruction had been intermingled during this most enjoyable day.

1[Editor’s note: Wallace was honorary president of the Bournemouth National Spiritualist Church from 1907 until his death in 1913.]