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Contributions for the next issue by the end of November please!

Contributions are welcomed as e-mail attachments to patricia.francis@bolton.gov.uk, or on disk, in most PC word processing formats (with a second file in rich text format *.rtf) or in typescript from contributors who do not have a PC. Illustrations should, ideally, be produced on A4 paper with a margin of at least 2.5cm all round with 'over-sized' lettering (14pt normal/body text, if typed) to allow for it to be photographically reduced to A5 (approx 70% reduction) and still be readable.

Promoting Your Club or Society

**Stephen R. Halliwell – Hon. Secretary
of the Preston Society and N.W.N.U.
Affiliated Societies Representative.**

This 'blueprint' has been produced in response to a specific request for information as to how I helped to achieve a resurgence in the fortunes of the Preston [Bird Watching & Natural History] Society. At the time that the exercise was commenced the membership level had fallen to an unsustainable level. The Society had met continuously for 114 years, with a minimum of 21 lectures each winter during those years. It was deemed undesirable to alter the weekly format, but it was generally felt that the current members should regard themselves merely as caretakers of the Society, and therefore had a duty to ensure its continuance. The group had begun life in 1876 as the Preston Scientific Society, but 25 years ago the word 'scientific' was dropped to leave the Preston Society. That decision left everybody but the members wondering what we were actually in existence for! We are registered as a charity under the latter name, so whilst it is still our official name, wherever and whenever possible I always refer to us as the Preston Bird Watching & Natural History Society. It describes exactly what our interests are.

Somebody once said, "Success is moving from one failure to the next, but without losing the enthusiasm for what you are doing in between." It was with that general thought that I began the rebuilding of the Society. The twenty first century target audience would seem to be far more reluctant or, indeed unable, to commit to membership of many organisations. The reasons

for this are probably numerous, but seem to boil down to the fact that there is less and less time available, particularly for members of working families to have interests outside the home.

If there is an acceptance of this, then it would seem reasonable to encourage people to attend meetings or events as and when they choose, or as and when they are available. In fact, it is probably a good thing to look at the overall format of your group on a regular basis, asking yourselves what people want or expect, and then endeavouring to provide it. It's what is known as 'marketing.'

Another feature of modern life is the magnitude and complexity of opportunities from which publicity can be gained. The following is a guide to the sort of things I have attempted to make use of during the last couple of years. It is probably far from exhaustive, and different interest groups may find additional opportunities. Always be on the lookout for a story for the local paper, it might just be used as a filler. Publicity of this nature can never be bad.

Publicity / Media Secretary.

Ideally, someone who has access to the internet should be appointed to carry out this role. In theory the internet is not essential, but it reduces the labour intensiveness considerably.

To do list.

It is important that you plan your campaign well in advance, decide who you are going to contact with information about your events, and when you are going to contact them. The lead time may have to be adjusted with the benefit of experience, but generally, sooner rather than later should be the rule of thumb.

Date.	Name of Publisher	Done
1/9	Lancs Ev. Post What's On?	/
4/9	Preston Citizen	/
8/9	LEP Whats On?	/
8/9	LEP Society Page	/
12/9	LEP Editorial	/

Newspapers. Daily:

- a. Editorial – it would seem that pieces are only used when space is available. There is no guarantee that anything will be used, so the only option is to submit as much as possible on a regular basis so that they always have something that is topical and relevant to use.
- b. What's On? Listings –
 1. Name of Club / Society.
 2. Location and address of event.
 3. Details of the event, name of speaker if relevant, date and time of event, ticket prices or price of admission to non-members if appropriate, and details of a contact together with a telephone number or email address if desired.
- c. Letters column. Always represents an opportunity if suitable subject matter can be found.

Weekly / Free Papers.

- a. Editorial (see under daily papers above.)
- b. What's On? Listings (as daily papers.)
- c. Letters column (as daily papers.)

Interest Magazines.

Many carry a "What's On Locally?" column.

Local Radio. A Guide to What's On?

- a. Internet: It is possible to put several months of your programme on Radio

Lancashire's "The Guide" in advance. This means that you have additional exposure for your organisation. They are automatically taken off the website after the event date has passed. Visit: www.bbc.co.uk/lancashire/local_radio and follow the links and instructions to publish your programme details. Groups in areas not covered by Radio Lancashire will need to investigate the services offered by their local stations.

- b. Post: Notices to the newspapers' What's On? pages should be sent to arrive between 5 and 8 days in advance of the publishing date prior to the event. The Lancashire Evening Post publish theirs on a Friday, with the Preston Reporter and the Citizen publishing theirs on a Thursday. Therefore, information should be sent by Wednesday of the previous week in order to arrive on Monday at the latest.

Poster Advertising.

A4 size – in as many relevant and appropriate places as possible.

Libraries.

Depending on how wide an area you anticipate drawing your members from will depend on how many libraries you will need to approach. Unfortunately, there is a growing reluctance to display posters in branches, and whilst there are some exceptions at present, it is unlikely to be the case for much longer. The library service in Lancashire, however, do have a web-based service on which you can advertise your group. See www.lantern.lancashire.gov.uk and follow the links to the Community Information page. An application form can be downloaded from the site. Alternatively, an application form can be obtained from any branch library. There is now a facility

whereby a nominated person can be given access to the group's entry on their website, so that adjustments can be made as and when necessary. This has proved to be very useful, and means that the entry is always right up to date.

Word of mouth.

Still a good method of attracting new members, but I do wonder how often it is employed. Some groups are far better at it than others.

Website.

Although it may seem 'foreign' to many groups, it may be worthwhile speaking to other groups who have made the step into new technology. It is not an immediate answer to attracting new members, but I believe that there is the potential for it to do so. It isn't a cheap option either, but once your site has been established, the annual costs are manageable. Further benefits can be gained by exchanging links with similar or related groups to your own, and in that way each group gains a potential advantage.

Recording Visitors.

My own philosophy is that visitors to your group should be treated like gold dust! Organize a rota of 'meeters and greeters' on the door, not only to collect the visitor's entrance fee, but also, and just as importantly, to take their contact details. One reason for taking these details is to enable you to identify each visitor in case they decide at some point in your season to join as a member. Any monies paid as a visitor can then be credited from the membership / joining fee. I have found this to be a good selling point when asking them for those details. The other reason for taking those details is so that you can mail- shot them in the future – they have identified themselves

as having an interest purely by coming as a visitor. I have also found it useful to find out how the visitor heard about the group. Knowing this can help to focus your efforts in future publicity campaigns.

Ideally, you should keep a record of the names and addresses (including email address) of visitors together with a note of how they heard of the society (e.g. Radio Lancs, local free paper, etc)

Looking after you visitors.

Having invested a lot of time and effort to attract new members and visitors, it makes sense to look after them and make them feel welcome. So many new members are left to their own devices and feel neglected. Some groups are more welcoming than others, but I'm sure your group is among the better ones in that respect! If not, make sure that you introduce the new member or visitor to an existing member, or better still members. We call ours 'meeters and greeters,' but it is the function and the action rather than the name you give them that matters.

Archives.

All the items that you manage to get published should be kept in an orderly fashion so that future holders of the Publicity Secretary's role can benefit from the form and content of what their predecessor has achieved. The most important thing is to make a start. There doesn't have to be a rush to finish it. Should anybody wish to discuss these ideas with me, they are welcome to contact me on 01772 705468 or email to me at :

Stephen.Halliwel@prestonsociety.co.uk

Doffcocker Lodge Nature Reserve

Rick Parker, Little Lever, Bolton

Doffcocker Lodge is Bolton's longest established nature reserve. The various habitats within the reserve have been actively managed for over twenty years to encourage wildlife. Walking round the lodge today, the abundance of nature is immediately apparent; not so obvious is the massive amount of active conservation work that has been undertaken.

The Doffcocker Lodge Management Committee was set up in the early 1980s and consisted of representatives from Bolton Council, local residents and conservation bodies including The Bolton Conservation Volunteers, The Bolton Wildlife Project, and Bolton R.S.P.B. The committee worked on a management plan which, once approved by English Nature, was to be used as a blueprint for subsequent management work.

The Lodge was given a Grade A Site of Biological Importance because of its value for over-wintering wildfowl and waders afforded by the large areas of marsh adjacent to the water bodies. Rotational coppicing of Willow has maintained open areas of mud on which Snipe are able to feed. Studies by ringing groups then revealed that Doffcocker was the best site in the Borough for over-wintering Snipe.

It was further realized that areas of mud could also support beds of Common Reed. Reed-beds are rare in Greater Manchester and it was felt that if they could be established at Doffcocker a greater variety of wildlife would be attracted to the area.

After a period of experimentation it was discovered that the best way of establishing such beds was to plant rhizomes, in the spring, into pre-prepared beds of straw bales.

The meadow adjacent to Markland Hill was seeded with Yellow Rattle to try and weaken the dominance of Perennial Ryegrass and allow a greater variety of wildflowers to grow. Other work included the provision and maintenance of two Tern rafts and the planting and laying of over three hundred metres of native hedgerow.

The question now to be asked is – has the habitat management work improved the various habitats of the wildlife they support?

The reed-beds have spread rapidly and, in total, have become the largest area of wet reed-bed in the Bolton Borough supporting a great variety of insects, amphibians and birds. In particular, large numbers of Starling and Swallow use the reed-beds as overnight roosts as do Reed Bunting and Reed Warbler whose calls can be heard in the spring. Most years, Mute Swans nest in the reed-beds and at dusk, large numbers of bats hunt for insects over the lodge.

In winter large numbers of Snipe now occupy the marsh and good numbers of duck can be seen on the open water.

A record seven pairs of Common Tern bred on the rafts in 2008 and reared good numbers of young.

The meadow is now one of the most diverse in the area and Yellow Rattle has spread across the reserve.

The new hedge had been layed and is trimmed each year to provide dense cover for nesting birds – becoming one of the

best examples in Bolton of a well-managed native hedge.

Overall, twenty years of management does seem to have produced spectacular results.

A slideshow and talk entitled 'Doffcocker Lodge, Profile of a Local Nature Reserve', is now available. Please contact Rick on 01204 792245.

**NWNU AGM
Saturday
7 March 2009**

Potential Biodiversity Action Plan Species in Lancashire - A trial using D.P. Earl's *Rubus* dataset

**Dave Earl, Projects and
Implementations Team, the
Environment Directorate, Lancashire
County Council; the Herbarium,
Manchester Museum**

I have now done a trial application of the old BAP guidelines using my *Rubus* data for Lancashire. This is a useful set of data that covers all of Lancashire based on my research of the county and associated vice-counties from 1991-2008. Other naturalists could carry out the procedure for their datasets if all of the county of Lancashire has been covered.

If the old BAP guidelines are applied the local rarity figures for Lancashire are:

Rare = 5 tetrads; Scarce = 6 to 35 tetrads

I have also worked out the figures for Greater Manchester and North Merseyside

For Greater Manchester:

Rare = 2 tetrads; Scarce = 3 to 14 tetrads

For North Merseyside:

Rare = 1 tetrad; Scarce = 2 to 7 tetrads

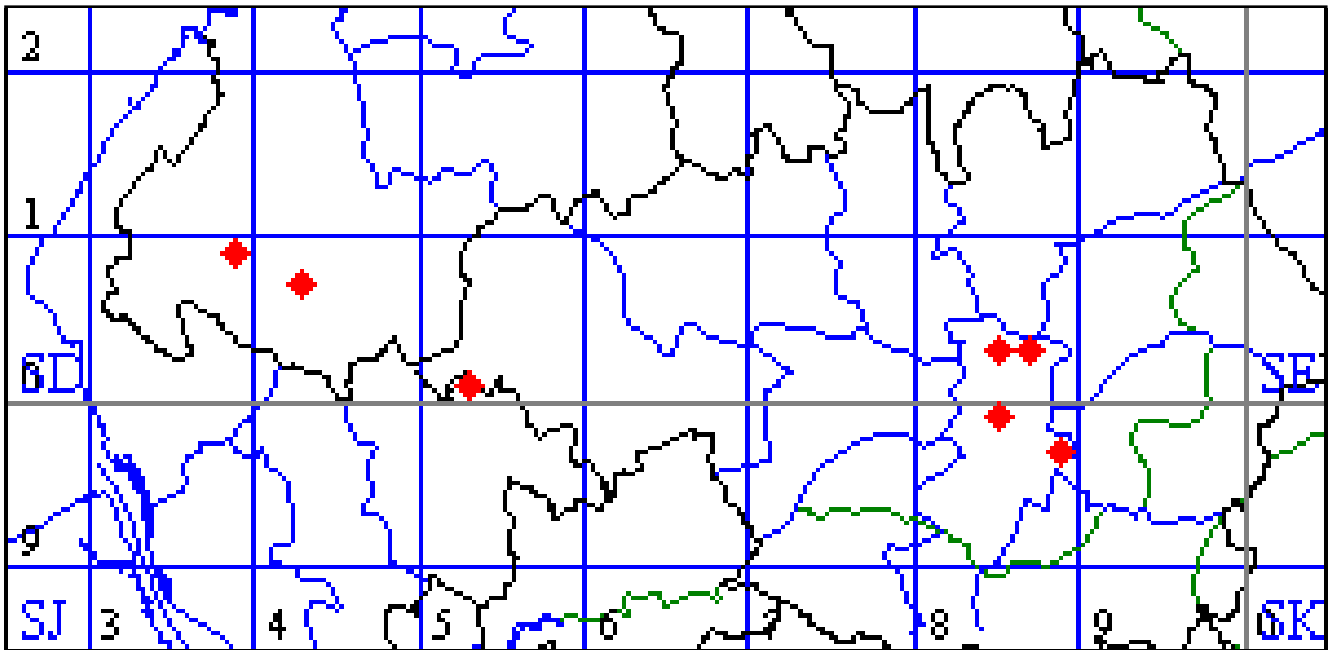
The system seems to work very well for the large administration area of Lancashire but appears to break down for smaller areas such as North Merseyside for which common sense and a knowledge of national and global distribution is probably more useful than the application of a simple mathematical formula.

The use of a simple threshold relating to relative land areas whereby monads (1km records) are used for smaller areas such as Greater Manchester and North Merseyside and tetrads for larger areas such as Lancashire might be more appropriate.

Maps and an associated species account for a rare species in Lancashire *Rubus accrescens* Newton are presented (right):

- a) A tetrad map for the 'Lancashire' area
- b) A 10km map for the distribution in the British Isles

This species is a regional endemic in the British Isles that is most frequent in East Cheshire and North Staffordshire. The Lancashire populations of *Rubus accrescens* sensu stricto are at the present known northern limits of the geographical range and therefore would be classed as **Outlying** under the Position in Geographical Range BAP criteria.



(These maps for *Rubus accrescens* Newton have been created using Mapmate by DP Earl on 18/09/2008)

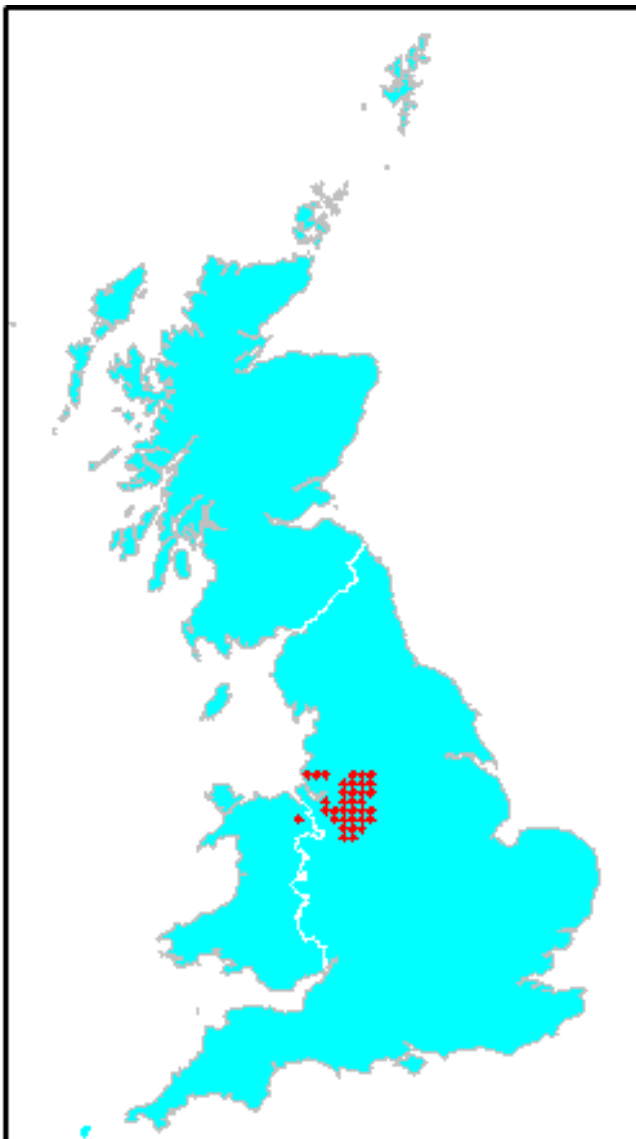
This species is **Rare in Lancashire** under the Local Rarity BAP criteria with only two known populations at:

Ruff Wood Biological Heritage Site, Ormskirk (SD4207) where plants are locally abundant beneath the Oak-Birch woodland canopy.

Gaw Hill (SD3902) where a small population occurs amongst scrub on relic heathland.

It should be noted that there are extensive populations of a similar but un-described *Rubus* species on the southern flanks of the West Pennine Moors with outlying populations extending to Delamere Forest in Cheshire.

This example gives an idea of what we can achieve in the North-west of England using existing datasets. Of course there is great deal to be done involving the development of Local Record Centres and the exchange of biological information.



GUIDES TO NORTH WEST PLANT GROUPS

John Lowell, 37 Henley Avenue, Cheadle Hulme, Cheadle, Cheshire SK8 6DE

It is often difficult to make a start in learning about a new group of plants. The usual dichotomous keys can be difficult to use because it may not be easy to interpret the terms they use; “leaf sharply pointed” and “leaf bluntly pointed” can be problematical if you have just the one plant in front of you and you have little experience with the key. Keys generally cover a large area - eg all of the British Isles - and include many plants never found in the user’s locality. Moreover, most keys, quite rightly, aim at very high accuracy and are complicated because they allow for rare variations.

The NWNNU is experimenting with keys aimed at helping beginners by

- restricting coverage to species likely to be found in S Lancashire, W Yorkshire and Cheshire
- restricting coverage to commoner species - roughly, those likely to be encountered several times a year by the average naturalist
- leaning towards simplicity by balancing absolute accuracy against simplicity and ease of use.
- providing thumbnail illustrations to elucidate the meaning of terms used in the key

It is hoped that these keys will help beginners to get to know the commoner species of their area quickly and easily, at the cost, perhaps, of the occasional misidentification. They will then be better prepared for the more all-inclusive and precise keys generally available.

Development of keys will be an ongoing process. It is hoped that all members of the NWNNU will help to make them as accurate and easy to use as possible, insofar as these objectives are compatible. If you are already familiar with a particular group, please study and try out the key, tell us of any mistakes, inaccuracies or ambiguities (bearing in mind the policy of accepting rare errors for the sake of simplicity). If you are just starting with a particular group please tell us of any difficulties that you encounter.

The keys are on the NWNNU website -

www.mikewalton.org.uk/nwnuweb/nwnuhome.htm (Click on “Field Keys” on the home page.)

The keys currently available are: -Thallose liverworts

-Leafy liverworts

-Sphagnum mosses

Keys to FERNS and HORSETAILS will be added soon and others will follow in due course.

Please read the document GENERAL INTRODUCTION (reached in the same way as the keys) before using any of the keys. This is important!

At present keys are edited by John Lowell to whom all corrections, suggestions etc. should be sent: john.lowell@btinternet.com

Collembola Guide

For those interested in getting to know Springtails, a short guide to common species has been produced by Frans Janssens, a world authority. See <http://www.collembola.org/key/fkuk.pdf>

Shane Farrell, VC58 Cheshire County Macro-moth Recorder

Moth Officer Butterfly Conservation Cheshire & Peak District Branch
<http://www.cheshire-butterflies.co.uk/>

If you live in the Northwest and are interested in joining the Garden Moth Scheme please just ask! <http://www.gardenmoths.org.uk/>

SOCIETY DIARY

ACCRINGTON NATURALISTS' AND ANTIQUARIANS' SOCIETY

Meetings start at 2.30 pm at Antley Methodists' Church Hall, Blackburn Road, Accrington. Non-members welcome - £1.00 minimum lecture fee.

Sunday 9 November : The Ramblings of an Invertebrate Photographer

Lance Gorman

Sunday 23 November : Cactus Hunting in Bolivia

Dr. Ralph Tomlinson

Sunday 7 December : Nature – Seashore to Mountain Top

Peter Smith

Sunday 4 January 2009 : Members Slides & Exhibits

followed by afternoon tea

Sunday 18 January : Eagles in Scotland & Ireland

Dr. Alan Fielding

Sunday 1 February : Walking from Roman Ribchester to York

John Shaw

Sunday 15 February : From Gravel to Grebes – Creation of the Lancashire Wildlife Trust's Brockhole Reserve.

Sophie Leadsom – Manager

Sunday 1 March : The Leeds & Liverpool Canal

Tom Barkley

Sunday 15 March : The Fascination of Owls – bringing live birds

Bill Higham – Barn Owl Bill

Sunday 29 March : AGM & refreshments

Slides and exhibits welcome

ALTRINCHAM AND DISTRICT NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Except where otherwise stated, all indoor meetings will be held at Bowdon Parish Centre, Stamford Road, Bowdon and will be timed approximately as follows: 7.30, informal gathering, ** 7.45pm lecture, 9.15pm tea and chat.

All excursions leave from the public car park, Cecil Road, Hale (behind supermarket) at the times indicated. If you intend to join the excursion please give **three days notice** to the leader. Food and drink for the day and suitable footwear is advisable.

Please note; dogs are not allowed on reserves.

Tuesday 4 November: Bonfire and Social with Firework Display.

To include a Bring & Buy sale and a raffle. Details from Committee. Limited Numbers

Tuesday 11 November: Antarctica

Illustrated lecture by Margaret Ledger

Tuesday 25 November: Wild Wings and Wanderings

Illustrated lecture by Clifford Reyes

Tuesday 9 December: Bird Habitats of the Pennines and Scotland

Film Show with Gordon Yates

Saturday 13 December: Annual Christmas Walk and Pub Lunch**

Details from the Committee

Tuesday 13 January 2009: The Cape and Beyond

Illustrated Lecture by Marion Bray

Saturday 24 January: New Year Dinner

Details from the Committee

Tuesday 27 January: Phil Newton Memorial Lecture - 'Flowers of Bhutan'**

Illustrated Lecture by Sheena Hesketh

Tuesday 10 February: Galapagos

Illustrated Lecture by Brian Dyke

Tuesday 24 February: Dunham, 30 years ago

Illustrated Lecture by Liz Blackman

Tuesday 3 March: Social/Supper & Bring and Buy

Details from the Committee. Limited numbers.

Illustrated Lecture by Brian Dyke

Tuesday 10 March: Close Encounters

Illustrated Lecture by John and Margaret Sixsmith

Tuesday 24 March: Annual General Meeting**

With a short slide show to conclude the evening. Exhibits of natural history are welcome. The supplementary Spring/Summer programme will be available at this meeting.

Saturday 4 April: Ploughman's Lunch

Details from the Committee

Tuesday 14 April: A Pocketful of Posies

Illustrated Lecture by Ann Metcalfe

Tuesday 12 May: To be announced

Saturday 27 June: Loggerheads, Clwyd

NB 9.30 a.m. start. A full day excursion for limestone plants. Contact 0161 980 8645

Saturday 18 July: Venue to be announced

A full day excursion

Tuesday 21 July: Annual Barbecue

Details from the Committee

Tuesday 22 September: First indoor meeting

BOLTON FIELD NATURALISTS' SOCIETY

Monday 3 November : The Wildlife of Bolton

Clifford Heyes & Joan Wright- 1.30pm Bolton Library Lecture Theatre

Monday 1 December : Festive Fun – drinks & mince pies

Dido Suite, Bolton Town Hall – 7.30pm

CHEADLE HULME & BRAMHALL NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Indoor meetings are held in St. Michael's Church Hall, St. Michael's Avenue, Bramhall, Stockport at 7.30pm unless otherwise indicated

Thursday 20 November : Global Warming

David Bielawski

Thursday 11 December : Working with Rescued Chimpanzees

Kathleen Edwards

Thursday 15 January 2009 : Wildlife on Runway 2

Tim Walmsley

Thursday 19 February : AGM (7.15pm) + The Natural History of Chios

Michael Taylor

Thursday 5 March : Hot Pot Supper

Thursday 19 March : Urban Wildlife

Brian Halworth

Thursday 16 April : Nature on our Doorstep

Tony Pioli

DERBYSHIRE & NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Saturday 8 November : Derbyshire & Nottinghamshire Annual Insect Show

10.30-4.00pm at Broomfield Hall, Morley on the A608 between Derby & Heanor

Saturday 7 December : Newark Entomological Show

12.00-4.00pm at the Grove Leisure Centre, London Road, Balderton, near Newark

LANCASHIRE & CHESHIRE ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Indoor meetings are at 7.30pm, unless indicated and are at Frodsham Community Centre, Fluin Lane, Frodsham

Tuesday 18 November : Reviews of the 2008 season—Part 2

Tuesday 16 December : Slide Shows and Christmas Social

refreshments provided by members.

MANCHESTER MICROSCOPICAL AND NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

All meetings (except November) are held in the Stopford Building (Medical School) University of Manchester M13 9PT, corner of Oxford Road and Aker Street (next to the Holy Name Church), Manchester, from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. **All are welcome** – feel free to bring a friend or two. Non-members and members of other Societies are welcome. The Society's library will be available at all Stopford meetings and includes copies of our Newsletters and literature on microscopic history, as well as many books on microscopy and Natural History.

See also our Internet site at <http://www.manchestermicroscopical.org.uk>

Tuesday 25 November : Astronomy & Microscopy for Beginners at the Jodrell Bank Observatory

Joint meeting with Maccastro at Jodrell Bank Visitors Centre.

(Note: Different Day and Different Venue – Bring a microscope)

Thursday 22 January 2009 : Looking at Hearing!

How microscopes help us see how our inner ears work

Dave Furness of Keele University - one of the world's leading authorities on the subject

Thursday 19 February : Bioimaging - A guided tour of a state of the art Bioimaging Facility

Peter March & colleagues, Manchester University

Thursday 19 March : Members' Exhibits and Gossip Meeting 7.00-7.45pm All exhibits, large or small, will be of interest, especially from beginners.

Demonstration – Preparing Diatoms 7.45-8.30pm

Derek Haworth, MMS

Annual General Meeting 8.30-9.00pm

Thursday 23 April : Life & Death in Freshwater -What can we see - with or without a lens?

John Hobson

NORTHWESTERN NATURALISTS' UNION - BRYOPHYTE AND LICHENS SECTION

All meetings on Saturdays, starting at 10.30 am (except 10 May and 13 Sept., 11.00 am). Bring food and clothing adequate for a full day in rough country and bad weather. Please check with section secretary (John Lowell - 0161 485 6892) a day or so before the meeting, in case of cancellation or changes. "Beginners" are welcome any ANY meeting, but especially so at those marked * , which will cater particularly for them.

Saturday 1 November : Goyt Valley.

Car Park SK012748. Leaders Alan and Norman Bamforth

Saturday 6 December : Helsby

Car Park SJ490749. Leader John Lowell

Saturday 10 January 2009 : Meeting to plan 2009 field trips

Section Secretary John Lowell 0161 485 6892

PRESTON BIRD WATCHING AND NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Meetings at St. Mary's Church Hall, Cop Lane, Penwortham.

Further details from Steve Halliwell 01772 705468, www.prestonsociety.co.uk

Monday 3 November : Don't fall into the Trap - The Confusing Story of Chinese & Japanese Pitcher Plants

Martin Ashworth

Monday 10 November : Birds of the Island of Goa

Chris Galvin

Monday 17 November : Consider the Lilies of the Field

David Earl

Monday 24 November : Wildsnaps

Phillip Tomkinson

Monday 1 December : Bird Habitats of the Pennines & Scotland

Gordon Yates

Monday 15 December : Members Evening

Bring your own slides & digital images.

Monday 5 January 2009 : Game Reserve Conservation in East Africa - The stories of Tarangire, Ngorongoro, & Lake Manyara

Dr Barry Stevens-Wood - Manchester University

Monday 12 January : The Sociable Lapwing in Kazakhstan

Andrew Gouldstone - R.S.P.B.

Monday 19 January : St. Kilda – A Closer Look

Hugh Barton

Monday 26 January : A Year in Bowland - A digital audio-visual presentation

Peter Guy

Monday 2 February TBA

Dr. Mike Gosling

Monday 9 February : From Mitilini to Antalya - My Quest for the Balkan Ten

Mike McKavett

Monday 16 February : Half Term or Member's Open Evening

Monday 23 February : A Year at Marshside

Graham Clarkson - R.S.P.B.

Monday 2 March : Waterworld – A Digital Dream

Jason Smalley

Monday 9 March : A Look at Migration

Mike Carrier - Solway Ringing Group

Monday 16 March : Seagulls to Eagles

Peter Smith

Monday 23 March : Wildlife - Wild Places

John Gardner

Monday 30 March : Images of the Night Sky - Digital photography through a telescope

Dr. Keith Robinson - Former Curator of the Jeremiah Horrocks Observatory

Monday 6 April : Annual General Meeting

ROCHDALE FIELD NATURALISTS' SOCIETY

www.rochdalefieldnaturalistssociety.co.uk

Indoor Meetings are held on the second Thursday of the month, September to April, at Cutgate Baptist Church, Edenfield Road, Rochdale. Charges: Members £1.00, Non-members £2.00. Enquiries: 01706 630707 and 814844

Field Excursions : All Excursions depart from the cul-de-sac at Manchester Road, Rochdale. Time: Coaches 0900hrs, Cars 1000hrs. Coaches return at 1700hrs except during the months of November, December, January and February when return is at 1600hrs Queries: Field excursions – contact Barbara Waddington on 01706 658260 / Coach bookings – contact Fred Royle on 01706 644394 Coach Price: Members £12, Non-members £14.

Thursday, 13 November : Lancashire's Lichens - Past, Present and Future

Mike Gosling

Saturday 15 November : Sculpture Park, S. Yorks. - Coach Trip

S. Allen.

Saturday 29 November : Hardcastle Crags - Car Trip

R. Cowley.

Thursday 11 December : Bird Habitats of the Pennines and Scotland (*Peter Hill Memorial Lecture*)

Film by Gordon Yates

Saturday 13 December : Old Moor, Yorks. (RSPB fee payable for non members) - Coach trip

P. & B. Waddington.

Saturday 27 December : Todmorden Area - Car Trip

M. Colley.

Thursday, 8 January 2009 : Butterflies

Richard Greenwood

Saturday 10 January : Martin Mere, Lancs. (WWT Reserve – fee payable) – Coach Trip

J. Wood

Saturday 24 January : Ashworth Valley/Deeply Vale - Car Trip

P. Jackson.

Thursday, 12 February : Diving around Scotland (or what marine naturalists can do for marine conservation)

David Moss

Saturday 14th February : Carsington Water, Derbys. (+ optional Hopton Hall Snow-drop garden – fee payable) - Coach Trip

RCowley.

Saturday 28th February : Rowley Lake/Lee Green Reservoir - Car Trip

C. Flynn.

Thursday, 12 March : Hide and Seek – Scottish wildlife: peregrines, merlins, foxes and otters

Mick Durham

Saturday 14 March : Hest Bank, Lancs. - Coach Trip

J. Taylor

Saturday 28 March : Hopwood, Middleton - Car Trip

H. Bibby.

Thursday, 16 April : Members' Evening (all welcome)

Saturday 18 April : Sedbergh, Cumbria - Coach Trip

A. Cross

Saturday 25 April : Roch Valley, Rochdale - Car Trip

S. Allen.

Saturday 16 May : South Stack, Anglesey - Coach Trip

S. Allen.

Saturday 30 May : Clitheroe, Lancs. - Car Trip

S. Carr & B. Newing.

Saturday 13 June : Roudsea Reserve, Cumbria - Coach Trip

S. Carr & B. Newing.

Saturday 27 June : Hawkshaw, Bury - Car Trip

M. Gartside & B. Tweedale.

Saturday 11 July : Warton Crag, Lancs. - Coach Trip

P. Stevens.

Saturday 25 July : Grassington/Hebden, Yorks.- Car Trip (NOTE: 9.00 a.m.start)

F. Royle.

Saturday 8 August : Ainsdale, Lancs. - Coach Trip

P.& B. Waddington

Saturday 22 August : Rakewood, Hollingworth Lake - Car Trip

M. Colley

Saturday 12 September : Dane Valley, Staffs/Cheshire - Coach Trip

E. & D. Clutterbuck

Saturday 26 September : Ogden, Newhey – Car Trip

J. Taylor

Saturday 10 October : Delamere Forest, Cheshire – Coach Trip

P. Maddock

Saturday 24 October : Luddenden Valley – Car Trip

E. & D. Clutterbuck

SADDLEWORTH NATURALISTS

All events listed are indoor meetings held at 7.30pm at the Brownhill Visitors' Centre at Dobercross.

Wednesday 12 November : Nature on our Doorstep

Tony Pioli

December : no meeting

Wednesday 14 January : Bird Habitats of the Pennines and Scotland

Gordon Yates

Wednesday 11 February : Plovers and Paths in the Peak District

Derek Yalden

Wednesday 11 March : Dragonflies

Graham Jones

Wednesday 8 April : AGM

Plus members' digital pictures and light refreshments