

---

## MAY 2018

---

- 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday 7.30pm MICROFOSSILS IN NATURE (1)** by Mike Holmes / Mike Asquith. Microfossils are much ignored, but no less interesting compared with their sometimes massive cousins. **MIC**
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday 8.00pm COLOUR PRINTS FINALS - JUBILEE CUP AND DIGITAL ART PRINT** Today the winners from the previous three rounds of our 'Colour Print', and 'Digital Art Print' competitions vie for the annual trophy. Invited Judge. Final Round **PHO**
- 5<sup>th</sup> Saturday HUNSBURY** is the first choice of venue for May. Meet for bus SC12 at 1.09pm. Refreshments available after the walk. **SW**
- 5<sup>th</sup> Saturday 11:00am to 12:30pm OPTICAL PHENOMENA.** We will look at the causes of optical phenomena, how to record and photograph them in particular noctilucent clouds. Please bring along any records or pictures that you might have. **MET**
- 9<sup>th</sup> Wednesday 10.30am - 2.30pm OPEN HOUSE** The Humfrey rooms will be open for members and guests to chat and study the literature and exhibits. Tea and coffee available. **PHO**
- 9<sup>th</sup> Wednesday 2.30pm CALAIS TO MONT ST MICHEL.** Castles will be visited and a medieval quarry which supplied stone for Canterbury Cathedral. **ARC/HIS**
- 9<sup>th</sup> Wednesday 8.00pm SET SUBJECT COMPETITION** A themed competition for up to three digital and/or print images per member per round. Entries in this round to illustrate 'LINES' Round 4 of 4 **PHO**
- 10<sup>th</sup> Thursday 2.30pm THE WONDERFUL WORLD OF LEATHER** by Philip Warner - curator of the National Leather collection. A chance to see and learn about some of the amazing items from the collection currently on display at the Grosvenor Centre in Northampton. **GEN**
- 10<sup>th</sup> Thursday 7.30pm MAIN SOCIETY AGM.**
- 12<sup>th</sup> Saturday** Today we will walk round **SHARMAN'S LAKE**. Meet for bus SC 9A at 1.19pm. Drinks available. **SW**
- 14<sup>th</sup> Monday 7.30pm THE MONSTER IN THE CRAB.** The story of the largest black hole yet detected - OJ287. This is an update to a talk put together 12 years ago. It details the discovery of OJ287, Pro-Am campaigns to observe it since the 1990's, the results of these campaigns up to 2016 and the association with gravity waves. **AST**
- 15<sup>th</sup> Tuesday 7.30pm EXTRACTING MICROFOSSILS FROM GEOLOGICAL SAMPLES. (2)** Mike Holmes / Mike Asquith. A practical session using chalk and limestone samples. If you have specimens please bring them. Suitable samples will be supplied. **MIC**
- 16<sup>th</sup> Wednesday 2pm-3.30pm ICE AGES.** We will look at the history of past ice ages and consider what the implications of the Anthropocene might be for the current interglacial. **MET**
- 16<sup>th</sup> Wednesday 8.00pm MONOCHROME PRINTS FINALS – VIC SEATON CUP AND MONOCHROME GENERAL** Today the winners from the previous three rounds of our 'Monochrome Portrait', and 'General Print' comp's vie for the annual trophy. Invited judge. **PHO**
- 17<sup>th</sup> Thursday 2.30pm KARLEY'S KARST.** Our section President, Séan Karley, with photographs from Britain, Ireland, Europe and around the world introduce us to this characteristic limestone landform; no doubt there will be caves and caverns and a few botanical specimens thrown in! **GEO**
- 19<sup>th</sup> Saturday** Once again we visit **MOULTON** to walk in the meadow and witness the annual Carnival Parade. Meet for bus SC X10 at 10.49am. Refreshments will be available in the village. **SW**
- 23<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday 8.00pm STUDIO NIGHT.** A practical evening where

- members interact and learn from each other. Bring camera and props, an evening using our studio flash, table top photography etc. **PHO**
- 24<sup>th</sup> Thursday 7.00pm-7.30pm IDENTIFICATION SURGERY** NBRC's WILDside Project Coordinator Ryan Clark, will help with anything to do with wildlife identification. Bring specimens or photos (or email the latter to him at wildside@northantsbrc.org.uk). He'll either help you identify or find someone who can amongst local or national specialists.
- 24<sup>th</sup> Thursday 7.30pm WATER BUGS AND OTHER THINGS** Kevin Rowley, county recorder for water bugs talks about the Aquatic invertebrate families found in our local ponds and lakes including what they look like and how they behave. Kevin will open your eyes to these fascinating creatures and talk about their ecologies, importance as indicators and how you can get involved with recording them.
- 26<sup>th</sup> Saturday** A trip to **WICKSTEED PARK** is on offer this Bank Holiday Saturday. Meet for bus SC X4 at 10.50am. Take a picnic in case the café is part of the current renovations. **SW**
- 30<sup>th</sup> Wednesday 8.00pm CORNWALL CUP FINAL** Today the winners from the previous three rounds of our natural history images competition compete for the trophy. Invited Judge. Final Round. **PHO**
- 31<sup>st</sup> Thursday 2.30pm** Lecture to be announced. **ZOO/ORTH**

---

## JUNE 2018

---

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday THE MARINA AT EARLS BARTON** was an enjoyable occasion last year so we will make a return visit. Meet for bus SC X4 at 11.20am. Picnic or sample tea and cake at the café. **SW**
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday 11:00am to 12.30pm D-DAY 1944.** It is often stated that the weather forecast for the D-Day landings was crucial to the success of the operation. We will look at why and discuss some of the techniques used. **MET**
- 5<sup>th</sup> Tuesday 7.30pm WHAT'S IN YOUR BIRD BATH?** By Mike Gibson. Come along and find out what's in your bird bath with the help of a microscope. If your birds love or shun your bathing offerings, bring a sample of the water and bottom deposits from the bath to find out what microscopic wildlife also enjoys the bathing experience. **MIC**
- 6<sup>th</sup> Wednesday 8.00pm OUT AND ABOUT.** Bring along cameras for a night out taking set photographs in Northampton town centre. Then bring them back to the rooms to download ready for comparison on 20th June. **PHO**
- 9<sup>th</sup> Saturday** A walk beside the canal and/or the park at **BANBURY** is this Saturday's destination. Meet for bus SC D2 at 9.15am. Refreshments available in the town or picnic in the park. **SW**
- 11<sup>th</sup> Monday 7.30pm. MONSTERS IN THE DARK** by Dr Matt Bothwell of Cambridge University. Hunting for the Universe's most extreme galaxies'. Galaxies come in all shapes and sizes, and hidden in the very distant Universe lurk the biggest and most extreme of them all. Come along to discover the scale and beauty of these elusive monster galaxies. Guests and visitors are welcome. **AST**
- 13<sup>th</sup> Wednesday 10.30am - 2.30pm OPEN HOUSE** See 9<sup>th</sup> May.
- 13<sup>th</sup> Wednesday 2.30pm LAND'S END TO PORTHCRAWL.** A visit to the Cornish tin mines which led to the Bronze Age, then on to South Wales. **ARC/HIS**
- 13<sup>th</sup> Wednesday 8.00pm SET SUBJECT - TROPHY.** Today the winners from the previous four rounds of our set subjects compete for the trophy. Invited Judge. Final Round. **PHO**
- 14<sup>th</sup> Thursday 2.30pm THE TAYLOR MEMORIAL HALL** Illustrated presentation by section secretary John Peet on the history of the

- remarkable memorial hall in Castilian Street Northampton which was in use until recently by the YWCA and is now grade II listed. **GEN**
- 16<sup>th</sup> Saturday** We always look forward to our annual visit to **FLORE** to admire the floral displays in the Church and Chapel where tea and cake will be on offer! Meet for bus SC D2 at 1.15pm. **SW**
- 19<sup>th</sup> Tuesday 7.30pm. BIOFILMS IN NATURE AND IN THE LABORATORY** by Mike Gibson. How to grow your own cultures using simple techniques for examination through a microscope. **MIC**
- 20<sup>th</sup> Wednesday 2pm-3.30pm REVIEW.** A chance to look at weather for the last year and review our activities including have we improved our phonological records? **MET**
- 20<sup>th</sup> Wednesday 8.00pm IN-HOUSE EVENING** A two part evening, firstly, to look at the photos taken around Northampton, and secondly, depending on time, for club members to have a '15 minutes of fame' showing off their own photographs **PHO**
- 21<sup>st</sup> Thursday Meet 12.30pm for a picnic lunch. FIELD VISIT TO IRCHESTER COUNTRY PARK** led by Sue Barker and Bob Purser. *With new observation posts and interpretation boards, the Wembley Pit, at Irchester Country Park, the county's foremost geological site provides both the opportunity to learn about this aspect of Jurassic geology and the impact on ironstone quarrying. Details to follow.* **GEO**
- 23<sup>rd</sup> Saturday** A new route at **WELLINGBOROUGH** today. Meet for bus SC X4 at 10.50am. Lunch obtainable in the town. **SW**
- 24<sup>th</sup> Sunday 10.00am - 4.00pm THE ANNUAL EXHIBITION OF MICROSCOPY,** Including sales, exhibits, talks and Photo competition: This is another opportunity to meet with fellow microscopists and enthusiasts from around the country and also to see what's on offer in the way of sales items. Why not bring along an exhibit of your own? Sales and exhibits in the morning and lectures in the afternoon. Please contact Mike Gibson for further information. **MIC**
- 25<sup>th</sup> Monday 7.30pm. USING NATURE TO OBSERVE THE UNIVERSE IN X-RAYS** by Prof. Paul O'Brien of Leicester University. Some living creatures use narrow fields of view, while others observe over a very large area. Astronomers also want to vary the way we look to suit the situation. I will describe how we have adapted the vision system of a Lobster to observe the Universe in X-rays, and how the technology is being used in new space missions designed to observe objects from planets to the most distant stars. In particular, I will show how the new Lobster X-ray telescope system will enable us to monitor the violent, evolving Universe. **AST**
- 26<sup>th</sup> Tuesday 7.00pm - 7.30pm IDENTIFICATION SURGERY** NBRC's WILDside Project Coordinator, Ryan Clark. See 24<sup>th</sup> May for details.
- 26<sup>th</sup> Tuesday 7.30pm WILD BEES IN NORTHAMPTONSHIRE AND BEYOND.** Wild bee expert Ryan Clark will give us an introduction to both solitary bees and bumblebees in Northamptonshire and Great Britain as a whole. He will highlight how diverse this amazing group is and talk about their ecology, morphology and how to find out more about them. This will lead onto field trips later on in the year.
- 27<sup>th</sup> Wednesday 8.00pm MONOPOD COMPETITION** Our annual set subject competition depicting religious subjects from any faith. A competition held in honour of Mrs Humfrey's interest in church photography. Up to three entries per person, any mix of prints or projected images. Trophy Presentations The evening concludes with the presentation of the annual trophies. **PHO**
- 28<sup>th</sup> Thursday 2.30pm** Lecture to be announced. **ZOO/ORTH**
- 30<sup>th</sup> Saturday** A local route from **RECTORY FARM TO GREAT BILLING** ends the walks for June. Meet for bus SC1 at 1.19pm. Drinks obtainable after the walk. **SW**