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## SEPTEMBER 2017

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**2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday** We have chosen to repeat last year's enjoyable visit to **YARDLEY HASTINGS** at the time of the annual fete. Meet for bus SC 41 at 12.49pm. Refreshments at the Village Hall. **SW**

**5<sup>th</sup> Tuesday 7.30pm VISUAL ILLUSIONS CLOSE-UP** by Mike Gibson. The world is not always as it seems and this also applies to what we see when looking through a microscope. **MIC**

**6<sup>th</sup> Wednesday 8.00pm MEMBER'S OWN** An evening for members to show off their photos taken during the summer break. Maybe some from Photo Section's impromptu photographic nights, photos taken on holiday, or any other photos members would like to share with the group. **PHO**

**8<sup>th</sup> Friday 2.00 – 4.30pm WILDSIDE IDENTIFICATION SURGERY** – First Friday afternoon of every month, from June to December. NBRC's WILDSIDE Project Coordinator, Ryan Clark, is a young naturalist, who is a mine of information on everything to do with wildlife identification. Bring him your specimens and photos at our meeting rooms (or email the latter to him at [WILDside@NorthantsBRC.org.uk](mailto:WILDside@NorthantsBRC.org.uk). He'll either help you to a correct identification or find someone who can amongst local or national specialists. *This meeting is arranged by the WILDSide project which the NNHS supports with the use of the Humfrey Rooms.*

**9<sup>th</sup> Saturday BRIXWORTH COUNTRY PARK** will be today's venue. Take a picnic or use the park's Café. Meet for bus SC X7 at 11.21am. **SW**

**10<sup>th</sup> Sunday 10am to 4.00pm FLUORESCENCE MICROSCOPY WORKSHOP** – a one day joint meeting with the Quekett Microscopical Club. Guest speakers and presenters. Limited places available. You must book a place at the event by contacting Mike Gibson on [stmarysmrg@yahoo.com](mailto:stmarysmrg@yahoo.com) **MIC**

**10<sup>th</sup> Sunday 11.00am** A walk at **SWADDYWELL PIT NATURE RESERVE**. On the minor road from Ufford to Marholm, just after the crossroads for Helpston, on the left; signed. This site is owned and managed by the Langdyke Countryside Trust. It is in the Parish of Helpstone, in the Soke of Peterborough. Made famous by John Clare in his poetry it has had a chequered history since then. The habitats are varied with some interesting plants. The best of these is perhaps a recent arrival; the rare Autumn Ladies' Tresses Orchid (*Spiranthes spiralis*) last year, and should be in flower for us. Meet at 11.00am. A full day meeting, no on site facilities; bring a nose-bag. The leaders for the day are Seán Karley 01933-225397 & Roger Warren. **BOT**

**11<sup>th</sup> Monday 11.00am to 1.00pm CURATION GROUP**. We meet fortnightly to work on the Society's Collections, cleaning and sorting them and making databases to facilitate their use. No previous experience is needed, all are welcome. Come & have real "hands-on" pleasure with some fascinating objects.

**11<sup>th</sup> Monday 7.30pm COLD DARK MATTER** by Dr Julian Onions of Nottingham University. A welcome return to the NNHS of this popular lecturer. Cold dark matter - is it cold, is it dark and is it matter? We hear a lot about dark matter in astronomy. Some people consider it a fudge. In this talk we'll go through the evidence for dark matter and the history of it, and answer the questions in the title. No particular prior knowledge is assumed. **AST**

**13<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.

**13<sup>th</sup> Wednesday 2.30pm** Trip around **CROMER AND NORTH NORFOLK** by Cyril Sampson, and also the forties weekend in Sherringham. **ARC/HIS**

**13<sup>th</sup> Wednesday 8.00pm SET SUBJECT COMPETITION** A themed competition for up to three digital and/or print images per round. This round is **'DIGITAL ART'**, so it's an opportunity for members to demonstrate their skills in artistic post-shutter processing. Round 1 of 4 **PHO**

**14<sup>th</sup> Thursday 2.30pm EUSTON TO NORTHAMPTON** The journey as seen from the train drivers cab - with commentary and points of interest along the way by section president and rail enthusiast Patrick Rawlinson. **GEN**

**16<sup>th</sup> Saturday** An all-time favourite is the **MARINA AT MARKET**

**HARBOROUGH**. Meet for bus SC X7 at 11.21am. Lunch is available in the town or take a picnic. **SW**

**19<sup>th</sup> Tuesday 7.30pm MOSSES & LICHENS** by Mike Gibson and Russ Sharp. A short presentation, followed by a practical session when we can bring our own samples and/or examine specimens from the society's extensive collection under the microscope. **MIC**

**20<sup>th</sup> Wednesday 8.00pm PHOTO MOUNTING, PLUS ADVENTURES IN AUDIO VISUALS** by Steve Dormer. A two part evening. The first is the postponed demonstration by Steve of how to cut your own photo mounts. For the second part Steve will speak about his recent interest in making Audio visual presentations, and then demonstrate some of his results. **PHO**

**21<sup>st</sup> Thursday VISIT TO OXFORD MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY** to see geological exhibits from Northamptonshire including William Smith's unfinished geological map of Northamptonshire. We will be leaving from the Humfrey Rooms at 9.30am. Please sign the list in the Rooms by 14th September or contact Bob Purser 01604 785836, [purser.bob@btinternet.com](mailto:purser.bob@btinternet.com). **GEO**

**23<sup>rd</sup> Saturday** It is time we returned to **DELAPRE** now that the site has reopened. Meet for bus SC 7 at 1.36pm. We can also sample the new café. **SW**

**25<sup>th</sup> Monday 11.00am to 1.00pm CURATION GROUP** see 11<sup>th</sup> September

**25<sup>th</sup> Monday TELESCOPIC TOPICS EVENING**. An evening of member contributions. Please let the secretary know if there is something you would like to present to our section. We will hopefully have lots of images from the USA of the total eclipse from Jackson Wyoming, and a few images of Perseids. **AST**

**27<sup>th</sup> Wednesday 8.00pm UNDERWOOD CUP** A competition for members to submit pictorial images on any subject. Up to three projected images allowed per member per round. Round 1 of 3 **PHO**

**28<sup>th</sup> Thursday 2.30pm** Lecture to be announced. **ZOO/ORTH**

**28<sup>th</sup> Thursday 7.30pm THE WONDER OF WETLANDS:** The Freshwater Habitat Trust's Peter Case will explain what makes wetlands – and especially ponds- so wonderful, what puts them at threat and how the survey work by PondNet volunteers across the UK, not least in Northants and the East Midlands, will help make a positive difference.

*This presentation is arranged by the WILDSide project which the NNHS supports with the use of the Humfrey Rooms.*

**30<sup>th</sup> Saturday** An autumn walk in **HARLESTONE FIRS** brings this month's programme to a close. Meet bus SC 96 at 1.39pm. Tea at Garden Centre. **SW**

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## OCTOBER 2017

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**3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday 7.30pm RHEINBERG ILLUMINATION** by Mike Gibson and Mike Asquith. – Bring some colour into your microscopic world. With the aid of these very cheap and simple optical staining techniques which can be used with most microscopes. Bring your own sweet wrappers! **MIC**

**4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday 8.00pm STUDIO LIGHTING** by James Rudd. James will bring along some of his studio equipment for use in a hands-on workshop night. After a short talk he will then be on hand to give practical help and advice with our studio lighting. **PHO**

**5<sup>th</sup> Thursday 2.30pm WHAT WE SAW THIS YEAR**. Members and guests are invited to bring photos, specimens, or stories relating to things they have seen during the last twelve months, and to talk about our future programme. **BOT**

**6<sup>th</sup> Friday 2.00 – 4.30pm WILDSIDE IDENTIFICATION SURGERY** – Please see the 7<sup>th</sup> September entry for full meeting details.

**7<sup>th</sup> Saturday ROTHWELL** is a very interesting place to visit. Meet for bus SC X4 at 10.20am. Various venues on offer for refreshments. **SW**

**9<sup>th</sup> Monday 11.00am to 1.00pm CURATION GROUP** see 11<sup>th</sup> September

**9<sup>th</sup> Monday 7.30pm TELESCOPIC TOPICS EVENING**. An evening of member contributions. Including what's on the meridian at 9 pm this evening? In September the sky really starts to get darker earlier, just what we have been waiting for all summer long! Please let the secretary know if there is something you would like to present to our section. Guests are welcome as usual. **AST**

**11<sup>th</sup> Wednesday 10.30am - 2.30pm OPEN HOUSE** See the 13<sup>th</sup> September entry for meeting details.

**11<sup>th</sup> Wednesday 2.30pm** Due to the success of the last slide show; now a trip to **EASTBOURNE AND LONDON** will be on show, by Richard Young. **ARC/HIS**

**11<sup>th</sup> Wednesday 8.00pm MCPF PORTFOLIO OF PRINTS AND DIGITAL IMAGES** An informative evening viewing the award winning prints and digital images, with judges' comments, from the Midland Counties Photographic Federation's 2016 Photofolio competition. **PHO**

**12<sup>th</sup> Thursday 2.30pm GEOFF STONE NATURE PHOTOGRAPHY** Some short audio visual presentations by wildlife and landscape photographer Geoff Stone on a selection of varied and diverse natural history themes. **GEN**

**14<sup>th</sup> Saturday** The trees in and around **LINGS WOOD** should be in their autumn colours, meet for bus SC 2 at 1.30pm. Tea at Weston Favell Centre. **SW**

**17<sup>th</sup> Tuesday 7.30pm MACRO AND MICRO FUNGI** by Mike Gibson and John Houghton. An introduction to these unique organisms followed by a practical session looking at samples under the microscope. Bring your own fungi if you can, or we can supply a selection on the night. **MIC**

**18<sup>th</sup> Wednesday 8.00pm JUDGES – LOVE 'EM OR HATE 'EM?** by Trevor Rudkin. One of our regular judges, Trevor will give members an insight into the parameters he uses when judging photo competitions. Followed with an interactive session where volunteers can have a go at judging his photos, or members can bring along a photo they would like comment on. **PHO**

**19<sup>th</sup> Thursday 2.30pm SCRATCH, FIZZ AND STREAK**. Minerals are the building blocks on which geology is built. Bob Purser will lead a practical introduction to mineral identification, using examples from our extensive mineral collection. No previous experience necessary. Bring a 10x lens if you can. **GEO**

**20<sup>th</sup> Friday 7.30pm THE 2017 HUMFREY LECTURE: THE ODYSSEY OF TOMMY ATKINS** by Andy Lound. We welcome back the very popular Andy Lound, this time with a historical presentation / performance. The story of the Great War as told through the eyes of a generic British soldier, Tommy Atkins, told in a series of letters and diary entries to his wife Alice. Highly recommended.

**21<sup>st</sup> Saturday** We return to **BEDFORD** – perhaps to walk in the town's park this time. Meet for SC 41 at 10.49am. Refreshments obtainable in the town. **SW**

**22<sup>nd</sup> Sunday 11.00am FUNGUS FORAY AND GALL GALLOP** (Old Sulehay Forest & Ring Haw Nature Reserve. Grid Ref. (Meeting place.) TL 52) 05.4 98.0 Directions:- From Wansford take road to Yarwell. On reaching cross roads at the village of Yarwell turn onto the Sulehay Road. Drive west for 1.2 Km/ ¾ mile. Where road takes a right-angle turn to the North there is a gate on the left. We have permission to drive through this and park in the Ring Haw part of the reserve. Gate is locked at other times, so please arrive early! Meet at 11.00am. Parking outside the reserve is limited. No facilities; bring lunch, wellies etc. Leaders Roger Warren and Seán Karley 01933-225397 **BOT**

**23<sup>rd</sup> Monday 11.00am to 1.00pm CURATION GROUP** see 11<sup>th</sup> September

**24<sup>th</sup> Tuesday 7.30pm SECRET WORLD:** Lowland England's lichen communities are barely recognisable from the situation that existed a few decades ago. Almost every outing results in new county records. Lichens are misunderstood and under-recorded but beautiful and endlessly fascinating. Mark Powell of the British Lichen Society invites you to explore their surprising world. *This presentation is arranged by the WILDSide project which the NNHS supports with the use of the Humfrey Rooms.*

**25<sup>th</sup> Wednesday 8.00pm PRINT COMPETITIONS** Up to three entries per member per round for each of the four competitions. Monochrome General, Monochrome Portrait (Vic Seaton Cup), Colour Print (Jubilee Cup), Digital Art. Round 1 of 3 **PHO**

**26<sup>th</sup> Thursday 2.30pm** Lecture to be announced. **ZOO/ORTH**

**28<sup>th</sup> Saturday** Today's choice for a walk is the village of **HARDINGSTONE**. Meet for bus SC 7 at 1.36pm. Drinks available locally. **SW**

**30<sup>th</sup> Monday 7.30pm METEORITES** by Dr Vic Pearson of the Open University. The section welcomes back Dr Pearson for a talk on these sometimes spectacular visitors from our solar system. **AST**