

Programme of events: April to June 2017

For use by BNSS members only

April			
Note No lectures on Wednesday in summer months			
Saturday 1st April		10.30 – 12.30	Young Archaeologists Club, Dorchester. Visit.
Saturday 1st Apr 2:30pm	Science	“Future Technologies for Humanity over 100-10,000 years” <i>speaker: Brendan Macnamara</i>	<i>Chairman:</i> Mary Thornton
With exponential growth in Energy sources, Genetics, Robotics, and Space Travel we will master the Solar System and Human longevity. This is an optimistic view of the road to amazing futures.			
Tuesday 4th April	12:30pm Programme Committee Meeting		
Tuesday 4th Apr 7:30pm		No Talk	<i>Chairman:</i>
Friday 7 Apr	10:00-14:00 Preparation for Open Day		
Saturday 8th April	10:30am to 4:00pm OPEN DAY Please see Website for details.		
Mon 10th Apr	Trustees Meeting (17th is a Bank Holiday)		
Tuesday 11th Apr 7:30pm	Astronomy Lecture	How Astronomy has Changed <i>Speaker: Dr Lilian Hobbs</i>	<i>Chairman:</i> James Fradgley
Lilian has a computer science doctorate from Southampton Uni, and her work since then has involved designing database software. Her interest in astronomy has been a long-time passion. Over the years technology and theoretical understanding have given us a progressively deeper knowledge of astronomy			
Thursday 13th Apr 10:30am	Geology Field Meeting	Kimmeridge. BH20 5PE Visit museum and look at the bay. SY915 796	<i>Leader: Ray Chapman</i>
£8 entrance to museum. £5 Beach car park			
Fri 14 -Mon 17th Apr	EASTER BNSS Closed		
Tuesday 18th Apr 7:30pm	Geography Lecture	Planning an African National Park <i>Speaker: Martin Western</i>	<i>Chairman:</i>
Resolving conflict between varied stakeholders			
Thursday 20th Apr 10:30am	Botany Field Meeting	Garston Wood E118 SU 003 194	<i>Leader: Mike Downing</i>
Level walking through this nature reserve (distance: c5km, height change 52 metres).			
Saturday 22nd Apr 2:30pm	General Lecture	Dorset and Somerset Air Ambulance <i>Speaker: Dr John Hoyle</i>	<i>Chairman:</i> Mike Skivington
Dr John Hoyle is a retired consultant anaesthetist, and will be talking about the work the Air ambulance does in getting to out of the way locations.			
Tuesday 25th Apr 7:30pm	General Lecture	Turkmenistan. <i>Speaker: Dr Jonathan Edwards:</i>	<i>Chairman:</i> Mary Thornton
A little known state in Central Asia with a diverse environment and rich culture			
Thursday 27th Apr 10:30am	Botany Field Meeting	Minchington Cross Map Ref: E118 ST 956 166	<i>Leader: Margaret Evelyn</i>
Early Spring Flowers, including Toothwort and Early Purple Orchid. Some steep slopes. Height change 70 metres approx. Stout footwear recommended.			
Saturday 29th April 12.00	PRESENTATION AWARDS	Results of the Photographic Competition 2016	<i>Chairman:</i> Martin Western
Saturday 29th April 2:30	Entomology Lecture	Spring and early Summer insects in Dorset. <i>Speaker: Mark Spencer</i>	<i>Chairman:</i>

Sunday 30th Apr 11:00am	Entomology Field Meeting	Martin Down Nature Reserve. SU 037201. <i>We will meet in the car park off the A354 Salisbury to Blandford road. Our walk over the site will be fairly flat, though be aware of loose stones on paths. We will walk the Chalk Downland side of the site first, returning to the cars for lunch (at about 13.00hrs.) then those that wish to continue, will cross the road to the Verditch side, where the site is mostly a Woodland habitat for the afternoon session, which should end back at the vehicles by about 15.30 to 16.00 Hrs.</i> <i>Stout Walking Boots (not wellingtons !)</i> a walking stick if required, food and drink if staying for lunch (water definitely). Camera, binoculars and a good pocket lens if you have one. N.B. - NO BUTTERFLY NETS ARE ALLOWED ON THIS SITE WITHOUT PERMITS !!	Leader: Mark Spencer
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MAY

Tuesday 2nd May		12:30pm Programme Committee Meeting	
Tuesday 2nd May 7:30pm	Science Lecture	Working together for our rivers in Dorset. Speaker: Fiona Bowles	Chairman: Grenham Ireland
Fiona is an Independent Water and Catchment Scientist who has previously worked at Wessex water and the Freshwater Biological Association. Fiona will discuss some of the many local initiatives she has been involved in to monitor and improve our river environments.			
Saturday 6th May 2.30pm	Joint Lecture with Historical Association.	The idea of the Italian Renaissance: images and ideas from Petrarch to Burckhardt Speaker: Dr Jonathan Woolfson Deputy Director, Sotheby's Institute of Art, London	Chairman Robert Aitkenhead HA
Tuesday 9th May 12.30pm	Museum meeting		
Tuesday 9th May 7:30pm	Astronomy Lecture	Gravitational waves Speaker: Mark Gibbons	Chairman: James Fradgely
Since the LIGO observatory detected gravitational waves a few months ago, we have had several requests to include this subject			
Thursday 11th May 10:30 – c2:30	Geology Field Meeting	Burton Bradstock DT76 4RF, SY490 890	Leader: Ray Chapman
Meet in Hive Beach NT car-park			
Saturday 13th May	Young Explorers Group 10:00 - 12:30 Theme: "Butterflies and Moths" Please see website for details.		
Saturday 13th May 2:30pm	Entomology Lecture	Lepidoptera, from Greedy Larvae to Flowers on the Wing ! Speaker: Mark Spencer	Chairman:
Mark is Chair of Entomology and has been rearing insects for many years. A Study of the Lifecycles and Survival Methods of some of the Worlds Amazing Butterflies and Moths.			
Monday 15th May	Trustees Meeting		
Tuesday 16th May 7:30pm	Assembly	Mike Skivington	
Thursday 18th May 10:30 – c2:30	Botany Field Meeting	Durlston Country Park Map Ref: OL15 SZ 032 773	Leader: Mike Downing
Meet in Car Park (by meter). Looking for early Orchids, Sea Mayweed, Tufted & Lesser Centaury, Corky-fruited Dropwort and Wild Clary (distance: c3.4km, height change 66m).			
Saturday 20th May 2:30pm	Zoology Lecture	Birds, Beaks & Feathers Speaker: Jonathan MacGowan	Chairman: Mark Spencer
Exploring anatomy of Birds			
Sunday 21st May 11.00-4.00pm	Entomology Field Mtg	Martin Down Nature Reserve SU 037201. <i>See notes to Sunday 30th April To observe any interesting early summer butterflies or day flying moths, target species Grizzled / Dingy Skippers, Adonis/Small Blues, Marsh Fritillary.</i>	Leader: Mark Spencer

Tuesday 23rd May 7:30pm	Stephanie Roberts Memorial Lecture	“Finding Durotopis - Adventures in Prehistoric Dorset” <i>Speaker: Miles Russell</i>	<i>Chairman:</i> Brian Popple
	New archaeological discoveries in Dorset have completely changed our understanding of Iron Age Durotriges tribe and of prehistoric life before the arrival of the Roman army in the 1st century AD. Key to this has been Bournemouth University's excavations at Winterborne Kingston where a large, pre-Roman settlement, dubbed 'Durotopis', has been uncovered. In this talk, Dr Miles Russell, co-director of the Durotriges Big Dig will outline the major finds and explain what it all means for southern Britain.		
Thursday 25 th May 10.30am	Botany Field Meeting	Clearbury Rings Map ref: E130/SU 165 255	<i>Leader;</i> Margaret Evelyn
		Looking especially for Burnt Tip orchid and Field Fleawort. Some steep climbs. 100 metre height change approx.	
Saturday 27th May 2:30pm	Geography Lecture	The Severn Barrage. A legal paradox <i>Speaker: Tilak Ginige</i>	<i>Chairman:</i> Martin Western
	The impact of the barrage on Ecology and Conservation		
Sunday 28 th May 11.00	Entomology Field Meeting	Slades Farm Community Garden. Car Park on Ensbury Avenue, BH104HF	<i>Leader: Mark Spencer</i>
	<i>This is a community Garden Project set up for wildlife and organic vegetable growing. Mini beast hunt / bioblitz to see what species are on site. Most equipment should be available on site. Bring picnic lunch if required.</i>		
Tuesday 30th May 7:30pm		No Talk	<i>Chairman:</i>
JUNE			
Thursday 1 st June 10.30am	Clifftop Reptile Walk. Meet at Eastover Cliff Drive, outside Wentworth Girls School. Leader Jonathan MacGowan. Looking for sand lizards.		
Friday 2 nd June 7:30pm	Barn Dance. Old Pull and Push.		
Saturday 3 th June 2:30pm	Astronomy Lecture	Astronomy and Philosophy <i>Speaker: Dr Martin Griffiths</i>	<i>Chairman:</i> James Fradgley
	We will look at the impact astronomical discoveries have had on various forms of philosophy, both ancient and modern. After 17 years as a lecturer at the University of South Wales, Martin is now Director of the Brecon Beacons Observatory. He is an enthusiastic science communicator, lecturer, writer and professional astronomer utilizing astronomy, history and science fiction as tools to encourage greater public understanding of science.		
Tuesday 6 th June 7:30pm	Geography Lecture	Dorset from the Air. 1946 and now <i>Speaker: Gordon Le Pard</i>	<i>Chairman:</i> Martin Western
Wednesday 7 th June	BNSS Coach Trip		
Saturday 10th June	Young Explorers Group (10:00 – 12:30pm) Theme: “Trees” Please see website for details.		
Saturday 10th June 2:30pm	Lecture	TREES <i>Speaker: Emma Tomlin</i>	<i>Chairman: Mary Thornton</i>
	Emma will tell us about the Greenwood Tree project and her current research in Dorset.		
Tuesday 13 ^h June 7:30pm	Science Lecture	The importance and life history of Plankton Dr Daniel Franklin	<i>Chairman:</i> Grenham Ireland
	Dan is a Senior Lecturer in Aquatic Environmental Science at Bournemouth University and an expert on the life cycle of these phytoplankton. He will discuss various aspects of the ecology and physiology of these important organisms gained from both field and laboratory experiments		
Thursday 15 ^h June 10:30am	Botany Field Meeting	Plain Heath Map Ref: OL22 SU 215 984	Leader; Mike Faherty
	Meet in lay-by opposite Forest Lodge. am: level walking, skirting a bog. pm: descent/ascent 5m. Distance: c3 miles. Waterproof boots recommended Early summer flora on heathland, bog & stream, incl. Coral Necklace		

Saturday 17 th June, 2.30pm		Identification workshop in BNSS Followed by searching in the field	Mark Spencer, Steve Limburn & Brian Popple Jonathan McGowan
	Bring any weird wonderful or wacky treasures or photographs found in your back garden, on a walk or handed down from an ancestor, ask the experts what is it?		
Mon 19 th June	Trustees Meeting		
Tuesday 20 th June 7.30pm	Entomology lecture	Trapping, Treacling, Beating, Searching and Sweeping, Just How Do We you catch Our Insects for the Records Speaker: Mark Spencer	Chairman.
Wednesday 21st June 7-9.00 pm	Entomology Study group	Meet the Livestock close up and discuss the pros and cons of captive breeding of arthropods, Insects, spiders etc.	Leader: Mark Spencer
	7.00-9.00pm Note this is an evening event to allow for people who would otherwise be at work or school if it was in the Afternoon. If you are nervous around live creatures (however many legs) either let us know on the day, or give this one a miss !		
Thursday 22 rd June 10:00am	Geology Field Meeting	Wytch Farm and Purbeck Mineral and Mining Museum, BH20 5DW, car park £5. SY957827	Leader: Ray Chapman
Saturday 24 th June 2:30pm	Entomology Lecture	The Beauty of Martin Down's Insects and Flowers. Speaker: Mark Spencer	Chairman:
	A look at some of the wonderful plants and Insects on this fantastic site and their relationships with each other.		
Sunday 25 th June 11.00- 4.00pm	Entomology Field meeting	Martin Down Nature Reserve SU 037201. See notes for Sunday 30 th April. To see spectacular high summer insects, such as the Dark Green Fritillary and many other Butterflies and day flying moths. N.B. this site has many species of Orchid and much other interesting wildlife!	Mark Spencer
Tuesday 27 th June		No Talk	
Thursday 29 th June 10.30am	Botany Field Meeting	Knoll Beach, Studland Map Ref: OL15 SZ 0344 8349	Leader: Sue Clark
	Meet in Knoll Beach Car Park, near café. N.B. Car park charge – free for NT members. Level walking with some sand dunes. Distance c3km, height change 7m		

Any suggestion for talks or sections gratefully received by any member of the committee or email contact@bnss.org.uk.

Please can someone help with promoting a General Interest Section, or Marine, Or Conservation or any topic that appeals? We have lost our birding section, any help gratefully received.