

Programme of events: January to March 2024

For use by BNSS members only

JANUARY			
BNSS is closed until 9th January.			
Tuesday 9th Jan 7:30pm	Zoom	Green Living Guide to Sustainable Dorset. <i>Speaker: Jennifer Morisetti</i>	<i>Chairman:</i> Mary Thornton
	What is the Dorset Climate Action Network? Who is it for, why is it important and how can we access it?		
Saturday 13th Jan 10.00-1230	Young Explorers	Microscopes	<i>Leader</i> Steve Limburn
Saturday 13th Jan 2.30pm	In house	The Georgian Traveller <i>Speaker Gordon Le Pard</i>	<i>Chairman:</i> Mary Thornton
	In the eighteenth century, travel became easier for everybody. Roads were improved, canals and later railways were developed, and it became much safer to travel by sea. At the same time the idea of travelling for pleasure began, from seaside holidays to the Grand Tour of Europe and further to North America and the Far East. This presentation is based around artefacts, the majority of which will be original. Stories will be developed from maps and guidebooks for the traveller, to the equipment a traveller was advised to take, souvenirs from across the world and objects brought back for armchair travellers.		
Tuesday 16th Jan 7:30pm	Zoom Only	Monitoring the Environment from space. <i>Speaker: Dr Robin Wilson</i>	<i>Chairman:</i> James Fradgley
	Dr Robin Wilson is a freelance academic and data scientist with a PhD in satellite imaging and complex systems simulation. Hundreds of satellites orbit the Earth every day, collecting data that is used for monitoring almost all aspects of the environment. This talk will introduce to you the world of satellite imaging, take you beyond the 'pretty pictures' to the scientific data behind them, and show you how the data can be applied to monitor plant growth, air pollution and more.		
Tuesday 23rd Jan 7:30pm	In house Only	Magic Madagascar where Camouflage is King. <i>Speaker: Mark Spencer</i>	<i>Chairman:</i> James Dovey
	A winter escape to a sub-tropical land to see some of the best defences of some amazing creatures.		
Saturday 27th Jan 2:30pm	In house zoom	The Ancient Technology Centre at Cranborne <i>Speaker Antony Whitlock</i>	<i>Chairman:</i> Robin Hewitt
	This talk will describe the challenges of building and maintaining archaeological replicas including navigating the compromises made in order to be visitor friendly and more accessible. It is based on the work the Ancient Technology Centre does at Stonehenge. It will also look at opportunities to actively experiment with different roofing styles as it is not known for certain what the buildings would have looked like.		
Tuesday 30th Jan 7:30pm	Zoom Only	Natural Wonders and the Medieval Understanding of Nature <i>Speaker. Dr Andy Evans</i>	<i>Chairman:</i> Margaret Ross
	Natural wonder lists from the Medieval period provide us with an insight into early understanding of the natural world, from both folk and church sources. This talk will introduce some of the unusual wonders, including from the early list, <i>de mirabilibus britanniae</i> ('The Wonders of Britain'), and discusses those that can still be visited, and the progression to early modern understanding of the natural world. Dr Andy Evans has published in this area, and has interests encompassing computer science with socio-environmental modelling,		

		FEBRUARY	
Tuesday 6 th Feb 7:30pm	Zoom	The forgotten flora of Dorset <i>Speaker: Robin Walls</i>	<i>Chairman:</i> Charlie Light
	Robin Walls is the Dorset County recorder of the Botanical Society of Britain and Ireland. He is widely involved in many aspects of the flora of Dorset and has a number of roles. These include cataloguing the Dorchester Museum herbarium in its new home, being on the committee of the Dorset Floral Group as recorder, working with Identiplant, teaching field identification skills on-line to name a few.		
Saturday 10 th Feb 10.00-12.30pm	Young Explorers	Flight (part 3)	<i>Chairman</i> Steve Limburn
Saturday 10 th Feb 2.30pm	In house Zoom	100 years of Bournemouth News <i>Speaker: Hattie Miles</i>	<i>Chairman:</i> Grenham Ireland
	Hattie will tell us about stories that have affected the town over the last 100 years, how they have been gathered and received from newspapers to radio to TV to digital and our current 24 hour news and will look ahead to the future.		
Tuesday 13 th Feb 7:30pm	In house Zoom	Gravitational Wave Astronomy <i>Speaker: Professor Nils Andersson</i>	<i>Chairman:</i> James Fradgley
	Nils Andersson is Professor of Applied Mathematics at the University of Southampton. He is an expert on Einstein's relativity and a wide range of related problems in astrophysics. He served as President of the International Society of General Relativity and Gravitation 2019-22. Amongst scientists he is well known for his monograph Gravitational-Wave Astronomy: Exploring the Dark Side of the Universe, while the younger public may know him better as award winning author of a number of children's books.		
Tuesday 20 th Feb 7:30pm	Zoom only	The work of the Whale and Dolphin Conservation charity <i>Speaker: Bernard Purrier</i>	<i>Chairman:</i> Robin Hewitt
	The WDC is dedicated to the vision where every whale and dolphin is safe and free. The WDC has expert-led teams in the UK and worldwide that work across the whole spectrum of threats, from climate breakdown to accidental entanglement in fishing gear. This talk will explain the conservation and research work done by the WDC and their future ambitions that will provide protection for these creatures.		
Saturday 24 th Feb 2:30pm	In House	Land of the Somer people <i>Speaker: Mike Read</i>	<i>Chairman:</i> James Dovey
	Mike's many trips to all of the nature reserves on the Somerset Levels reveals some beautiful wildlife images within a mesmerising landscape. We'll travel through the seasons, see 6 members of the heron family and much other wildlife along the way.		
Tuesday 27 th Feb 7:30pm	Zoom	Fungus Identification using DNA "Now I Know Why I Was Confused". <i>Speaker: Eric Janke</i>	<i>Chairman:</i> Pam Field
	Eric has been an active member of the Hampshire Fungus Recording Group for 30 years and is now its Chair. With a training in the physical sciences and many years in the computer industry he jumped at the opportunity to get involved with DNA barcoding as part of the Lost and Found Fungi project when it was offered to him just before lockdown.		

		MARCH	
Tuesday 5 th March 7:30pm	Zoom	Using 3D imaging to take people back in Time <i>speakers</i> Dr Mariza Dima and Dr Damon Daylamani-Zad	<i>Chairman:</i> Margaret Ross
	The research, being undertaken with English Heritage, National Trust, and similar American organisations, explores how digital heritage performance, using Mixed Reality technologies, can aid heritage sites. Some UK and US based heritage organisations have raised concern over outdated exhibition styles, looking to curatorial innovation to attract more diverse, and younger, audiences. This research investigates the combination of immersive technologies and immersive performance as tools for decolonisation, that has the potential to attract diverse 21st century audiences.		
Saturday 9 th March 1030-1230	Young Explorers	Astronomy	<i>Chairman:</i> Steve Limburn
Saturday 9 th Mar 2:30pm British Science Week	In house Zoom	Unlocking the secrets of synchronised mass spawning events in marine worms <i>Speaker:</i> Dr Laetitia Gunton	<i>Chairman:</i> Grenham Ireland
	Dr. Gunton is a Teaching Fellow at the University of Portsmouth. Her specialty is marine invertebrates, and she has worked in museums in the UK and Australia and led international research groups. As part of “British Science Week” theme “Time” she will tell us about how ‘timing’ is important to reproduction in marine invertebrates and what controls it.		
Tuesday 12 th Mar 7:30pm British Science Week	In house Zoom	Inside stars - cooking pots for making elements <i>Speaker</i> James Fradgley	<i>Chairman:</i> Malcolm Gould
	What sorts of stars are there? A glimpse into hydrogen burning processes. The formation of carbon and oxygen: the triple-alpha reaction. Other light elements. Medium weight elements up to calcium. The silicon burning network. Heavy element synthesis. Supernovae and heavy elements.		
Tuesday 19 th Mar 7:30pm	Zoom	Sudden or degenerative sight loss - how accessibility software and technology can help <i>Speaker:</i> Kris Gibson	<i>Chairman:</i> Margaret Ross
	Kris Gibson from Southampton Sight will discuss supporting the visually impaired community on what, how, and where assistive technology can help them connect to the internet, negotiate smart phones, and retain independence. Himself severely sight impaired, Kris will also touch upon the issues of employment, the support available, and working with sight loss. Having been born with a degenerative eye condition, it is fair to say that Kris Gibson comes with a lifetime’s experience. Kris believes passionately that the loss of sight does not mean the loss of life and strives to meet the needs of others to support independent and full living. After all, in this brave new world of high-tech wizardry, where there’s a will, there’s an app!		
Saturday 23 rd Mar 2:30pm	In House only	Saving the Stone Curlew. <i>Speaker</i> Keith Betton	<i>Chairman</i> James Dovey
	With the help of local farmers, the nests and chicks of this iconic bird have been protected and the birds have prospered. Keith will explain his and RSPB’s involvement over the last 15 years.		
Tuesday 26 th Mar 7:30pm	Zoom In house	Assembly	<i>Chairman</i> Grenham Ireland
	Quiz from Bill Coombes		

Last Opening Dates for 2023

December 28th, 29th & 30th Museum open to the
public.
10.00-4.00pm

2024

April 6th & 7th Spring Open Weekend

April 27th Photography Competition Results and
Talks

June 22nd Garden Event (pm)