

Programme of events: April to June 2024

For use by BNSS members only

		April	
Tuesday 2nd April 7.30pm	Zoom only	Giant Birds <i>Speaker: Tony Fulford</i>	<i>Chair</i> James Dovey
	Only small, volant dinosaurs (ie...little birds) survived the KT – Extinction events. There was then a gap in the market for large animals, often filled by mammals. Some birds, also, grew to enormous sizes. Avian giants that evolution threw up will be met. Many have come and gone over the last 66 million years, but the Palaeognaths are still with us!		
Friday 5th April	1000-1230	Preparation morning	
Saturday 6th April	10.00-4.00pm	OPEN DAY – DONATIONS Invited from visitors All our Museum rooms will be Open with stewards on hand to answer queries about the exhibits. Tea and coffee available	
Sunday 7th April	10.00-4.00pm	OPEN DAY – DONATIONS Invited from visitors All our Museum rooms will be Open with stewards on hand to answer queries about the exhibits. Tea and coffee available	
Tuesday 9th April 7.30pm	Zoom	Asian Snakes <i>Speaker: Stuart Graham</i>	<i>Chair</i> Mary Thornton
	Snakebite is a significant Neglected Tropical Disease in India, impacting hundreds of thousands of people yearly, so knowing your snakes is important. Come along to hear some intriguing stories. Stuart has been studying Asian snakes and discovered new species.		
Saturday 13th April 1000-1230	YE	Archaeology	<i>Leader</i> Steve Limburn
Saturday 13th April 2.30pm	In house and Zoom	Aviation around Poole Harbour 1910-1976 <i>Speaker: Kevin Patience</i>	<i>Chair</i> Robin Hewitt
	This talk is about the part Poole Bay played in connection with aviation from 1910–1976. Seaplanes operated from Poole in the First World War and in 1939 the harbour was taken over by Imperial Airways as a base for the Empire Class flying boats. The Second World War saw Poole become one of the busiest airports in the world operating flying boats and seaplanes. Brownsea Island became a STARFISH decoy base and was part of the defences in the protection of the Royal Navy cordite factory at Holton Heath. Kevin will also discuss the Battle of Britain and how in June 1944 Poole was a key port for the D Day invasion.		
Tuesday 16th April 7.30pm	In house and Zoom	4 Short Talks: The Hubble Tension Earliest Stars What are Neutron Stars made of? The Sun's p-p nuclear reaction	<i>Chair</i> James Fradgley
		<i>Speaker: James Fradgley</i>	
James has been our Resident Astronomy Chair for the last 18 years and is always an enthusiastic speaker. Come and hear his explanations about these varied and interesting topics.			
Saturday 20th April 2.30pm	In house	WW1 - Bournemouth Volunteer Organisations <i>Speaker: Dorothy Gill</i>	<i>Chair</i> Steve Limburn
		Dorothy will talk about the various volunteer groups present at the start of the war including the charabancs and ambulances, the Belgian Refugees, a Famous Toy Factory, the Gypsy Motorcycle Club, Cartoons, Flag Days and the Hospitals - Military & Auxiliary	

Tuesday 23rd April 7.30pm	In house and Zoom	Fynbos in Alum Chine <i>Speaker: Andy Allflatt</i>	<i>Chair</i> Jill Abbot
	Andy is a senior member of the BCP gardens and landscaping team, but earlier in his career he was working in the Cape region of South Africa. He is bringing his experience of that unique natural vegetation, known as fynbos, to the Alum Chine Tropical Gardens. He will share his objectives and progress in this challenging task.		
Wednesday 24th April 1000-1500	Botany Field Meeting	Durlston Country Park	<i>Leader</i> Charlie Light
	Looking for early flowering orchids, and other chalkland plants. Wear suitable clothing, walking boots, hat, sunscreen etc take water.		
Saturday 27th April 3.00-6.00pm	In house Only	2023 Photography Competition Results and Awards Ceremony 'Connecting the Old with the New'	<i>Chair</i> Eleni Dimitriou
	Our key speaker this year is Trevor Parsons. Trevor Parsons is a local wildlife photographer with an amazing story to tell about the healing power of photography. Having experienced the power of nature and photography as a self-help healing tool during his experiences of mental illness, Trevor now has a passion to share his story and to help others.		
Tuesday 30th April 7.30pm		What is Back Pain? How to keep it at Bay? Healthy Backs and Healthy Moving <i>Speaker: Neil Osbourne</i>	<i>Chair</i> Mary Thornton
	Neil is the AECC University College Clinical Director and is passionate about helping the general public maintain healthy bodies. He works with all levels of the NHS, students and even the REDBULL F1 racing team!		

		MAY	
Tuesday 7th May 7.30pm	Zoom	The Crop Circle Mystery <i>Speaker: Andy Thomas</i>	<i>Chair</i> Margaret Ross
	With stunning visuals, Andy explores the extraordinary phenomenon of crop circles, the intricate shapes which appear in fields around the world each summer and still defy total explanation despite media scepticism and much debate. This lively and inspiring presentation explains the fascinating history of the mysterious patterns up to the present and explores both the amazing designs and the many intriguing and imaginative theories put forward to explain them over the years. Andy Thomas is a leading researcher into unexplained mysteries and is the world's most prolific writer on crop circles. In addition to his many books, he has made numerous radio and TV appearances: including on BBC 1 and 2, Channel 4, Sky 1 as well as global programmes on the National Geographic and History channels.		
Saturday 11th May 1000-1230	YE	Flight Part 2	<i>Leader</i> Steve Limburn
Saturday 11th May 2.30pm	In house only	Birds in Lytchett Bay <i>Speaker: Jonathan McGowan</i>	<i>Chair</i> James Dovey
	Poole harbour's northern section of Lytchett Bay is very bio diverse especially with regard to bird species - many waders, ducks, passerines and raptors. Surrounded by nature reserves, hides, and a variety of differing habitats, the area is always buzzing with activity with both common and rare species to be seen and heard.		
Tuesday 14th May 7.30pm	In house and Zoom	Piracy around the Galapagos <i>Speaker: Paul Mc Farling</i>	<i>Chair</i> Jill Abbot
	Paul will give another of his beautifully illustrated talks, this time telling us about piracy and other history of the fascinating islands where he lives and works for much of the year.		
Wednesday 15th May 1000-1500	Botany Field trip	Cowards Marsh and St Catherine's Hill	<i>Leader:</i> Charlie Light
	Looking for spring plants on marsh and drier ground		

Tuesday 21st May 7.30pm	Zoom only	Artificial light at night environmental impact, Dark sky places preservation <i>Speaker: Dr Chris Baddiley</i>	<i>Chair</i> James Fradgley
	We are aware of the effect of increasing loss of visibility of stars in the night sky from light pollution. Many people, particularly the younger generation, have never seen the Glory of the Milky Way, which is our heritage. This presentation will cover the effects of artificial light at night (ALAN) on the natural environment. Topics will include the impact from LED outside light energy wastage, lobbying organizations, dark sky reserves, dark sky tourism, research from the ground and satellites, modelling, lighting industry approaches to tackle the problem, and the introduction of national laws.		
Saturday 25th May 2.30pm	In house	The Social History of Bletchley Park <i>Speaker: Valerie Young</i>	<i>Chair</i> Robin Hewitt
	This talk is about the social history of Bletchley Park from its heyday as a stately home through to its better-known use as a codebreaking establishment during the Second World War. Valerie will talk about the lives of those who worked there during this era, both well-known characters and ordinary people like her mother. Her mother worked there from 1942 to 1945 and the talk includes a video of an interview with her about her time at Bletchley.		
Tuesday 28^h May 7.30pm	Zoom	Emerging technology – Buzzwords, Hype and real Change <i>Speaker Dr Ian Hughes</i>	<i>Chair</i> Margaret Ross
	In this presentation many of today's (and tomorrow's) buzzwords in technology will be explored. From IoT, 5g, AI/GenAI, Cloud streaming, Edge computing, metaverse, Spatial computing, AR, VR, XR, quantum computing, industry 4.0/5.0, Brain computer interfaces (BCI), CRISPR, open source, crypto, Web 3.0 (the list goes on), we will explore how many of these are coming together for meaningful change or not. Dr Ian Hughes was a software engineer and is an industry analyst in the emerging technology space, a TV presenter and author of the science fiction books, Reconfigure and Cont3xt. Ian is a martial arts instructor 2nd Degree Black belt in Choi Kwang Do.		

		JUNE	
Tuesday 4th June 7.30pm	Zoom only	Underwater Photography <i>Speaker: Sandra Stalker</i>	<i>Chair</i> Robin Hewitt
	Sandra Stalker is an award-winning underwater photographer living and diving for over 24 years on the wonderful Dorset coast. She has won the most promising Underwater Photographer of the Year and has been a finalist in Close up photographer of the year, Wildlife photographer of the year, British Wildlife Photography awards and the European wildlife photography awards and enjoys the challenges of finding interesting new ways to portray and photograph the local underwater life. The talk will be an exploration of the fabulous wildlife of the Dorset coast through photography, explaining how the shots were achieved and where and how to explore our coastline and spot the often-overlooked creatures.		
Thursday 6th June 0830-1845	Coach Trip Full Day	Visit to Royal Botanic Gardens Kew Sign up in BNSS. The total cost is £48 , which includes coach transport from BNSS, entrance fees AND Cream Tea token. You can make your own arrangements for lunch (picnic or use the venue cafes).	<i>Leader</i> Jolyon Crane
Saturday 8th June 10.00-1230	YE	Microscopes 2	<i>Leader</i> Steve Limburn
Saturday 8th June 2.30pm	In house only	Some Spring and Summer Beauties from Martin Down Nature Reserve. <i>Speaker Mark Spencer</i>	<i>Chair</i> James Dovey
	A spring and Summer Collection – Beautiful and interesting wildlife and flowers seen on the unspoiled chalk downland of MDNR.		
Tuesday 11th June 7.30pm	Zoom Only	Marine Nature Restoration <i>Speaker: Rick Stafford</i>	<i>Chair</i> Mary Thornton
	Rick is a marine ecologist working in multiple marine conservation disciplines. Rick will tell us about marine nature restoration both locally and further afield in tropical waters.		

Saturday 15th June 10.00-400pm	Quekett Microscopical Society	Joint meeting with Quekett Microscopical Society	<i>Leader.</i> Grenham Ireland
	There will be microscope demonstrations and displays in house. An Event for both BNSS members and the public. Entry Free.		
Tuesday 18th June 7.30pm	In house and Zoom	Astronomical Causes of Climate Change Speaker: James Fradgley	<i>Chair</i> Mary Thornton
	There are a lot more factors than just the 3 famous Milankovitch ones that get widespread publicity (Obliquity, Eccentricity, Precession of Earth's orbit).		
Wednesday 19th June 1000-1500	Botany Field Trip	Blashford Lakes	<i>Leader</i> Charlie Light
	Object. To investigate plants at a site, not visited for several years.		
Saturday 22nd June 2.30pm-4.30pm	Garden Party	Explore the award-winning gardens; follow the tree trail and look for hidden native plants. Gordon LePard will be demonstrating his two camera obscura. Photography on show in the hall, teas and cake, raffle.	<i>Chair</i> Jill Abbot
	Members and their guests invited. RSVP to contact@bnss.org.uk		
Tuesday 25th June 7.30pm	Zoom	ASSEMBLY Quiz with Bill Coombes	<i>Chair</i>