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## JANUARY 2018

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**1<sup>st</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 use of them. No previous experience is needed, all are welcome. Have real "hands-on" pleasure with some fascinating objects. **MIC**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday 7.30pm FRACTAL GEOMETRY** by Mike Holmes. A mathematical introduction to some of these amazing forms and examples present in the world around us. Size is no indication of complexity or beauty. Come to the meeting and be amazed. **MIC**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday 8.00pm PRINT COMPETITIONS** Up to 3 entries for each competition. Monochrome General, Monochrome Portrait (Vic Seaton Cup) Colour Print (Jubilee Cup) Digital Art. Round 2 of 3 **PHO**

**4<sup>th</sup> Thursday 2.30pm. THE PLANT KINGDOM.** The first of a series of lectures by Seán Karley covering all aspects of The Plant Kingdom. Introduction. What is a Plant, how do we know it is not an Animal. What is a Species. etc. **BOT**

**6<sup>th</sup> Saturday 11:00am PHENOLOGY (THE STUDY OF CYCLIC AND SEASONAL NATURAL PHENOMENA).** We will review our meeting with the Wild Side Project and discuss any further requirements in order to revive our Phenology recording. **MET**

**6<sup>th</sup> Saturday** A New Year walk in the Southbridge area of the town. Meet at 1.30pm at the top of Guildhall Road. Tea at Supermarket. **SW**

**8<sup>th</sup> Monday 7.30pm TELESCOPIC TOPICS.** Visitors and guests welcome. A meeting of member contributions on various astronomy themes. Your chance to show the section observations you have made, equipment you are using or anything else that has interested you enough to share it with the section. If you would like to participate as a speaker please let the secretary know beforehand. **AST**

**10<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.

**10<sup>th</sup> Wednesday 2.30pm** A journey from **WHITSTABLE** to the **ISLE OF WIGHT** including the direction of a silent movie. **ARC/HIS**

**10<sup>th</sup> Wednesday 8.00pm FROM EQUATOR TO POLE** by Carol Wingate. Using photos from her recent trip to Galapagos, Patagonia, and Antarctica, Carol will attempt to illustrate the genre of documentary photography and 'grab shots'. **PHO**

**11<sup>th</sup> Thursday 2.30pm GEOFF STONE PHOTOGRAPHY** By popular request Geoff will present some more entertaining and intriguing natural history themed photographs and audio-visual presentations from his remarkable and extensive collection. There will be an opportunity to choose subjects of particular interest on the day. **GEN**

**13<sup>th</sup> Saturday HARPOLE** is today's chosen destination. Meet for bus SC D2 at 1.15pm. Refreshments available at the local inn. **SW**

**15<sup>th</sup> Monday 11am–1pm CURATION GROUP** We meet to work on the Society's Collections, cleaning and sorting and making databases to facilitate use of them. No previous experience is needed. Have real "hands-on" pleasure with some fascinating objects. **MIC**

**16<sup>th</sup> Tuesday 7.30pm OPTICS & THE MICROSCOPE** by Mike Asquith, Mike Gibson and Mike Holmes. Today we explore some of the mathematical theories and formulae that underpin our knowledge and understanding of lenses and the eye. A good opportunity to find out the principles of how microscope optics work and what numbers to look for when buying equipment. **MIC**

**17<sup>th</sup> Wednesday 2.00pm – 6.00pm FIELD TO SOFA EFFECT.** Are we suffering from it? We will look further at how to revive our Phenology recording. **MET**

**17<sup>th</sup> Wednesday CORNWALL CUP** A competition for members to submit natural history photos, as per PAGB rules. Up to three projected images per member per round allowed. Round 2 of 3 **PHO**

**18<sup>th</sup> Thursday 2.30pm. GEOLOGICAL WONDERS** Some More of "The World's Greatest Geological Wonders". Two videos, shown with the permission of the publishers, showing some spectacular Geological sights and sites. **GEO**

**20<sup>th</sup> Saturday** As last year, the **SATURDAY WALKS SECTION AGM** will take place at 2pm at St Michael's Church Rooms, which are situated in Perry Street (access via St Michael's Avenue) just off the Kettering Road in Northampton. **SW**

**24<sup>th</sup> Wednesday 8.00pm Joint meeting with Towcester Camera Club.** Following last year's successful meeting, Towcester have invited NNHS members for a return visit. A social meeting where each club enjoys each other's work. Towcester venue to be advised. **PHO**

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

**27<sup>th</sup> Saturday COLLINGTREE** provides a good winter walk. Meet for UNO bus No 86 at 11.01am. Lunch available after the walk. **SW**

**29<sup>th</sup> Monday 11am–1pm CURATION GROUP** We meet to work on the Society's Collections, cleaning and sorting and making databases to facilitate use of them. No previous experience is needed. Have real "hands-on" pleasure with some fascinating objects. **MIC**

**29<sup>th</sup> Monday 7.30pm USING NATURE TO OBSERVE THE UNIVERSE IN X-RAYS.** We welcome Prof. Paul O'Brien of Leicester University. Nature has solved the problem of how to observe in different ways. 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. This will be an intriguing talk. All are welcome including visitors and guests. **AST**

**31<sup>st</sup> Wednesday 8.00pm SET SUBJECT COMPETITION** A themed competition for up to three digital and/or print images. The subject for this round is **Macro Photography – Fauna**. Images up to a maximum enlargement ratio of life size (1:1). Round 3 of 4 **PHO**

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## FEBRUARY 2018

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**1<sup>st</sup> Thursday 2.30pm. BOTANY SECTION AGM.** After this we will have a "Bring and Show or Tell" session. Everyone is invited to bring along pictures or specimens or just questions to share with us. **BOT**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday 11:00am METEOROLOGY SECTION AGM.** We will then discuss last year's weather in Northamptonshire and the world in general. Update on Phenology recording. **MET**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday** We will use the footpath alongside the river towards **BARNES MEADOW NATURE RESERVE**, onto a welcome hot cuppa at Workbridge! Meet inside North Gate bus station at 1.30pm. **SW**

**6<sup>th</sup> Tuesday 7.30pm THE WONDERFUL WORLD OF LEATHER** by Philip Warner. A fascinating insight into some of the amazing examples of leather from the National Leather Collection in Northampton. Including a number of microscope slides that form part of the national collection held in our county town. **MIC**

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

**8<sup>th</sup> Thursday 2.30pm TULIP MANIA** After the introduction of tulip bulbs into Europe from Turkey and their subsequent popularity in Holland there followed a remarkable period in mid-17th century Dutch history. The price of tulips rose uncontrollably to extraordinary and unprecedented levels and then crashed spectacularly ... an early example of a speculative economic bubble. **GEN**

**10<sup>th</sup> Saturday** A favourite haunt of the Walkers is **TOWCESTER**. Meet for bus SC X89 at 11.49am. Lunch options in the town. **SW**

**12<sup>th</sup> Monday 11am–1pm CURATION GROUP** See 1st January. **MIC**

**12<sup>th</sup> Monday 7.30pm. TELESCOPIC TOPICS.** Visitors and guests welcome. A meeting of member contributions on various astronomy themes. Your chance to show the section observations you have made, equipment you are using or anything else that has interested you enough to share it with the section. If you have a special interest and would like to participate as a speaker please let the secretary know beforehand. **AST**

**14<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.

**14<sup>th</sup> Wednesday 2.30pm** The section secretary will show a selection of images taken on his trips to **CHESTER AND YORK**. **ARC/HIS**

**14<sup>th</sup> Wednesday 8.00pm STUDIO NIGHT** A practical evening of indoor photography where members interact and learn from each other. Bring along your equipment and props for an evening using our studio flash, doing table top photography etc. **PHO**

**15<sup>th</sup> Thursday 2.30pm THE LIFE OF A PEBBLE** by Sue Barker. A short Section AGM followed by the talk. Please bring your own examples of pebbles from local and afar. Where did the pebble come from, what has happened to the pebble since, over what period of time, and how do we know? **GEO**

**17<sup>th</sup> Saturday ECTON** is this week's venue. Meet for bus SC X47 at 1.25pm. Drinks available at the local hostelry. **SW**

**20<sup>th</sup> Tuesday 7.30pm WHAT CAN YOU SEE WITH A HAND LENS?** by Mike Gibson. A short introduction, then an evening discovering how much information can be gleaned using this simple and much overlooked optical tool costing only a few pounds off the web. **MIC**

**21<sup>st</sup> Wednesday 2.00pm – 6.00pm GENERAL DISCUSSION ABOUT WEATHER** The precise subject of this meeting to be announced at a later date. Mike can be contacted on [nhsmet@aol.com](mailto:nhsmet@aol.com) for meeting details nearer this date. **MET**

**21<sup>st</sup> Wednesday 8.00pm PHOTOGRAPHIC SECTION AGM.** Come along and hear how the section has been doing, elect our officers, and have a say in how the photographic section and its competitions are run. Put forward your ideas for the section's future direction. **PHO**

**22<sup>nd</sup> Thursday 2.30pm** Lecture to be announced. **ZOO/ORTH**

**24<sup>th</sup> Saturday** A walk round the interesting village of **DENTON** is the last item in the programme for February. Meet for bus SC 41 at 11.49am. Lunch at the village inn. **SW**

**26<sup>th</sup> Monday 11am–1pm CURATION GROUP** See 1st January **MIC**

**26<sup>th</sup> Monday 7.30pm. ASTRONOMY SECTION AGM.** Your chance as a member to suggest changes to our traditional meetings, vote for the officers and discuss the way forward for our section. **AST**

**28<sup>th</sup> Wednesday 8.00pm PRINT COMPETITIONS** Up to 3 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 3 of 3. **PHO**