
JULY 2017

1st Saturday 11:00am. METEOROLOGY, a meeting for all interested in weather. **Summer fun.** We will undertake some field work, cloud identification and weather observation using our senses, portable instruments and the instruments at the Humfrey Rooms. Then look at these observations in context with the overall weather pattern and try our hand at drawing a weather chart and making a forecast. **MET**

1st Saturday We travel over the border into the county of Leicestershire to **FOXTON LOCKS** today. Meet for bus SC X7 at 10.51am. Take a picnic or use the facilities at the canal side. **SW**

4th Tuesday 7.30pm DIATOMS (PART I) – AN INTRODUCTION by Mike Gibson. If you've never seen these beautiful plant life forms now's the chance to find out more. A unique feature of diatoms is that they are enclosed within a cell wall made of silica and called a frustule, which show a wide diversity in form, but are usually almost bilaterally symmetrical - hence the group name. Learn how to view clearly these often difficult subjects under the microscope. **MIC**

5th Wednesday 8.00pm IMPROMPTU PHOTOGRAPHIC NIGHTS. Come along with your camera gear. Subject to be agreed on the night and may be Post Processing (Photoshop), Still Life, Studio Flash, AV, or anything else you would like to cover. Guests very welcome. **PHO**

7th 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. 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.

8th Saturday COLD BRAYFIELD TO NEWTON BLOSSOMVILLE is an ideal spot for a summer walk. Meet for bus SC 41 at 12.49pm. Drinks available. **SW**

10th Monday 7.30pm TELESCOPIC TOPICS. These are members' meetings for which participation is invited. It's a forum to discuss new observations, equipment and techniques. At past meetings we've enjoyed presentations on topics from astrophotography to cosmology. We'll also offer some topical observing inspiration for you, despite the long days and short nights! Guests are very welcome. If you've got any questions come along and ask them. **AST**

12th 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.

12th Wednesday 2.30pm EASTERN ENGLAND The English coast south of Robin hoods bay including a visit to Butlins. **ARC/HIS**

13th Thursday 2.30pm AMY, WONDERFUL AMY. Postponed from January - an audio-visual presentation by Roy Smart on the remarkable story of popular aviation pioneer Amy Johnson - describing the triumphs and disasters of her aviation career - and her mysterious disappearance while on air force duty during the war. **GEN**

15th Saturday A new area for us to visit is the village of **OLD.** Meet for bus SC 10 at 11.20am. Drinks and snacks available at Old. **SW**

18th Tuesday 7.30pm DIATOMS (PART II) by Mike Gibson. In this session we show you how to prepare and make permanent slides of

these beautiful plant life forms. Also how to adjust your microscope for the best lighting and contrast. **MIC**

19th Wednesday 8.00pm IMPROMPTU PHOTOGRAPHIC NIGHTS. Come along with your camera gear. Subject to be agreed on the night and may be Post Processing (Photoshop), Still Life, Studio Flash, AV, or anything else you would like to cover. Guests very welcome. **PHO**

20th Thursday 7.30pm GRASSLANDS IN NORTHAMPTONSHIRE: A historic and dynamic habitat [A WILDSide presentation] Matt Johnson (WTBCN Living Landscapes Manager) is ideally placed to take us on a virtual tour of the county's varied grassland habitats, their histories, features of importance and their future conservation on nature reserves and by private and public landowners.

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22nd Saturday A walk along **WELLINGBOROUGH EMBANKMENT** is this week's choice. Meet for bus SC X46 at 10.55am. Refreshments after the walk. **SW**

27th Thursday 2.30pm Lecture to be announced. **ZOO/ORTH**

29th Saturday The field route behind the Abbey at **TURVEY** has proved to be a popular walk. Meet for bus SC 41 at 12.49pm. The local Inns provide drinks. **SW**

31st Monday ASTRONOMY SECTION SUMMER SOCIAL. It's time for this year's summer social. A chance to catch up with other members over food and drink. The time and venue will be announced in due course. Booking will be required, but all are welcome. **AST**

AUGUST 2017

1st Tuesday 7.30pm STAINING, AN INTRODUCTION by Mike Asquith. One way of highlighting the different structures of a sample is by means of staining. Mike gives an introduction to some of the theory of staining with demonstrations. **MIC**

2nd Wednesday 8.00pm IMPROMPTU PHOTOGRAPHIC NIGHTS. Come along with your camera gear. Subject to be agreed on the night and may be Post Processing (Photoshop), Still Life, Studio Flash, AV, or anything else you would like to cover. Guests very welcome. **PHO**

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5th Saturday The village of **CRICK** is an established favourite venue, where we can walk beside the canal and across the fields. Food and drinks obtainable nearby. Meet for bus SC 96 at 10.39am. **SW**

9th 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.

9th Wednesday 2.30pm SOUTH EAST ENGLAND Our journey around the coast of the united kingdom comes to an end at the white cliffs of Dover. **ARC/HIS**

10th Thursday 2.30pm ROSSLYN CHAPEL The history and restoration of mysterious and magical Rosslyn Chapel. The ornate stonework carvings have been the source of many intriguing theories, myths and legends. **GEN**

12th Saturday We are spoilt for choice with our trip to **TOWCESTER** today! We can walk through the water meadows or beside Silverstone Brook and look in at the Flower Festival in the Church. The Blisworth Canal Festival will also be taking place for those who want to stop off there. Meet for bus SC 88 at 11.19am. Food and drinks on offer at either venue or take a picnic. **SW**

12th Saturday THE PERSEIDS It's time for our annual pilgrimage to view the Perseid meteor shower as near to the peak as possible. Unfortunately the Moon will be up around the peak making faint meteors hard to see. On the positive side, Saturn is to the south early in the evening and there may be a chance to catch a setting Jupiter too! The venue will be announced at a later date and a clear night would be welcome. Keep watching @NorthantsAstro and <https://www.facebook.com/nhhsastro> for details. **AST**

14th Monday 7.30pm TELESCOPIC TOPICS. A special Telescopic Topics since all of our main contributors are away chasing some solar eclipse in the USA! So it really is a members' evening where short, or long, contributions are invited on any vaguely astronomical topics. We will have a presentation of the night sky in August. There's plenty to be seen, so you'll have no excuse not to get the binoculars and telescopes out as the days grow shorter. Guests very welcome. An account of the Perseids seen at the section outing on the 12th. **AST**

15th Tuesday 7.30pm PRACTICAL SLIDE STAINING by Mike Asquith. This will be an excellent chance to experiment and get 'up-close and dirty' with different types of stain. It will certainly be an interesting, and perhaps a very colourful evening. **MIC**

16th Wednesday 8.00pm IMPROMPTU PHOTOGRAPHIC NIGHTS. Come along with your camera gear. Subject to be agreed on the night and may be Post Processing (Photoshop), Still Life, Studio Flash, AV, or anything else you would like to cover. Guests very welcome. **PHO**

19th Saturday IRCHESTER COUNTRY PARK provides several routes to follow. Meet for bus SC X47 at 11.25am. Picnic or use the park café. **SW**

24th Thursday 7.30pm WILDSIDE: THE STORY SO FAR.... AND WHAT'S TO COME. [A WILDSide presentation] Ryan Clark, who is the WILDSide Project Manager will be talking about the first few months of this interesting and much-needed initiative; how the various elements are working so far and the opportunities for each of us to get involved in different ways. He promises lots of pictures and examples involving lots of the early participants.

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

26th Saturday LEICESTER BOTANIC GARDEN is today's 'off-road location! Meet for bus SC X7 at 10.21am. The café on site should be open and picnics may be allowed in the garden. **SW**

30th Wednesday 8.00pm. IMPROMPTU PHOTOGRAPHIC NIGHTS. Come along with your camera gear. Subject to be agreed on the night and may be Post Processing (Photoshop), Still Life, Studio Flash, AV, or anything else you would like to cover. Guests very welcome. **PHO**

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