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## MARCH 2026

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**1<sup>st</sup> Sunday 2.30pm WHAT'S GOING ON WITH THE WEATHER?** Our monthly meeting to discuss all weather and climate issues past present and future. All are welcome. **MET**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Monday 11.00am – 1.00pm EXPLORING THE SOCIETY'S COLLECTIONS.** The society has important collections including butterflies, shells, eggs, sands, microscope slides, rocks, minerals and Northamptonshire fossils. This is a great opportunity to look at, draw, study or just appreciate their beauty. Also, if you wish to assist us conserving or documenting you would be welcome.

**3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday 7.30pm NUCLEATION AND CRYSTALLISATION** We follow crystallisation as it happens under the microscope. Bring polarising filters and a microscope camera if you have them. **MIC**

**4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday 8.00pm CRITIQUING NIGHT** Members should bring in up to 2 digital images or prints. The images can be any they would like critiqued, or maybe ones they are thinking of entering into a future competition. Each person will be asked to critique an image and to discuss how it may be improved. Not a competition but an opportunity to practice critiquing and to learn from our own and each other's images. 3 of 4 critique evenings. **PHO**

**5<sup>th</sup> Thursday 2.30pm FLOWERS** by Seán Karley. The botany section starts the spring with a compilation of three of Seán's shorter talks; Common Flowers, More Common Flowers and Less Common Flowers. Giving a wide-ranging highly illustrated overview of British (and Irish) flowering plants. **BOT**

**9<sup>th</sup> Monday 7.30pm TELESCOPIC TOPICS** A meeting comprising 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. Guests are very welcome. **AST**

**11<sup>th</sup> Wednesday 8.00pm INSTANT DIGITAL IMAGE BATTLE** Our annual photo matching competition with Northampton Camera Club. An invited judge will join us for an entertaining evening, and to give an informative critique of each photo. Hosted by the NNHS in the Humfrey Rooms. **PHO**

**12<sup>th</sup> Thursday 2.30pm A QUIRKY LITTLE VILLAGE IN NORTH WALES - PORTMEIRION,** by Mike Walsh. Was it one man's dream or the rich people's playground? **GEN**

**16<sup>th</sup> Monday 11.00am – 1.00pm EXPLORING THE SOCIETY'S COLLECTIONS.** For meeting details see the 2nd March entry.

**17<sup>th</sup> Tuesday 7.30pm PROTOZOA / AMOEBA** by Ian Wilson. The title is rather vague as it's hard to know exactly what we will find at any particular time of year. We will talk about the various groups of single cell freshwater protists before looking in water samples to see what we can find. If you have a source of water which looks promising bring some along. **MIC**

**18<sup>th</sup> Wednesday 8.00pm PRINT COMPETITION - COLOUR AND MONO.** This year, as agreed at the AGM, the competition will consist of a colour and a mono competition. Up to 4 entries per member per round for each of the competitions. Round 3 of 3. **PHO**

**19<sup>th</sup> Thursday 2.30pm THE NATURE AND ORIGIN OF GRANITE** by Sue Barker. From Land's End to Peterhead, granite is one of our most important igneous rocks. How is it formed, how is it categorised and what is its story? Sue Barker will lead us through an historical account of our understanding of this important rock as well as some of its present day uses. **GEO**

**25<sup>th</sup> Wednesday 8.00pm MAKING A SILK PURSE FROM A SOW'S EAR** by Neil Scott. This lecture shows how Neil makes a good image from a weak one, or a better image from a mediocre one. Presented by Neil Scott via Zoom. Join us in the Humfrey Rooms in the company of other members or check our web site [www.nnhs.info/Whats-On/](http://www.nnhs.info/Whats-On/) for the Zoom link. **PHO**

**26<sup>th</sup> Thursday 2.30pm A RANDOM TOUR OF EUROPE IN 1905** The society holds a large number of old glass slides. This is a new selection featuring many historic and interesting images of Europe taken in or around 1905. **ARC/HIST**

**30<sup>th</sup> Monday 11.00am – 1.00pm EXPLORING THE SOCIETY'S COLLECTIONS.** For meeting details see the 2nd March entry.

**30<sup>th</sup> Monday 7.30pm RECENT COMETS** by Nick James. Nick is comet section Director of the BAA. He will talk about recent comets including C/2025 A6 (Lemmon) and 3I (ATLAS). "Comets are like cats: they have tails, and they do precisely what they want". David H. Levy. Guests and visitors welcome. **AST**

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## APRIL 2026

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**1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday 8.00pm CORNWALL CUP** A competition for members to submit natural history photos, as per PAGB natural history competition rules 2018. Up to three projected images per member per round allowed. Round 3 of 3 **PHO**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday 2.30pm GALLS WORKSHOP** by Seán Karley. "A gall is an abnormal growth produced by a plant or other host under the influence of another organism". Seán presents this very informative, short, well illustrated course on these fascinating oddities of the plant world. **BOT**

**8<sup>th</sup> Wednesday 8.00pm ZIMBABWE THE PATH TO THE SMOKE THAT THUNDERS** by Robert Snary. Robert will show us the images he took on his 2022 trip to Zimbabwe and includes Lake Kariba, Hwange National Park, Victoria Falls, people, wildlife and culture. (Lecture in person or zoom TBC). **PHO**

**9<sup>th</sup> Thursday 2.30pm AN ECONOMIC REFUGEE?** In 1828 Henry Negretti aged 10 and family walk from Como in Italy to London to make their fortune. By 1855 the company he founded with Joseph Zambra is exhibiting at the Great Exhibition and grows in status until in the second half of the 20th Century it succumbs to the British disease. On the way Henry makes legal history being the only person allowed to bring a private prosecution for murder! A story of hope, excellence, political intrigue, possible corruption in the police force, and finally the greed of British Government economic policies of the late 20th century and today. **GEN**

**12<sup>th</sup> Sunday 2.30pm WHAT'S GOING ON WITH THE WEATHER?** Our monthly meeting to discuss all weather and climate issues past present and future. All are welcome. **MET**

**13<sup>th</sup> Monday 11.00am – 1.00pm EXPLORING THE SOCIETY'S COLLECTIONS.** For meeting details see the 2nd March entry.

**13<sup>th</sup> Monday 7.30pm TELESCOPIC TOPICS.** For meeting details please see the 9<sup>th</sup> March entry. **AST**

**14<sup>th</sup> Tuesday 7.00pm – 9.30pm 150<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY EVENT MOSS SAFARI** Discover the microscopic world of tiny animalcules that live in ordinary garden moss. This Zoom talk, presented by the author and Brighton University lecturer Dr. Andy Chandler-Grevatt, will be followed by a short hands-on session using our microscopes and moss samples. Join us at the Humphrey Rooms in the company of other members, or check out our website at [www.nnhs.info/Whats-On/](http://www.nnhs.info/Whats-On/) for more details and the Zoom link.

Guests are very welcome at the rooms, but need to email [microscopy@nnhs.info](mailto:microscopy@nnhs.info) so that arrangements can be made to include them in the following practical session. **MIC**

**15<sup>th</sup> Wednesday 8.00pm CRITIQUING NIGHT** Please see 4<sup>th</sup> March entry for meeting details. 4 of 4 critique evenings. **PHO**

**16<sup>th</sup> Thursday 2.30pm NORTHAMPTONSHIRE'S IRONSTONE INDUSTRY.** Whilst ironstone has been quarried in Northamptonshire's since Roman times, it was following the Great Exhibition of 1851 that iron and steel became significant in Northamptonshire' industrial history. In this joint meeting with the Northamptonshire Industrial Archaeology Group, Ian Clarke and Mike Ringwood will tell the story of the iron and steel industry, relating it to the Jurassic geology of Northamptonshire. **GEO**

**21<sup>st</sup> Tuesday 7.30pm INSECT PARTS 4 – INSECT REPRODUCTIVE ORGANS:** by Kevin Rowley. Part IV of Kevin's series on insect anatomy deals with the all-important reproductive organs. The use of the microscope is often the only way to determine the exact species and sex of insects. **MIC**

**22<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday 8.00pm OUR PHOTOGRAPHY WORK & HOBBY** by Alison Jenkins. A talk about Alison's career as a photographer (Royal family, celebrities, weddings, interiors and media) and photography as a hobby with her husband (nature, planes, buses and trains). **PHO**

**23<sup>rd</sup> Thursday 2.30pm NORTHAMPTONSHIRE, THEN AND NOW.** We were given 100 year old images of varied locations in Northamptonshire and asked to locate them, and to take images of the locations as they are now. This is the result. **ARC/HIST**

**25<sup>th</sup> Saturday** Main society **150<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY EVENT** in the Humfrey Rooms. **Members and invitation only.**

**27<sup>th</sup> Monday 11.00am – 1.00pm EXPLORING THE SOCIETY'S COLLECTIONS.** For meeting details see the 2nd March entry.

**27<sup>th</sup> Monday 7.30pm TELESCOPIC TOPICS.** For meeting details please see the 9<sup>th</sup> March entry. **AST**

**29<sup>th</sup> Wednesday 8.00pm UNDERWOOD CUP – FINAL** We see the winners from the previous three rounds of our pictorial images competition vie for the trophy. With invited judge. **PHO**

**Please check our website [www.nnhs.info/Whats-On/](http://www.nnhs.info/Whats-On/) for any changes to advertised meetings.**