

2022

Tuesday **November 1st** 7.30pm

THE SOCIETY'S MICROSCOPE SLIDE COLLECTION - SESSION 2 introduced by Mike Gibson.

In this second session we will look at the microscope slides of the Douglas Richardson Sand Collection. These show the great variety of sand from around the world.

Tuesday **December 6th** 7.30pm

THE COMPOSITION OF YOUR CHRISTMAS FARE. by Mike Asquith.

We explore with the use of the microscope the composition of some traditional Christmas Food. Mike Asquith aims to put you off your Christmas dinner by showing you what you're actually eating. Bring some Christmas nibbles to share. (if you dare).

2023

Tuesday **January 3rd** 7.30pm **FIBRES (PLANT & ANIMAL)** introduced by Mike Asquith.

In this session we will look at the structure and optical properties of a range of fibres, both plant and animal. Fibres are remarkably different when looked at under the microscope, showing different structures and optical properties depending on their source. If you can use your microscope with polarisation please bring it.

Tuesday **January 17th** 7.30pm

USES OF THE STEREO MICROSCOPE. Introduced by Mike Gibson.

After a brief introduction, we will use various low-power scopes to look at a range of both familiar and unfamiliar objects. For those with cameras and suitable attachments this session will also provide an opportunity to use their skills in producing photographic images. Feel free to bring everyday samples to study. A perfect evening to join us if you are new/interested in microscopy.



Tuesday **February 7th** 7.30pm

STACKING & STITCHING IMAGES. by Mike Asquith.

Mike will demonstrate popular stacking and stitching software, some of which was designed for other disciplines but works equally well with microscope images. With a chance for some hands-on practice.

Tuesday **February 21st** 7.30pm

BEETLES by Tim Newton.

Tim is a nationally renowned expert on Beetles and is a fun and friendly source of great knowledge. He will lead a session on the very varied world of beetles. If you wish have help to identifying a beetle please bring along an image.

Tuesday **March 7th** 7.30pm

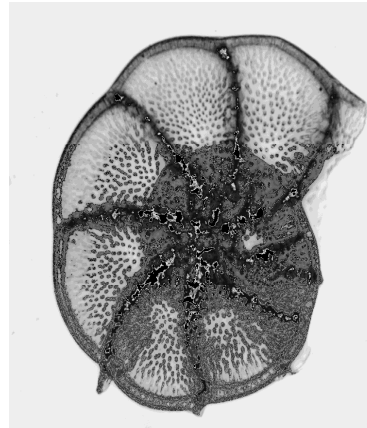
MEASURING UNDER THE MICROSCOPE by Mike Asquith.

Ever wondered what the small bar and numbers are on some microscope images? The microscope allows us to make very precise measurements, but you need to know how to calibrate the microscope and make measurements. This session will cover basic techniques for measuring and counting.

Tuesday **March 21st**

GETTING THE BEST FROM YOUR MICROSCOPE.

Introduced by Mike Gibson and Mike Asquith. We often buy second hand microscopes that just don't live up to expectations, or our ageing instrument is just tired. In this session we will look at basic servicing and alignment of your microscope, and how to get the best out of it.



Tuesday **April 4th** 7.30pm

EMBEDDING & SECTIONING (1): by Mike Asquith.

Fixing samples in preparation embedding & sectioning. In this series of three meeting Mike will cover the method behind the making of most microscope slides. This, the first of three sessions, will deal with fixation:- why is it necessary, and how is it done?

Tuesday **April 18th** 7.30pm

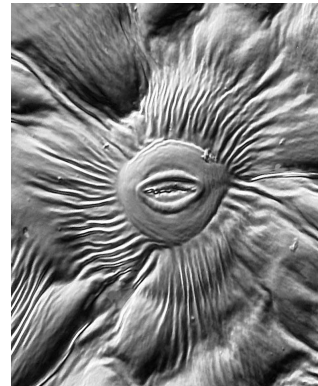
MAKING SLIDES FOR POLARISATION introduced by Mike Gibson.

Many different and sometimes surprising substances show differently and often very spectacularly under the microscope with polarisation. Tonight will be an opportunity to try out different techniques and samples for polarization effects under the compound microscope.

Tuesday **May 2nd** 7.30pm

WAX SECTIONING WITH A MICROTOME (2) by Mike Asquith.

The second of three sessions:- This one deals with sectioning, with a chance for some hands-on experience. Most of us do not own a microtome, or indeed some may be unaware what one is. Tonight is a good chance to find out and try one for yourself.



Tuesday **May 16th** 7.30pm

ANIMALS IN THE SOIL by Mike Gibson.

Soil provides an ideal habitat for many small animals not just earthworms! We will demonstrate the use of, and how to make a Tullgren funnel, and other similar methods used for sampling and extracting various organisms from soil. Which we will then study and hopefully identify under the microscope..

Tuesday **June 6th** 7.30pm

STAINING SECTIONS (3) by Mike Asquith.

The third of three sessions:- This one deals with staining and mounting sections cut during the second session. The final stage in making a microscope slide is to stain (colour) the section to show the different structures of interest. The sample then needs to be sealed in a medium to preserve and protect it for the years to come.

Tuesday **June 20th** 7.30pm

AMOEBAS introduced by Mike Gibson.

Using ready-prepared cultures members will have an opportunity to study and photograph these amazing and fascinating protozoan organisms.

Tuesday **July 4th** 7.30pm

MAKING VIDEOS UNDER THE MICROSCOPE by John Smith.

John will take us through the process of how we can make videos under the microscope. He will show us some of his amazing videos of pond life taken with just an iPhone over the microscope eyepiece.

Tuesday **July 18th** 7.30pm

THE SOCIETY'S MICROSCOPE SLIDE COLLECTION - SESSION 3 introduced by Mike Gibson.

The third of three sessions to examine some of the Society's valuable slide collections. The society's slide collection is both large and varied, giving us pleasure of scope for interesting finds in this third session.



Tuesday **August 1st** 7.30pm

AN INSECT MISCELLANY by Tim Newton.

Tim will lead an evening giving insights into naming the many and varied insects we are seeing at the moment. Bring an insect for identification - bottle of plonk for the best and most interesting one.

Tuesday **August 15th** 7.30pm

POND DIPPING introduced by Mike Gibson.

We will have a pond dipping session in the afternoon, and examine our finds in the evening session. Bring a sample from your own pond or bird bath etc and be amazed at the quantity and variety of life the microscope show.

No microscope, don't worry, use one of our microscopes at our meetings.