

Leaders: Paul Ripley & Pat Acock

22-26 July 2009 Tatton Park Flower Show, Manchester

This will be the first time that the BPS will have the opportunity to promote our Society at the RHS Tatton Park Flower Show. If you are interested in being a part of this and making it a success then please contact Yvonne. Helpers get free parking, entrance to the show and accommodation if required.

Contact: Yvonne Golding

20-23rd August 2009 Southport Flower Show, BPS Stand

The Society has a stand in the 'Societies Tent' promoting the BPS, demonstrating spore propagation and answering questions from the visitors.. Sleepovers can be arranged for helpers. Please offer to help Mike and the "Team" if you can; it is always fun and is a good way to introduce new people to the Society.

Please indicate SAE or email for final details in early Summer.

Contact: Michael Hayward

12-13 September 2009 Joint Meeting with BSBI, Dryopteris affinis Weekend, Cornwall

This is a joint meeting with the BSBI and will be limited to 24, 12 from each society initially. Matt Stribley our organiser on the ground has arranged Bude as the centre with a large number of hotels to choose from.

Friday night we will meet at the Falcon Inn for bar meals and Saturday night Matt has arranged a buffet meal at the Gildhouse, Poundstock where we will also be able to lay out specimens, have talks and discuss problems of the D.affinis complex

Leaders: Matt Stribley, Ken Trewen and Fred Rumsey.

Details from: Pat Acock

26th September 2009 Fern Day, Manchester Museum

Come and help promote ferns and our Society to the public at this free event supported by Manchester Museum. Plenty of fresh ideas and help needed to launch this new venture.

Contact: Yvonne Golding

30 September – 13 October 2009 California/Oregon, USA

Sue Olsen is planning one of our joint trips with the Hardy Fern Foundation in early October 2009. If you would like to express an interest at this early stage please e-mail her on Sue Olsen (foliageg@juno.com).

Further details will come from Sue and more details will be sent out with The Bulletin in February 2009.

Leader: Sue Olsen

31 October 2009 Hymenophyllum Workshop, Reading University

More information about this meeting with the Bulletin Mailing

Leader: Paul Ripley

LOOKING FORWARD TO 2010

We have a range of tours planned subject to the approval of the Meetings Subcommittee at their February 2009 Meeting including:

Eastern USA. Joint meeting with Hardy Fern Foundation.

Belgium. Botanic Garden Tour.

Weekend Garden and Nurseries Meeting, Hereford. Leader: Martin Rickard

West Ireland, North West Wales and Cornwall.

Details for all of these in October 2009.

REGIONAL MEETINGS

I fully endorse all our regional groups. If you are new and fortunate to have a group near you, it is a wonderful way of getting started and meeting fellow members of the Society. Many of our members travel miles and attend many of the local groups. For details of additional meetings in the following areas, please contact the regional organisers, enclosing a SAE. If you have no group near you, you can always start one. The Meetings' Secretary and other regional leaders will always be willing to give advice.

Yorkshire Fern Group: Bruce Brown, 4 Bank Parade, Otley, West Yorkshire, LS21 3DY

Yorkshire@eBPS.org.uk

South East: Paul Ripley, 2 Station Villas, Station Road, Appledore, Kent TN26 2DF. 01233 758410

SouthEast@eBPS.org.uk

East Anglia: Tim Pyner, 182 Southchurch Boulevard, Southend on Sea, Essex SS2 4UX. 01702 580402 e-mail

EastAnglia@eBPS.org.uk

North West England: Peter Campion, Lake View, Castle Hill, Bassenthwaite, Keswick CA12 4RG.

017687 76272. peter@petercampion.com or NorthWest@eBPS.org.uk

South Wales and the Borders: Brian Dockerill, 19 Westfield Road, Glyncoch, Pontypridd, Mid-

Glamorgan CF37 3AG. brian.dockerill@tiscali.co.uk

Cornwall: Matt Stribley, 8 St Georges Road, Truro, Cornwall TR1 3JE e-mail Cornwall@eBPS.org.uk

Scotland: Frank McGavigan, 12 Glenbank Avenue, Lenzie, Glasgow G66 5AA

Frank@mcgavigan2.demon.co.uk

Please note, if you are travelling or holidaying in one of the above regions you would be welcome to join in any of the above region's meetings. Contact the leader for a list of meetings.

FURTHER FERN MEETINGS OF INTEREST.

Botanic Cornwall Group

The Botanic Cornwall Group have many meetings a year with a few having a definite fern input. Please contact Matt Stribley, address under Cornwall above.

The Field Studies Council

The Field Studies Council have a few fern specific courses. Course fees include tuition, use of library and other centre facilities. Centre-organised transport and board and lodging are in simple but comfortable accommodation. In some cases course members may be non-resident if they wish. Contact Preston Montfort Field Centre tel: 01743 850380 for a catalogue or information on all the field stations on the mainland.

NOTES FOR MEMBERS ATTENDING MEETINGS

Please Read These Notes Carefully

If you are attending a meeting send the reply slip to Rob Cooke before 1st January 2009. After this time contact the leader direct. The Leader should make you aware of the Society's Safety Code and Conservation Code of Practice. You should read or have read these carefully. Copies are in the Bulletins of 2000 and 2001 which can be obtained from the Meetings Secretary, or will be sent if you so request one on the Meetings Reply Form. Early booking of accommodation is advisable. Members should make their own arrangements unless it is stated it is provided but in case of difficulty, the leader may be able to help.

Weekend and longer meetings normally begin with those attending having a get together at the centre hotel on the evening preceding the meeting proper but it may not always be possible for leaders to be present so try to make yourself known to other members.

Private cars are normally used during a field meeting. Arrangements may be possible to put people in need of lifts in touch with drivers with spaces.

Plants should only be collected with permission of the leader of the meeting. All collecting must be within the relevant conservation laws and the Society's Code of Conduct.

Members attending meetings should be prepared for poor weather and muddy or rough conditions underfoot. Meetings will normally go ahead regardless of the conditions. Walking boots or Wellingtons plus waterproof clothing are often essential. Leaders will advise participants of any known unusually severe conditions that may be encountered.

Lunch is usually taken at a convenient pub. The leader should advise if it is necessary to take a packed lunch, but it does no harm to check in case everyone else thinks that you know!

Remember that the BPS meetings are arranged for your benefit, make the most of them. In particular, if you are a relatively new member, don't be afraid to ask questions. The leader and other members will be very happy to explain things.

Meetings Secretary: Rob Cooke

Meetings Subcommittee: Pat Acock, Roger Golding, Nick Hards, Jennifer Ide, Paul Ripley, Martin Rickard

Important note for Minors

We are required to exercise caution in including unaccompanied minors on field trips, so when you contact Rob Cooke on the Meetings' Reply Form, please indicate if you are a minor so that he can provide you with the correct form.