



## British Pteridological Society

### EXTRA DETAIL FOR MEETINGS PROGRAMME 2012

#### **Wiltshire, Friday 8 June – Sunday 10 June 2012**

We don't seem to have visited Wiltshire before, although there are plenty of fern rich habitats. The trip will be based in or near Pewsey. We'll visit some woodland and a wet nature reserve on the Saturday. Pteridophytes include several different members of the *Dryopteris affinis* group and a fine selection of Equisetums, but don't let that put you off! Sunday will include visits to a couple of lovely, secluded National Trust Gardens at Great Chalfield Manor and The Courts. These have several cultivars and exotics, and a local rarity grows wild in one of them.

**Leader/Contact:** Nick Hards.

#### **Austria and Germany, Thursday 5 July – Saturday 14 July 2012**

This tour of Austria and Bavaria is being lead by BPS member Rolf Thiemann who knows the area well and has lead two successful meetings of the Group for European Pteridologists in recent years. It will be a two centred affair. The first part of the tour will be in what Rolf describes as the most beautiful part of Germany, the Berchtesgaden, with a trip up on the cable car to look at montane ferns and a ferry trip across Lake Koenigsee to see *Woodsia glabella*. We will then take a half day drive on 10 July to Austria, ferning in the serpentine areas near Kraubath, the limestone ravines north of Graz, and a well known sheltered valley (Laßnitzklause) near Deutschlandsberg.

Numbers will be restricted to 15 and some places have gone to those who wrote in after last year's posting. We will send out the full programme as names come in. We are just awaiting confirmation of details of the final hotel. We anticipate flying into Salzburg Airport where we will car share to keep down costs and to prevent parking problems when we are in the field. Please e-mail/ write to Pat at first to obtain the fuller instructions which will include details of flights and booking hotels.

**Leader:** Rolf and Angelika Thiemann.

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#### **Southport Flower Show, Thursday 16 – Sunday 19 August 2012**

The Society has a stand in the "Societies Tent" promoting the BPS, demonstrating spore propagation and answering questions from visitors. There are also a number of fern display categories where you could win prizes for your ferns. Please offer to help Michael and the "Team" if you can; it is always fun and is a good way to promote ferns and introduce new people to the Society.

**Leader/Contact:** Michael Hayward.

#### **Northumberland, Thursday 20 September – Sunday 23 September 2012**

The plan is for a long weekend, meeting up on the Thursday night. We hope to visit

- Hareshaw Linn (which we visited on our last national trip to Northumberland, at Bellingham) to see *Asplenium trichomanes ssp. pachyrachis* and a lot of other ferns in the wood.

- the Northern Whin Sill at Cawfield (the northern scarp side of the whin at the Roman Wall), probably meeting at Cawfield (NY713665) where there is extensive parking and walk east to Thorny Doors (NY722669) which provides good access to the north side. This is rich locally, but the active could proceed eastwards for another two miles to Windshields. Species should include *Dryopteris oreades*, *D. carthusiana*, *D. affinis*, *D. borreri*, *D. cambrensis* and possibly *D. expansa*. We should also see *Huperzia*, *Cryptogramma crispa*, *Oreopteris limbosperma*, *Phegopteris connectilis*, and *Asplenium trichomanes ssp. trichomanes*.
- a recently discovered clubmoss site at Upper Allendale which has four clubmosses in quantity.

At least one of the days is likely to be held jointly with the Northumberland Natural History Society. We will be based in Hexham, which is roughly in the middle of the three sites. For those who wish to do something else, there may be a garden visit. Also, Cawfield is one of the better preserved Roman forts on Hadrian's Wall, and Hexham is not without its charms.

**Leader:** Rob Cooke.

### FORWARD PLANNER FOR 2013

#### Hawaii 2013

We have been thinking of a fern meeting in Hawaii for a little over a year and had pencilled in January 2013. However after preliminary work by our leader, Tom Ranker, we are not sure whether or not the tour will go ahead as he is leaving Hawaii for a posting in Washington in December. Just as soon as Tom has settled in Washington at his new posting, he will be in a position to assess the situation. He is keen to go ahead with the tour but obviously moving back to the mainland and settling into a new posting must be his first priority. However, we will be taking names of those who are reasonably certain that they would like to avail themselves of this trip. It is envisaged that this will be a three island tour, Kauai, Maui, and Hawaii (aka 'The Big Island') and since the take up is likely to be high we think it best that those attending should be those interested in the ferns.

The cost of the trip is likely to be higher than other trips of a similar nature since Hawaii is an expensive place to visit and there are internal flights that will have to be booked. However, we usually spend most of the day in the field and will not necessarily book hotels in tourist areas or of a high star rating. Please send me a letter or an e-mail if you are reasonably certain you want to be considered. I will accession the replies in case we exceed the limited number of places and some will have to join a waiting list.

**Leader:** Tom Ranker.

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