



SOUTH WALES AND THE BORDERS GROUP

PROGRAMME 2011

Wednesday 20th July.	<p>Dryopteris submontana and the limestone ferns of Darren Fawr.</p> <p>The main purpose of the our visit will be to confirm the continued existence of the species at this site and to explore the extent of the colonies. The area is good open limestone country and we will also see a range of other ferns of this environment. In the afternoon we will travel a few miles to the Taff Fechan (little Taff) a tributary to the main river. This moist shady site is at first limey, highlighting the effect of habitat on some of the ferns seen earlier growing under very different conditions. Further along the riverside walk the conditions change to acid, hence increasing the number of species to be seen during the day.</p> <p>Meet at 10.00am at Cyfarthfa Castle, near Merthyr Tydfil, SO 041073 which is well signposted and has a large free car park.</p> <p>More details are available from the leaders Brian & Sue Dockerill</p>
Wednesday 24th August.	<p>Contrasting sites around the eastern Black Mountains</p> <p>We will visit the Black Darren (SO297296) in the Olchon Dingle to the east of the Black Mountains. As well as a good range of limestone mountain ferns, <i>Asplenium viride</i> has been reported here in the past – we will seek to re-find it. By way of a considerable contrast in habitat we will also visit the Coed y Cerrig NNR (SO 294 213). Marsh fern, <i>Thelypteris palustris</i>, is present in the valley bottom and we expect to be joined by the Reserve Warden to help us locate it. The dryer slopes of the reserve are of woodland with large oak, ash and beech with hazel underneath and there is a good fern population throughout.</p> <p>Further details of the programme for the day, and rendezvous points, from the leaders Brian & Sue Dockerill when available.</p>

<p>Thursday 22nd September.</p>	<p>Visit to Olive Masons garden at Dial Park and indoor meeting.</p> <p>Dial Park (DY10 4QB) is situated in Chaddesley Corbett on the A448 midway between Kidderminster and Bromsgrove. We will visit her garden, have lunch in the village, and hold an indoor meeting. This will provide a chance to share pictures of plants and fern sites you have visited, bring along plants or fronds for discussion and identification, swap plants, plus a very informal opportunity to discuss the S. Wales & Borders Group and how you would like to see it develop.</p> <p>Meet at Olive's garden at 10.30am</p> <p>Contact Brian Dockerill</p>
<p>Early notice for 2012</p> <p>The weekend 30th June – 1st July 2012</p>	<p>Weekend meeting in North Wales</p> <p>We are planning a weekend meeting based in Cricceith, North Wales for next year and are delighted that Dewi Jones has agreed to lead us on a days ferning in the Cwm Llefrith / Moel yr Ogof area. Dewi led a similar, and extremely successful, excursion for the Yorkshire Fern Group in June 2008 (The Bulletin 2008 Volume 7 Number 1 page 34) and weather permitting we hope to similarly fortunate. Plans for the remainder of the weekend are still being considered.</p>

For more information or to express an interest please contact:

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