

2011

- 26th Sept. MONTY LARKIN starts our winter programme with “**South Downs of East Sussex**” The lecture is centred on the Cuckmere Valley, an area of spectacular scenery and wildlife in this busy corner of England. Be it natural history or the exploits and struggles of Man, they are moulded by processes which began many millions of years ago and which continue, albeit slowly to our eyes, to the present time.
(Chairman Oliver Farley)
- 3rd Oct. HNHS member LUCY CARTER works at the Natural History Museum, London, on a project called OPAL which encourages people to better understand and appreciate UK wildlife. This evening’s talk “**What’s in a name? - the Science of Taxonomy**” will introduce the science of taxonomy – why and how we name living organisms. Knowing what a particular plant, animal or fungus is called and how it differs from others is critical to understanding and studying the natural world.
(Chairman John McPherson)
- 10th Oct. “**Tenerife**” is a simple title that may not sound interesting but it is an Island of contrasts and has much to offer the wildlife enthusiast. The volcano and surrounding national park have been given World Heritage Status. The seas teem with fascinating wildlife both large and small. Coastal birds include egret and whimbrel and osprey nest on the north-west cliffs. Terrestrial wildlife includes a variety of fascinating ants, spiders, ant-lions, bees, praying mantis, butterflies and more. STEVE SAVAGE has been visiting and staying with friends in Tenerife for the last 10 years and currently researching a book on the Island and this lecture is based on some of his experiences.
(Chairman Roger Mason)
- 17th Oct There will be one “**Mystery Evening**” during each winter programme and the theme will be kept secret until the last moment, although it may have something to do with natural history. The speaker will travel a long way to address us, so don’t miss it. No, Roger won’t reveal the subject to anyone.
(Chairman Roger Patterson)
- 24th Oct. Feathers are the unique and characteristic feature of birds. They are flexible, light and strong, and are used in a variety of ways including providing coloration and efficient body insulation, as well as giving the surface for lift on the wings. Very few groups of animals have developed the ability of active flight, but birds are particularly good at it. The principles involved are common to everything that flies and these are explained simply in TIM SELLERS lecture “**Feathers and Flight**”
(Chairman Tom Leach)
- 31st Oct. HNHS member TOM COLE is a voluntary speaker for the Woodland Trust www.woodlandtrust.org.uk, a role he took up on retiring from his post as Head of Biology at a sixth form college in Brighton.
The Trust is having to make decisions about future policies, for example planting, against the evidence for increased average temperatures in the future. “**The Woodland Trust’s response to Climate Change**” will consider their work with a number of other agencies in recording climate change and its effect on wildlife. The talk will go on to describe strategies to offset the threat to our wildlife especially to ancient deciduous woodland indigenous to the UK.
(Chairman Gary Cooper)
- 7th Nov. BILL AVENELL is a retired geography teacher. “**The Impact of our Local Environment**” has a geomorphological/geological base in so far as it is built around the impact that these two still have on our lives. Among the aspects discussed is the division between species that are environmentally specific and those which are not.
(Chairman Josie Allen)
- 14th Nov. This evening we welcome well known bee expert MIKE EDWARDS to tell us about “**The Wild Bees of Britain**” of which there are over 250 species.
(Chairman Tom Leach)
- 21st Nov. Annual General Meeting followed by HNHS President OLIVER FARLEY. Oliver’s regular contributions to the newsletter and his mini presentation last season indicate that he is a keen observer of what wildlife is doing around us. His title of “**What Birds Really Think of Your Garden**” suggests we are in for an interesting subject.
(Chairman John McPherson)

- 28th Nov. GRAEME LYONS is the Ecologist for Sussex Wildlife Trust and Chairman of Sussex Moth Group. He runs a number of identification courses and also lectures in ecology and management planning for Birkbeck University. **“Deadwood Invertebrates”** will cover the ecology of these creatures as well as different types of deadwood and how this fits into woodland ecology, together with the management of these habitats and micro-habitats.
(Chairman Roger Mason)
- 5th Dec. HNHS member PHIL EVANS has a well liked method of delivery and never disappoints us. **“Out and About - No5”** will cover a trip along the Jurassic Coast complemented with other natural history interest.
(Chairman Gary Cooper)
- 12th Dec. Christmas Party followed by a light-hearted **Quiz**. Please bring a pen or pencil on the evening. An answer sheet will be provided..

2012

- 2nd Jan. CHRIS and JOE GRIFFIN have been HNHS members since the late 1970s and have given a number of talks with slides taken in locations ranging from South Africa to their back garden. **“Having Fun with Wildlife Photography”** should show us how they did it.
(Chairman Roger Patterson)
- 9th Jan. We have a wealth of talent in HNHS, but not everyone has the material to give a full lecture. **“A Great Day Out”** will give several people the chance to tell us in a short presentation about the wildlife they saw on one day. If you can take part please see Roger.
(Chairman Roger Patterson)
- 16th Jan TONY WHITBREAD has been working for the Sussex Wildlife Trust for about 20 years and before that worked in the Chief Scientist Team of the then Nature Conservancy Council. He last lectured to HNHS in 2007 and his title this evening is **“Wriggle Room – Giving Room for Sussex’s Wetland Wildlife”**.
(Chairman Gary Cooper)
- 23rd Jan. **“Sichuan Province, China”** lies at the eastern edge of the Tibetan Plateau. We will journey from the Red Basin through evergreen foothill forests to alpine meadows. We visit the sacred mountains of Wawu Shan and Emei Shan and the rolling grasslands at the extreme edge of the Tibetan Plateau. The botanists among you will enjoy the spectacular flowers! The scenery and the birds are pretty good too! All presented by our own JOHN HAMILTON
(Chairman John McPherson)
- 30th Jan. DAVID LANG is making a welcome return after an absence of several years. **“Chile – A Long, Thin Journey”** is an account of a fascinating trip on his own with a Chilean guide where a wide variety of wildlife was seen.
(Chairman Roger Mason)
- 6th Feb. ARTHUR HOARE is an HNHS member who has lectured to us on many occasions. **“Alien Plants of Sussex”** takes a look at some of the alien plants that have found their way into our countryside. We will learn where they originated from and how they are likely to have got to where they are now. This could be either by the hand of man or by other unknown means. It will be illustrated with slides Arthur has taken when he’s been out in the search and study of our native flora.
(Chairman Tom Leach)
- 13th Feb. **“The Two Roger’s”** are back yet again. Where do they get all the material from? It has all come from the 2011 plant course that was organized by ROGER MASON and will be described by him. ROGER PATTERSON has put the presentation together from images taken by several attendees, and will chip in with a few anecdotes. If you missed the 2011 plant course then don’t miss this. We want you to join us in 2012.
(Chairman Josie Allen)

- 20th Feb. **MEMBERS EVENING** is the opportunity for those who would like to share with members some aspect of their own interest or natural history experience.
The rules are simple :-
Members "speak" for around 10-15 minutes. The presentation can be illustrated with anything you like, but if slides or Powerpoint please advise. If you would like to share your interest with us please contact Roger Patterson or Oliver Farley, but be early to avoid the rush.

(Chairman Oliver Farley)
- 27th Feb JIM STORRAR was formerly a Ranger, for 30 years, on Leith Hill and the surrounding areas. His particular interests are in botany, medicinal plants, folklore and the making of the landscape. Jim will include some of these in "**The Folklore and Medicinal uses of Local Plants**"
(Chairman Josie Allen)
- 5th March CHRIS STRINGER is Research Leader in Human Origins at the Natural History Museum in London. The last few years have seen significant advances in our knowledge of human evolution, particularly through new fossil discoveries and the ever-increasing impact of genetic data. In "**Human Evolution**" he will review what we do and don't know about our own evolution.
(Chairman Tom Leach)
- 12th March JOSIE ALLEN is a fairly new and enthusiastic member of HNHS. In 2011, Josie and Linda Koscia organised several visits to see orchids. "**Orchid Summer**" is an account of what was seen.
(Chairman John McPherson)
- 19th March. "**Life in and Around Water**" is the title of the last lecture of the winter programme and is given by NICK SEXTON who is a long standing member of the Society with a special interest in Biology. He enjoys all aspects of natural history and as a teacher has imparted his knowledge to the younger generation. The lecture will be on various aspects of the seashore and local pond life.
(Chairman Oliver Farley)