



## PAISLEY NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

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### Newsletter March 2015

#### News Flash

Paisley Natural History Society has been featured in the March edition of the **BBC Wildlife** magazine, in the **Club Spotlight** section.

Check it out!

#### Spring Talks Programme

#### Paisley Museum

7.30pm

**Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March**      **Reserved for Nature? by David Shenton**  
**(SWT Clyde Members Group)**

The Scottish Wildlife Trust looks after 120 wildlife sites throughout Scotland from small urban habitats in the centre of Edinburgh to remote wildernesses in the Highlands. Each reserve provides a haven for wildlife. This talk will look at the reserves around Scotland and feature SWT Loch Ardinning near Strathblane, a site of mixed habitat which supports a variety of wildlife.

**Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> April**      **AGM followed by Water Beetling – the oldest insect recording scheme in the world by Garth Foster**

The business of the society will be discussed followed by an illustrated talk. Water Beetling - one of the first water beetlers was Charles Darwin closely followed by coleopterists in Scotland. Our scheme can be dated back to 1904 and currently runs to 400,000 records but with less than 700 records from Renfrewshire. We need more recording locally. (Please note this talk has been changed to this date from its original slot on the 5<sup>th</sup> February)

#### Joint Meeting with Hamilton and Glasgow Natural History Societies

This year we have been invited to a joint meeting hosted by Hamilton Natural History Society to bring all the local natural history societies within the Clyde area together. This meeting will take place at the Hamilton Old Parish Halls (map included) and it is hoped that a lot of our members will make the effort to attend and meet up with like-minded individuals from other societies.

**Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2015**      **Joint Meeting with Hamilton and**      **Old Parish Church**  
**7.30pm**      **Glasgow Natural History Societies**      **Halls, Hamilton**

**Global Seabird Programme by Rory Crawford, Senior Policy Officer, Birdlife International**

## Spring/Summer Outings Programme

**Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> April**

**Outing to Culter Waterhead,  
South Lanarkshire**

**Leader: Ewan Douglas  
0141 886 5232**

**This is a joint outing with RSPB Renfrew local group.**

**Meet at the Watermill car park, Paisley at 9am.**

We will proceed to the services at junction 13 on the M74 for a 10 minute break, then onto the A702 to Coulter and from there on an unclassified road south to NT031311. The walk from there is 3½ km of surfaced road which is excellent for Ring Ouzel, Wheatear, Stonechat, etc. There are no facilities so bring sandwiches, drinks and warm clothing.

A sheet will be circulated at the next meeting for names and contact details of those wishing to go.

**Parking at the site is limited so as many people as possible should be car sharing.**

The Renfrew RSPB March meeting is an illustrated talk by Chris Rollie on Ring Ouzel, the main target of our April outing.

Details are: Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March, 7.30pm, McMaster Centre, Robertston Park, Renfrew. All are welcome.

**Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> June**

**Outing to Loch Ardingning  
SWT Reserve, near Strathblane**

**Leader: Norman Tait  
0141 885 1951**

**Meet at the Watermill car park at 10am, transport will be by car sharing**

Following the March talk by David Shenton on SWT reserves we now have the opportunity to visit SWT Loch Ardingning for ourselves and learn more about the wildlife and habitats of the area.

David Shenton has kindly agreed to give us a guided walk around this attractive wetland reserve to tell us more about the plants, animals and history of the site.

We will meet David at 11am in the car park at the Dam, Loch Ardingning and plan to return around 3pm.

Please note that wellies are recommended and remember to bring a packed lunch.

### **Shaw Wood, Paisley Moth Survey - Volunteers Wanted**

Shaw Wood is a small remnant of ancient Oak woodland to the east of Paisley which dates back to the 15th century. The area around the wood has been designated a development zone by Renfrewshire Council to allow the building of approximately 3,000 new homes. Purple Hairstreak butterfly are resident in the wood, but little is known about the moth species. In 2014 moth trapping was carried out on just four nights from July to October. Many of the more common noctuids, prominents, geometrids and hawk moths were recorded including the Double Lobe and Brindled Green (the latter being only the third record for this moth in Renfrewshire). It is planned to repeat the survey in 2015, starting in March and Butterfly Conservation Glasgow & Southwest Scotland are looking for volunteers to help with this exercise. If you are interested, please contact Paul Mapplebeck for details on [01505 348024](tel:01505348024) or by e-mail to [paulm3@ntlworld.com](mailto:paulm3@ntlworld.com).

[www.paisleynaturalhistorysociety.org.uk](http://www.paisleynaturalhistorysociety.org.uk)

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*Nicola Macintyre*