



PAISLEY NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

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Newsletter: August 2010

News

The joint meeting held by Glasgow Natural History Society was well attended by members of the Paisley Natural History Society. So much so that we are going to host the next joint meeting in February 2011 to enable closer ties with both the Glasgow and Hamilton Natural History Societies. Details will follow in the November newsletter.



International Year of Biodiversity

2010 is International Year of Biodiversity and Paisley Natural History Society has signed up to the IYB-UK partnership. IYB-UK is an informal network of organisations that plan to promote understanding of biodiversity during the International Year of Biodiversity.

We hope to do our bit to raise awareness of biodiversity through our involvement with the Local Biodiversity Action Plan partnership and through our own evening talks and summer excursions programme. For more information on International Year of Biodiversity visit the Natural History Museum website at <http://www.nhm.ac.uk/nature-online/biodiversity/international-year-biodiversity/index.html>

Winter Talks Programme

Thursday 2nd September

Paisley Museum 7.30pm

Ravens & Magpies – The Truth, the Whole Truth and Nothing Like the Truth
Iain Gibson

The crow family is widely featured in folklore and its association with death is understandable as most of them are scavengers as well as foragers. However, even in these modern days of scientific enlightenment, fact and fiction are intertwined, and all members of the crow family are persecuted to some extent. Is any of this persecution justified? Iain has a lifetime of experience observing the habits of Magpies, and has also studied the interactions between Ravens and lambing ewes in the Renfrewshire countryside. Come along and hear his talk - some of his findings may surprise you!

Thursday 7th October

Paisley Museum 7.30pm

Flora of Renfrewshire

Keith Watson Botanical Recorder for Renfrewshire for the BSBI (Botanical Society of the British Isles)

The first full Flora of Renfrewshire, which lists and maps the distribution of all the plants recorded as growing wild in the old county of Renfrewshire is due to be published in 2011. To celebrate this forthcoming publication this talk will describe and illustrate many of the wild plants and habitats found in the county and is a must for anyone who enjoys the Renfrewshire countryside and is interested in wildflowers.

Thursday 4th November

Paisley Museum 7.30pm

Wildlife of France

David Mellor

David will be talking about the variety of wildlife to be seen in the Poitiers area of western France. Poitiers lies in the Loire Valley, known as the 'Garden of France' and hosts many species of plants, birds and insects not usually encountered in our northern climes.

[Winter Outings Programme](#)

Sunday 3rd October

East Coast Bird Foray

Leader: Tom Byars (evening) 01294 466 393

This outing will be made to view the autumn bird migration at various locations on the south east coast. Birds to look out for include waders, sea ducks, divers, skuas and LBJ's (little browns jobs).

Meet at the Watermill Hotel car park, Paisley at 9.00am

[Society Website](#)

The address is www.paisleynaturalhistorysociety.org.uk

Any member wishing to add new information please contact me at Paisley Museum.

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