

The **BENHS ANNUAL EXHIBITION and Brad Ashby Memorial Lecture 2019** will be held in Conway Hall, 25 Red Lion Square, Holborn, London WC1R 4RL, on **Saturday 2 November 2019**, from 11.00 am until 5.00 pm, with the lecture at 2pm.

You are cordially invited to this major event of the Society's social calendar. Members and visitors from all over the country (and overseas) are usually present, and this is an excellent opportunity to meet old friends and make new acquaintances, discuss problem species with experts, and generally see what other people have been up to during the year and beyond. The Society has been holding exhibitions for over 125 years, and although themes and styles may change, the enthusiasm and dynamism of the Society's members continues unabated. Guests and families are all welcome, so please bring them along!

Exhibits are welcome from both members and non-members. These can be set specimens, live invertebrates, photographs, drawings, artwork, poster displays, novel equipment, historical items, literature, reminiscences, curiosities or light-hearted trivia. Scientific novelty or rarity are *not* the only criteria for exhibiting, nor do presentations have to relate to the current year; exhibits showing personal interests, taxonomic conundrums (or resolutions), ecological, local or historical themes make fascinating displays. A table will also be set aside for the exhibition of unidentified specimens; though identification cannot be guaranteed, members are always happy to offer advice and assistance on difficult specimens. Please note that exhibits of set specimens of butterflies are still most welcome.



*Series of threatened, scarce or reintroduced insects will **not** be welcome. The Code for Insect Collecting, endorsed by the BENHS, suggests that a pair of specimens of such species is sufficient. Similarly, long series of any insect taken from a single locality will not be welcome unless the exhibit is agreed in advance. If in doubt please contact the Administrative Assistant and Exhibition Secretary (address below) who will consult with members of Council.*

Please register your exhibit at the signing-in table when you arrive, and at the same time provide a descriptive note about your exhibit. The Exhibition provides a unique occasion to show your findings and interests, and the notes accompanying exhibits are edited and published in the *British Journal of Entomology and Natural History*, giving you an ideal opportunity to publish records of your finds and details of your achievements. The

editing of notes falls to a dedicated handful of volunteer exhibit recorders. Their job can be made much easier if you follow these simple guidelines:

- Include your name, postal and email addresses on each sheet of notes.
- Give an indication of the significance of what is exhibited, why it is interesting, what is shown.
- For specimens give the locality (including the county), date of capture (in the following format: 22.iii.2019), whether they were at light. Where possible also give the grid reference and the vice-county name and number.
- Use current scientific names; as well as italicizing or underlining these, please also give the family name and authority. (Please do the same for any foodplants cited.)
- Please provide separate notes for each of the following exhibit categories:
British butterflies ; British macro-Lepidoptera ; British micro-Lepidoptera ; Channel Islands Lepidoptera ; Coleoptera ; Diptera ; Foreign Lepidoptera ; Hemiptera ; Hymenoptera ; Other Orders ; Unidentified specimens ; Posters ; Photographs (including those specifically entered for ‘The Best Photograph or Set of Photographs’ Competition) and Illustrations ; ‘Street Insects’ Competition.

Some specimens may be selected for colour plates in the *Journal*; a note will be placed alongside the exhibit indicating which specimen(s), and asking the exhibitor to make themselves known to the official photographer. If you require a power supply, more than 1.5 metres (5 feet) of table-top space, or wish to display a poster please contact the Exhibition Secretary, by **20th October 2019**: Miss Rosemary Hill, 447B Wokingham Road, Earley, Reading, RG6 7EL, rosemaryhi@lineone.net or telephone her on 01189 665160.

The ***Brad Ashby Memorial Lecture*** will be held in the Brockway Room at 2pm. This year the title is ***‘Nature Photography 101’***. Eager to capture better images of the natural world? In this talk we will explore composition, artistic technique, exposure, lighting, camera skills and equipment and you will be able to learn how to use your camera to develop a deeper connection with nature, while building the technical skills to dramatically improve your image taking.

A ***library book amnesty*** will be available again for all those books you have had for some time but have not managed to return to the Pelham-Clinton Building! Some titles are sorely missed. Please hand them in at the signing-in desk including a slip of paper with your name, address and email inside so that the loans book can be updated.

Competitions To encourage everyone to look through their collections, there will be two competitions – ***‘Street Insects’*** and ***‘The Best Exhibit of Specimens’*** - with a book token for each winner kindly provided by Pemberley Books as the prize. In addition there will a competition for ***‘The Best Photograph or Set of Photographs’*** taken by the exhibitor personally with a prize for the winner provided by BENHS.

Also on offer Pemberley Books will be selling new and second-hand entomological and other natural history books, and other organizations expected include: Amateur Entomologists’ Society, British Myriapod and Isopod Group and London Natural History Society. *Apart from the bookseller mentioned above, no commercial trading is permitted within the exhibition.*

For anyone visiting with family, the British Museum, Sir John Soane's Museum and Charles Dickens Museum are all within easy walking distance. The West End is a few stations away down the Central Line.

A servery will be open from 11.30 am to 4.00 pm serving alcoholic and non-alcoholic drinks, teas, coffees, and light refreshments (sandwiches, cake etc). It is hoped that attendees will make full use of this facility as there will be a charge to the BENHS if it is underused. There are a selection of pubs, cafés and restaurants in the area. You may also bring your own food to the exhibition.

Please remember to **sign the attendance book** on arrival. This is a permanent record of how many members and guests attend the exhibition; it is a valuable historical document, and the information helps in planning future events. The book, and name badges, will be on the table at the entrance to the hall. **Subscriptions** paid at the exhibition ease the Assistant Treasurer's work; he will be adjacent to the signing-in desk and is looking forward to seeing you.

How to get there. The entrance to the building is in Red Lion Square. The nearest Underground station is Holborn (Central and Piccadilly lines). On leaving the station via the High Holborn exit, cross and walk along the north side of High Holborn, turn left and walk up Proctor Street (A40) to Red Lion Square. Conway Hall is in the far corner of the square. Paying **car parks** are situated at Imperial Hotel, 61-66 Russell Square, red name sign and blue P sign in yellow surround (entrance on Southampton Row), charges from £5 for 2h to £17 for 12h (not LPG cars), President Hotel, 56-60 Guilford Street (off Russell Square) same rates as for Imperial Hotel. Other parking may be found at www.justpark.com. Parking in Red Lion Square and some surrounding streets East of Southampton Row and North of High Holborn is either pay-and-display or permit-holders only until 1.30 pm, after which it is free on Saturday. Before 1.30 pm pay-and-display charges are £5.70 per hour (non-diesel), £6.93 per hour (diesel) max 2 hours. Parking availability, fees, and timings may be subject to change. The London congestion charge does not apply at weekends.

The **BENHS Annual Dinner** will take place at Ristorante Olivelli, 35 Store Street WC1E 7BS after the Exhibition (5.45 for 6pm), and we hope that you will come along to that too. The dinner is open to members, their partners and guests and it is hoped that as many as possible will attend. We look forward to welcoming members who have not previously stayed for the meal after the Exhibition, or who have not been for some time. The dress code is smart casual.

The meal is a three-course set menu dinner with choices from the following menu with improved choice and which now specifies some dietary requirements. Further details are on the restaurant website. Menu choices must be specified in advance.

Starter: (1) *Pan-fried king prawns with garlic, chilli & white wine* (gf) (2) *Oven-baked layers of fried aubergine, vegan mozzarella, pomodoro, breadcrumbs and pine kernels* (v, vg) (3) *Oven-baked asparagus with Parma ham and Emmenthal cheese* (gf) (4) *Crispy fried rice balls (filled with vegan mozzarella + porcini mushrooms)* (v) (vg) (5) *Crispy fried rice balls filled with beef and pea ragu.* Main course: (6) *Veal escalope with tomatoes, ham, mozzarella, oregano and chipped potatoes* (7) *Fish broth with swordfish, clams, squid, mussels and king prawns* (gf) (8) *Saffron and butter risotto with burrata (cheese)* (v, gf) (9) *tortelloni pasta made from pulses filled with spinach and vegan mozzarella with pesto*(gf, v, vg) (10) *three-season pizza* (v, vg on request)

Desserts: (11) *Chocolate and hazelnut ice cream cake* (v) (12) *Apple, rum and sultana strudel* (v, vg) (13) *brownie with hazelnut ice cream* (gf) (13) *Sicilian lemon sorbet* (v, vg, gf).

Table water will be included and wine and other drinks may be purchased on the day. The cost of the meal will be **£30.40 per person including gratuity.**

Applications for places at the dinner should be made on the form and be accompanied by payment. Cheques should be made payable to "BENHS". Please apply early and in any case **not later than 20th October.** We regret that, unless there are cancellations, bookings cannot be made on the day of the Exhibition. **Cancellations** - If you have to cancel it may be possible to sell your place on the day of the Exhibition. If you want to take advantage of this *you must let the Administrative Assistant know by the morning of the exhibition.*

How to get to Ristorante Olivelli from Conway Hall. Turn right out of the main entrance to Conway Hall and then turn next right into Drake Street then turn left into Theobalds Road, cross this road to the far side and walk westbound. Continue across Southampton Row into Bloomsbury Way and then into New Oxford Street, then turn right into Bloomsbury Street and continue northbound past the side of the British Museum, and across Montague Place until Keppell Street is reached. At this point cross Bloomsbury Street into Store Street which is opposite Keppell Street. The restaurant is on the left hand side.

Alternatively turn right out of Conway Hall and turn left at Procter Street and right into High Holborn. Cross the road and head to High Holborn Underground Station and take one stop eastbound on the Central Line to Tottenham Court Road and one stop northbound on the Northern Line to Goodge Street Station which has an exit onto Tottenham Court Road, turn right and then walk southbound down Tottenham Court Road to Store Street.

How to get to Goodge Street tube station from Ristorante Olivelli. Turn left out of the restaurant and walk down Store Street to Tottenham Court Road. Turn right and walk up as far as Chenies Street at which point signs to the underground station are visible.

BENHS DINNER 2019

To: Miss R E Hill 447B Wokingham Rd, Earley, READING, Berkshire RG6 7EL
Please reserve.....place(s) for me

NAME (Block letters).....

My guest(s) will be.....

Special dietary requirements.....

Email address.....

Menu choices (v=vegetarian, v=vegan and gf=gluten-free in menu)

Starter:.....

Main course:.....

Dessert:.....

I enclose a cheque/postal order for £.....

Signed.....