

Special announcement for all members

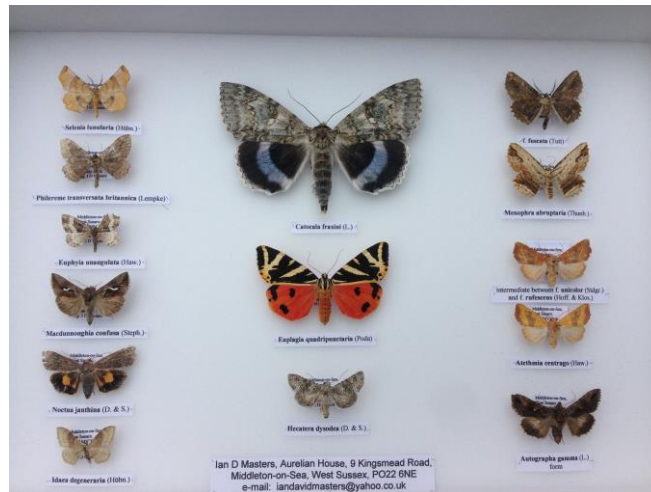
The BENHS ANNUAL EXHIBITION 2024

The Annual Exhibition (along with the Members Day at Oxford in March) is one of the two most important events in the BENHS calendar. Along with regular attendees, **new and student members and long-standing members who have never previously attended** are particularly encouraged to join us for the 2024 exhibition. Non-members are also very welcome to attend.

Saturday 2 November 2024

11.00am until 4.00pm

Conway Hall, 25 Red Lion Square, Holborn, London WC1R 4RL



The Exhibition is an opportunity to meet other members of BENHS and its affiliated societies whilst perusing significant insect voucher specimens, photographs and posters. The BENHS membership encompasses and welcomes entomological novices right through to the nation's top experts in particular insect groups. Its affiliated societies specialise in flies, beetles, plant galls, spiders, millipedes, centipedes, woodlice, bees, wasps, ants and earthworms!

As such, the informal atmosphere of the Exhibition is a great place to share experiences and a shared fascination for insects. For those who would like to develop a professional career in entomology or to take an amateur interest further, it can be a very valuable and productive experience.

Specialist **entomology book dealers** (Pemberley Books and Atropos Books) will be in attendance, stocking the latest volumes to be published, alongside the BENHS stall where you can purchase our own publications at the members' reduced prices and pay subs for 2025 should you so wish. The Amateur Entomologists' Society will also be in attendance.

As last year, we intend to hold a short **programme of talks** from some of our affiliated societies, in the adjacent lecture room during the day, details available on the day.

A very important part of the day will be the presentation of the **Marsh Awards for Entomology 2024**. BENHS recommends to the Marsh Charitable Trust each year entomologists, amateur or professional, to be honoured in this way and this year the presentations will be in person rather than at a digital meeting. The presentation will take place at 1.00pm and your support in congratulating this year's winners at that time would be most appreciated.

There is a café on site for light refreshments and sandwich lunches.

Getting to the Exhibition

The Exhibition is held at Conway Hall in central London, to facilitate easy access on public transport and just a 5 minute walk from Holborn Underground Station (Central and Piccadilly Lines).

Contributing to the Exhibition

The success of the Exhibition depends to a large extent on BENHS members bringing along specimens, photographs and posters to display to the other attendees. Consequently, please do consider not only attending but bringing along an exhibit, no matter how small. Exhibits take the form of preserved specimens which may be of scientific interest or reflect a personal interest, or perhaps consider ecological, local or historical themes. A table will be set aside for the exhibition of unidentified specimens and although identification cannot be guaranteed, many members are always happy to offer advice and assistance on such specimens.

Other exhibits can be printed-off photographs of living insects and we particularly encourage the presentations of posters demonstrating specific studies. Images displayed on digital equipment may also be presented but if you require a power source you will need to contact BENHS well in advance. Interesting entomological equipment, artwork, literature and trivia also make good exhibits. Live invertebrates may be exhibited where appropriate.

It would be helpful if exhibits can be prepared reflecting the following categories so they can be grouped appropriately with other similar material on the labelled tables in the Hall.

- British Butterflies
- British Moths – macros
- British Moths - micros
- Foreign Lepidoptera including the Channel Islands
- Coleoptera
- Diptera
- Hemiptera
- Hymenoptera
- Other Orders
- Unidentified specimens

When you arrive at the Conway Hall please register your exhibit at the signing-in table and provide a short descriptive note about it including if possible:

- Your name, postal and e-mail addresses on all sheets of information.
- An indication of the significance of what is being exhibited, why it is interesting and what exactly it is.
- For specimens, give the locality (including the county), date of capture (in the following format: 22.iii.2021), capture method (e.g., 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 if possible.)
- For British Lepidoptera, please also provide the current checklist number as given in 'Checklist of the Lepidoptera of the British Isles' (Agassiz *et al.*, 2013 and 2nd edition 2024); these numbers are available widely online.
- Please provide separate notes for each submission under the category headings above even if located in the same display case.

As a responsible Society promoting the study and the **conservation of insects** please note:

*Series of specimens of threatened, scarce or reintroduced insects will **not** be welcome at Conway Hall. 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 legitimate extenuating circumstances (e.g., an approved and/or licensed, scientific study) are supplied to the BENHS Council in advance. Any specimens associated with the commercial trade in insects will also **not** be welcome.*



Publication and Prizes!

During the day, all the exhibits will be viewed by appointed experts from BENHS who will select specimens and photographs to be photographed and published in the *Journal of British Entomology & Natural History* as part of the report on the Exhibition. The written description of the exhibit provided by the exhibitor and as described above will also be referenced.

All exhibits will also be reviewed by the exhibition organisers and **awards** (book tokens provided by Pemberley Books, Atropos Books and BENHS) presented towards the end of the day for the best specimen, photograph and poster displays.

Since the Covid pandemic of 2020, the Society has created a virtual exhibition each year hosted on the BENHS website. This has been launched with a 'Zoom' meeting a week or two after the Conway Hall event. Please note however that this year there will be no virtual exhibition nor therefore a 'Zoom' launch. However, BENHS Council is considering how in future a gallery of insect images taken by members, may become a feature of the website.