



PAISLEY NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

All correspondence to the secretary:

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Newsletter August 2018

Important Information – Change of Venue!

As you should be aware Paisley Museum is closing this autumn for a four year re-development and so the new venue for the Natural History Society talks will be:

Wynd Centre,
6 School Wynd,
Paisley, PA1 2DB

As usual talks will be on the first Thursday of the month from September to April, starting at 7.30pm (except for the January meeting which is on the second Thursday).

News

Unfortunately *Flyback* our Tag-n-Track sponsored gull has died. *Flyback* was the first gull to be hand caught at Castle Semple for the Tag-n-Track project, migrating all the way to Morocco over the winter and spotted back at the Loch in April this year. He appeared to be doing well but, at the start of July the Tag-n-Track team noticed that his tag hadn't been updating and identified a cluster of points near the Kaims Dam at the back of Lochwinnoch.

On investigation, the remains of *Flyback* were found under power lines suggesting a collision with the lines had been the cause of death. Although unable to find his tag the team did retrieve his colour ring.

However, despite this sad news, *Flyback* has contributed greatly to the project and the team will continue to update us on the other participants in this project.

Subscriptions

Please note that subscriptions are now due for 2018/19. They are as follows: **Ordinary £10, Family £14, Unwaged £4.**

Subscriptions can be paid at the meetings to our Treasurer, Anne Gray. **Please do not send subscription fees by post to the museum, it will be closed.**

However, members now also have the option to pay their dues by direct bank transfer. Details are as follows:

Name of account: Paisley Natural History Society

Sort code: 80-09-32

Account number: 06000238

You will see a reference box; please enter your own name in this box, so that we know who is paying the money in.

Autumn/Winter Talks Programme

Wynd Centre, Paisley

7.30pm

Thursday 6th September

Plastics, plastics everywhere.... The impact of plastic on the environment

**Dr Brian Quinn (Reader in Ecotoxicology,
University of the West of Scotland)**

Thursday 4th October

Marvellous Mud Snails

Joanne Lindsay (Buglife Scotland)

A two-year Heritage Lottery funded project which began in April 2017, this project aims to conserve and raise awareness of the rare Pond mud snail, which has declined rapidly in Scotland and the rest of the UK over the last 25 years. Using this tiny mollusc as an example, the project aims to highlight the importance of freshwater habitats for invertebrates whilst also creating a healthier and more resilient population of the Pond mud snail in Scotland.

Thursday 1st November

Renfrewshire Renaissance in Fungi

Dick Peebles (Clyde and Argyll Fungus Group)

Fungi include some of the most important organisms in both ecological and economical terms. This talk will introduce us to fungi's place in the natural world and provide some specific Renfrewshire examples. A must for anyone with an interest in this large and diverse kingdom of moulds and toadstools.

Also bear in mind that following our discussion on disposable coffee cups at the January meeting, if you want to bring your own reusable cup for tea and coffee afterwards then please do.

Autumn/Winter Outings Programme

Sunday 19th August

Dragons at the Greenock Cut

**Contact: Tom Byars
01294 466 393**

Outing to (hopefully) see Common Lizard at the Greenock Cut. Meet at Watermill car park at 12 noon to organise car-sharing for the trip.

Sunday 7th October

Rairities on the East Coast

**Contact: Tom Byars
01294 466 393**

Meet at Watermill car park at 9am to organise car-sharing for the trip.

www.paisleynaturalhistorysociety.org.uk

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Nicola Macintyre