NORTH WEST · PTERIDOLOGICAL · BRITISH SOCIETY · GROUP

MEETINGS PROGRAMME 2017

Saturday 24th June 10:30 am	**Cautley Spout.** **Joint with Yorkshire Fern Group** On the A683 about 4 miles NE of Sedbergh, next to the Cross Keys. SD 698 969. The parking area is not that large and can be busy, so please car share where possible. Map: Explorer OL19 Howgill Fells. It's a steep climb up Cautley Spout but there is a good stone-flagged path. The more intrepid can try some beck-side scrambling (hopefully the water level will not be too high). Many of the ferns are near the lower falls – we found 22 taxa on the last visit, but hope to add more this time. Packed lunch and stout footwear. **Leader: Bruce Brown** [Note: Moughton Fell, the planned meeting place, is currently out of bounds due to juniper disease.]
Saturday 15thJuly 10.30	**National Meeting – Cultivar day at Sizergh** Meet at Sizergh car park 497 878. Bring National Trust cards. NWFG member Andrew Harrison is Assistant Head Gardener at Sizergh and due to his enthusiasm the four national fern collections have grown from strength to strength. Plus, the grounds now include a wonderful stumpery opened by BPS during the 125th Anniversary Week in June 2016. Visit gardens in the morning, lunch at the Strickland Arms, followed by talks and a Q & A session. **Leader: Julian Reed** Phone 0195 9522719 email julianreed@waitrose.om
17th - 20th August	**The Southport Flower Show** Your assistance and support will be fun and appreciated! Contact Mike Hayward: mhaywardl23@blueyonder.co.uk 0151 931 2537

Saturday 26th August 10:30 am	**Scutchers Acres, near Burscough and Steve Coleman's garden, Maghull Joint with Liverpool Botanical Society** Meeting place: car parking at the end of private driveway near greenhouses,Forest View (off Flax Lane,L40 5TD). SD 451 108. Look out for arrowed signs NWF/LBS pointing in off east side of lane and north side of river. Scutchers Acres is a conservation area with a good range of woodland plants; it also has around 100 species of trees, native and exotic, part of the site having previously been a tree nursery. An interesting recent find is *Polystichum munitum*, either a garden escape , or an import with the NorthAmerican tree species that are planted nearby. *Polystichum setiferum* and *P. aculeatum* are also found in the wood with examples of the *Dryopteris affinis* complex. *Pyrola minor* should be in flower. For those who are interested in cultivated ferns, we will round off the afternoon with a visit to the garden of Steve Coleman, 44 Willow Hey, Maghull, L31 3DL for a tour of Steve's tree ferns and unusual cultivars. Packed lunch; stout footwear **Leaders: John Watt, Alison Evans, Steve Coleman**
Saturday 16th September 10.30 am	**Thirlmere and Launchy Gill** NY309 158. Park in roadside lay by near Launchy Gill bridge. It's on the minor road along the west side of Thirlmere. Map: Explorer OL5 Lakes NE We plan to explore along the roadside and up the forest trail beside Launchy Gill, with lots of ferns to see. As far as I know the last Group visit here was in 1996, or have I missed one? Packed lunch; stout footwear **Leader: Bruce Brown**
Saturday 21st October 10.30	**Annual General Meeting at Holehird Gardens, Windermere** The usual fare of Pteridological miscellanea, stretching talks and stimulating company. There will be plant sales (please bring as well as buy), displays and competitions for ferns in pots. Contributions to the refreshments would be welcome. (Packed lunch) Further details will be sent out in September.

Names and phone numbers in case you need to get in touch at the last minute:

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