

The Linnean Society of London

PROGRAMME OF EVENTS | AUTUMN–WINTER 2018



The
LINNEAN
SOCIETY
of London



Unnatural Selection: Evolution at the Hand of Man

NATURE READER 12:30–13:00 Wednesday 5 September 2018

When Charles Darwin contemplated how best to introduce his controversial new theory of evolution to the general public, he chose to compare it with the selective breeding of domesticated animals. In her new book, *Unnatural Selection* author and illustrator Katrina van Grouw explains why this analogy was more appropriate than even Darwin had realised. **Speaker: Katrina van Grouw**



This event is free. Please register via our website.

Tea will be served in the Library following the lecture. Also following our lecture will be a Treasures Tour (see General Events for details). Image © Katrina van Grouw.

Communicating the Importance of Taxonomy and Systematics

DAY MEETING 11:00–16:30 Friday 7 September 2018

Plenary Meeting of the Taxonomy and Systematics Committee of the Linnean Society of London

This meeting will bring together educators, content producers and academics to explore the ways in which we communicate the importance of taxonomy and systematics to different audiences. The talks will be divided into four broad themes: Digital Media; Museums and Learning Centres; Formal Education; and Identification Resources.



Registration fee (£15) includes lunch and refreshments. Please register via our website.

Biosphere 2: Lessons and Relevance to Global Ecological Challenges

NATURE READER 12:30–14:00 Tuesday 11 September 2018

Biosphere 2 was the world's first experimental laboratory for global ecology. Biosphere 2 demonstrated important lessons relevant for improving our relationship with the Earth's biosphere (Biosphere 1), and caught the world's imagination, tapping into the desire of people to reconnect and forge a new relationship with our planetary biosphere. Its lessons are increasingly relevant in the Anthropocene. **Speakers: Dr Mark Nelson and Sir Ghilleain Prance FRS PPLS**



This event is free. Please register via our website. Tea will be served in the Library following the lecture, where there will also be a book signing. Image © Mark Nelson.

Life after Death: The Ecology and Evolution of Burying Beetles

EVENING MEETING 18:00–19:00 Thursday 20 September 2018

Burying beetles are easily recognised by the bright orange patterning on their black wing-covers. But they are rarely seen because they are active at night and have a fondness for dead animals. Yet their natural history is fascinating. They are diligent parents, ruthless competitors, produce their own antibiotics and bury the dead. This talk will explain how these insects are giving us new insights into how evolution works.

Speaker: Professor Rebecca Kilner

This event is free. Please register via our website. Tea will be served in the Library from 17:30 and the lecture will be followed by a white wine reception. Image © Tom Houslay.



Open House 2018

SPECIAL EVENT 10:00–17:00 Saturday 22 September 2018

As part of Open House London, the Linnean Society of London will be throwing open its doors and welcoming anyone interested in exploring the building and its stunning rooms.

This event is free. Registration is not necessary. Last entry is at 16:30. For more information please visit www.openhouselondon.org.uk Image © The Linnean Society of London.



The Weird and Wonderful World of Mosses

LUNCHTIME LECTURE 12:30–13:00 Wednesday 3 October 2018

This lecture will explain the major features of the biology of mosses, including their reproductive cycles, remarkable water relations and use as model organisms in molecular research. The afternoon excursion will provide the opportunity to see some of the 150 bryophytes known from Hampstead Heath and to witness first hand the major changes that have occurred in these in the 21st century.

Speaker: Professor Jeff Duckett FLS

This event is free. Please register via our website. This lecture will be followed by an afternoon excursion to Hampstead Heath. Also following our lecture will be a Treasures Tour (see General Events for details) and tea served in the Library. Image © Jeff Duckett.



Science Policy Lecture 2018

EVENING MEETING 18:00–19:00 Thursday 18 October 2018

Lost Prophets, Deluded Wizards, Addicted Alchemists, and Us

In association with the Systematics Association
Concern for the condition for the environment and its biodiversity is divided in our society between two groups. Those who think an extra planet is needed to maintain diverse life (Lost Prophets) and the Deluded Wizards who believe that technology will resolve all outstanding issues. This talk will discuss the interactions of a third group, the Addicted Alchemists, and how pivotal it is in shaping the actions of the former two. **Speaker: Mustafa Zaidi**



This event is free. Please register via our website. Tea will be served in the Library from 17:30 and the lecture will be followed by a white wine reception. Image © Mohammed Zaidi.

Frightful Tales from the World of Venom

HALLOWEEN LECTURE 12:30–13:00 Wednesday 31 October 2018

In the arena of animal evolution, venom beat strength, stealth, speed and cunning by millions of years. During this talk you will have an intimate meeting with the painful, paralysing, blood curdling, hallucinogenic, haemorrhaging, aphrodisiacal, and zombifying effects of venom, as different branches of the animal tree of life wield this chemical Swiss army knife for their own nefarious purposes. **Speaker: Dr Ronald Jenner**



This event is free. Please register via our website. Tea will be served in the Library following the lecture. Also following our lecture will be a Treasures Tour (see General Events for details). Image © Trustees of the NHM.

Sir Julian Huxley Lecture 2018

PARTNER EVENT 18:00–19:00 Wednesday 7 November 2018

In association with the Systematics Association
This talk will focus on how species identifications of marine benthic biodiversity of the Southern Ocean are vital for applied research and policy. The talk will introduce the Southern Ocean benthic biodiversity, the discovery of “new” Southern Ocean ecosystems, newest discoveries in unique species anatomy and ecology, and the role of biodiversity in assessing Antarctic Marine Protected Areas. **Speaker: Dr Katrin Linse**



This event is free. Please register via our website. Tea will be served in the Library from 17:30 and the lecture will be followed by a white wine reception. Image © Katrin Linse.

Darwin Lecture 2018

PARTNER EVENT 18:00–19:00 Thursday 8 November 2018

Targeting vulnerability: Improving childhood survival, growth and development in low-income settings

In association with the Royal Society of Medicine

Globally, child mortality has decreased by half since 1990. However, almost 6 million children continue to die annually, many from preventable causes such as diarrhoea. While disease specific interventions have had tremendous impact in reducing mortality to date, it is clear that reducing mortality further will be more challenging and will require different tools, strategies and approaches. **Speaker: Professor Judd Walson**



This event is free. Please register via our website. Tea will be served in the Library from 17:30 and the lecture will be followed by a white wine reception. Image © Judd Walson.

Great Ape Minds and Human Evolution

EVENING MEETING 18:00–19:00 Thursday 15 November 2018

Chimpanzees and bonobos are human's closest living relatives; we share approximately 98.6 % of our genetic material with them. Given their close genetic relationship to humans, both species represent crucial living models for reconstructing our last common ancestor and for identifying uniquely human features. In this talk, we will explore how the similarities and differences of both species can contribute to a more balanced human evolution model.

Speaker: Dr Zanna Clay

This event is free. Please register via our website. Tea will be served in the Library from 17:30 and the lecture will be followed by a white wine reception. Image © Zanna Clay.



A Brush With Flowers

FOUNDERS LECTURE 18:00–19:00 Monday 3 December 2018

Philip's joint passions – wild flowers and art history have occasionally come together. Philip will show some examples of how botanical elements within paintings he has handled have helped lead to revelations, and also how in later life he has come to discover the delights of an artist whom he considers to be the most significant flower painter of the 20th century, Cedric Morris. **Speaker: Philip Mould OBE FLS**



This event is free. Please register via our website. Tea will be served in the Library from 17:30 and the lecture will be followed by a white wine reception. Image © Philip Mould.

The Future of Coralline Algae

LUNCHTIME LECTURE 12:30–13:00 Wednesday 5 December 2018

Coralline algae are important habitat formers. Rhodoliths/mäerl are unattached forms of coralline algae that interlock to form extensive beds that support high levels of biodiversity.

However their 3D structure, which is crucial to their habitat-forming ability, is highly influenced by the environment. This talk will cover the effects of climate change on coralline algae and their ability to form complex habitats.

Speaker: Dr Leanne Melbourne

This event is free. Please register via our website. Tea will be served in the Library following the lecture. Also following our lecture will be a Treasures Tour (see General Events for details). Image © NERC diving team.



Landmarks in the History of the Worshipful Company of Gardeners

CHRISTMAS LECTURE 18:00–19:00 Thursday 13 December 2018

In 1345 a group of well-meaning men formed the Fraternity of Gardeners and banged on the doors of St Paul's Cathedral, asking for a little land to trade on so they could improve the quality of produce that was being sold in the City of London. This talk highlights the history of this Livery Company, the eventual granting of its Royal Charter in 1605 and some of the exciting events that occurred and continue to occur in the life of this very active Company.

Speaker: Tom Gough FLS

This event is free. Please register via our website. Tea will be served in the Library from 17:30 and the lecture will be followed by a white wine reception. Image © Tom Gough.



LIBRARY DISPLAYS

If you are unable to attend one of our Treasures Tours, one way to see some of our amazing collections is through our library displays.

Our themed displays regularly change to reflect our upcoming lectures. Feel free to drop in to the Society to have a look at some of our wonderful treasures.

Image © The Linnean Society of London.



GENERAL EVENTS

Linnean Society Treasures Tours

13:30–15:00 Wednesday 5 September, Wednesday 3 October, Wednesday 31 October, and Wednesday 5 December.

These ever-popular tours include a visit to the Meeting Room, complete with portraits of Charles Darwin and Alfred Russel Wallace; the Linnaean Collections, housed in an underground bomb-proof strongroom; and the Library Reading Room, a stunning room that never fails to impress visitors and researchers alike.



Registration for the tours is essential via our website. Tours are held after our Linnean Lunchtime Lectures. Image © The Linnean Society of London.

REGIONAL EVENTS

Manchester

IRENE MANTON LECTURE

Fieldwork in Fancy Dress? – a Natural History of Women in the Field

Tuesday 4 December 2018

Hosted by the University of Manchester

Speaker: Dr Sandy Knapp PLS



For more information please visit <http://www.manchester.ac.uk/> Image © The Linnean Society of London.

SPECIAL EVENT

Linnean Society Student Conference February 2019

Are you a masters or PhD student studying Natural History with an interest in Public Engagement?

Well we have the opportunity for you!

In this all new conference, taking place in February 2019, we are inviting students to showcase their research in front of the public either through an oral or a poster presentation.

Submissions open 1 September 2018

Visit www.linnean.org/student-conference for more details

But that is not all — FREE WORKSHOPS too!

Starting in November there will be a series of workshops in the run up to the conference that will focus on how to tackle imposter syndrome, how to communicate your research and how to write your thesis.

Registration is essential via our website. For more information please email learning@linnean.org



**The Linnean Society
Student Conference**

Public Speaking and Poster Competition

ROOM HIRE

The Linnean Society of London offers a central Mayfair venue for meetings, conferences, and lectures. Our flexible rooms cater for meetings of just a few people to audiences of up to 100, all at highly competitive rates.

The Linnean Society is located in the beautiful courtyard of Burlington House, Piccadilly, where it houses a world-renowned collection of specimens, art and scientific literature making the Society a unique venue in the heart of London.



We also provide catering and our rooms are available to rent for filming.

For prices and availability please contact Tatiana Franco on EXT 213, tatiana@linnean.org.
Image © The Linnean Society of London.

AdoptLINN

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LEAVE A LASTING LEGACY: a name of your choice will stay associated with your item.

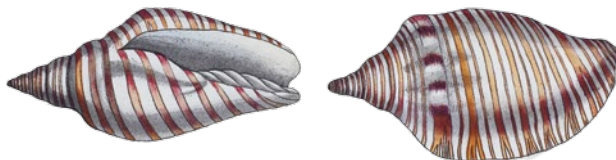
GET A CERTIFICATE: with information about your item.

GET CLOSER: via a special tour of our treasures for you and your guests.*

SHARE THE LIMELIGHT: once conserved, your item will be displayed with recognition of your contribution.*

**subject to adoption level*

For more information please email library@linnean.org



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