



Royal
Botanic Garden
Edinburgh

SCOTTISH BOTANISTS' CONFERENCE

Saturday 4 November 2023

Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh

08.15 Exhibitors' setting up

09.15 General Arrival – tea & coffee

10.00 Welcome - Simon Milne, RBGE Regius Keeper

10.05 *Plant Atlas 2020*: powering policy with citizen science – Mat Williams, Chief Scientific Advisor for Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture to Scottish Government

10:15 *Plant Atlas 2020*: the State of Scotland's Flora – Matt Harding, BSBI Scotland Officer

10:35 Scottish Plant Recovery using Conservation Translocations – Aline Finger, RBGE Molecular Ecologist

11.00 Morning Tea & Coffee

11.30 Research flashtalks

11.45 An update on BSBI's projects and future plans – Julia Hanmer, BSBI Chief Executive

12.05 BSBI Scottish Annual General Meeting – David Elston, BSBI Chair of Committee for Scotland

12.25 Lunch and view exhibits

13.15 Mini-workshops: First session

14.15 Mini-workshops: Second session

15.15 Afternoon Tea & Coffee

15.45 BotSoc.Scot! BSS welcome and updates – Jonathan Silvertown, President of BSS

16.05 From seedling to sapling: a year in the life of a young professional botanist – Gus Routledge

16.20 For Peat's Sake: The Highs and Lows of Managing Plantlife's Munsary Peatlands Nature Reserve – Alistair Whyte, Head of Plantlife Scotland

16.35 Divorcing the Scrophs: why plant names keep changing – Richard Milne, University of Edinburgh

17.05 Comfort Break

17.20 Understanding Wild Pine in the Highlands – James Rainey & Jane Sayers, Trees for Life

17.45 BSBI Photographic Competition

17.50 Closing remarks

18.00 Close of conference

18.30 Conference Dinner – held at the In Touch Indian Restaurant (pre-booking required)

Mini-workshops	Leader
Willowherb (<i>Epilobium</i>) identification	Geoffrey Kitchener, BSBI <i>Epilobium</i> referee
Montane willow identification	Sarah Watts, Corrour Estate Conservation Manager
Introduction to Dock identification	Sandy Edwards, BSBI Recorder for Fifeshire
Introduction to Horsetail identification	Heather McHaffie, British Pteridological Society
Bryophytes for beginners	Oliver Moore, British Bryological Society
Making the most of herbaria – specimen collection, presentation and online catalogues	Elsbeth Haston, RBGE Deputy Herbarium Curator, & RBGE Herbarium team
Getting the most out of the Online <i>Plant Atlas 2020</i>	Pete Stroh, BSBI England & Scientific Officer, <i>Plant Atlas 2020</i> author

SCOTTISH BOTANISTS' CONFERENCE

Saturday 4th November 2023
Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh

Thank you for booking on the 2023 Scottish Botanists' Conference. Here is information for the day:

Covid: Please do not attend if feeling unwell, or you have Covid symptoms. Hand sanitiser will be provided, and you are welcome to wear a mask if you wish.

Location: Here are some instructions on [how to get to the conference](#), in the Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh's Science Buildings on Inverleith Row. Note that you will NOT be able to get from The Gateway or the East Gate through the gardens to the Science Buildings.

Registration: On arriving, please pick up your name badge and any copies of the Programme, List of Participants & Abstracts you require at the registration desk in the main entrance.

Cloakroom: Please use the Cloakroom which will be signed and available for coats, jackets and luggage.

Timing: The registration desk will open at 08.15 for exhibitors only and from 09.15 for everyone else, when tea & coffee will also be available. The conference itself will commence at **10.00** sharp in the Lecture Theatre – so please don't be late. The Lecture Theatre programme will finish at 18.00.

Lunch: the canteen will **NOT** be open for buying lunch as in previous years, but you are welcome to bring a packed lunch and eat it there. **But** if everyone goes at once it will be overcrowded. If you go along and there are no seats, please go back 20 minutes later. Don't worry, it is a long lunch break and there is plenty of time for everyone.

Tea & Coffee: will be provided *throughout the day* (including lunchtime) in the Exhibition Room & at the reception in the main entrance. At either station, please get served and move along quickly. If there is a big queue in the Exhibition Room station, please head along to the reception station, or browse Summerfield books or the exhibits before having coffee. (The breaks are half an hour long.)

Attendance: Remember that attending any of the talks is entirely optional - you are very welcome to take time out during any part of the programme to view exhibits, visit Summerfield Books, etc. If you do plan to leave mid-session please try to sit on the front row or an end seat near the door.

Exhibition: Read the abstracts beforehand and make sure you don't miss any particularly interesting exhibits!

ID Mini-workshops: Remember to come prepared with hand lens, notepad and pencil. Delegates on the 'Bryophytes for Beginners' workshop should also bring a x20 hand lens if they have one. Delegates on the 'Getting the most out of the online *Plant Atlas 2020*' workshop may wish to bring a laptop (or smartphone or similar) to view and explore the [BSBI Online Plant Atlas 2020](#), although this is optional. Also, please note that the Herbaria and Willowherbs workshops will be held in the RBGE Herbarium, where strict biosecurity measures mean that no external specimens may be brought in.

Photographic Competition: Please take time to peruse the [photographic competition](#) entries and vote for your favourite in each of the two classes before 15.45. The winners will be announced at 17.45.

Identification Help Table: Remember to bring specimens that you need ID help along with a note of who collected it and where and when it was collected. The help table will be in the Exhibition Room.

Summerfield Books: Check out their lovely selection of botanical and natural history books and hand lenses.

Conference Dinner: If you are attending the conference dinner, this will be held at the [In Touch Indian Restaurant](#), commencing at 18:30 and finishing around 20:30.