

Members diary

London meetings

Wednesday, 16 May at 6.30 pm

Where does all the money go?

As members will know, all money raised to the 100% Fund goes directly to conservation and the ffPS Council allocates funds to approved projects related to endangered species and habitats at its meetings held four times a year. We have invited a selection of recent grant recipients to give short, illustrated talks on their projects, and invite members to come and see how our conservation funds were spent. We anticipate having about 10 speakers including short papers on the Chilean Marine Otter, The Redwood and Ebony of St Helena, The Masked Duck in Mexico and Conservation of the Mediterranean Tortoise.

Annual General Meeting

Wednesday, 5 September at 6.30 pm

Full details in July *Oryx* (or on request from ffPS office)

Autumn meetings

Saturday, 6 October at 2.15 pm ffPS/BSBI 3rd Joint Symposium

Tuesday, 4 December at 6.30 pm ffPS/British Ornithologists' Union Joint Meeting

The above meetings will take place in the Meeting Rooms of the Zoological Society of London on the Outer Circle, Regent's Park, London NW1 (nearest tube, Camden Town; bus No. 74 to Primrose Hill).

Tickets: £3.50 each*, available from the ffPS Office (a SAE would be appreciated).

*Except Saturday 6 October—cost: £5.00.

Members' Wildlife Weekend

A special weekend of wildlife watching in Devon is planned for 4–7 May. There will be visits, in the company of local experts, to Exmoor National Park, famous for deer, buzzard, raven, ring ouzel and grouse, and to spectacular Braunton Burrows, one of the largest sand dune complexes in Britain.

Chris Bonington will present his autobiographical lecture, 'Horizons' on Saturday evening and, on Sunday, Tony Soper, one of the country's best known naturalists, will talk on 'Discovering Birds'.
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Based at a three-star hotel overlooking Woolacombe Bay, the inclusive price of the weekend is £129 or £120 per adult, for a room with or without a bath respectively, with half-price for children of 4–12 years and £10 for those under 4 years.

The WILDSCENE Weekend is presented by Bruce Coleman Ltd in association with ffPS.

For further details see insert with this *Oryx*.

ffPS in the USA

In December 1983 the Executive Secretary, John A. Burton, travelled to Boston, Massachusetts, USA, to attend a Directors' meeting of ffPS (Inc). The main purpose of the meeting was to re-organise ffPS (Inc) so that it could play a more active role in supporting ffPS projects, such as Bat Conservation International, the Mountain Gorilla Project and also to help increase membership and the circulation of *Oryx*. Pending the Annual Meeting to be held in spring 1984, a board consisting of John Walsh (WSPA), Dr Gerard Bertrand (Massachusetts Audubon) and John A. Burton (ffPS) was elected, together with honorary directors, including Dr Harold J. Coolidge, Alan Hutchison, Christine Stevens, Dart Thalman and Merlin Tuttle.

It is hoped to hold an inaugural public meeting in the Boston area, when John Burton will give an illustrated talk entitled the 'Business of Extinction', describing the international trade in wildlife and the way in which ffPS has been involved in its control.

Members in the US are reminded that ffPS (Inc) is a tax-deductible charity, and all payments can be made in US dollars; at present they should continue to be sent to the UK office.

John A. Burton

Wanted for the Mountain Gorilla Project

Books on the environment (preferably in French) are wanted for a reference library for local schools in Rwanda (all levels) as part of the ffPS-funded environmental awareness programme for the people living on the borders of the Parc National des Volcans. Please send any suitable books to the ffPS office.

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