The Devonshire Association For the Advancement of Science Literature and the Arts BOTANY SECTION PROGRAMME 2013

Meetings are from 11.00 a.m. to approximately 4.00 p.m., unless otherwise stated. Bring packed lunch and appropriate footwear. **Please contact the leader if you wish to attend.** Also check with the leader if you wish to bring your dog. NON MEMBERS WELCOME.

Sunday 14 April: Postbridge. A meeting to look for the declining upland lichen, Bryoria fuscescens, and other lichen species. Meet at Postbridge DNP car park SX646789 at 10:30 (**Note earlier start time**). Leader Barbara Benfield (01884 277470, bbenfield2@bbmax.com)

Saturday 20 April: Bystock. Joint meeting with the Devon Bryology Group to look at mosses and liverworts. Meet at the main entrance to the reserve at SY035843, on the north side of a minor road across Withycombe Common; full directions, including alternative parking, can be found at http://www.devonwildlifetrust.org/reserve/Bystock+Pools/getting-there/ Leaders Roy Jeffery (01752 788352) and Mark Pool (01803 316154, mark.pool@care4free.net). Contact Mark for further details.

Sunday 5 May: Hope's Nose, Torquay. We will explore the limestone headland that forms the northern arm of Torbay, Ilsham Marine Drive and Thatcher Point. This small area is very rich and home to many of the less common species found in the Torquay area. Roadside parking on Ilsham Marine Drive at SX9437.6363. Leader: Roger Smith (01626 368577).

Sunday 19 May: Pig's Nose & Gammon Head. Rich grassland, arable and coastal plants. We will follow the Pig's Nose stream to the coast and explore the area around Deckler's Cliff and Gammon Head. Roadside parking on lane at SX7738.3661 to the east of East Prawle. Leader: Roger Smith (01626 368577)

Saturday 8 June: Blackdown & Sampford Commons, and Culmstock Beacon. This area, of which 155ha is an SSSI, lies on the Somerset/Devon border at the extreme northwesterly tip of the Blackdown Hills AONB. It is the largest remaining area of heathland in the Blackdowns, with extensive species-rich Molinia mire, home to Devon's largest population of Early Marsh Orchid. Meet at Wellington Monument car park, at ST144167, from where we will car share to the site. Leader: David Allen (01404 861394).

Tuesday 25 June, 6.30pm - 7.30pm: Flowers of an Ancient Devon Hedgerow. (Note later start time.) We will list the many flowers in a short stretch of hedge. Meet at Station Road car park Bovey Tracey SX815781, to stroll along Marsh Lane, by kind permission of Mr. and Mrs Tebbit. Suitable for all ages. No booking required. A joint Meeting with Devon Wildlife Trust Bovey Tracey Local Group. Leader: Frances Billinge (01626 833620, fbillinge@btinternet.com)

Saturday 29 June: Emsworthy and Holwell Farm. A chance to explore this new Devon Wildlife Trust reserve, led by Jackie Gage, the Nature Reserves Office responsible for its care. Meet at the small car park just to the west of Saddle Tor at SX748761. More car parking available further east at SX754764, or further west at SX741760. Contact: Tim Purches (01752 795256, tim.purches@talk21.com)

Sunday 14 July: Salt marsh and sea bank at Horsey Island, Braunton. A chance to see some of the special species of this area, such as Trifolium squamosum, Marrubium vulgare,

Seraphidium maritimum, Limonium spp and Ranunculus baudotti. Meet at the White House (SS469330 – shown on the OS map as Crow Beach House). Parking available just to the south west, at Crow Point. Leader: Mary Breeds (01271 812552, mary breeds@hotmail.com)

Sunday 11 August: Wotter. Plants of varied moorland habitats. Park at SX563618 on the side of the road leading up to Wotter village. Leader Bob Hodgson (01822 852826, rhodgson@tinyworld.co.uk)

Tuesday 5 November, 10.30 am to 12.30 pm: Fungi Foray at Steps Bridge. Note earlier start time). Meet at Steps Bridge car park (SX802883). Leader: Nigel Pinhorn (01392 211247, devonnaturewalks@btinternet.com) Numbers limited to 20, bookings made in advance only

Saturday 18 January 2014: Botany Section AGM - Longdown Village Hall (SX862913) at 11.00 a.m. Longdown is on the B3212, around 4 miles west of Exeter. The village hall is in the lane leading to Tedburn St Mary, signposted to the right just beyond the Lamb Inn. Hall open from 10.30 a.m. The AGM will be followed by an informal walk to look at lichens and bryophytes in the vicinity and a short slide-show. (Contact Secretary Tim Purches - 01752 795256, tim.purches@talk21.com - for further information.)