

**The Darwin Scholarship Programme  
Monitoring and Communicating Biodiversity**



**Provisional Course Programme 26<sup>th</sup> August– Monday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2011**

**Overall Aims**

- \* Strengthen the exploration and observational competencies of young field scientists
- \* Provide a context for field observations; national biodiversity databases & recording
- \* Enhance the ability of scientists to communicate with a variety of groups
- \* Develop resources and materials to promote exploration and observation

Each evening participants will take it in turn to give a short presentation of their work. The programme is organised around a mix of lectures, excursions, field trips and workshops and there will be plenty of opportunity for participants to share their ideas and expertise.

Day	Morning	Afternoon	Evening
<b>Friday</b> 26 <sup>th</sup> August		Please arrive any time after 14.00. The formal welcome and dinner is at 18.00 for 18:30 so you will need some time to settle in.	Reception hosted by FSC at 18:00  Brief introduction to the programme, the organisation and each other.
<b>Saturday</b> 27 <sup>th</sup> August	<b>Cwm Idwal National Nature Reserve in Snowdonia's Ogwen Valley, Wales. Field Excursion</b> This visit to a National Park will use Darwin's first observations and recordings to help examine the underlying geology of a site and how this influences biodiversity. There will be session before the excursion to clarify personal expectations of objectives for the Scholarship. Led by the Reverend Michael Roberts and other field biologists to explain the geology and botany in this wonderful area.		<b>Darwin as an example of a field biologist</b> – Lecture on the history of Natural History.  Michael Roberts
<b>Sunday</b> 28 <sup>th</sup> August	<b>The Big Picture - Biodiversity and Sustainable Development</b> – a workshop session led by Richard Dawson from FSC.	<b>Identification of Invertebrates-</b> Excursion and workshop. A field visit to collect and return to identify a selection of invertebrates from the Preston Montford Estate - Ian Cheeseborough, Sue Townsend and Pete Boardman	Ian Cheeseborough and Sue Townsend/Pete Boardman
<b>Monday</b> 29 <sup>th</sup> August	<b>Use of data bases in recording schemes,</b>	<b>River Water Quality</b> A field visit to discuss how invertebrates can be used as water quality indicators. Led by Sue Townsend	<b>The demand and creation of identification resources -</b> Workshop and Lecture by Rebecca Farley – Head of FSC Publications
			<b>Presentations session 1</b> This is the first of 3 presentation sessions. Scholars have been asked to prepare a 5 minute presentation about their work.

<b>Tuesday</b> 30 <sup>th</sup> August	<b>Bird Recording Methods and Schemes</b> , Field Visit and explanation of data collection and rationale. Workshop and field excursion. Martin Godfrey		<b>Presentations – Session 2</b>
<b>Wednesday</b> 31 <sup>st</sup> August	<b>Darwin’s Shrewsbury</b> A visit to Shrewsbury School led by Andrew Allot – biology teacher at the school	<b>In Darwin’s Footsteps</b> A guided walk around Shrewsbury visiting Darwin’s birth place. A chance for some free time	<b>Presentations – Session 3</b>
<b>Thursday</b> 1 <sup>st</sup> September	<b>Recording and Communicating Biodiversity</b> We shall travel down to London and spend the whole day at the <b>Natural History Museum</b> in London where we shall have a guided visit to the new Darwin Wing, individual time to explore the Museum and presentations about biodiversity work.		<b>Overnight in Juniper Hall, Dorking.</b> <b>Presentation Session 4</b>
<b>Friday</b> 2 <sup>nd</sup> September	<b>Some Darwin History</b> On the way back from London we shall visit <b>Down House</b> just south of London where Darwin spent most of his life and wrote Origin of the Species. This visit will be hosted by Randal Keynes, the great great grandson of Charles Darwin.		<b>Field Visit</b> British Land Mammal Recording Scheme and setting traps for identification and recording. Sue Townsend
<b>Saturday</b> 3 <sup>rd</sup> September	<b>British Land Mammals Trapping, Identification and Recording,</b> Field Visit – Sue Townsend	<b>Recording Schemes – the British Hoverfly Recording Scheme</b> Roger Morris and Stuart Ball	<b>Communicating Biodiversity Successfully – part 1</b> A workshop by Richard Dawson on new approaches to communication and participation with the public.
<b>Sunday</b> 4 <sup>th</sup> September	<b>Communicating Biodiversity successfully – part 2</b> A workshop by Richard Dawson on new approaches to communication and learning about biodiversity with school students	<b>Course Review – Sharing Ideas for Action and Follow up</b> <b>Richard Dawson</b> Some summative and reflective work	<b>End of Course Dinner</b> A celebratory event planned by the scholars for the last evening together.
<b>Monday</b> 5 <sup>th</sup>	Departure after Breakfast		