

## Joint Scientific Meeting 2026

amphibian and reptile  
conservation



# Amphibian and Reptile Biology and Conservation

**SATURDAY 28<sup>th</sup> November 2025, 10:00-16:20**

*The Lecture Hall, Bournemouth Natural Science Society,  
39 Christchurch Road, Bournemouth, Dorset, BH1 3NS.*

### **PROGRAMME**

- |           |                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|-----------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1000-1030 | <b>Arrival, registration and coffee</b>                                                                                                                                                         |
| 1030-1035 | <b>Welcome</b> – Prof Richard Griffiths, ARC Trustee                                                                                                                                            |
| 1040-1110 | <b>Stowaway reptiles and amphibians: how do they arrive in the UK?</b> – Harpreet Singh Sethi, DICE, University of Kent                                                                         |
| 1110-1140 | <b>The impact of veterinary flea treatments on pond biodiversity</b> – Nicole Digruher, Amphibian and Reptile Conservation                                                                      |
| 1140-1220 | <b>Coffee</b>                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| 1225-1255 | <b>Building the native vs non-native amphibian interaction network of Great Britain</b> – Tara Gupta, University of Exeter                                                                      |
| 1255-1325 | <b>In search of the dragon: the Lothian great crested newt project</b> – Finn McElrue-Inch, University of Edinburgh                                                                             |
| 1330-1445 | <b>Lunch</b>                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| 1450-1520 | <b>Impacts of non-native herpetofauna in the UK: a review of evidence and a climate-based risk assessment</b> – Kat Maher, Swansea University                                                   |
| 1520-1550 | <b>Natter-back: A palaeoecological approach to understanding natterjack reintroduction feasibility</b> – Ben Siggery, Surrey Wildlife Trust and Jack Harper, Amphibian and Reptile Conservation |
| 1550-1620 | <b>Raffle, coffee and departure</b>                                                                                                                                                             |

**DONATIONS OF APT RAFFLE PRIZES APPRECIATED!**

**EXHIBITORS / VENDORS BY PRIOR ARRANGEMENT ONLY PLEASE**

**SPONSORSHIP WELCOME!**

*Please see next page for Registration details...*

### REGISTRATION

Registration, including lunch and refreshments, is now open! **The costs for 2026 are:**

- £35 to ARC members, BHS, HSI, ARG and BNSS members, students, unemployed and retired
- £75 to all others
- Payment is non-refundable after Friday 6<sup>th</sup> November
- Registration closes Friday 13<sup>th</sup> November.

### HOW TO REGISTER

Registration is online. Please visit <http://www.arc-trust.org/Events/scientific-meeting-2026> – making sure you have the names and e-mails of all those you are registering, as well as credit or debit card details for payment.

### SOCIAL EVENING

There will be a chance for a meal (e.g. curry) and drinks on the evening of FRIDAY 27<sup>th</sup> November at a local restaurant at additional cost. We won't, however, be taking payment for meals online. Details of arrangements for the meal, including venue and payment arrangements, will be sent to registered attendees only in November.

Please indicate your interest in attending the Friday evening meal when registering! Meal/curry seats are limited usually to about 30 people.

*Early booking for the meeting is advised as spaces are limited.*

*To have a stand or display, or to sponsor speaker travel, contact John Wilkinson, e-mail [john.wilkinson@arc-trust.org](mailto:john.wilkinson@arc-trust.org)*

*We look forward to seeing old and new faces at what promises to be an interesting and enjoyable meeting!*

### THE VENUE AND NEARBY B&Bs

The Bournemouth Natural Science Society venue ([www.bnss.org.uk](http://www.bnss.org.uk)) is on a major bus route, and most places are within 20 minutes' walk anyway. There is limited parking at the venue and free parking on some neighbouring streets.

**B&Bs and hotels within 5-15 minutes' walk from the BNSS venue e.g.**

- Travelodge, 43 Christchurch Road, from £55 *per room* <http://www.travelodge.co.uk/>
- The Carrington House Hotel, 31 Knyveton Road, 0871 474 2755, from around £55 <http://www.britanniahotels.com/hotels/bournemouth-carrington-house/>

If you want to consider a wider selection of accommodation across the whole of Bournemouth, please see Bournemouth Tourism at <http://www.bournemouth.co.uk/> or phone 01202 – 451734.

ARC & BHS websites: ARC: [www.arc-trust.org](http://www.arc-trust.org) The BHS: [www.thebhs.org](http://www.thebhs.org)