



**BOTANICAL SOCIETY OF SCOTLAND
EDINBURGH LECTURE PROGRAMME
2025/2026**

Updated 30/01/2026



The Edinburgh monthly lectures are held joint with the Royal Botanic Garden, Edinburgh. They will take place at the usual venue - Lecture Theatre at 20A, Inverleith Row, Edinburgh EH3 5LR usually at 6pm (check below). Tea is available from 5.30pm. Members who have email addresses will be notified with information about each lecture. We will endeavour to record the lectures and make them available on our YouTube channel at a later date.

THURSDAY 18th SEPTEMBER 2025, 6.30pm

(the later time is to allow students to return from a field excursion)

Prof David Wilkinson. University of Lincoln

Wood wide web: popular culture meets complex science

THURSDAY 16th OCTOBER 2025, 6pm

Prof Spencer Barrett, University of Toronto

Cape Flora

SATURDAY 1st NOVEMBER 2025 – all day

Scottish Botanists' Conference

Joint with BSBI

Lecture Theatre, Royal Botanic Garden, Edinburgh

All participants must register. Please check the BSBI website.

THURSDAY 27th NOVEMBER 2025, 6pm

Dr Andrea Harper, University of York

Rising from the ashes: why do some trees survive ash dieback disease?

THURSDAY, 18th DECEMBER 2025, 6pm

Dr Axel Poulsen, Royal Botanic Garden, Edinburgh

Spicing up Christmas: the story of gingers

THURSDAY 15th JANUARY 2026, 6pm

Dr Helen Kopnina, Northumbria University

Requiem for the weeds

THURSDAY 26th FEBRUARY 2026, 6pm

Dr Olwen Grace, Royal Botanic Garden, Edinburgh

Curating Herbaria in a Time of Biodiversity Crisis

THURSDAY 19th MARCH 2026, 6pm

Prof. Simon Hiscock, Oxford Botanic Garden

The Oxford Ragwort and the Bristol Whitebeam: tales of hybrid speciation

THURSDAY 16th APRIL 2026, 6pm

Dr Laura Carter, University of Leeds

Plants on prescription

THURSDAY 21st MAY 2026, 6pm
Prof Enrico Coen, John Innes Institute
From genes to types: how species part and meet
The lecture will be followed by the AGM

DUNDEE LECTURES 2025/2026

TUESDAY, 28th October 2025, 7pm
Science Centre, Greenmarket, Dundee
(Near the Railway station)
The lecture is joint with Dundee Naturalists
Martin Robinson, the BSBI recorder for West Perth
Perthshire Plants

TUESDAY, 24th February 2026, 7 pm
Science Centre, Inspire Room, Greenmarket, Dundee
The lecture is joint with Dundee Naturalists
Dr Richard Milne, University of Edinburgh
Photographing all the plants in Britain

INVERNESS LECTURE 2025/2026

TUESDAY 10th March, 2026, 7.30pm
Ben Averis, Botanical Consultant
Scotland's western rainforests and increasing hints of it further east
Smithton Free Church, 1 Murray Rd, Smithton, Inverness IV2 7YU
The lecture is joint with Inverness Botany Group.