

# DURHAM FRESHWATER ALGAL IDENTIFICATION COURSE

Algal Training Course – Class of 2018



Laboratory work



**Venues** Stephenson College and Department of Biosciences, Durham University, UK

**Organizers** BRIAN WHITTON (Durham) and DAVID JOHN (London)

**Sunday 7 July – Saturday 13 July 2019**

## COURSE AIMS

To train staff from Environment Agency, SEPA, water plcs, consultancies, museums, research students and overseas visitors in the identification of the more widespread and environmentally important freshwater algae. Topics include monitoring, field sampling, preservation, harmful and nuisance algae.

## COURSE

Prof. David John and Prof. Brian Whitton. Dr Gordon Beakes (formerly University of Newcastle), Dr Alan Donaldson (consultant) and Dr Martyn Kelly (Bowburn Consultancy) also contribute.

## WHERE

Accommodation in Stephenson College, meals in Collingwood College and course in the Department of Biosciences (about 600 m from Collingwood College). Parking near the College is available for anyone bringing a car, but should be reserved in advance.

## COURSE OUTLINE

Lectures and/or practicals run until 2120 each evening, including the Sunday. The main part of the course ends at 1300 on the Friday, with most study during this period is in the laboratory or seminar room, but there is a short field excursion on the Tuesday afternoon. Following the end of the main course there is a half-day field visit to river sites and to streams influenced by former lead-zinc mining. This concludes with a meal in an Alston pub in the Pennines.

## COSTS

The inclusive cost for all members other than full-time research students is £920 (no VAT charge) for those making a firm reservation by 1 April. The cost is the same whether leaving after lunch on Friday or breakfast on Saturday.

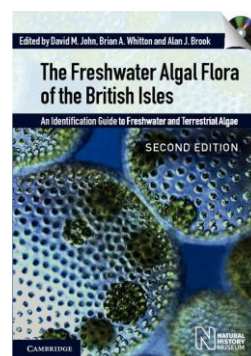
The discounted price for full-time students is £820. Students who have been members of the British Phycological Society for at least three months (*essential!*) may apply directly to the Society for some support, but any decision rests with the Society. Details will be posted on the BPS website ([https://brphycsoc.org/awards\\_training/](https://brphycsoc.org/awards_training/)), but the application is submitted **as early as possible**.

## BOOKING

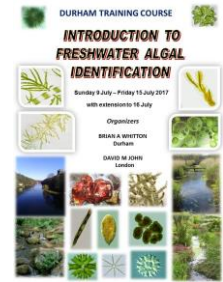
Reservations for should be made by email ([b.a.whitton@durham.ac.uk](mailto:b.a.whitton@durham.ac.uk)) to B.A.Whitton Algal Training, or by post to 74 Archery Rise, Durham DH1 4LA, UK. A full refund will be made to anyone paying in advance, but then cancelling before 1 June, while 50% refund will be made to anyone cancelling between then and 1 July.

## WHAT TO BRING

Members should bring boots for field visits and (preferably) fresh samples from their local waters. There is no need to bring a laboratory coat, as these will be loaned. Everything else is provided, including access to *The Freshwater Algal Flora of the British Isles* and associated DVD. Members may find it useful to bring their own portable computer, but the risk of loss for this and other equipment such a camera must be covered by their own insurance.



A digital version of the manual will be emailed in advance, if have not received a copy by 1 June, please inform the organisers. Hard copies are distributed on arrival. Overseas members need not bring clothes for field visit(s) - these will be loaned. The College has facilities for accessing internet.



## TRAVEL

Durham is on the main rail line between London King's Cross and Edinburgh. Trains are at least once an hour and the journey from London (400 km) takes three hours (sometimes longer on a Sunday). Overseas members should contact the organizers for advice on buying their ticket. (Advance booking is essential to get the cheapest fare.) The nearest airport is Newcastle-upon-Tyne. There is a rail route from Newcastle airport to Durham, though this involves changing at Newcastle main rail station. A taxi from Newcastle airport to Durham (40 km) takes 35-45 minutes and costs just under £60 on Saturday or Sunday. The organizers almost always collect members there, but it is sometimes not possible to help with the return journey.

## PROGRAMME

The course (run continuously since 1992) is a mixture of lectures and practicals, together with the field visits. Members should arrive by 1700 on the Sunday (though they can take their room earlier in the day), while the daily programme runs from 0900 to 2120. The main course ends after lunch on Friday, but most join the visit to field sites and leave after breakfast on the Saturday. There is no formal test, but the course ends with a slide-show quiz and a prize for the winner.

## FURTHER INFORMATION

**Brian Whitton** [b.a.whitton@durham.ac.uk](mailto:b.a.whitton@durham.ac.uk) phone +44(0)191-3867504 or  
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