



Risk assessment – Quekett Microscopical Club

Activity – Excursion to Warnham Local Nature Reserve. Version: 2

Activity	Risk/hazard	Persons at risk	Control measures	Comments	Hazard Probability	Hazard Severity	Overall Risk rating
Setting-up equipment	Manual handling	QMC members	Members will set up their own equipment and are requested to only bring equipment convenient for handling	Members will be familiar with their own equipment.	Low	Low	Low
Visitors handling microscopes	Microscopes dislodged from tables	Public	Magnifiers and Microscopes will be set up on tables with supervision by QMC members		Low	Low	Low
Electrical equipment	Failure/fire/electric shock	QMC members	Each set of equipment (light sources for microscopes, cameras and computing equipment) to be connected to a contact breaker system or PAT tested (the Warnham Visitor's Centre has a trip system on the main supply). Checks to be made to ensure all trailing cables etc., are not a trip hazard.	Microscope illuminators, computers etc., are low voltage, low current devices usually providing low risks.	Low	High	Med
Hot light sources	Pain from contact with hot surface	Public; QMC members	Any external light sources which may become hot will be positioned away from the public contact areas. Experienced members will be aware of the risk provided by their lamps.	Most light sources are now low temperature LEDs	Low	Low	Low
Chemical materials	Possible harmful substances if ingested in excess	Public; QMC members	All substances used for demonstrations will be those generally available to the public e.g. pond water, throat sprays, alcohol. Samples will be prepared by	Some specialised substances may be in use by experienced members.	Low	Low	Low

Date of assessment: 14 - July - 2022


Prepared by: *G. Matthews*G. Matthews (QMC & FWLNR)

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			experienced members used to handling/preparing these substances.	Refer to COSHH details on product labels.			
Sharp objects	Cuts from glass – slides or cover slips or from tools	Public; QMC Members	The public will not be preparing samples with slides and coverslips – these will be done by members used to handling them. Preparation tools such as knives, tweezers and probes will only be handled by experienced members.	First aid facilities for minor injuries are available in the Visitors' Centre	Low	Low	Low
Collection of water samples	Falling in water	QMC Members	Members are experienced in these activities. The water hazards are relatively shallow for adults.	Collection will be from relatively shallow dipping ponds, ditches & streams. No direct access to deeper water of main pond.	Low	Low	Low
Handling water samples	Infection	QMC members	Hands to be washed after handling and also before handling food & drink.	Members are experienced in pond dipping activities.	Low	High	Med
Insect trapping	Trip hazards	Public; QMC Members	Equipment to be set up away from public thoroughfares	Specialist equipment set up by experienced members	Low	Low	Low


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Version Control

Version	Author	Approved	Date	Changes
2	G Matthews	 G.P. MATTHEWS for QMC & FWLNR.	01-Jul-2019 08-Jul-2022	Addition of COSHH requirements Inclusion of PAT testing as alternative to use of RCD
1	G Matthews	J.Bingley (QMC President)	04-Aug-2017	None (1 st version)

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