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Dear Friends,

It is once again time for bookings to open for the British Tarantula Society Annual Exhibition, which this year takes place on Sunday 18th May 2014 in the **EON Lounge** at:

The RICOH Arena, Coventry, CV6 6GE

After many years at the last venue we have made the bold decision to move the event. This decision has not been made lightly but we feel that the Coseley Leisure Centre is no longer suitable for our and in particular your needs. **The RICOH Arena** allows us to stage the exhibition under one roof. It is bigger, easier to police, accessible from the Motorway networks, and will allow us to grow in future years as they have a number of bigger halls. We believe that this is the right decision for all of us.

Please look for yourselves and visit our new **BTS Exhibition Website**.

www.exhibition.thebts.co.uk

We are sure you will agree that this venue will be more suitable to host the 29th BTS Exhibition and we hope you will support us as always. This year we will be carrying out extensive advertising and marketing and we feel that space will sell out quickly. We advise you to book as soon as possible to avoid disappointment. I would also advise that you return the booking form quickly if you require wall space. I cannot guarantee any position in the hall as it is allocated on a first come first served basis, although I will try and accommodate any needs that you may have indicated on the booking form. You will also see that this year the table sizes have increased from the usual 3ft to **6ft**. This brings us in line with other shows and exhibitions. We have tried to remain competitive on price by offering a choice of options. There is also a special "Early Bird" offer that gives you a great saving when you book multiple tables. We will also be providing free links to your websites on the BTS Exhibition Website. If you would like your logo to be prominent on the site please contact me for advertising rates.

The exhibition will be open to the public from 11am to 4.30pm. Set up for traders will be from 8.30am. Please do not try to get into the halls before this time as we are required to keep the halls free until we have the hall completely set up. This year we are introducing a wrist band for all traders and visitors. Stewards will not admit anyone not clearly wearing their trader wrist bands before the official opening times. Additional passes will only be available to purchase before the event (not available on the day) and each trader will be limited to a maximum of 2 additional purchased passes. **We must receive the names of those people attending on your behalf prior to the event. Failure to provide names may result in refused entrance.**

Passes are allocated as follows: 2 free for the first full table/floor space and 1 additional free pass per table/floor space thereafter up to maximum of 6. Additional passes must be paid for at the time of booking.

Exhibitors will be allocated a dedicated car park and a full site map will be sent in due course.

IMPORTANT

Trade in certain species is controlled by CITES. Species listed in Appendix II of CITES can legally be offered for sale but only if the trader provides valid documents to show that they were legally exported from the country of origin and then legally imported into the UK (such proof may include the export and import permits).

SALE OF VERTEBRATES

Please note that under no circumstances may any vertebrates or any parts thereof, be offered for sale at the exhibition.

DANGEROUS SPECIES

Please note the regulations regarding the sale of livestock of highly venomous or other dangerous species. The following animals are currently assigned to the Dangerous Wild Animals list and their sale is **strictly prohibited**. **Any trader found to be selling any of the following species will be asked to leave the exhibition and face a lifetime ban from any future BTS event.**

Family Ctenidae: The genus <i>Phoneutria</i> .	Wandering spiders.
Family Hexathelidae: The genus <i>Atrax</i> .	The Sydney funnel-web spider and its close relatives.
Family Sicariidae: The genus <i>Loxosceles</i> .	Brown recluse spiders (otherwise known as violin spiders).
Family Theridiidae: The genus <i>Latrodectus</i> .	The widow spiders and close relatives.
Scorpions	
Family Buthidae: All species.	Buthid scorpions.
Family Hemioscorpiidae: The species <i>Hemiscorpius lepturus</i> .	Middle-Eastern thin-tailed scorpion.

ANIMAL WELFARE

Please note that the welfare of any livestock sold at the exhibition is paramount and we expect each trader to ensure that their livestock is healthy and contained in the correct manner.

We would also like to remind all traders in livestock, that they should have a care sheet available for all species that they have for sale. Please have these care sheets available as many of our visitors will be keeping invertebrates for the first time. It is important that your livestock is looked after properly when they go to their new home! Failure to provide a care sheet for any species of livestock sold may result in us asking you to remove the species from sale or to cease your trading at the exhibition completely.

We hope that you will continue to support the event. Completed booking forms and payments should be returned to me as soon as possible. If you have any questions or need more information please feel free to E-mail or call me.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Best wishes

Ray Hale