

Wildlife News

in Warwickshire, Coventry & Solihull

January 2009



Wildlife News attempts to be a comprehensive directory for all natural history groups, sources of wildlife expertise and planned activities in the Warwickshire, Solihull and Coventry sub-region. To publicise your group or activities, or tell us about someone who'd like to receive a copy, please contact Warwickshire Museum. Press dates are 10 April, 10 August and 10 December.

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This newsletter can also be accessed in **full colour** directly via the web at:

www.warwickshire.gov.uk/rings.

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NEWS ITEMS

Farewell Ruth Moffat (and many thanks)



Ruth Moffat, Co-ordinator of the Warwickshire, Coventry and Solihull Biodiversity Action Plan retired at the end of 2008. It is not easy being a Biodiversity Co-ordinator, a big partnership to manage, regular events of all shapes and sizes to organise, a plethora of information on targets and progress to gather and disseminate. But Ruth has kept the show running for a number of years with constant and infectious enthusiasm. Perhaps her biggest achievement in this time was the publication of a Parish Biodiversity Action Plan, the first in the Country. Ruth recognised the potential gains that could be achieved by encouraging parish councils to promote biodiversity within the local patches that they know so well. Not many of them have chosen to rise to the challenge yet, but Leek Wootton and Stretton on Fosse are two that have, and with very clear benefits for wildlife and community cohesion - see powerpoints relating to their work on the conference page of the Biodiversity website:

www.warwickshire.gov.uk/biodiversity

Many thanks Ruth and enjoy your retirement, whatever form this takes. Ruth's replacement is Lisa Worledge.

'Bringing Back the Small Blue' Project

Local Butterfly Conservation Officer Jane Ellis is co-ordinating what could be one of the most exciting habitat enhancement projects the County has seen in recent years. Entitled 'Bringing Back the Small Blue', it

aims to improve a number of existing limestone grassland and limestone quarry sites to benefit scarce butterflies, notably the Small Blue, which now survives at only 2 or 3 sites in Warwickshire (depending on how you define a colony).



Small Blue, Bishops Itchington. © Steven Falk

Quarrying, and the construction of railway cuttings and spoilheaps in times gone by, has produced many wonderful wildlife sites for limestone-loving plants and insects, but most of these species are now on the wane as sites have gradually converted to scrub and woodland, or have been developed. The Small Blue for example has been lost from 12 sites since 1970. Butterfly Conservation has secured funding for scrub removal at 13 sites and for undertaking landform creation at 8 sites. These include Warwickshire Wildlife Trust reserves such as Ufton Fields and Harbury Spoilbank, former or partially inactive cement quarries such as Nelson's Quarry and Southam Quarry, disused railways such as the Offchurch Greenway and the land associated with reservoirs such as Draycote Water. Kidney Vetch, the special foodplant of the Small Blue, will be introduced at 11 sites, and attempts will be made to establish Small Blues populations as the foodplant spreads to create suitably large patches.



Nelsons Quarry, Stockton, one of the key sites for the Small Blue project. © Steven Falk

The work will benefit far more than just Small Blues, because in Warwickshire several hundred further scarce plants and insects share the same open flowery habitats. This includes UK Biodiversity Action Plan (UK BAP) Priority species such as the Dingy Skipper, Grizzled Skipper, Chalk Carpet moth, Dotted Beefly, Large Garden Bumblebee, Brown-banded Carder Bee and a Cuckoo Bee called *Nomada ferruginata*; also many equally scarce flowers (including some lovely orchids), flies, beetles, bugs, beetles, wasps and bees not covered by the UK BAP.

Volunteering opportunities at Coombe Country Park

We have been running volunteer schemes at Coombe since 1983, starting with the Heronry monitoring/warden scheme. We are now seeking new volunteers to help us with this and other projects:

Butterfly surveys of the Deer Park grassland: As part of the restoration of the 18th century Capability Brown Deer Park we have converted some arable farmland back to parkland pasture. This has been a long process but the benefits are now really starting to show. We need to start monitoring our increasingly rich butterfly population in this area of the park and require volunteers to undertake one visit per month from April to September.



Grey Heron © Steven Falk

Heronry monitoring: this is one of England's longest running bird surveys and helps us monitor Warwickshire's largest heronry. The scheme runs from

January to July each year, and requires one site visit each month during this period.

WeBS (Wetland Bird Survey): help us monitor Coombe's water birds. This survey feeds into the national BTO scheme and also gives us essential data to be able to effectively manage Coombe's water bird population. One visit per month required throughout the year.

Practical estate management: a variety of projects and tasks through out the year, including the phased restoration of the Brownian landscape.

Training will be given on all of the surveys and practical tasks, so why not come and join us; you can be assured of a warm welcome.

Joe Taylor, Country Park Manager

☎ 02476 453720, E-mail: joe.taylor@coventry.gov.uk

Fancy carrying out some autecological studies in Warwickshire?

'Autecology' is the detailed research of a single species, usually designed to try and work out how it lives and how it interacts with its environment. You may not think that much autecological research goes on in Warwickshire, but it does, and it sometimes produces brand new information on a rare species that helps us to conserve it both locally and nationally.



Odynerus melanocephalus with a *Hypera* larva (you can just see the prey's green head below the head of the wasp). © Steven Falk

Back in 2005, I was asked by the Aculeate Conservation Group to investigate the life cycle of a scarce Mason Wasp called *Odynerus melanocephalus* which occurs in some of the old limestone quarries of Warwickshire. People wanted to conserve it, but nobody really knew what it was hunting and what its precise requirements

were. We suspected the larvae of *Hypera* weevils might be the prey. I carried out my studies at Napton Upper Quarry and Bishops Hill (Bishop's Itchington) with a bit of help from county beetle expert Steve Lane, who quickly showed me which *Hypera* species were present and which food-plants they were using. After a good number of hours watching populations of the wasp, a clear pattern emerged. They were specifically targeting the larvae of *Hypera postica* on Black Medick (a relative of clovers with small yellow flowers - see image). The wasps would swarm around the patches of the food-plant, especially areas with feeding damage caused by the *Hypera* larvae, and sometimes crawl amongst the foliage. They would eventually emerge with a single larva grasped between their legs and fly off. I found a few nest holes of the wasp on sparsely vegetated clay slopes (they have characteristic entrance funnels made of mud), and by digging these up found little caches of the paralysed larvae in the nest chambers. The wasp showed no interest in any of the other *Hypera* species present, and as we checked more wasp colonies, the association with Black Medick became even clearer. So we now understand both the nesting and hunting behaviour of the wasp.



A *Bombus ruderatus* worker on Everlasting Pea near Gaydon.
© Steven Falk

Another local study involved the very rare bumblebee *Bombus ruderatus*, which was rediscovered in Warwickshire in the 1990s, having not been seen since 1922. It is one of Britain's most highly declined insects, considered extinct in many counties. The agricultural landscape of southern Warwickshire is (surprisingly) now known to be one of its national strongholds, and has provided a unique opportunity for local naturalist Phil Clayton and myself to check what flowers it most relies upon so that we could make recommendations to local farmers and agencies such as Natural England who pay farmers to manage their land for wildlife. Queens emerge quite late for a bumblebee (May) and mostly visit White Dead-nettle and Comfrey. Workers are

particularly fond of Comfrey, Red Clover, bird's-foot trefoils, Common Knapweed, thistles and Kidney Vetch, and new queens will visit these from July onwards. Contrary to traditional views, this is not a bee of flowery unimproved meadows. Extensive ditch, road verge or field margin networks, or a big quarry, with a super-abundance of just a few of its favourite flowers, seem to be its preferred choice. The challenge is getting Warwickshire's countryside managed in a bumblebee-friendly manner so that it can easily 'hop' from one suitable area to another as local conditions change (which they inevitably do).



Dingy Skipper, Harbury Spoilbank. © Steven Falk

The final example is research on egg-laying by the Dingy Skipper butterfly carried out by Mike Slater of our local Butterfly Conservation branch. This is one of Britain's most rapidly declining butterflies, and is especially dependent on brownfield sites i.e. the sorts of sites now most favoured for house-building. The eggs are laid on Common and Greater Bird's-foot Trefoils and Mike found that it prefers to lay its eggs near the tips of shoots less than 10cm high and in warm, sheltered locations with less than 10% grass cover and plenty of bare ground. Such areas tend to warm up more rapidly than surrounding vegetation - in essence the eggs and caterpillars like to stay warm as much as possible. Rabbit activity and light disturbance can help maintain this balance, but once sites start to become overgrown with brambles or coarse grasses, they quickly lose populations of this butterfly (and plenty of other interesting insects and flowers too). Mike's work explains why the butterfly is so choosy about where it lives, and why it is so much rarer than its widespread foodplants.

If you would like to carry out some investigative autecology and need some initial advice, feel free to contact me at the Museum.

Steven

Wolvey Wetland Reserve

Come summer 2009, you may be interested in visiting a brand new wetland nature reserve in Wolvey adjacent to the B4065 just north Wolvey Grange (SP430881). It is a former village cricket pitch that has become increasingly waterlogged since the collapse of some drains and is now dominated by rushes, reedmace and other wetland plants. It also has a fine pond with a good dragonfly population. The Wolvey Environmental Group has installed a boardwalk which looks like it is constructed of old railway sleepers, but is actually formed from recycled plastic material moulded to look like old wood. I had to do lots of prodding of the boards to convince myself I wasn't being spun a yarn! The boards were supplied by Secure-A Field of Coventry, but the design and construction of the boardwalk is entirely the work of local volunteers. The project is funded by grants from 'The BBC Breathing Places Big Lottery Fund' and Rugby Borough Council's Rural Development Fund.

Steven



Get back to work! (Wolvey boardwalk volunteers earn themselves a lunch break) © Peter Hopkins

Exciting recent tree discoveries

Dave Gower of Rugby Borough Council reported a new county champion Small-leaved Lime with a girth of 5.75 metres in a spinney near to Wolston Grange. Wolston Grange lies in the heart of the 'Dunsmore', an area of former heathland and 'waste' between Coventry and Rugby supposedly cleared of its woodland in pre-Roman times. What a veteran Small-leaved Lime (a species typically associated with ancient woodland and ancient hedges) is doing here is anybody's guess, but it proves that landscape history can be a complex affair, and that trees can provide clues that other channels of evidence can't.



Dave Gower beside the ancient Wolston Grange Lime © Warwickshire Museum

Big Ashes are another rarity in our area. We know of very few that exceed 5 metres in girth, and most of these tend to turn up in isolated rural locations, and have hollow trunks and damaged crowns. Charles Venables of Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council reported a big one in the depths of urban Shirley. It has a girth of 5.72m, beating the previous champion by 25cm, and it still retains a full crown.



The Shirley Ash. © Warwickshire Museum

A Silver Birch with a girth of 2.43metres was recently found near Oakley Wood. That may not seem big compared to some of our veteran oaks, but Silver Birches rarely make 2m in our area. It is sufficiently large that the trunk has lost much of its white bark (see image).



The Oakley Wood Silver Birch. © Warwickshire Museum

But it is not the biggest birch in the County. That award goes to a Downy Birch in the depths of 'The Warwickshire' Golf Course at Leek Wootton with a girth of 3.12m. That makes it one of the largest specimens in England, and it is especially impressive in that its trunk is not affected by any low forks (which tend to encourage a thicker lower trunk that obscures the true age of the tree).



The Leek Wootton Downy Birch. © Warwickshire Museum

I'm sure there is plenty still to be discovered out there, so if you think you know of any birches, limes or ashes that beat these ones, or any other trees of note, let Warwickshire Museum know.

Steven

Where Peacocks Pace - a new book on Warwick's Natural History

Warwick-based ecologist (and County BTO recorder) Mark Smith has just published a new book featuring Warwick's wildlife. I have not yet seen a copy, but will review it in the next newsletter (May 2009). It can be purchased from Authorhouse ([www. Authorhouse.co.uk](http://www.Authorhouse.co.uk)) for £14.99. Mark also maintains a very fine web site entitled 'Wild Warwickshire' featuring local wildlife records, photos, blogs and news on a little patch of land near Guy's Cliffe that Mark is managing. Check it out at: www.wildwarwickshire.co.uk.

New natural sciences gallery open at the Herbert Art Gallery and Museum, Coventry

'Elements' is an exhibition that celebrates nature by encouraging the visitor to engage with natural objects and landscapes in highly creative and multi-sensory ways. The gallery draws its inspiration from the four elements; earth, air, fire and water. These are illustrated with specimens from the collection, film footage and sound. Extensive use is made of the Herbert's butterfly, mineral and marine shell collections, whilst fossils, birds and mammals also feature. The content and interpretation of the gallery were designed to enhance access for all visitors, regardless of their interest in natural history. The appeal of the exhibition is that it works on multiple levels. Scientific explanations are present, but are minimised in favour of creative and subjective multi-sensory interpretation.

Steve Lane, Keeper of Natural History

Fancy saving paper and postage?

We are keen to minimise the number of newsletters we post, so if you would like it E-mailed let us know, it's no trouble at all (and you get to see it in full colour!). But remember to keep us informed of any changes to your E-mail address!

Enjoy the rest, Steven

(Cover image: Fieldfare, © Steven Falk)

CALENDAR OF EVENTS January 2009 and beyond.....

Extra events will appear during the year so remember to check the next newsletter for the latest news of planned events and check any web sites for the various hosting groups.

KEY - to symbols for meeting types

- ♣ = Field meetings and walks for more serious naturalists
- ♦ = Indoor meetings, lectures, film shows
- ♥ = Working parties
- ♠ = Courses, workshops, training days etc aimed at adults
- * = Events open to the public: exhibitions, open days, festivals, less academic walks, family and children events etc.
- R = RINGs own promotion events

The following diary lists the hosting group in the third column using an abbreviated title. A key to these abbreviations together with regular meeting time/place and contact details is contained in the Contact Details section further on.

RINGs is not responsible for changes or cancellation of events, and errors in dates can occasionally happen - so check with the hosting group before going if you are unsure.

JANUARY 2009			
1	*	RSPB(C&W) RSPB(WE)	New Year's Day walk for all ages, Brandon Marsh 10am, meet in car park
3	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work at Snitterfield Bushes 10am (for details contact Eddie Asbury ☎ 024 7630 8984)
4	♥	WWT(Cons)	Reed Cutting for wetland Birds at Wyken Slough, Coventry 10am (for details contact ☎ 024 7630 8999)
4	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work at Knowle Hill, Kenilworth 10am (for details contact Richard Bones ☎ 024 7640 3218)
4	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work at Ufton Fields Nature Reserve, Ufton 10am (for details contact David Morphew ☎ 01926 771111)
4	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work at Wyken Slough Nature Reserve, Coventry 10am (for details contact Jim Jobling ☎ 02476 278689)
4	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work at Brandon Marsh Nature Reserve, Coventry 9.30am (for details contact Ken Bond ☎ 02476 328 785)
4	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work at Clowes Wood, Earlswood 10am (for details contact Ron Hill ☎ 0121 705 1429)
4	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work at Crackley Wood, Kenilworth 10am (for details contact Jon Holmes ☎ 01926 456215)
4	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work at Hampton Wood, Barford 10am (for details contact Dave Sollis ☎ 01789 205 908)
4	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work at Rough Hill Wood, near Studley 10am (for details contact Val Kendrick ☎ 01527 545 742)
4	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work at Ryton Wood, Ryton on Dunsmore 10am (for details contact Mike Slater ☎ 01788 335 881)
4	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work at Wappenbury Wood, Princethorpe 10am (for details contact Eddie Asbury ☎ 024 7630 8984)
4	♥	ButtConsWarks	Conservation Management Day at Newbold Quarry, Rugby 10am start (for details contact Phil Parr ☎ 01788 578272)
4	♣	AtherstoneNHS	Birdwatching trip to Chasewater (contact John Walton for details ☎ 01827 712455)
4	♣	WMBC(Solihull)	Birdwatching trip to Chasewater (contact group for details)
5	*	WWT (Children)	New Year Wander (nature-themed workshop for children), Brandon Marsh Nature Centre, nr Coventry 10.30am - 12noon (£4 per child, £3 if WWT members, booking essential ☎ 024 7630 2912)
7	♣	RSPB(C&W)	Mid-week Birdwatching walk at Ladywalk Bird reserve, Coleshill, meet in car park 9.30m
8	♦	RugbyNHS	"Life histories of moth caterpillars" (David Brown) 7.30pm
8	♦	WarwickNHS	"Natural History of Newfoundland" (Graham Harrison) 7.30pm
8	*	RSPB (Middleton)	Reserve Walk, RSPB Middleton Lakes 11am - 1pm (for details contact Garry Jones ☎ 01827 259454)

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8	*	RSPB(WE)	Indoor meeting with bird expert Colin Potter (for young birdwatchers) 7.30pm
8	♦	WWT(SC)	"The Wild Bees & Wasps of Britain" (Celia Davis) 7.30pm
9	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work Party at Tocil Wood, Coventry 10am (for details contact Eddie Asbury ☎ 024 7630 8984)
9	♦	Coventry&DNHS	"Wildlife of Cloud Forest & Galapagos Islands" (Mike Wilkes) 7.30pm
9	♦	WMBC(Solihull)	"The RSPB Middleton Lakes Project" (Garry Jones) 7.30pm
9	♦	WWT (Stratford)	"A Polish Adventure" (John Roberts) 7.30pm
10	*	RytonPools	Creepy Crawly Club at Ryton Pools (environmental activities for 3 - 12yr olds) 10am - 12noon, meet at Visitor Centre (£1 per child)
10	*	Kingsbury	Kingsbury Young Anglers Club (for 8 - 14yr olds) 1 - 3pm, meet at the Information Centre (£4 per child per session, booking essential ☎ 01827 872660)
10	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work at Snitterfield Bushes 10am (for details contact Eddie Asbury ☎ 024 7630 8984)
10	*	WWT (Nuts)	Nuts about Nature Club (event featuring Dens), Parkridge Centre, Brueton Park, Solihull (£4 per child, £3 if WWT members, for details & booking ☎ 0121 704 0768)
11	*	Kingsbury	Winter Waterfowl for Beginners at Kingsbury Water Park (2-mile birdwatching stroll) 10.30am - 12.30pm, meet at the Broomey Croft car park (£1.50 adults, £1 concessions, £3.50 families, bring binoculars)
11	♣	WarwickNHS	Birdwatching trip to Stanford Reservoir (SP597802) 10am
11	♠	WWT(Cons)	Traditional Hedge-Laying with an Expert (an introductory course limited to 20 places, for 16 yrs+) 10am, location to be confirmed (£25 per person, booking essential ☎ 024 7630 8999)
11	*	Nuneaton& BedworthBC	Wildlife Walk along Coventry Canal from Sutton Stop to 'The Greyhound' starts 10am, (contact Jo Robinson 024 7637 6042 for details)
11	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work Party at Glasshouse Spinney, Kenilworth 10am (for details contact Steve Smith ☎ 01926 864759)
11	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work at Brandon Marsh Nature Reserve, Coventry 9.30am (for details contact Ken Bond ☎ 02476 328 785)
11	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work at Clowes Wood, Earlswood 10am (for details contact Ron Hill ☎ 0121 705 1429)
11	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work at Crackley Wood, Kenilworth 10am (for details contact Jon Holmes ☎ 01926 456215)
11	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work at Hampton Wood, Barford 10am (for details contact Dave Sollis ☎ 01789 205 908)
11	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work at Rough Hill Wood, near Studley 10am (for details contact Val Kendrick ☎ 01527 545 742)
11	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work at Ryton Wood, Ryton on Dunsmore 10am (for details contact Mike Slater ☎ 01788 335 881)
11	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work Party at Leam Valley, Leamington Spa 10am (for details contact Caroline Bailey ☎ 024 7630 8993)
11	♥	ButtConsWarks	Conservation Management Day at Ashlawn Cutting, Rugby 10am start (for details contact Phil Parr ☎ 01788 578272)
11	*	RSPB(WE)	Trip to Sandwell Valley RSPB Reserve (for young birdwatchers), meet in the Visitor Centre car park
11	♥	Kingfisher	Conservation Work Day, Yorks Wood, Shard End, Solihull 10.30am - 1pm, meet at Sports Pavilion off Kendrick Ave
11	♣	WMBC (Birmingham)	Birdwatching trip to Rutland Water (contact group for details)
11	♦	Birmingham NHS	AGM of Mycological Section of Birmingham NHS (details from David Antrobus ☎ 0121 422 8830)
13	♦	NORWAG	"Swans" (Bert Coleman) 7.30pm
13	♦	RSPB(Solihull)	"Iberian Birding Adventures" (Alban Wincott) 7.30pm
14	♦	NetherWhitacre NHG	"RSPB Middleton Lakes Nature Reserve" (Garry Jones) 7.30pm
14	♣	RSPB(Solihull)	Morning Walk at Ladywalk Nature Reserve 10am, meet at reserve car park SP209915
14	♦	SuttonColdfield NHS	Committee Meeting, 71 Russell Bank Rd 7.30pm
15	♦	Nuneaton Birdwatchers	"Wildlife Photography" (Peter Preece) 7.30pm
16	♦	Birmingham NHS	"The Wyre Forest" (Roy Ledbury) 7.30pm

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17	♣	WWT(Cons)/ WWT(SC)	Visit to Ladywalk Nature Reserve, Hams Hall, meet in reserve car park 10.30am (for details contact Ron Hawker ☎ 0121 354 2531)
17	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work at Snitterfield Bushes 10am (for details contact Eddie Asbury ☎ 024 7630 8984)
17	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work Party at River Arrow Nature Reserve, Alcester 10am (for details contact Steve Godfrey ☎ 01789 765536)
17	♥	WWT(Cons)	Volunteer Work Party at Parkridge Centre, Brueton Park, Solihull 10am - 3pm (for details contact Amanda Henshaw ☎ 0121 704 0768)
17	✳	RSPB (Middleton)	Big Garden Birdwatch (craft activities & info about the event), Ankerside Shopping Centre, Tamworth (for details contact Garry Jones ☎ 01827 259454)
18	✳	Kingsbury	New Year Stroll at Kingsbury Water Park 1 - 2.30pm, meet at the Broomey Croft car park (£1.50 adults, £1 concessions, £3.50 families)
18	✳	Stratford Greenway	Snow & Soup at the Stratford Greenway (4-mile walk) 10.30am - 12noon, meet at the Greenway car park, Stratford end (£2 adults, £1.50 concessions, includes soup & roll, booking essential ☎ 024 7630 5592)
18	✳	Ufton Fields	Midwinter at Ufton Fields (2-mile walk) 1.30 - 3.30pm, meet in car park (£1.50 adults, £1 concessions, £3.50 families)
18	✳	WWT(Cons)	Woodland Open Day at Rough Hill Wood (featuring coppicing, heavy horses etc) 11am - 3pm (free event)
18	✳	RSPB (Middleton)	Reserve Walk, RSPB Middleton Lakes 11am - 1pm (for details contact Garry Jones ☎ 01827 259454)
18	✳	RSPB (Middleton)	Big Garden Birdwatch (craft activities & info about the event), Planters Garden Centre, Kingsbury (for details contact Garry Jones ☎ 01827 259454)
18	♣	RSPB(C&W)	Birdwatching trip to Slimbridge WWT, departing from Cox St, Coventry 8am (contact group to book a place)
18	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work at Temple Balsall Nature Reserve, Balsall Common 10am (for details contact John Clarke ☎ 01676 534910)
18	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work at Brandon Marsh Nature Reserve, Coventry 9.30am (for details contact Ken Bond ☎ 02476 328 785)
18	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work at Clowes Wood, Earlswood 10am (for details contact Ron Hill ☎ 0121 705 1429)
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18	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work at Ryton Wood, Ryton on Dunsmore 10am (for details contact Mike Slater ☎ 01788 335 881)
18	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work Party at Harbury Spoilbank, Harbury 10am (for details contact John Hancock ☎ 01926 612860)
18	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work at Wappenbury Wood, Princethorpe 10am (for details contact Eddie Asbury ☎ 024 7630 8984)
20	♦	HenleyWS	"Birds of the Wetlands" (Tony Hamblin) 7.45pm
21	♦	Atherstone NHS	"New Zealand - Sights from North & South Island" (Les Barnett) 7.30pm
21	♠	FWAG	Pond Management Training Day for farmers & landowners, Stanwick Lakes, Wellingborough 10.30am (for details contact Tony Beysens ☎ 01926 318280)
21	♦	Geology	"Australia Rocks - Life & death of a Mountain Range" (Brian Ellis) 7.30pm
22	♦	RugbyNHS	"Fauna & Flora of Marton Parish" (Graham Robson) 7.30pm
22	♦	WarwickNHS	"Plant Galls" (Peter Cooke) 7.30pm
23	✳	RSPB (Middleton)	Birds for Beginners (guided walk), RSPB Middleton Lakes 11am - 1pm (to book contact Garry Jones ☎ 01827 259454)
23	♦	Coventry&DNHS	"Organic Gardening - better for Wildlife?" (Stephen Ashpole) 7.30pm
23	♦	RSPB(C&W)	"Leicestershire Through The Seasons" (Daniel Green), Warwick University Arts Centre 7.30pm
24	✳	RSPB (Middleton)	Reserve Walk, RSPB Middleton Lakes 11am - 1pm (for details contact Garry Jones ☎ 01827 259454)
24	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work at Snitterfield Bushes 10am (for details contact Eddie Asbury ☎ 024 7630 8984)
24-25	✳	RSPB / Solihull MBC etc	Big Garden Birdwatch Weekend (guided walk etc) 11am - 1pm at Brueton Park (Sat) and Babbs Mill LNR (Sun)

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25	*	Ryton Pools	Winter Wildlife Walk at Ryton Pools 1 - 3pm, meet at Visitor Centre (£1.50 adults, £1 concessions, £3.50 families)
25	*	Kingsbury	Bird Watching for Beginners at Kingsbury Water Park (workshop for 3 - 12 yr olds), drop in to the Information Centre between 11am - 2pm (£1.50 per child)
25	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work at Kenilworth Common, Kenilworth 10am (for details contact Serena Eccles ☎ 01926 858378)
25	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work at Brandon Marsh Nature Reserve, Coventry 9.30am (for details contact Ken Bond ☎ 02476 328 785)
25	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work at Clowes Wood, Earlswood 10am (for details contact Ron Hill ☎ 0121 705 1429)
25	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work at Crackley Wood, Kenilworth 10am (for details contact Jon Holmes ☎ 01926 456215)
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25	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work at Rough Hill Wood, near Studley 10am (for details contact Val Kendrick ☎ 01527 545 742)
25	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work at Ryton Wood, Ryton on Dunsmore 10am (for details contact Phil Parr ☎ 01788 578272)
25	♥	WWT (Workparty)/ BuutConsWarks	Volunteer Work at Ashlawn Cutting, Rugby 10am (for details contact Phil Parr ☎ 01788 578272)
25	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work Party at Kenilworth Common, Kenilworth 10am (for details contact Serena Eccles ☎ 01926 858378)
25	♥	Solihull CV	Conservation Task Day, Lavender Hall Park LNR, Solihull (contact ☎ 0121 704 6537 to book a place)
27	♦	Bats	Bat Group AGM, Brandon Marsh 7.45pm
27	♦	WMBC (Birmingham)	"Beneath the Dark Canopy" (Michael Leach) 7.30pm
31	♥	Kingsbury	Volunteer Willow Whacking at Kingsbury Water Park (willow scrub management for National Wetlands Day) 10.30am - 12.30pm, meet at the Broomey Croft car park
31	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work at Snitterfield Bushes 10am (for details contact Eddie Asbury ☎ 024 7630 8984)
FEBRUARY 2009			
1	*	Stratford Greenway	Snow & Soup at Burton Dassett Hills (2-mile walk) 10.30am - 12.30pm, meet below Beacon (£2 adults, £1.50 concessions, includes soup & roll, booking essential ☎ 024 7630 5592)
1	*	RSPB (Middleton)	Birds for Beginners (guided walk), RSPB Middleton Lakes 11am - 1pm (to book contact Garry Jones ☎ 01827 259454)
1	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work at Brandon Marsh Nature Reserve, Coventry 9.30am (for details contact Ken Bond ☎ 02476 328 785)
1	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work at Clowes Wood, Earlswood 10am (for details contact Ron Hill ☎ 0121 705 1429)
1	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work at Crackley Wood, Kenilworth 10am (for details contact Jon Holmes ☎ 01926 456215)
1	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work at Hampton Wood, Barford 10am (for details contact Dave Sollis ☎ 01789 205 908)
1	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work at Rough Hill Wood, near Studley 10am (for details contact Val Kendrick ☎ 01527 545 742)
1	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work at Ryton Wood, Ryton on Dunsmore 10am (for details contact Mike Slater ☎ 01788 335 881)
1	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work Party at Grove Hill, Ardens Grafton 10am (for details contact Gillian Nussey ☎ 01789 773356)
1	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work at Wappenbury Wood, Princethorpe 10am (for details contact Eddie Asbury ☎ 024 7630 8984)
1	♣	AtherstoneNHS	Trip to Fineshade Abbey and Blatherwycke Lake (contact John Walton for details ☎ 01827 712455)
5	♦	RugbyNHS	A talk by Nick Fisher (title to be announced) 7.30pm
5	♦	WarwickNHS	"Dragonflies" (Ray Ledbury) 7.30pm
6	♦	Coventry&DNHS	"British Butterflies & their Life Histories" (David Porter) 7.30pm
6	♦	WMBC(Solihull)	"Swan Rescue" (Jen Harrigan) 7.30pm
7	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work at Snitterfield Bushes 10am (for details contact Eddie Asbury ☎ 024 7630 8984)

Wildlife News in Warwickshire Coventry & Solihull, January 2009

7	*	WWT (Nuts)	Nuts about Nature Club (event featuring Bush Craft), Parkridge Centre, Brueton Park, Solihull (£4 per child, £3 if WWT members, for details & booking ☎ 0121 704 0768)
8	*	Ryton Pools	History of Ryton Pools - Talk & Walk 1 - 3pm, meet at Visitor Centre (£1.50 adults, £1 concessions, £3.50 families, booking essential, ☎ 024 7630 5592)
8	*	Kingsbury	Snow & Soup at Kingsbury Water Park (2-3 mile walk) 10.30am - 12.30pm, meet at the Information Centre (£3.50 per person including soup & roll at Old Barn Cafe, booking essential ☎ 01827 872660)
8	*	RSPB (Middleton)	Reserve Walk, RSPB Middleton Lakes 11am - 1pm (for details contact Garry Jones ☎ 01827 259454)
8	♣	WarwickNHS	Birdwatching trip to Summer Leys Nature Reserve (SP885633) 10am
8	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work at Brandon Marsh Nature Reserve, Coventry 9.30am (for details contact Ken Bond ☎ 02476 328 785)
8	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work at Clowes Wood, Earlswood 10am (for details contact Ron Hill ☎ 0121 705 1429)
8	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work at Crackley Wood, Kenilworth 10am (for details contact Jon Holmes ☎ 01926 456215)
8	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work at Hampton Wood, Barford 10am (for details contact Dave Sollis ☎ 01789 205 908)
8	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work at Rough Hill Wood, near Studley 10am (for details contact Val Kendrick ☎ 01527 545 742)
8	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work at Ryton Wood, Ryton on Dunsmore 10am (for details contact Mike Slater ☎ 01788 335 881)
8	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work Party at Glasshouse Spinney, Kenilworth 10am (for details contact Steve Smith ☎ 01926 864759)
8	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work Party at Leam Valley, Leamington Spa 10am (for details contact Caroline Bailey ☎ 024 7630 8993)
8	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work Party at Ufton Fields, Ufton 10am (for details contact David Morphew ☎ 01926 771111)
8	♥	ButtConsWarks	Conservation Management Day at Malpass Quarry, Rugby 10am start (for details contact Phil Parr ☎ 01788 578272)
8	♥	Solihull CV	Conservation Task Day, Elmdon Coppice, Solihull (contact ☎ 0121 704 6537 to book a place)
8	♣	WMBC (Birmingham)	Birdwatching trip to RSPB Newport Wetlands (contact group for details)
10	♦	RSPB(Solihull)	"The Canadian Rockies" (John Roberts) 7.30pm
11	♣	RSPB(C&W)	Mid-week Birdwatching walk at Kingsbury Water Park, meet in Broomy Croft car park 9.30m
11	♦	NetherWhitacre NHG	"A Year with John" (John Bates) 7.30pm
12	♠	WWT (Cons)	Bird Surveying Workshop (Session 1), Brandon Marsh Nature Centre 2pm (£3 per person, booking essential ☎ 024 7630 8993)
12	*	RSPB (Middleton)	Reserve Walk, RSPB Middleton Lakes 11am - 1pm (for details contact Garry Jones ☎ 01827 259454)
12	*	RSPB(WE)	Indoor meeting with games (for young birdwatchers) 7.30pm
12	♦	WWT(Solihull)	"Discovery of the Western Isles" (Nick Martin, RSPB) , Parkridge Centre, Brueton Park, Solihull 10.30am - 12noon
12	♦	WWT(SC)	Short AGM followed by "The Exmoor Ponies of Sutton Park" (Jennie Lloyd) 7.30pm
13	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work Party at Tocil Wood, Coventry 10am (for details contact Eddie Asbury ☎ 024 7630 8984)
13	♦	WWT (Stratford)	"Wetland Wildlife" (Neil Beamsley) 7.30pm
14	*	RytonPools	Creepy Crawly Club at Ryton Pools (environmental activities for 3 - 12yr olds) drop in to Visitor Centre between 10am - 2.30pm (£1.50 per child)
14	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work at Snitterfield Bushes 10am (for details contact Eddie Asbury ☎ 024 7630 8984)
14	*	RSPB (Middleton) etc	Wildlife Family Fun Day Making nest boxes, bird ringing, face painting etc.), Coundon Court School, Coventry 9am - 12noon
14	♦	Geology	"Darwin & Geology" (Peter Worsley) 7.15pm, St John's Museum, Warwick
15	*	Kingsbury	Build a Bird Box at Kingsbury Water Park (for National Nest Box week) 10.30am - 12.30pm, meet at the Green way car park, Stratford end (£3 per box, booking essential ☎ 024 7630 5592, bring a hammer)
15	*	Stratford	Bird Boxes at the Stratford Greenway (for National Nest Box week) 1 - 3pm, meet at

		Greenway	the Information Centre (£3 per box, booking essential ☎ 01827 872660, bring a hammer)
15	*	RSPB(WE)	Working Party at Ladywalk Bid Reserve, nr Coleshill (for young birdwatchers) 9am - 12noon, meet at reserve car park
15	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work at Brandon Marsh Nature Reserve, Coventry 9.30am (for details contact Ken Bond ☎ 02476 328 785)
15	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work at Clowes Wood, Earlswood 10am (for details contact Ron Hill ☎ 0121 705 1429)
15	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work at Crackley Wood, Kenilworth 10am (for details contact Jon Holmes ☎ 01926 456215)
15	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work at Hampton Wood, Barford 10am (for details contact Dave Sollis ☎ 01789 205 908)
15	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work at Rough Hill Wood, near Studley 10am (for details contact Val Kendrick ☎ 01527 545 742)
15	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work at Ryton Wood, Ryton on Dunsmore 10am (for details contact Mike Slater ☎ 01788 335 881)
15	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work at Wappenbury Wood, Princethorpe 10am (for details contact Eddie Asbury ☎ 024 7630 8984)
16	*	Kingsbury	Winter Dens at Kingsbury Water Park (for 5 - 12 yr olds) 10.30am - 12noon, meet at the Education Centre (£2.50 per child, booking essential ☎ 01827 872660)
16	*	Pooley Country Park	Make a Bird Box at Pooley Country Park (for 5 - 12yr olds) 10.30am - 12noon, meet at Visitor Centre (£2.50 per child, booking essential ☎ 01827 897438)
16	*	WWT (Children)	Feed the Birds (bird-themed workshop for children), Brandon Marsh Nature Centre, nr Coventry 10.30am - 12noon (£4 per child, £3 if WWT members, booking essential ☎ 024 7630 2912)
16	*	WWT (Children)	Survival Dens (nature-themed workshop for children), Parkridge Centre, Brueton Park, Solihull 10.30am - 12noon & 1 - 2.30pm (£4 per child, £3 if WWT members, booking essential ☎ 0121 704 0768)
16	*	Solihull MBC	Winter Treasure Trail (guided walk), Elmdon Park 11am - 1pm, meet at Tanhouse Farm Road car park
17	*	Ryton Pools	Dinosaur Discovery Trail at Ryton Pools (prehistoric-themed activities for 3 - 12 yr olds) 11am - 12.30pm, meet at Visitor Centre (£2.50 per child, booking essential ☎ 024 7630 5592)
17	*	Kingsbury	Kite Making & Flying at Kingsbury Water Park (for 5 - 12 yr olds) 10.30am - 12noon, meet at the Education Centre (£2.50 per child, booking essential ☎ 01827 872660)
17	*	Pooley Country Park	Cheery Tree Bugs at Pooley Country Park (winter tree dressing with natural materials ideal for families), drop in to Visitor Centre between 11am - 2.30pm (£1.50 per child)
17	*	WWT (Children)	Kite Flying Fun (nature-themed workshop for children), Brandon Marsh Nature Centre, nr Coventry 10.30am - 12noon (£4 per child, £3 if WWT members, booking essential ☎ 024 7630 2912)
17	♦	NORWAG	"Polish Adventure" (John Roberts) 7.30pm
17	♦	HenleyWS	"The River Stour, Worcestershire" (Brian Draper, MBE) 7.45pm
17	*	WWT (Children)	Kite Flying Fun (kite & nature-themed workshop for children), Parkridge Centre, Brueton Park, Solihull 10.30am - 12noon & 1 - 2.30pm (£4 per child, £3 if WWT members, booking essential ☎ 0121 704 0768)
17	*	Solihull MBC	Bird Feeder Making, Dorridge Park 11am - 12.30pm, meet at car park
18	*	Ryton Pools	Winter Dens at Ryton Pools (nature-themed activities for 5 - 12 yr olds) 11am - 12.30pm, meet at Visitor Centre (£2.50 per child, booking essential ☎ 024 7630 5592)
18	*	Kingsbury	Giant Butterflies at Kingsbury Water Park (workshop for 3 - 12 yr olds), drop in to the Information Centre between 11am - 2.30pm (£1.50 per child)
18	*	Pooley Country Park	Make a Nest Bag at Pooley Country Park (ideal for families), drop in to Visitor Centre between 11am - 2.30pm (£1.50 per child)
18	♦	Atherstone NHS	"Seabirds" (Bert Coleman) 7.30pm
18	*	WWT (Children)	Survival Dens (nature-themed workshop for children), Brandon Marsh Nature Centre, nr Coventry 10.30am - 12noon (£4 per child, £3 if WWT members, booking essential ☎ 024 7630 2912)
18	*	WWT (Children)	Feed the Birds (bird-themed workshop for children), Parkridge Centre, Brueton Park, Solihull 10.30am - 12noon & 1 - 2.30pm (£4 per child, £3 if WWT members, booking essential ☎ 0121 704 0768)
18	♦	Geology	"Formation of the Straits of Dover" (Sanjeev Gupta) 7.30pm
19	*	Ryton Pools	Robin Box Building at Ryton Pools (build a Robin bird box for 5 - 12 yr olds) 11am -

			12.30pm, meet at Visitor Centre (£2.50 per child, booking essential ☎ 024 7630 5592)
19	*	Kingsbury	Bat Box Building at Kingsbury Water Park (for 5 - 12 yr olds) 10.30am - 12noon, meet at the Education Centre (£4 per box, booking essential ☎ 01827 872660)
19	♣	WWT (Cons)	Bird Surveying Workshop (Session 2), Brandon Marsh Nature Centre 2pm (£3 per person, booking essential ☎ 024 7630 8993)
19	*	WWT (Children)	Scrap Heap Challenge - Drop in Session (recycling craft-themed workshop for children), Brandon Marsh Nature Centre, nr Coventry 10.30am - 12.30pm (£2 per child for 30 minutes)
19	*	WWT (Children)	Scrap Heap Challenge (recycling-themed workshop for children), Parkridge Centre, Brueton Park, Solihull 10.30am - 12noon & 1 - 2.30pm (£4 per child, £3 if WWT members, booking essential ☎ 0121 704 0768)
19	*	Solihull MBC	National Nest Box Week - Build a bird house, Lavender Hall Park 11.30am - 1.30pm (£3.50 per box if you take it home, booking essential ☎ 0121 704 8000)
19	♦	RugbyNHS	AGM & Quiz 7.30pm
19	♦	WarwickNHS	"Wildlife in & around Birmingham" (Stefan Bodnar) 7.30pm
19	♦	Nuneaton Birdwatchers	"Cape York" (Bert Coleman) 7.30pm
20	*	Ryton Pools	Recycled Kites at Ryton Pools (nature-themed activities for 5 - 12 yr olds) 11am - 12.30pm, meet at Visitor Centre (£2.50 per child, booking essential ☎ 024 7630 5592)
20	*	Kingsbury	Dinosaur Discovery at Kingsbury Water Park (workshop for 5 - 12 yr olds) 10.30am - 12noon, meet at the Education Centre (£2.50 per child, booking essential ☎ 01827 872660)
20	♦	Coventry&DNHS	"Botanist Down Under - up North" (Sean Karley) 7.30pm
20	*	WWT (Children)	Nature's Detectives (nature-themed workshop for children), Parkridge Centre, Brueton Park, Solihull 10.30am - 12noon & 1 - 2.30pm (£4 per child, £3 if WWT members, booking essential ☎ 0121 704 0768)
20	♦	Birmingham NHS	"Weather Watching" (Tony Sames) 7.30pm
21	*	RSPB (Middleton)	National Nest Box Event (make a nest box to take home), 11am - 3pm, Middleton Recreation Room, Middleton Village (for details contact Garry Jones ☎ 01827 259454)
21	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work at Snitterfield Bushes 10am (for details contact Eddie Asbury ☎ 024 7630 8984)
21	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work Party at River Arrow Nature Reserve, Alcester 10am (for details contact Steve Godfrey ☎ 01789 765536)
21	♥	WWT(Cons)	Volunteer Work Party at Parkridge Centre, Brueton Park, Solihull 10am - 3pm (for details contact Amanda Henshaw ☎ 0121 704 0768)
21	♣	RSPB(Solihull)	Coach Trip to Welney & Fen Drayton Gravel Pits, meet 7.30am at public car park in Monkspath Hall Road (contact Nick Barlow 07831 092592 to book)
22	*	Ryton Pools	Make a Bird Nest Bag at Ryton Pools 1 - 2.30pm, meet at Visitor Centre (£1.50 adults, £1 concessions, £3.50 families)
22	*	Pooley Country Park	Snow & Soup at Pooley Country Park (4-mile walk) 10.30am - 12.30pm, meet at the Visitor Centre (£2 adults, £1.50 concessions, including soup & roll, booking essential ☎ 01827 897438)
22	*	WWT	Big Green Event (featuring live animals and birds, guided walks, a variety of children's activities, mammal tracking and much more), Brandon Marsh Nature Centre, Brandon Lane, Coventry 11am - 4pm (free admission)
22	♣	RSPB(C&W)	Birdwatching trip to Tophill Low Reserve, Yorks, departing from Cox St, Coventry 7am (contact group to book a place)
22	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work at Brandon Marsh Nature Reserve, Coventry 9.30am (for details contact Ken Bond ☎ 02476 328 785)
22	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work at Clowes Wood, Earlswood 10am (for details contact Ron Hill ☎ 0121 705 1429)
22	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work at Crackley Wood, Kenilworth 10am (for details contact Jon Holmes ☎ 01926 456215)
22	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work at Hampton Wood, Barford 10am (for details contact Dave Sollis ☎ 01789 205 908)
22	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work at Rough Hill Wood, near Studley 10am (for details contact Val Kendrick ☎ 01527 545 742)
22	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work at Ryton Wood, Ryton on Dunsmore 10am (for details contact Mike Slater ☎ 01788 335 881)
22	♥	WWT (Workparty)/	Volunteer Work at Ashlawn Cutting, Rugby 10am (for details contact Phil Parr ☎ 01788 578272)

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		ButtConsWarks	
22	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work Party at Kenilworth Common, Kenilworth 10am (for details contact Serena Eccles ☎ 01926 858378)
22	♥	Solihull CV	Conservation Task Day, Bills Wood LNR, Shirley (contact ☎ 0121 704 6537 to book a place)
24	♦	WMBC (Birmingham)	"Birdwatching in Scandinavia" (Terry Bond) 7.30pm
27	*	HartshillHayes	Night Walk at Hartshill Hayes (2 miles) 8 - 10pm, meet at Visitor Centre (£1.50 adults, £1 concessions, £3.50 families, bring a torch, booking essential ☎ 01827 872660)
27	♦	RSPB(C&W)	"Scotland: the Wilderness on your Doorstep" (Ian Rowlands), Warwick University Arts Centre 7.30pm
28	♥	ButtConsWarks	Special Management Day at Ryton Wood Meadows Butterfly reserve 10am start (if attending contact Mike Slater ☎ 01788 335881)
28	*	RSPB (Middleton)	Reserve Walk, RSPB Middleton Lakes 11am - 1pm (for details contact Garry Jones ☎ 01827 259454)
28	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work at Snitterfield Bushes 10am (for details contact Eddie Asbury ☎ 024 7630 8984)
28	*	RSPB (Middleton)	Wild Night Out featuring "Waterlands" film plus two short talks about Middleton Lakes & RSPB work in the Sumatran rainforest, Crescent Theatre, Birmingham (£9.50 adults, £7 concessions, book on ☎ 01827 259454)
28	♠	FWAG	Hedgelaying Training Day for farmers & landowners, Little Oakley, Corby 10am (for details contact Tony Beysens ☎ 01926 318280)
MARCH 2009			
1	*	RSPB (Middleton)	Birds for Beginners (guided walk), RSPB Middleton Lakes 11am - 1pm (to book contact Garry Jones ☎ 01827 259454)
1	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work at Brandon Marsh Nature Reserve, Coventry 9.30am (for details contact Ken Bond ☎ 02476 328 785)
1	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work at Clowes Wood, Earlswood 10am (for details contact Ron Hill ☎ 0121 705 1429)
1	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work at Crackley Wood, Kenilworth 10am (for details contact Jon Holmes ☎ 01926 456215)
1	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work at Hampton Wood, Barford 10am (for details contact Dave Sollis ☎ 01789 205 908)
1	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work at Rough Hill Wood, near Studley 10am (for details contact Val Kendrick ☎ 01527 545 742)
1	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work at Ryton Wood, Ryton on Dunsmore 10am (for details contact Mike Slater ☎ 01788 335 881)
1	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work Party at Grove Hill, Ardens Grafton 10am (for details contact Gillian Nussey ☎ 01789 773356)
1	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work at Wappenbury Wood, Princethorpe 10am (for details contact Eddie Asbury ☎ 024 7630 8984)
1	♥	ButtConsWarks	Conservation Management Day at Ashlawn Cutting, Rugby 10am start (for details contact Phil Parr ☎ 01788 578272)
1	♣	AtherstoneNHS	Walk from Coton to Whitacre Heath Nature Reserve (contact John Walton for details ☎ 01827 712455)
1	*	Solihull MBC	Nature Walk, Knowle Park 2 - 3.30pm, meet in car park off Longdon Rd
5	♦	RugbyNHS	"Some more Muz's magic" (Murray Hayden) 7.30pm
5	♦	WarwickNHS	"Spiders" (Brian Chase) 7.30pm
6	♦	Coventry&DNHS	"Astronomy in Warwickshire" (Mike Frost) 7.30pm
7	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work at Snitterfield Bushes 10am (for details contact Eddie Asbury ☎ 024 7630 8984)
7	*	WWT (Children)	Wildlife Watch Family Day - Human Bug Art (bug-themed workshop for children), Parkridge Centre, Brueton Park, Solihull 10am - 12noon & 1 - 3pm (£4 per child, free to WATCH members, booking essential ☎ 0121 704 0768)
8	*	Kingsbury	Birds of Prey at Kingsbury Water Park (featuring real birds) 11am - 1pm, meet at the Information Centre (£1.50 adults, £1 concessions, £3.50 families, booking essential ☎ 01827 872660)
8	*	RSPB (Middleton)	Early Spring Walk, RSPB Middleton Lakes 11am - 1pm (for details contact Garry Jones ☎ 01827 259454)
8	♣	WarwickNHS	Birdwatching trip to see Red Kites at Watlington Hill, Bucks 11am
8	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work at Brandon Marsh Nature Reserve, Coventry 9.30am (for details contact Ken Bond ☎ 02476 328 785)

8	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work at Clowes Wood, Earlswood 10am (for details contact Ron Hill ☎ 0121 705 1429)
8	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work at Crackley Wood, Kenilworth 10am (for details contact Jon Holmes ☎ 01926 456215)
8	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work at Hampton Wood, Barford 10am (for details contact Dave Sollis ☎ 01789 205 908)
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8	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work at Ryton Wood, Ryton on Dunsmore 10am (for details contact Mike Slater ☎ 01788 335 881)
8	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work Party at Glasshouse Spinney, Kenilworth 10am (for details contact Steve Smith ☎ 01926 864759)
8	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work Party at Ufton Fields, Ufton 10am (for details contact David Morphew ☎ 01926 771111)
8	♥	Solihull CV	Conservation Task Day, Dorridge Wood LNR, Solihull (contact ☎ 0121 704 6537 to book a place)
8	♣	WMBC (Birmingham)	Birdwatching trip to Forest of Dean (contact group for details)
10	♦	RSPB(Solihull)	"British Bird Populations" (Jim Winsper) 7.30pm
11	*	Pooley Country Park	Moonlight Walk at Pooley Country Park 8 - 10pm, meet at the Visitor Centre (£1.50 adults, £1 concessions, £3.50 families, booking essential ☎ 01827 897438)
11	♦	NetherWhitacre NHG	"Live animals from the Reserve Centre" (Greg Grocock) 7.30pm
12	♠	FWAG	Owl Conservation Talk for farmers & landowners, Feckenham 7.30pm (for details contact Tony Beysens ☎ 01926 318280)
12	*	RSPB(WE)	Indoor meeting "Test your 5 senses" (for young birdwatchers) 7.30pm
12	♦	WWT(SC)	"The Wildlife & History of Bardsley Island" (Mike West) 7.30pm
13	♦	WWT (Stratford)	"Farming & Juggling: flora, fauna, food & fuel" (Tony Beysens, FWAG) 7.30pm
13	♦	WMBC(Solihull)	AGM followed by "Poles Apart" (Michael Leach) 7.30pm
14	*	HartshillHayes	Early Spring Watch at Hartshill Hayes (2 miles) 10am - 12noon, meet at Visitor Centre (£1.50 adults, £1 concessions, £3.50 families, bring a torch)
14	*	RytonPools	Creepy Crawly Club at Ryton Pools (environmental activities for 3 - 12yr olds) 10am - 12noon, meet at Visitor Centre (£1 per child)
14	*	Kingsbury	Kingsbury Young Anglers Club (for 8 - 14yr olds) 1 - 3pm, meet at the Information Centre (£4 per child per session, booking essential ☎ 01827 872660)
14	♠	WWT (Cons) /WART	Amphibian Surveying Workshop, Brandon Marsh Nature Centre 2pm (£6.50 per person which includes WART membership, booking essential ☎ 024 7630 8993)
14	*	RSPB (Middleton)	Early Spring Walk, RSPB Middleton Lakes 11am - 1pm (for details contact Garry Jones ☎ 01827 259454)
14	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work at Snitterfield Bushes 10am (for details contact Eddie Asbury ☎ 024 7630 8984)
14	♣	RSPB(Solihull)	Morning Walk at Berkswell 10am, meet at the village car park
14	♥	WWT(Cons)	Volunteer Work Party at Parkridge Centre, Brueton Park, Solihull 10am - 3pm (for details contact Amanda Henshaw ☎ 0121 704 0768)
14	*	WWT (Nuts)	Nuts about Nature Club (event featuring Ponds), Parkridge Centre, Brueton Park, Solihull (£4 per child, £3 if WWT members, for details & booking ☎ 0121 704 0768)
15	*	Kingsbury	Build a Bird Box at Kingsbury Water Park (ideal for families) 10.30am - 12.30pm, meet at the Education Centre (£3 per box, booking essential ☎ 01827 872660, bring a hammer)
15	*	Pooley Country Park	Build a Bird Box at Pooley Country Park (ideal for families), 10.30am - 12.30pm, meet at the Visitor Centre (£3 per box, booking essential ☎ 01827 897438)
15	*	Burton Dassett	Hilla & Halls at Burton Dassett Hills (5-mile walk) 10am - 1pm, meet below Beacon (£1.50 adults, £1 concessions, £3.50 families)
15	*	RSPB(WE)	Trip to Upton Warren, Worcs (for young birdwatchers) 9am - 12noon
15	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work at Brandon Marsh Nature Reserve, Coventry 9.30am (for details contact Ken Bond ☎ 02476 328 785)
15	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work at Clowes Wood, Earlswood 10am (for details contact Ron Hill ☎ 0121 705 1429)
15	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work at Crackley Wood, Kenilworth 10am (for details contact Jon Holmes ☎ 01926 456215)
15	♥	WWT	Volunteer Work at Hampton Wood, Barford 10am (for details contact Dave Sollis ☎ 01789 205 908)

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		(Workparty)	01789 205 908)
15	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work at Rough Hill Wood, near Studley 10am (for details contact Val Kendrick ☎ 01527 545 742)
15	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work at Ryton Wood, Ryton on Dunsmore 10am (for details contact Mike Slater ☎ 01788 335 881)
15	♥	Kingfisher	Forest Skills, Yorks Wood, Shard End, Solihull (family event) 10.30am - 1pm, meet at Sports Pavilion off Kendrick Ave (booking essential ☎ 0121 748 3798)
17	♦	NORWAG	"Sex Life of Plants" (Celia Davis) 7.30pm
17	♦	HenleyWS	"A year in the life of two photographers" (Rosemary Morris) 7.45pm
17	♦	RSPB(Solihull)	Quiz Night & Fish & Chips Supper at the 'Highwood' Highwood Avenue, Olton 7.30pm
18	♣	RSPB(C&W)	Mid-week Birdwatching walk at Upton Warren, meet at Webbs of Wychbold Restaurant 9.30m
18	♦	RSPB (Middleton)	John Ray Lecture "The Wisdom of Birds" (Prof. Tim Birkhead) 7.30pm, Middleton Hall (£5 adults, £3.50 concessions, book on ☎ 01827 259454)
18	✳	Solihull MBC / RSPB	Brilliant Bird Watch Walk (led by RSPB), Hillfield Park, Solihull 10.30am - 12.30pm, meet at car park
18	♦	Geology	"The Nuneaton Ridge" (Alan Cooke), probably to be held at Church Hall, Church Lane, Nuneaton 7.30pm
19	♦	RugbyNHS	"Lincolnshire & Norfolk" (Richard Pensen) 7.30pm
19	♦	Nuneaton Birdwatchers	"Birds of Norfolk" (Chris Ward) 7.30pm
20	♦	WarwickNHS	Annual Dinner at Warwick Masonic Rooms 7.30 for 8pm
20	♦	Coventry&DNHS	Members' Social Evening 7.30pm
20	♦	Birmingham NHS	Indoor talk (title to be announced) 7.30pm
21	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work at Snitterfield Bushes 10am (for details contact Eddie Asbury ☎ 024 7630 8984)
21	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work Party at River Arrow Nature Reserve, Alcester 10am (for details contact Steve Godfrey ☎ 01789 765536)
21	✳	Kingfisher	Friends of Kingfisher Country Park Fun Day 11am - 3pm, meet at Babbs Mill Local Nature Reserve, Cooks Lane/Fordbridge Road car park
22	✳	Kingsbury	Water, Water Everywhere at Kingsbury Water Park (water cycle-themed workshop for 5 - 12 yr olds) 10.30am - 12noon, meet at the Education Centre (£2.50 per child, booking essential ☎ 01827 872660)
22	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work at Brandon Marsh Nature Reserve, Coventry 9.30am (for details contact Ken Bond ☎ 02476 328 785)
22	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work at Clowes Wood, Earlswood 10am (for details contact Ron Hill ☎ 0121 705 1429)
22	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work at Crackley Wood, Kenilworth 10am (for details contact Jon Holmes ☎ 01926 456215)
22	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work at Hampton Wood, Barford 10am (for details contact Dave Sollis ☎ 01789 205 908)
22	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work at Rough Hill Wood, near Studley 10am (for details contact Val Kendrick ☎ 01527 545 742)
22	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work at Ryton Wood, Ryton on Dunsmore 10am (for details contact Mike Slater ☎ 01788 335 881)
22	♣	WMBC(Solihull)	Birdwatching trip to Earlswood Lakes & Clowes Wood (contact group for details)
22	♥	Solihull CV	Conservation Task Day, Brueton Park, Solihull (contact ☎ 0121 704 6537 to book a place)
26	♦	Atherstone NHS	Special Meeting "Beneath the Dark Canopy" (Michael Leach) at Atherstone Memorial Hall 7.30pm
26	♦	WWT(Solihull)	"Ecuador & the Galapagos" (Gary Farmer) , Parkridge Centre, Brueton Park, Solihull 10.30am - 12noon
27	♦	RSPB(C&W)	"The Falkland Islands" (Anne Izzard), Stoneleigh Village Hall 7.30pm
28	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work at Snitterfield Bushes 10am (for details contact Eddie Asbury ☎ 024 7630 8984)
29	✳	Kingsbury	Kite Making at Kingsbury Water Park (ideal for families) 1 - 3pm, meet at the Education Centre (£5 per kite, booking essential ☎ 01827 872660)
29	✳	RSPB (Middleton)	Early Spring Walk, RSPB Middleton Lakes 11am - 1pm (for details contact Garry Jones ☎ 01827 259454)
29	♣	RSPB(C&W)	Birdwatching trip to Titchwell, Norf, departing from Cox St, Coventry 7am (contact group to book a place)

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29	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work at Brandon Marsh Nature Reserve, Coventry 9.30am (for details contact Ken Bond ☎ 02476 328 785)
29	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work at Clowes Wood, Earlswood 10am (for details contact Ron Hill ☎ 0121 705 1429)
29	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work at Crackley Wood, Kenilworth 10am (for details contact Jon Holmes ☎ 01926 456215)
29	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work at Hampton Wood, Barford 10am (for details contact Dave Sollis ☎ 01789 205 908)
29	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work at Rough Hill Wood, near Studley 10am (for details contact Val Kendrick ☎ 01527 545 742)
29	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work at Ryton Wood, Ryton on Dunsmore 10am (for details contact Mike Slater ☎ 01788 335 881)
29	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work Party at Kenilworth Common, Kenilworth 10am (for details contact Serena Eccles ☎ 01926 858378)
31	♣	FWAG	Dawn Chorus Walk for farmers & landowners, Aldwinckle, near Kettering 6.30am (for details contact Tony Beysens ☎ 01926 318280)
31	♦	WMBC (Birmingham)	"Upland Birds" (Tony Hamblin) 7.30pm
APRIL 2009			
2	♦	RugbyNHS	Annual Dinner (venue to be announced) 7.30pm
2	♦	WarwickNHS	AGM followed by Members' Evening 7.30pm
3	♦	WMBC(Solihull)	"Gulls, Gulls and more Gulls" (Steve Magennis) 7.30pm
3-5	♣	WMBC (Birmingham)	Birdwatching weekend in Devon (contact group for details)
4	♠	WWT (Cons)	Dragonfly Larvae Monitoring Workshop, Brandon Marsh Nature Centre 10.30am - pm (£6.50 per person, booking essential, contact Peter Reeve ☎ 01926 632400)
4	♣	Geology	Visit to BGS Keyworth, meet at site 10am
5	✱	WWT (GWalks)	Spring Watch Guided Walk, Ufton Fields SSSI (SP 378 615) 11am, meet in reserve car park, followed by a pub lunch if you wish (£2 for walk)
5	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work at Clowes Wood, Earlswood 10am (for details contact Ron Hill ☎ 0121 705 1429)
5	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work at Rough Hill Wood, near Studley 10am (for details contact Val Kendrick ☎ 01527 545 742)
5	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work at Ryton Wood, Ryton on Dunsmore 10am (for details contact Mike Slater ☎ 01788 335 881)
5	♣	AtherstoneNHS	Trip to Wappenbury Wood (contact John Walton for details ☎ 01827 712455)
6	✱	WWT (Children)	Life in the Undergrowth (nature-themed workshop for children), Brandon Marsh Nature Centre, nr Coventry 10.30am - 12noon (£4 per child, £3 if WWT members, booking essential ☎ 024 7630 2912)
6	✱	WWT (Children)	Life in the Undergrowth (nature-themed workshop for children), Parkridge Centre, Brueton Park, Solihull 10.30am - 12noon & 1 - 2.30pm (£4 per child, £3 if WWT members, booking essential ☎ 0121 704 0768)
6	✱	Solihull MBC	Ranger Road Show, Mell Square, Solihull 10am - 3pm (meet the Park Rangers & learn more about them and Solihull's parks)
7	✱	WWT (Children)	Easter Egg Decorating (egg-themed workshop for children), Brandon Marsh Nature Centre, nr Coventry 10.30am - 12noon (£4 per child, £3 if WWT members, booking essential ☎ 024 7630 2912)
7	✱	WWT (Children)	Easter Egg Decorating (egg-themed workshop for children), Parkridge Centre, Brueton Park, Solihull 10.30am - 12noon & 1 - 2.30pm (£4 per child, £3 if WWT members, booking essential ☎ 0121 704 0768)
7	✱	Solihull MBC	Art Animal Tracks (animal-themed workshop with a Ranger), Palmers Rough 11am - 1pm, meet at Northbrook Road entrance (booking essential ☎ 0121 704 8000)
8	✱	WWT (Children)	Scrap Heap Challenge (recycling-themed workshop for children), Brandon Marsh Nature Centre, nr Coventry 10.30am - 12noon (£4 per child, £3 if WWT members, £3.50 per box, booking essential ☎ 024 7630 2912)
8	✱	WWT (Children)	Scrap Heap Challenge (recycling-themed workshop for children), Parkridge Centre, Brueton Park, Solihull 10.30am - 12noon & 1 - 2.30pm (£4 per child, £3 if WWT members, booking essential ☎ 0121 704 0768)
8	♦	NetherWhitacre NHG	"History of Warwickshire Butterflies Past, Present & Future" (Mike Slater) 7.30pm
8	✱	Solihull MBC	Easter Bonnet Making (using natural materials), Olton Jubilee Park, Solihull 11am - 1pm
9	✱	WWT (Children)	Bird Box Building (for children), Brandon Marsh Nature Centre, nr Coventry 10.30am -

			12noon (£4 per child, £3 if WWT members, booking essential ☎ 024 7630 2912)
9	*	WWT (Children)	Easter Cards & Chicks (duck-themed workshop for children), Parkridge Centre, Brueton Park, Solihull 10.30am - 12noon & 1 - 2.30pm (£4 per child, £3 if WWT members, booking essential ☎ 0121 704 0768)
10	*	WWT (Children)	Easter Egg Hunt (nature-hunt & workshop for children), Brandon Marsh Nature Centre, nr Coventry 10.30am - 12noon (£4 per child, £3 if WWT members, booking essential ☎ 024 7630 2912)
10	*	WWT (Children)	Easter Egg Hunt (nature-hunt & workshop for children), Parkridge Centre, Brueton Park, Solihull 10.30am - 12noon & 1 - 2.30pm (£4 per child, £3 if WWT members, booking essential ☎ 0121 704 0768)
10	*	Solihull MBC	Easter Egg Hunt, Elmdon Park (assorted childrens events) 11am - 2pm (charges for some events)
11	*	WWT (Nuts)	Nuts about Nature Club (event featuring Birds), Parkridge Centre, Brueton Park, Solihull (£4 per child, £3 if WWT members, for details & booking ☎ 0121 704 0768)
12	♣	WWT (Cons)	Water Vole Surveying Workshop, Brandon Marsh Nature Centre 11am (£3 per person, booking essential ☎ 024 7630 8995)
12	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work at Clowes Wood, Earlswood 10am (for details contact Ron Hill ☎ 0121 705 1429)
12	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work at Rough Hill Wood, near Studley 10am (for details contact Val Kendrick ☎ 01527 545 742)
12	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work at Ryton Wood, Ryton on Dunsmore 10am (for details contact Mike Slater ☎ 01788 335 881)
13	*	WWT (Children)	Easter True & False (nature-themed workshop for children), Brandon Marsh Nature Centre, nr Coventry 10.30am - 12noon (£4 per child, £3 if WWT members, booking essential ☎ 024 7630 2912)
13	*	WWT (Children)	Easter True & False (nature-themed workshop for children), Parkridge Centre, Brueton Park, Solihull 10.30am - 12noon & 1 - 2.30pm (£4 per child, £3 if WWT members, booking essential ☎ 0121 704 0768)
13	*	Solihull MBC	Eggciting Easter Treats, Meriden Park, Chelmsley Wood (craft activities for children) 1-3pm
14	*	WWT (Children)	Rainy Survival (weather-themed workshop for children), Brandon Marsh Nature Centre, nr Coventry 10.30am - 12noon (£4 per child, £3 if WWT members, booking essential ☎ 024 7630 2912)
14	*	WWT (Children)	Brilliant Birds (bird-themed workshop for children), Parkridge Centre, Brueton Park, Solihull 10.30am - 12noon & 1 - 2.30pm (£4 per child, £3 if WWT members, booking essential ☎ 0121 704 0768)
14	♦	NORWAG	"Garden Wildlife" (Kay & Peter Reeve) 7.30pm
14	♦	RSPB(Solihull)	AGM followed by "Birdquest to the USSR" (Tim Loseby) 7.30pm
15	♦	Atherstone NHS	"Flying Foxes" (Kate Hubbard) 7.30pm
15	*	WWT (Children)	Brilliant Birds (bird-themed workshop for children), Brandon Marsh Nature Centre, nr Coventry 10.30am - 12noon (£4 per child, £3 if WWT members, booking essential ☎ 024 7630 2912)
15	*	WWT (Children)	Woodland Explorers (tree & woodland-themed workshop for children), Parkridge Centre, Brueton Park, Solihull 10.30am - 12noon & 1 - 2.30pm (£4 per child, £3 if WWT members, booking essential ☎ 0121 704 0768)
16	♣	WWT (Cons)	Bird Surveying Workshop (Follow Up Session), Brandon Marsh Nature Centre 2pm (£3 per person, booking essential ☎ 024 7630 8993)
16	*	WWT (Children)	Peer at a Pond Creature - Drop in Session (pond-themed workshop for children), Brandon Marsh Nature Centre, nr Coventry 10.30am - 12.30pm (£1.50 per child for 30 minutes, to book ☎ 024 7630 2912)
16	*	WWT (Children)	Rainy Survival (weather & shelter-themed workshop for children), Parkridge Centre, Brueton Park, Solihull 10.30am - 12noon & 1 - 2.30pm (£4 per child, £3 if WWT members, booking essential ☎ 0121 704 0768)
16	♦	Nuneaton Birdwatchers	"Birds of India" (Mike Wilkes) 7.30pm
17	*	WWT (Children)	Peer at a Pond Creature (pond-themed workshop for children), Parkridge Centre, Brueton Park, Solihull 10.30am - 12noon & 1 - 2.30pm (£4 per child, £3 if WWT members, booking essential ☎ 0121 704 0768)
17	*	Solihull MBC	River Walk (guided walk with a Ranger), Meriden Park to Babbs Mill LNR 1-3pm, meet at Meriden Park Ranger info' point
17	*	Kingfisher	Mill to Middle earth (guided walk from Babbs Mill to Sarehole Mill, Shard End, Solihull)

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			10am - 2pm, meet at Sports Pavilion, Kendrick Road (booking essential ☎ 0121 748 3798)
17	♦	Birmingham NHS	AGM & Presidential Lecture 7.30pm
18	♠	WWT (Cons) /WART	Amphibian Surveying Workshop, Brandon Marsh Nature Centre 2pm (£6.50 per person which includes WART membership, booking essential ☎ 024 7630 8993)
18	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work Party at River Arrow Nature Reserve, Alcester 10am (for details contact Steve Godfrey ☎ 01789 765536)
18	♥	WWT(Cons)	Volunteer Work Party at Parkridge Centre, Brueton Park, Solihull 10am - 3pm (for details contact Amanda Henshaw ☎ 0121 704 0768)
19	♣	WarwickNHS	Birdwatching trip to Upton Warren (SP938677) 10am
19	✱	RSPB(WE)	Treasure Hunt at Hoar Park (for young birdwatchers) 10am - 1pm (followed by a picnic if weather fine)
19	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work at Clowes Wood, Earlswood 10am (for details contact Ron Hill ☎ 0121 705 1429)
19	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work at Rough Hill Wood, near Studley 10am (for details contact Val Kendrick ☎ 01527 545 742)
19	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work at Ryton Wood, Ryton on Dunsmore 10am (for details contact Mike Slater ☎ 01788 335 881)
19	✱	Solihull MBC	Dizzy Duck Race, Babbs Mill LNR 11 am - 12.30pm, meet at Boat House car park
19	♣	WMBC(Solihull)	Birdwatching trip to Leam Valley, Leamington Spa (contact group for details)
21	✱	Warwickshire Museum	Tree & Historic Landscape Walk at Woodcote House, Leek Wootton (linked to the County Record Offices' Waller Project) 10.30am - 12noon (contact Helen Arbon for details ☎ 01926 738961)
21	♣	FWAG	Dawn Chorus Walk for farmers & landowners, Moreton Morrell 6am (for details contact Tony Beysens ☎ 01926 318280)
21	♦	HenleyWS	"Action for Birds" (John Clews, RSPB) 7.45pm
22	♣	RSPB(C&W)	Mid-week Birdwatching walk at Ryton Wood, meet in reserve car park off Banbury Road 9.30m
22	✱	Solihull MBC	Orienteering in the Park, Hillfield Park 6.30-7.30pm, meet at entrance off Brick Kiln Lane (£2.50 adults, £1 for students & under 21s)
24	♦	RSPB(C&W)	"Baddesley Birds" (Clem Hindmarsh), Stoneleigh Village Hall 7.30pm
25	✱	WWT (GWalks)	Terrific Trees Guided Walk, Kenilworth Common (SP 299 732) 2pm, meet on Common Lane railway bridge, (£2 per person)
25	✱	WWT (GWalks) WWT(SC)	Visit to R. Arrow Nature Reserve, Alcester (SP 086 584) 10.30am, meet at Ragley Mill Lane entrance
25	✱	Solihull MBC	Pond Dipping (event for children), Marston Green Park 11-1pm
26	✱	WWT (GWalks)	Spring Flowers Guided Walk, Rough Hill Wood near Redditch (SP 052 637) 10am, meet in car park off A448, (£2 per person)
26	♣	RSPB(C&W)	Birdwatching trip to Ynys Hir RSPB, Wales, departing from Cox St, Coventry 7am (contact group to book a place)
26	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work at Clowes Wood, Earlswood 10am (for details contact Ron Hill ☎ 0121 705 1429)
26	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work at Rough Hill Wood, near Studley 10am (for details contact Val Kendrick ☎ 01527 545 742)
26	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work at Ryton Wood, Ryton on Dunsmore 10am (for details contact Mike Slater ☎ 01788 335 881)
26	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work Party at Kenilworth Common, Kenilworth 10am (for details contact Serena Eccles ☎ 01926 858378)
26	✱	Solihull MBC	Bluebell Walk, Millisons Wood 2 - 3.30pm, meet at Albert Road entrance
26	♣	WMBC (Birmingham)	Birdwatching trip to Little Paxton Pits, Cambs (contact group for details)
28	♦	WMBC (Birmingham)	"Spring in Spain" (Mike Wilkes) 7.30pm
MAY 2009			
1	♦	Coventry&DNHS	AGM 7.30pm
3	✱	WWT (GWalks)	Dawn Chorus for Wimps (guided birdwatch), Upton Fields (SP 378 615) 8am, meet in reserve car park (£2 per person)
3	✱	RSPB(WE)	Coach trip to Gibraltar Point (for young birdwatchers) 7.30am - late
3	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work at Clowes Wood, Earlswood 10am (for details contact Ron Hill ☎ 0121 705 1429)
3	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work at Rough Hill Wood, near Studley 10am (for details contact Val Kendrick ☎ 01527 545 742)

7	*	WWT (GWalks)	Blooming Bluebells Guided Walk, Crackley Wood near Kenilworth (SP 289 738) 10am, meet at main car park off Crackley Lane, (£2 per person)
9	*	WWT (Nuts)	Nuts about Nature Club (event featuring Folklore), Parkridge Centre, Brueton Park, Solihull (£4 per child, £3 if WWT members, for details & booking ☎ 0121 704 0768)
9	*	Solihull MBC	Dawn Chorus, Brueton Park 4.30-6.30am, meet at car park off Warwick Road
10	*	WWT (GWalks)	Guided Walk around Harbury Spoilbank SSSI near Harbury (SP 384 598) 10.30am, meet at entrance off the B4452 (£2 per person)
10	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work at Clowes Wood, Earlswood 10am (for details contact Ron Hill ☎ 0121 705 1429)
10	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work at Rough Hill Wood, near Studley 10am (for details contact Val Kendrick ☎ 01527 545 742)
10	*	Solihull MBC	Bluebell Walk, Coldlands Wood 2-3.30pm, meet at Buryfield Rd entrance
10	♣	RSPB(Solihull)	Coach Trip to Lakenheath, Weeting Heath & Little Paxton Gravel Pits, meet 7am at public car park in Monkspath Hall Road (contact Nick Barlow 07831 092592 to book)
10	♣	WMBC (Birmingham)	Birdwatching trip to RSPB Lake Yyrnwy (contact group for details)
13	♣	RSPB(C&W)	Mid-week Birdwatching walk at Fosse Meadows Country Park, meet in car park 9.30m
13	♦	NetherWhitacre NHG	"Grasshoppers, Crickets & Other Insects" (Peter Reeve) 7.30pm
14	♣	WarwickNHS	Birdwatching trip to Daventry Country Park (SP577642) 10am
14	*	RSPB(WE)	DIY Night (games, quizzes etc for young birdwatchers) 7.30pm
16	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work Party at River Arrow Nature Reserve, Alcester 10am (for details contact Steve Godfrey ☎ 01789 765536)
16	♥	WWT(Cons)	Volunteer Work Party at Parkridge Centre, Brueton Park, Solihull 10am - 3pm (for details contact Amanda Henshaw ☎ 0121 704 0768)
16	♣	WMBC(Solihull)	Birdwatching trip to Sutton Park (contact group for details)
17	♠	WWT (Cons)	Pond Dipping & Surveying Workshop, Brandon Marsh Nature Centre 4.30pm (£3 per WWT member, £4 for non-members, booking essential ☎ 024 7630 2912)
17	*	WWT (GWalks)	Outstanding Orchids Guided Walk, Draycote Meadow (SP448 708) 10am, meet at reserve entrance (£2 per person)
17	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work at Clowes Wood, Earlswood 10am (for details contact Ron Hill ☎ 0121 705 1429)
17	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work at Crackley Wood, Kenilworth 10am (for details contact Jon Holmes ☎ 01926 456215)
17	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work at Rough Hill Wood, near Studley 10am (for details contact Val Kendrick ☎ 01527 545 742)
17	♣	RSPB(C&W)	Birdwatching trip to Lakenheath RSPB, Suffolk, departing from Cox St, Coventry 7am (contact group to book a place)
19	♦	HenleyWS	"Waiting for the Light - British Wildlife" (Wendy Conway) 7.45pm
20	♦	Atherstone NHS	AGM and Members' Evening 7.30pm
21	♦	Nuneaton Birdwatchers	"RSPB Middleton Lakes" (Garry Jones) 7.30pm
22	♠	WWT (Cons) ButtConsWarks	Butterfly Monitoring Workshop, Brandon Marsh Nature Centre 10am (£6.50 per person which includes WART membership, booking essential ☎ 024 7630 8993)
22	♦	RSPB(C&W)	AGM, Stoneleigh Village Hall 7.30pm
24	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work at Clowes Wood, Earlswood 10am (for details contact Ron Hill ☎ 0121 705 1429)
24	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work at Rough Hill Wood, near Studley 10am (for details contact Val Kendrick ☎ 01527 545 742)
25	*	WWT (Children)	Peek in the Pond - Drop in Session (pond-themed workshop for children), Parkridge Centre, Brueton Park, Solihull 10.30am - 12noon & 1 - 2.30pm (£1.50 per child for 30 minutes, to book ☎ 0121 704 0768)
26	*	WWT (Children)	Nature's Fairies (minibeast-themed workshop for children), Brandon Marsh Nature Centre, nr Coventry 10.30am - 12noon (£4 per child, £3 if WWT members, booking essential ☎ 024 7630 2912)
26	*	WWT (Children)	Folklore & Fairytales (nature-themed workshop for children), Parkridge Centre, Brueton Park, Solihull 10.30am - 12noon & 1 - 2.30pm (£4 per child, £3 if WWT members, booking essential ☎ 0121 704 0768)
27	*	WWT (Children)	Marvellous Mayflies (mayfly-themed workshop for children), Brandon Marsh Nature Centre, nr Coventry 10.30am - 12noon (£4 per child, £3 if WWT members, booking

			essential ☎ 024 7630 2912)
27	*	WWT (Children)	Marvellous Mayflies (mayfly-themed workshop for children), Parkridge Centre, Brueton Park, Solihull 10.30am - 12noon & 1 - 2.30pm (£4 per child, £3 if WWT members, booking essential ☎ 0121 704 0768)
27	*	Solihull MBC	Story Time Trail, Elmdon Park or Hobs Moat Library if weather wet (wildlife themed walk & workshop for children) 10am , 12noon, 2pm, 4pm (£1.50 per child, 50 p per adult, , booking adviseable ☎ 0121 704 8000)
28	*	WWT (Children)	Kite Making - Drop in Session (kite-making workshop for children), Brandon Marsh Nature Centre, nr Coventry 10.30am - 12.30pm (£2 per child, per kite)
28	*	WWT (Children)	Flights of Fancy (flight-themed workshop for children), Parkridge Centre, Brueton Park, Solihull 10.30am - 12noon & 1 - 2.30pm (£4 per child, £3 if WWT members, booking essential ☎ 0121 704 0768)
29	*	WWT (Children)	Family Bat Bonanza (bat-themed workshop for children), Brandon Marsh Nature Centre, nr Coventry 7.30 - 9pm (£4 per child, £3 if WWT members, booking essential ☎ 024 7630 2912)
29	*	WWT (Children)	Nature's Fairies (nature-themed workshop for children), Parkridge Centre, Brueton Park, Solihull 10.30am - 12noon & 1 - 2.30pm (£4 per child, £3 if WWT members, booking essential ☎ 0121 704 0768)
29	*	Solihull MBC	Batty Boxes, Knowle Park (learn about bats & make a bat box) 11-1pm (£3.50 per box if you take it home, booking essential ☎ 0121 704 8000)
30-31	*	WMBC	Birdwatchers Spring Fair 2009, Middleton Hall, near Tamworth 9.30am - 5.30pm (Sat), 10am - 4pm (Sun), numerous stalls and events
31	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work at Clowes Wood, Earlswood 10am (for details contact Ron Hill ☎ 0121 705 1429)
31	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work at Rough Hill Wood, near Studley 10am (for details contact Val Kendrick ☎ 01527 545 742)
31	♥	WWT (Workparty)	Volunteer Work Party at Kenilworth Common, Kenilworth 10am (for details contact Serena Eccles ☎ 01926 858378)
31	*	Solihull MBC	Nature Walk, Lavender Hall Park 2-3.30pm
31	♣	WMBC (Birmingham)	Birdwatching trip to RSPB Titchwell, Norfolk` (contact group for details)
JUNE 2009			
10	♣	NetherWhitacre NHG	Nature Walk at Coton Fields with John Bates, 7pm, meet at Whitacre Heath Nature Reserve (for details contact John Bates ☎ 01675 464479)
13	*	WWT (Nuts)	Nuts about Nature Club (event featuring Mammals), Parkridge Centre, Brueton Park, Solihull (£4 per child, £3 if WWT members, for details & booking ☎ 0121 704 0768)
13	*	Solihull MBC	Environment Day, Tudor Grange Park, Solihull 10am-4pm (lots of exhibits, stalls, local groups etc.)
14	♣	AtherstoneNHS	Trip to Ryton Meadows Butterfly Reserve (contact John Walton for details ☎ 01827 712455)
14	*	Solihull MBC	Tree Trail, Millison's Wood, near Meriden 10am - 12noon
16	♣	Henley WS	Outdoor evening meeting, details to be announced
18	♣	Nuneaton Birdwatchers	Evening walk (details to be announced)
27	*	Solihull MBC	Mini Beasts Madness (event for children featuring live exotic insects), Elmdon Park 10am -3pm

COURSES FOR ALL AGE GROUPS



UNIVERSITY OF WARWICK OPEN STUDIES

Courses of varying duration and venues. 2009 titles include :

- Water, wetlands and wildlife
- An introduction to the mammals of Great Britain
- British Bats
- Biodiversity & conservation
- Ecological case studies & fieldwork
- Winged Splendour (butterflies & moths)
- Geology for everyone
- Geology & scenery - Rugby to Solihull
- Landscape & scenery in Warwickshire

There is also a variety of Earth Science courses. For more information visit

www.warwick.ac.uk/cll/OpenStudies

☎ 024 7657 3739 or E-mail: openstudies@warwick.ac.uk

MORETON MORRELL COLLEGE - "GROW YOUR SKILLS IN THE COUNTRYSIDE!"

Moreton Morrell Centre offers courses for those who love the outdoors and enjoy learning skills which are "off the beaten track". The Natural Environment department runs courses such as hedgelaying, dry-stone walling and habitat Management. There are also courses in basic chainsaw and pesticides. As well as the Natural Environment, other departments run short courses such as equine summer school for riders of all abilities, and professional courses in horticulture, arboriculture and agriculture. If there are any special courses that you would like to run, contact them at:

Short Courses Office, Warwickshire College, Moreton Morrell Centre, Moreton Morrell, Nr. Warwick CV35 9BL, ☎ 01926 318341/318347

BTCV WEST MIDLANDS CONSERVATION TRAINING

Become qualified in outdoor conservation work such as dry stone walling, hedge-laying, coppicing, fencing, tree care, pond construction, urban wildlife habitat management and wildlife gardening. BTCV can offer free training courses, including short courses in partnership with Broxtowe College and NVQs Level 1, 2, & 3 in Environmental Conservation. Help towards dependant/child care and travel costs may be available. For more information ☎ 0121 5078380, W-mail: West-midlands@btcv.org.uk

NORTH WARWICKSHIRE ENVIRONMENT CLUB

North Warwickshire Borough Council Leisure Services run an Environmental Club every Monday from 4 - 5pm at Atherstone Memorial Hall, Long Street, Atherstone. The Club is suitable for those aged between 5 and 11 years. Activities include environmental awareness as well as surveys. Sessions are practical and educational and are run by experienced leaders. Costs per person are £1.10. For more information please contact the Memorial Hall direct on 01827 719201.

WILDLIFE WATCH GROUPS

WILDLIFE WATCH is the junior branch of the Wildlife Trusts for children and teenagers. In Warwickshire we have several branches:

- * **Kingsbury Water Park Wildlife Explorers** - run by the Country Park and Middleton Hall RSPB team, meet on 1st Saturday of every month during the summer. Contact: Garry Jones ☎ 01827 259454.
- * **Ryton Pools 'Creepy Crawly Kids Club'** - meet on the 2nd Saturday of the month. Contact: Pam Reason, ☎ 02476 305592, E-mail: parks@warwickshire.gov.uk
- * **'Rockwatch'** - a Nature and Geology club for 6-12 year olds run by Nuneaton & Bedworth Borough Council's Environment Team (please phone to pre-book, ☎ 024 7637 6494/6328). All events free and 10am - 12 noon unless stated otherwise.

To find out more about Wildlife Watch and Rockwatch, visit: www.wildlifewatch.org.uk or www.rockwatch.org.uk or ring WATCH Organiser: ☎ 024 7630 8977.

WORKING PARTIES



Listed events for most of the following groups can be found in the diary of this newsletter:

WARWICKSHIRE WILDLIFE TRUST - NATURE FORCE TEAM

The *'Nature Force' Mid-Week Volunteer Group* operates on Wednesdays and Thursdays throughout the year. Transport is provided from Brandon Marsh Nature Centre at 9am with another pick-up on the way to the day's task, returning to Brandon for 3.30 - 4pm, weather permitting. Nature-Force gives you the opportunity to learn a wide-variety of conservation skills with specially organised training days and includes visits to different Nature Reserves throughout the sub-region. Alternatively, you could join a *Weekend Workparty* at a nature reserve near you. For further information and to book your place on the Nature-Force, please ring the 'Reserves Team' during office hours on 024 7630 8998. Sites with weekly work parties at certain parts of the year include:

- Brandon Marsh, near Coventry, Ken Bond ☎ 024 7632 8785 (Sundays & Thursdays 9.30am)
- Clowes Wood, Earlswood, Ron Hill ☎ 0121 705 1429 ☎ 024 7630 8984 (Sundays 10am)
- Crackley Wood, Kenilworth. Jon Holmes ☎ 01926 456215 (Sundays 10am)
- Hampton Wood, Barford. Dave Solliss ☎ 01789 205908 (Sundays 9.30am)
- Rough Hill Wood, nr. Studley, Val Kendrick ☎ 01527 545742 (Sundays 10am)
- Ryton Wood, Ryton, Mike Slater ☎ 01788 335881 (Sundays, contact Mike for details)
- Snitterfield Bushes, Snitterfield, Eddie Asbery ☎ 024 7630 8984 (Saturdays 9am, Oct - March)

Other Warwickshire Wildlife Trust Reserves with monthly or occasional activities are:

- Alvecote Meadows, nr. Tamworth, Derek Tattershall ☎ 01827 897081

- Alvecote Pools, nr. Tamworth, Ian Jelley ☎ 024 7630 8993
- Ashlawn Cutting, Rugby, Ian Jelley ☎ 024 7630 8998
- Brook Meadow, Darley Green, Eddy Asbery ☎ 024 7630 8984
- Claybrookes Marsh, Coventry, Lee Schofield ☎ 024 7630 8998
- Cock Robin Wood, Rugby, Lee Schofield ☎ 024 7630 8998
- Crackley Wood, Kenilworth, Ian Jelley ☎ 01926 456215 (regular monthly events)
- Deans Green, Henley-in-Arden, Mary Tipping ☎ 01564 742216
- Draycote Meadows, Draycote, Eddie Asbery ☎ 024 7630 8984
- Earlswood Moathouse, Earlswood, Caroline Bailey ☎ 024 7630 8993
- Eathorpe Marsh, Eathorpe, Caroline Bailey ☎ 024 7630 8993
- Elmdon Manor, Elmdon. Rod Franks ☎ 0121 742 8509
- Glasshouse Spinney, Kenilworth, Steve Smith ☎ 01926 864759 (2nd Sunday of every month, January to May 10am - 1pm)
- Grove Hill, nr. Alcester, Gillian Nussey ☎ 01789 773356
- Harbury Spoilbank, Harbury, John Hancock ☎ 01926 612 860
- Harvest Hill, Allesley, Richard Bones ☎ 024 7640 3218
- Hunningham Meadow, Hunningham, Andrew Phillips ☎ 01926 632765
- Kenilworth Common, Kenilworth, Howard Eccles ☎ 01926 858378
- Knowle Hill, Kenilworth, Richard Bones ☎ 024 7640 3218
- Leam Valley, Leamington Spa, Reserves Team ☎ 024 7630 8993
- Newbold Quarry, Rugby, Phill Parr ☎ 01788 578272
- Parliament Piece, Kenilworth, John Wood ☎ 01926 854915
- Pooley Fields, near Tamworth, Caroline Bailey ☎ 024 7630 8993
- Priory Fields, near Solihull, Reserves Team ☎ 024 7630 8993
- River Arrow, Alcester, Steve Godfrey ☎ 01789 852582 (3rd Saturday of the month, January to May 10am - 1pm)
- Shadowbrook Meadow, Hampton-in-Arden, Reserves Team ☎ 024 7630 8993
- Stockton Cutting, Stockton, Eddie Asbery ☎ 024 7630 8984
- Stonebridge Meadows, Coventry, Jan Clemons ☎ 024 7650 6416

- Swift Valley Park, Rugby, [Lee Schofield](#) ☎ 024 7630 8998
- Temple Balsall, nr. Balsall Common, [John Clarke](#) ☎ 01676 534910 (3rd Sunday of month, January to May 10am - 1pm)
- Tocil Wood, Warwick University, Coventry. [Eddie Asbery](#) ☎ 024 7630 8984
- Ufton Fields, Ufton, [David Morphew](#) ☎ 01926 771111 (monthly, 10am - 2.30pm)
- Wappenbury Wood, Princethorpe, [Eddie Asbery](#) ☎ 024 7630 8993
- Welcombe Hills, Stratford, [Lee Schofield](#) ☎ 024 7630 8998
- Whitacre Heath, Lea Marston, [Caroline Bailey](#) ☎ 024 7630 8993
- Whitnash Brook, Whitnash, [Caroline Bailey](#) ☎ 024 7630 8993
- Windmill Spinney, Rugby [Ian Jelley](#) ☎ 024 7630 8998
- Wyken Slough, Coventry, [Jim Jobling](#) ☎ 024 7627 8689

In addition to the above, Warwickshire Wildlife Trust also organise a variety of Conservation events (see WWT(Cons) in the diary) which have a training element and are mostly led by WWT staff or other professionals.

WARWICKSHIRE WILDLIFE TRUST - OTTER TASK FORCE

Aims to involve individuals in otter conservation and the wider wetland work of the Otters and Rivers Project. Volunteers are encouraged to get involved in both surveying and practical tasks. Events are organised for Sundays and generally last from 10am to 3pm, meeting either at Brandon Marsh or an agreed site. For details of the project and events contact Warwickshire Wildlife Trust ☎ 024 7630 8993.

WARWICKSHIRE BTCV

Practical projects for conservation volunteers are held every Wednesday and Thursday. Minibus leaves from Arch 11, Bath Place, Leamington Spa, with alternative pick-ups sometimes available by prior arrangement. Alternate Sundays ditto, all over Warwickshire & Coventry. Tools and training provided. All welcome ☎ 01926 430574 or 07740 899584; E-mail: Warwickshire@btcv.org.uk and see website: www.btcv.org/warwickshire.

The BTCV has also formed a partnership with Broxtowe College (Nottingham) to provide a wide variety of training courses throughout the country including our area. Contact the Leamington or West Midlands branch for details.

NUNEATON & BEDWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL
Thursday Volunteers 10am-4pm. Contact Countryside Team ☎ 024 7637 6052 or 02476 376053.

KNGBURY PARK VOUNTEERS

Meet every Friday at the Ranger workshops for a 9.30am start and undertake various habitat management and maintenance tasks. For further information contact [Steve Kell](#) or [Rachel Hextall](#) ☎ 01827 872660, mob: 0797 710278, E-mail: stevekell@warwickshire.gov.uk or rachelhextall@warwickshire.gov.uk.

MIDDLETON LAKES RSPB WORK PARTIES

Second Wednesday and second Sunday of each month from 10am-4pm. Reserve warden: Grainne ☎ 01827 259454.

WARWICKSHIRE AMPHIBIAN & REPTILE TEAM (WART) WORK PARTIES

Includes pond management, bracken-pulling and scrub bashing at key herptile sites. [Jan Clemons](#) ☎ 024 7650 6416, E-mail: janice.clemons@virgin.net.

SOLIHULL CONSERVATION VOLUNTEERS

Meet on Sundays roughly twice a month to tackle tasks such as habitat management and creation, footpath maintenance and fencing work. During the winter months activities like hedge laying and coppicing are also planned. SCV are currently affiliated to the BTCV. The minibus for all SCV tasks leaves Solihull Railway Station at 10am. For further details contact [Eddie Fowler](#) ☎ 0121 733 2236.

FRIENDS OT SUTTON PARK

The Friends of Sutton Park Association works closely with the Park's Ranger Service with fortnightly Sunday work parties that meet at 10.30am. [Harvey Skelcher](#) ☎ 0121 6059823. E-mail: info@fospa.org. Web site: www.fospa.org

BIRMINGHAM AND SOLIHULL MIDWEEK CONSERVATION VOLUNTEERS

An independent practical conservation group who meet most Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays, between 11am and 4pm. The Group works within 25 miles of Quinton, and is in the Solihull area each month. Currently on hold.

COVENTRY CITY COUNCIL

Collaborates with BTCV in woodland management. Contact the Council's Woodlands Officer [Tim Rose](#) ☎ 024 7683 2347. Also operates a Countryside Project with limited volunteer & placement opportunities, contact [Mike Murray](#) ☎ 024 7683 1292.

BIRMINGHAM CITY COUNCIL

Organises a good variety of activities throughout the year. For a full brochure send a long SAE to:
Sutton Park, Park Rd, Sutton Coldfield, West Midlands B74 2YT.

PROJECT KINGFISHER

Established in 1985 to care for an 11km stretch of the River Cole, east Birmingham. Regular work parties and a 'Friends of Project Kingfisher' group that meets every first Sunday of the month. Contact the Project Kingfisher Rangers ☎ 0121 464 3131.

ONGOING SURVEYS & PROJECTS



There are always a number of on-going surveys that people can help with. The contacts below are for the ones we know about, but please let us know of others.

WARWICKSHIRE, COVENTRY & SOLIHULL BIODIVERSITY ACTION PLAN

Action plans are being produced and implemented for a variety of habitats and species of importance, to support both nationally set BAP targets and to address local needs and issues. Many organisations and individuals are already involved - but if you would like to help, contact Steven Falk, Warwickshire Museum ☎ 01926 412481 or E-mail:

stevenfalk@warwickshire.gov.uk

The project has a web site at www.warwickshire.gov.uk/biodiversity

WARWICKSHIRE WILDLIFE TRUST RESERVES

The Wildlife Trust has a programme of systematic monitoring and surveying of its reserves, using local experts and also uses this as an opportunity to run workshops to increase the number of local experts and surveyors. If you would like to volunteer, contact Reserves Biodiversity Officer ☎ 024 7630 8993.

BTO - THE BRITISH TRUST FOR ORNITHOLOGY

The BTO is looking for volunteers to take part in a series of surveys:

- **Breeding Bird Survey** - the BTO's flagship survey. April-June, involving two site visits recording all species in a 1km square
- **Waterways Breeding Bird Survey** - two visits to a stretch of river between April and June
- **Heronries Census** - Two visits in the breeding season to known and suspected Grey Heron Colonies
- **BTO Bird Atlas** - Long-term survey project with the opportunity for all abilities and ages to contribute in some way to ornithological research, see: <http://www.bto.org/birdatlas/>

Warwickshire Rep - Covering Moreton in the Marsh, Stratford, Warwick, Leamington and Henley in Arden, Mark Smith, 2 Beaufell Close, Woodloes Park Warwick, CV34 5UG, E-mail: mark.smith36@ntlworld.com

Birmingham Rep - Covering Kenilworth, Rugby, Coventry, Steve Davies, E-mail: sxd488@bham.ac.uk

Oxfordshire Rep - Covering Kineton, Fenny Compton and Gaydon, Frances Buckel, E-mail: fmmarks@btinternet.com

NEW ATLAS OF WARWICKSHIRE'S BIRDS

Will provide opportunities for more experienced bird recorders to survey patches of the sub-region. Contact: Jonathan Bowley, 17 Meadow Way, Fenny Compton, Southam CV47 2WD, E-mail: warks-recorder@westmidlandbirdclub.com

PLANT SURVEYS

James Partridge is the BSBI (Botanical Society of Britain & Ireland) representative for Warwickshire, and helps local botanists to select new projects to undertake and looks after the records held at Warwickshire Museum. James can be contacted at 85 Willes Road, Leamington Spa CV31 1BS, E-mail: jmpart85@yahoo.co.uk

THE BIG TREE HUNT OF WARWICKSHIRE, COVENTRY & SOLIHULL

This is an attempt to catalogue all the tree species growing in the sub-region, identify the most important specimens (including veteran trees, Native Black Poplars, mature elms and 'County Champions' of all species, native and introduced), and also to identify the most important local tree collections. Linked to the Tree Council, Ancient Tree Forum, Tree Register of Britain & Ireland, Ancient Yew Group, Conservation Foundation, and Black Poplar Conservation Group. The home page for the initiative, with downloadable reports, is embedded within the RINGS web site:

www.warwickshire.gov.uk/rings

For more information contact: Steven Falk ☎ 01926 412481, E-mail: stevenfalk@warwickshire.gov.uk

ONGOING BUTTERFLY SURVEYS

Butterfly transect work is always valuable. Contact Butterfly Conservation (see contact section below under **ButtCons**).

ONGOING MOTH SURVEYS

A series of moth recording evenings are organised each year by the Warwickshire Moth Group, often at sites that require special permission to visit. See contact section below (under **Moths**). There is also an ongoing **West Midlands Garden Moth Survey** (which includes all of our sub-region) coordinated by Dave Grundy ☎ 0121 446 5446, E-mail: dgcountryside@btinternet.com.

ONGOING HERPTILE SURVEYS

Contact **WART** (see contact section below), who will also be able to advise you if you wish to become a licenced Great-crested Newt surveyor.

ONGOING BAT SURVEYS

Contact the Warwickshire Bat Group (see **Bats** in contact section below), who will also be able to advise you if you wish to become a licenced bat surveyor.

THE HABITAT BIODIVERSITY AUDIT (HBA)



This amazing project, which has resulted in high quality computerised Phase 1 habitat information for modern Warwickshire, Coventry and Solihull, is now into it's re-survey phase. It is vital that we keep the information up-to-date, and we are desperate for volunteer surveyors with basic botanical skills to assist. Contact: ☎ 01926 412197.

For information on other potential surveys or projects, contact the relevant groups or experts listed below. The Museum will happily advise individuals wishing to initiate new surveys and projects.

TREE WARDEN SCHEMES

These Tree Council-supported schemes promote the links between local authority tree officers and local volunteers (wardens) who can assist in the surveying, planting and protection of trees - a chance to help shape the treescape of your local area.

- **Stratford upon Avon District** Contact: ☎ 01789 260613
- **Solihull Borough** Contact: Carol Henrick ☎ 0121 7058030 E-mail: carol@solihull.co.uk or JeanLaw ☎ 0121 706 1356.
- **Warwick town** - to be launched in 2009

MUSEUM-BASED NATURAL HISTORY EDUCATION RESOURCES

WARWICKSHIRE

Warwickshire Museum provides a variety of natural history activities, typically via the County Council's Heritage Education division, based at St. John's House. These can involve field trips, museum visits/workshops, talks/lectures and limited loaning of specimens (the small loan collection is currently being expanded). For more information contact Laura Pye or Rebecca Williams ☎ 01926 412034, E-mail: heritageeducation@warwickshire.gov.uk.

Heritage Education publishes regular leaflets ('Lookout! And 'Outlook' for children and adults respectively) listing forthcoming events, which are available at local libraries, museums and from their web site: www.warwickshire.gov.uk/heritageeducation

COVENTRY

The Herbert Art Gallery and Museum has a natural sciences gallery featuring taxidermy, minerals and other specimens. It has produced a Teachers Resource Pack in collaboration with the Coventry LEA for use by Coventry schools. This is targeted at Key Stage 2 and consists of 4 modules:

- Bones and skeletons
- Habitats, interdependence and adaptation
- Rocks
- Life Cycles

The modules are taught by teachers or museum staff at the museum and are based on collection items and activities. Packs can also be sent to schools. For more information contact Robin Johnson ☎ 024 7678 5308, E-mail: robin.johnson@coventry.gov.uk

CONTACT DETAILS FOR WARWICKHIRE, COVENTRY & SOLIHULL GROUPS AND ORGANISATIONS AND ANY MEETING ARRANGEMENTS

(In alphabetical order by initials)

- * **AbbeyFields** - Friends of Abbey Fields, carry out conservation activities at this attractive Kenilworth park which has a lake and old trees. Pat Smith ☎ 01926 852458.
- * **Allesley** - Allesley and Coundon Wedge Conservation Society. All meetings start at 7.45pm in Allesley Village Hall (only natural history related ones are listed in calendar). Andy Cobby, E-mail: ACobby@rohmmaas.com or Sheila Bennett, 12 Keresley Road, Coventry CV6 2JD.
- * **AtherstoneNHS** - Atherstone Natural History Society. Mrs Sue Naylor ☎ 01827 713726 indoor meetings 7:30pm every third Wed in Trinity Church, Coleshill Road, Atherstone. Non-members welcome. In addition to listed events, they also hold evening walks every Weds during summer months and Sunday walks on the first Sunday of every month - for more details contact John Walton ☎ 01827 712455.
- * **AustyWood** - Austy Wood holds an annual bluebell charity walk. Mr & Mrs Haimes ☎ 01564 792701.
- * **BadgerGrp** - Warwickshire Badger Group. Indoor meetings at Baginton Village Hall (near Coventry Airport) 7.30pm. Mike Hughes ☎ 01926 859456. Helpline ☎ 01564 785810.
- * **BanburyOS** - Banbury Ornithological Society. Monthly newsletter gives details of outdoor meetings and the conservation work parties which are held on the 3rd weekend of the month from Sept to April. Indoor meetings 7.30pm at The Freemason's Hall, Marlborough Rd, Banbury. Andy Turner ☎ 01295 720938, E-mail: andyturner888@hotmail.com or Sandra Bletchly ☎ 01295 721048, E-mail: Sandra@banornsoc.fsnet.co.uk. Web site: www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/conservation/tucd04.htm
- * **Bats** - Warwickshire Bat Group. Hold meetings on first Monday of each month (except Bank Holidays when it is the next Monday) at the Virgins & Castle pub, High St., Kenilworth. Produce regular newsletter 'The Echo'. Julia Waller ☎ 024 7644 9741 email: newsletter@warksbats.co.uk. Web site: www.warksbats.co.uk
- * **Beetles** - The Coleopterists (beetle specialists). Steve Lane ☎ 024 7678 5313, E-mail: steve.lane@coventry.gov.uk.
- * **BirminghamNHS** - Birmingham Natural History Society. Indoor meetings 7.30pm Selly Oak Friends Meeting House, 930 Bristol Road, Selly Oak, Birmingham, unless stated. Brian Perry ☎ 0121 472 5143. **Entomological Section** organises moth trapping in Edgbaston on last Thursday of each month, Roy Ledbury ☎ 0121 704 2322. Mycological Section (**BNHS Mycological**) holds regular meetings on Sundays (10.30 starts), David Antrobus ☎ 0121 422 8830. Web site: freespace.virgin.net/clare.h/bnhs.htm.
- * **BPGS** - British Plant Gall Society. County rep: John Robbins (Warwickshire representative) 123b Parkgate Rd, Coventry CV6 4GF ☎ 024 7658 1552.
- * **BrandonWd** - Friends of Brandon Wood. Carry out management and surveying of the wood. Fred Harper, 14 Ferndale Road, Binley Woods, Coventry CV3 2BG, ☎ 024 7654 2414.
- * **BSBI** - Botanical Society of the British Isles (Warwickshire Group). County rep: James Partridge, 85 Willes Road, Leamington Spa, CV31 1BS, ☎ 01926 427452, E-mail: jmpart85@yahoo.co.uk.
- * **BSMCV** - Birmingham and Solihull Midweek Conservation Volunteers. Regular work parties, usually on Thursdays. Dave Hackett ☎ 07969 172 195 or 01564 702 479 evenings and non-task days.
- * **BTCV(WARW)** - Warwickshire branch of the BTCV. Minibus normally leaves at 9.30am from Arch 5, Bath Place, Leamington Spa. ☎ 01926 430574/07740 899584, E-mail: Warwickshire@btcv.org.uk.
- * **BTCV(WM)** - West Midlands Branch of the BTCV ☎ 0121 507 8380, E-mail: west-midlands@btcv.org.uk.
- * **BTO** - British Trust for Ornithology. Carries out Common Bird Censuses etc. Warwickshire Rep - Covering Moreton in the Marsh, Stratford, Warwick, Leamington and Henley in Arden - Mark Smith, 2 Beaufell Close, Woodloes Park Warwick, CV34 5UG, E-mail: mark.smith36@ntlworld.com. Birmingham Rep - Covering Kenilworth, Rugby, Coventry - Steve Davies, E-mail: sxd488@bham.ac.uk. Oxfordshire Rep - Covering Kineton, Fenny Compton and Gaydon - Frances Buckel, E-mail: fmmarks@btinternet.com.
- * **Burton Dasset** - Burton Dasset Hills Country Park, runs regular events. Car park charge £1.50 per day. Information via Kingsbury Water Park ☎ 01827 872660, E-mail: parks@warwickshire.gov.uk.
- * **ButtConsWarks** - Butterfly Conservation Warwickshire Group. Margaret Vickery ☎ 01926 512343, E-mail: margaret@kworth71.freeserve.co.uk for membership, and Keith Warwington keith@warmies.co.uk for surveying. Web site: www.warwickshire-butterflies.org.uk.
- * **ButtCons(WM)** - Butterfly Conservation West Midlands Group. Organise many trips in the West Midlands and Welsh Marches. Dr Ian Duncan ☎ 01684 568415, E-mail: duncaniz@aol.com. Web site: www.westmidlandsbutterflyconservation.org.uk
- * **BW(WM)** - British Waterways, West Midlands Waterway, covers the majority of Warwickshire and is responsible for the Coventry Canal, Birmingham and Fazeley Canal, Ashby Canal, Grand Union Canal from Olton near Solihull to

- Napton Junction and the North and South Stratford canals. The ecologist working for this Unit is Paul Wilkinson who can be contacted at: British Waterways, Peels Wharf, Lichfield Road, Fazeley, Tamworth, Staffs. B78 3QZ, ☎ 01827 252000.
- * **BW(SE)** - British Waterways, South-east Unit, covers the east of the county, including the Grand Union Canal south of Napton Junction and the Oxford Canal. Their ecologists are Penny Foster and Hannah Graves, and can be contacted at: British Waterways, 510 - 524 Elder House Elder Gate Central Milton Keynes Buckinghamshire MK9 1BW ☎ 01908 302500.
 - * **CanleyFord** - Friends of Canley Ford, south Coventry. Carry out management tasks at this attractive site (10am on 1st Saturday of month) and organise regular events. Mrs G. Thompson ☎ 024 7667 7775.
 - * **Coleshill** - Coleshill Natural History Society (defunct as of 2008).
 - * **Coombe** - Coombe Country Park Ranger Service. Run conservation tasks, walks, lectures, workshops at the Country Park, which has visitor centre, café etc.; also a fine fishery and bird hide overlooking important heronry. We have only featured their natural history-themed events in the diary. Visitor Services Manager Sam Dowdall, The Visitor Centre, Coombe Country Park, Binley near Coventry ☎ 024 7645 3720, E-mail: coombe.countrypark@coventry.gov.uk.
 - * **CoventryND** - Coventry Nature Detectives, the youth section of the CDNHS (annual membership £1.50). Jane Arnold ☎ 07800 603706. Web site: www.cdnhss.org.uk.
 - * **CoventryUR** - Coventry City Council Urban Ranger Service organise events and produce leaflets with event programmes (also covering Coombe Country Park). Contact: Michelle Tyrtonia ☎ 024 7683 2720, E-mail: michelle.tyrtonia@coventry.gov.uk. Collaborate with BTCV in woodland management. The City Council's Woodlands Officer is Tim Rose ☎ 024 7683 2347. The City Council also operates a Countryside Project with limited volunteer & placement opportunities: Mike Murray ☎ 024 7683 1292.
 - * **Coventry&DNHS** - Coventry & District Natural History and Scientific Society. Meetings 7.30pm at Friends Meeting House, Hill Street Coventry (£1 non members). Mrs P. Cooke, 12 Innis Rd, Earlsdon, Coventry ☎ 024 7667 6756. Web site: www.cdnhss.org.uk
 - * **CPRE** - Council for the Preservation of Rural England (Warwickshire Branch). ☎ 01926 494597, E-mail: office@cprewarwickshire.org.uk. Web site: www.cprewarwickshire.org.uk
 - * **DobbiesWorld** - Dobbies World, Nuneaton Road, Mancetter, garden centre with environmental visitor attractions: Plantasia, Maze World and Wild Walk (25 acres of mixed habitats beside R. Anker plus a deer park). Regular events plus an Explorers Club you can join and facilities for school visits. For entry fees and opening hours ☎ 01827 713438. Web site: www.dobbiesworld.com
 - * **Dragonfly** - Warwickshire Dragonfly Group (WWT/British Dragonfly Society Group) Peter Reeve ☎ 01926 632400, E-mail: peter@reeve60.uklinux.net. Web site: www.reeve60.uklinux.net/wdg/
 - * **FOSuttonPark** - Friends of Sutton Park, carry out regular management tasks at the Park. Harvey Skelcher ☎ 0121 605 9823.
 - * **FWAG** - Farming & Wildlife Advisory Group (Warwickshire Office). Bob Slater, Tony Beysens, & Louise Pymm. FWAG, Warwickshire College, Moreton Morrell, Warwickshire CV35 9BL. Meetings and trips usually start at their Moreton Morrell College HQ unless stated. ☎ 01926 318280, E-mail: warwickshire@fwag.org.uk.
 - * **Geology** - Warwickshire Geological Conservation Group (WGCG). Indoor winter meetings at Senior Citizens Club, Southbank Road, Kenilworth 7.15pm. Martyn Bradley ☎ 01926 428835 for meetings. Web site: www.wgcg.co.uk.
 - * **HartshillHayes** - Hartshill Hayes Country Park, runs regular events, visitor centre, trails etc. Car park charge £1.50 per day. Information via Kingsbury Water Park ☎ 01827 872660, E-mail: parks@warwickshire.gov.uk.
 - * **HAGAM** - Herbert Art Gallery & Museum, Jordan Well, Coventry CV1 5QP. Environmental educational and natural history exhibitions, enquiry service, biological collections. Keeper of Natural History: Steve Lane ☎ 024 7678 5313, E-mail: Steve.Lane@coventry.gov.uk. Web site: www.coventrymuseum.org.uk
 - * **Hedgehog** - British Hedgehog Preservation Society. Warwickshire contacts: Linda Clements ☎ 01926 843043 and Hogarth's (Spikey's) Hedgehog Rescue ☎ 01455 614 013 or 07748 265162 .
 - * **HenleyWS** - Henley in Arden Wildlife Society. David Evason ☎ 01564 793260 Indoor meetings start at 7:45pm Baptist Church Hall. Outdoor meetings: meet at the Market Cross at 6.30pm.
 - * **HeritageEd.** - Warwickshire Heritage Education (linked to Warwickshire Museum). Runs regular environmental education events for all age groups and have web site (see useful web sites section). ☎ 01926 412034, E-mail: heritageeducation@warwickshire.gov.uk. Web site: www.warwickshire.gov.uk/heritageeducation.
 - * **HillClose** - Hill Close Gardens Trust. Oversees management and events at this beautiful area of Victorian pleasure gardens close to Warwick town centre. £3 entry at specified times and regular environmental events. ☎ 01926 493339, E-mail: centremanager@hcgt.org. Visit web site: www.hillclosegardens.com for opening times.

- * **HinckleyNHS** - Hinckley & District Natural History Society. Indoor meetings: the Methodist Church, Windsor Street, Burbage, 3rd Wed of each month 7.15-10pm. [David Goldsmith](mailto:David.Goldsmith@ntlworld.com) ☎ 01455 613920, E-mail: david.goldsmith323@ntlworld.com.
- * **Hoar Park** - Hoar Park, Ansley, home of **Natural World Experience** which organises a variety of environmental education events and has a Bug World and Shop. Hoar Park Craft Village is on the B4114 Nuneaton to Coleshill Road near Furnace End. ☎ 07811 403713, E-mail: info@naturalworldexperience.com. Web site: www.naturalworldexperience.com.
- * **Kingfisher** - Project Kingfisher. Organises work parties (Cole Valley Conservation Volunteers) for a 7-mile stretch of the Cole Valley in east Birmingham/Solihull. [Project Kingfisher Rangers](mailto:Project.Kingfisher.Rangers@ntlworld.com) ☎ 0121 464 3131.
- * **Kingsbury** - Kingsbury Water Park, runs regular events, nature trails, hides, information centre, café, fishing etc. Car park charge £2.50 per day. ☎ 01827 872660, E-mail: parks@warwickshire.gov.uk. Kingsbury Park volunteers meet every Friday at the Ranger workshops for a 9.30am start and undertake various habitat management and maintenance tasks. For further information contact [Steve Kell](mailto:Steve.Kell@warwickshire.gov.uk) or [Rachel Hextall](mailto:Rachel.Hexall@warwickshire.gov.uk) ☎ 01827 872660, mob: 0797 710278, E-mail: stevekell@warwickshire.gov.uk or rachelhextall@warwickshire.gov.uk.
- * **Knowle Society** - Knowle Society, undertake nature conservation - walks, talks & exhibitions in Knowle area. [Leighton Jones](mailto:Leighton.Jones@knowlesociety.org.uk) ☎ 01564 773894. Web site: www.knowlesociety.org.uk.
- * **KWG** - Kingsbury Watch Group for youngsters. Meet Kingsbury Water Park once a month, ☎ 01827 872660, E-mail: parks@warwickshire.gov.uk.
- * **MarshLane** - Marsh Lane Nature Reserve, near Balsall Common (SP2180). For information and permits, contact [Nick Barlow](mailto:Nick.Barlow@packingtonestate.net), Packington Hall, Meriden, Warwickshire CV7 7HF. Web site: www.packingtonestate.net/marsh/frameset/frameset.htm.
- * **MarketBosworth** - Market Bosworth & District Natural History Society. Meet third Tuesday of the month in Library Annexe of Market Bosworth Community College. [Janet Sykes](mailto:Janet.Sykes@marketbosworth.com) ☎ 01455 823832.
- * **Middleton Hall** - Middleton Hall Trust volunteers, carry out regular management of the diverse habitats of the Hall. [Margaret Moore](mailto:Margaret.Moore@middletonhalltrust.co.uk) ☎ 01827 284641, E-mail: middletonhalltrust@btconnect.com, web site: www.middletonhalltrust.co.uk.
- * **Middleton Lakes** - see RSPB(Middleton)
- * **MMorrell** - Moreton Morrell College (part of Warwickshire College), who run short training events. ☎ 01926 318341/318347, E-mail: tcavanagh@warkscol.ac.uk.
- * **Moths** - Warwickshire Moth Group (now a sub-group the local Butterfly Conservation branch). Hold regular field meetings from spring to autumn and working on a new county atlas. [David Brown](mailto:David.Brown@jacksonslawn.co.uk) Jacksons Lawn, 25 Charlecote, Warwick CV35 9EW, ☎ 01789 840295, mobile 07977 379330. Winter moth recording sessions are organised by Nigel Stone ☎ 024 7633 5189. There is also a Warwickshire Moths web chat group that you can join by E-mailing: warwickshiremoths-subscribe@yahoogroups.com.
- * **NaturalEngland** - Natural England, Local Office is at Block B, Government Buildings, Whittington Road, Worcester WR5 2LQ. For nature conservation issues such as protected species and SSSIs contact [Anton Irving](mailto:Anton.Irving@english-nature.org.uk) ☎ 01295 768539, E-mail: anton.irving@english-nature.org.uk. For Environmental Stewardship schemes, contact ☎ 01905 363477
- * **NationalTrust** - have a number of properties in our area including: Charlecote House, Upton House, Packwood House, Baddesley Clinton, Coughton Court and Farnborough Hall, with varying levels of ecological interest. Hold natural history events at Charlecote and Upton. Web site: www.nationaltrust.org.uk/main/placestovisit.
- * **NBB/TW** - Nuneaton & Bedworth Borough Tree Wardens ☎ 024 7637 6557.
- * **NetherWhitacreNHG** - Nether Whitacre & District Natural History Group. [Barbara Smith](mailto:Barbara.Smith@netherwhitacre.com) ☎ 01675 462226. Indoor meetings in Whitacre Heath Church Hall (car park Station Rd ex-servicemen's club) 2nd Wed; 7:30pm (£1.50 adults) Outdoor meetings start at 7pm (£1 adults) - for information contact [John Bates](mailto:John.Bates@netherwhitacre.com) ☎ 01675 464479.
- * **NorthWarksBC** - North Warwickshire Borough Council, Leisure Services. ☎ 01827 719270.
- * **NORWAG** - NORWAG Wildlife Group (a wildlife group covering north Warwickshire). Meet 7:30pm Hatters Space Community Centre, Upper Abbey Street, Nuneaton. Produce regular newsletter 'Northwords'. [James Smith](mailto:James.Smith@norwag.org.uk) ☎ 024 7639 4512.
- * **Nuneaton&BedworthBC** - Nuneaton & Bedworth Borough Council Countryside Team. Outdoor meetings & volunteer projects. Parks & Countryside Team, Nuneaton & Bedworth Borough Council, St Mary's Road Depot, St Mary's Road, Nuneaton CV11 5AR. They produce a regular events guide and several walks leaflets. [Helena Lidgate](mailto:Helena.Lidgate@nuneatonandbedworth.gov.uk) ☎ 02476 376052 or [Matt Crossley](mailto:Matt.Crossley@nuneatonandbedworth.gov.uk) ☎ 02476 376053, E-mail: Helena.lidgate@nuneatonandbedworth.gov.uk or Matt.crossley@nuneatonandbedworth.gov.uk. For events contact [Jo Robinson](mailto:Jo.Robinson@nuneatonandbedworth.gov.uk) ☎ 024 7637 6042. Web site: www.nuneatonandbedworth.gov.uk/leisure-culture/countryside.

- * **NuneatonBirdwatchers** - Nuneaton & District Birdwatchers Club. Meet Thurs: 7:30pm at the Hatters Space, Abbey Green Road, Nuneaton. Field trips on Sun following indoor meetings. Produce regular newsletter 'Vanellus'. Lloyd Lees ☎ Lloyd Lees ☎ 024 7673 6381, E-mail: l.lees@ntlworld.com.
- * **NWBC(ND)** - North Warwickshire Borough Council 'Nature Detectives' (for 5 - 16 yr olds). Currently inactive.
- * **Orthoptera** - Warwickshire Grasshopper & Cricket (Orthoptera) Recording Group Peter Reeve ☎ 01926 632400, E-mail: peter@reeve60.uklinux.net.
- * **Pooley Country Park** - Pooley Fields Country Park & Heritage Centre runs regular events, heritage centre, café etc. Car park charge £1 per day. Information ☎ 01827 893438, E-mail: parks@warwickshire.gov.uk.
- * **RagleyHall** - Ragley Hall near Alcester. Extensive historic park & gardens. Has an Education section that organises environmental events for children aimed at Key Stages 1 & 2 (e.g. trees, minibeasts, homes, habitats, woodland etc). There are also occasional bats walks etc for adults. Ross Barbour ☎ 07917 425664 or 01789 762090 ext 147, E-mail: rossbarbour@ragleyhall.com.
- * **RSPB(Midlands Region office)** - 46 The Green, South Bar, Banbury, Oxon OX16 9AB. Kirsty Brannan ☎ 01295 253330, E-mail: Kirsty.Brannan@rspb.org.uk.
- * **RSPB(C&W)** - Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (Coventry & Warwickshire Group). Indoor meetings at various venues in Coventry area (see Calendar for details), 7.30pm. Field meetings usually start from Cox Street, Coventry (members should bring RSPB membership cards to get free entry to RSPB reserves). Alan King ☎ 024 7672 7348. Non-members welcome at all events.
- * **RSPB(Middleton)** - Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, Middleton Lakes Office and Reserve, Middleton Hall, Middleton, Tamworth, B78 2AE ☎ 01827 259 756. Garry Jones (Community Officer). Organise regular events and produce a newsletter 'Middleton lake Messenger'; they also offer illustrated talks and group guided walks.
- * **RSPB(Solihull)** - Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (Solihull Group). Indoor meetings in Oliver Bird Hall, near St. Alphege Church, Solihull 7.30pm (£2 for RSPB members, £2.50 for non-members). John Roberts ☎ 0121 7073101.
- * **RSPB(WE)** - Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (Coventry & Warwickshire 'Wildlife Explorers' - formerly the Young Ornithologists Club) for youngsters. Indoor meetings in Finham Primary School, Green Lane, Coventry. Pete Madge ☎ 024 7646 5002.
- * **RugbyBC** Rugby Borough Council. Contact Scott Ballard (Senior Parks Officer) for open space issues, E-mail: scott.ballard@rugby.gov.uk.
- * **RugbyNHS** - Rugby Natural History Society. Meet at 7.30pm in the Rugby School Science Building (near Oak Street), Barby Road, Rugby. All field excursions start from here too. Paul Hodges ☎ 01788 522758.
- * **Ryton Pools** - Ryton Pools Country Park, runs regular events, including a WATCH group for youngsters, hide, fishing lake, information centre, coffee shop etc. Car park charge £1.50 per day. ☎ 024 7630 5592, E-mail: parks@warwickshire.gov.uk.
- * **SolihullMBC** - Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council. Employ an Ecologist, Bernie Higgins ☎ 0121 7046589, a Local Nature Reserve Officer, Gary Farmer ☎ 0121 704 6537, a Ranger Service ☎ 0121 704 8472 and a Green Scheme, Dave Biss ☎ 0121 706 874. E-mail: bhiggins@solihull.gov.uk, gfarmer@solihull.gov.uk and dbiss@solihull.gov.uk. Operate regular work parties in conjunction with **SolihullCV**, **BSMCV**, **SolihullTW** and **Kingfisher**. For general event enquiries ☎ 0121 704 8000.
- * **SolihullCV** - Solihull Conservation Volunteers. Work parties on two Sunday's each month with transport provided from Solihull Railway Station. Eddie Fowler ☎ 0121 733 2236.
- * **SolihullTW** -Solihull Tree Wardens. Meet 1st Sunday of each month in Lea Wood, Malvern Park. Alex Naylor ☎ 0121 7046390.
- * **StratfButtFarm** - Stratford Butterfly Farm, Swan's Nest Lane, Stratford. Extensive collections of live butterflies, moths and other interesting invertebrates, plus some other wildlife. Education events. ☎ 01789 299288. Open daily - contact them for latest admission charges and opening hours. Web site: www.butterflyfarm.co.uk
- * **Stratford Greenway** The Stratford Greenway & Milcote Picnic Area, near Stratford, has regular events. Information via Kingsbury Water Park ☎ 01827 872660, E-mail: parks@warwickshire.gov.uk.
- * **SuttonColdfield NHS** - Sutton Coldfield Natural History Society. Produce a regular newsletter 'Four Seasons'. Evening meetings in the Lounge, Fellowship Hall (rear entrance), South Parade, Sutton Coldfield 7.30pm. Dr. Peter Coxhead ☎ 0121 3535044, E-mail: info@scnhs.org.uk. Web site: www.spnhs.scnhs.org.uk.
- * **SuttonPark** - Sutton Park National Nature Reserve. A nationally important 2400 acre heathland within 'Old Warwickshire', with a Visitor Centre (Park Road) and lots of interesting countryside and wildlife events. For details contact Visitor Centre ☎ 0121 355 6370, Email: sutton.park.visitors.centre@birmingham.gov.uk.

- * **SuttonPkFriends** - Friends of Sutton Park Association, works closely with the Ranger Service with fortnightly Sunday work parties that meet at 10.30am. Harvey Skelcher ☎ 0121 605 9823, E-mail: info@fospa.org, web site: www.fospa.org.
- * **Ufton Fields** - Ufton Fields Nature Reserve, has regular events. Information via Kingsbury Water Park ☎ 01827 872660, E-mail: parks@warwickshire.gov.uk.
- * **WART** - Warwickshire Amphibian & Reptile Team. Jan Clemons ☎ 024 7650 6416 E-mail: janice.clemons@virgin.net. Web site: www.wartsoc.co.uk.
- * **WarwickNHS** - Warwick Natural History Society. All indoor meetings at the Friend's Meeting House; 7:30pm, Warwick unless stated. Birdwatching trips on a Sunday unless stated. Barbara Cuttell ☎ 01926 843122. Visitors welcome. Web site: <http://warkcom.net/wnhs>
- * **WarwickUni** - University of Warwick Dayschool events. ☎ 024 7657 3739 to book.
- * **WBRC** - Warwickshire Biological Records Centre (see also **WMuseum** and **HAGAM**). Maintains biological data for the Warwickshire, Coventry and Solihull sub-region. HQ at Warwickshire Museum. Dave Lowe (sites), Steven Falk (species), Jane O'Dell (both) ☎ 01926 418060 or 412481.
- * **WCP** - Warwickshire Country Parks organise regular events at Burton Dassett Hills, Hartshill Hayes Country Park, Kingsbury Water Park, Pooley Fields Heritage Centre, The Stratford Greenway and, Ufton Fields Nature Reserve (see separate entries for each of these), and occasionally at other sites. Comprehensive listings of events (plus booking) can be obtained from Kingsbury Water Park ☎ 01827 872660, E-mail: parks@warwickshire.gov.uk; also leaflets and booklets available from local libraries. Only the more nature-orientated events are listed in this newsletter. Web site: www.warwickshire.gov.uk/countryside. *Volunteers welcome!*
- * **WGCG** - see under **Geology**
- * **Warwickshire Museum** - Warwickshire Museum Service, Market Place, Warwick CV34 4SA. Holds regular environmental education events, has a permanent natural history display, biological collections, several natural historians/ecologists, the Warwickshire, Solihull & Coventry Biological Records Centre, an enquiry service and houses Warwickshire Heritage Education (see **HeritageEd**. entry) and various environmental projects.
 - **Senior Keeper of Natural History:** Steven Falk ☎ 01926 412481, E-mail: stevenfalk@warwickshire.gov.uk.
 - **Keeper of Geology:** Jon Radley ☎ 01926 418182, E-mail: jonradley@warwickshire.gov.uk.
 - **Principal Ecologist:** Dave Lowe (plus team) ☎ 01926 418060, E-mail: davidlowe@warwickshire.gov.uk.
 - **Local Biodiversity Action Plan Coordinator** (co-ordinates the Plan): Lisa Worledge ☎ 01926 412197, E-mail: lisaworledge@warwickshire.gov.uk.
 - **Biodiversity Project Manager** (manages the two projects below): Currently vacant ☎ 01926 412197.
 - **Habitat Biodiversity Audit GIS Officer** (maintains digitised habitat data for the subregion): Ken Martin ☎ 01926 412197, Email: kennethmartin@warwickshire.gov.uk.
 - **Wildlife Sites Project Officer** (helps designate important wildlife sites): Jonathan Bowley ☎ 01926 412197. Email: jonathanbowley@warwickshire.gov.uk.Museum web site: www.warwickshire.gov.uk/museum.
- * **WarwickshireRCC** - Warwickshire Rural Community Council. Encourages those living in the countryside to develop their communities, retain & improve services and strengthen the social structure of the County's villages & small towns (often using wildlife projects to achieve this). Has a regular magazine 'Country Matters'. Linda Ridgley ☎ 02476 217345, E-mail: lindar@wrccrural.org.uk.
- * **WMBC** - West Midland Bird Club. This has several branches of which three (Birmingham, Solihull and Tamworth) are relevant to the Warwickshire sub-region. General enquiries about the club can be directed to: West Midland Bird Club, 147 Worlds End Lane, Quinton, Birmingham B32 1JX, ☎ 0121 421 3096, E-mail: secretary@westmidlandbirdclub.com. The Club also operates a 23-hour (not 7-8pm) telephone hotline service to members. Web site: www.westmidlandbirdclub.com.
- * **WMBC(Birmingham)** - West Midland Bird Club (Birmingham Branch). Indoor meetings held at the Unitarian New Meeting, 31 Ryland St., Ladywood, Birmingham 7.30pm. Field meetings depart from Cambridge Street, Birmingham. Contact Ray Davies ☎ 0121 682 4375 or Sheila Bocock ☎ 0121 744 5169 for further details. E-mail: birmingham@westmidlandbirdclub.com.
- * **WMBC(Solihull)** - West Midland Bird Club (Solihull Branch). Indoor meetings are held in the New Lecture Rooms at Solihull College, Blossomfield Road 7.30 pm. Jim Winsper 32 Links Road, Hollywood, Birmingham B14 4TP, E-mail: solihull@westmidlandbirdclub.com.
- * **WMBC(Tamworth)** - West Midland Bird Club (Tamworth Branch). Indoor meetings are held on the third Friday of winter months (Oct-March) in the Phil Dix Centre, Corporation Street, Tamworth 7.30pm. E-mail: tamworth@westmidlandbirdclub.com. For more information about field meetings contact Barbara Stubbs ☎ 01827 57865.

- * **WRAN** - Warwickshire Rural Action Network. [Linda Ridgley](#) ☎ 01926 499596.
- * **WWT** - Warwickshire Wildlife Trust, have over 50 reserves plus two visitor centres: **Brandon Marsh Nature Centre**, Brandon Lane, Coventry, CV3 3GW ☎ 024 7630 8999 and **Parkridge Centre, Brueton Park**, Warwick Road, Solihull ☎ 0121 704 0768. The visitor centres are open all days of the week and the Trust holds events at both centres plus their reserves and several local area groups in our area. These include guided walk (**GWalks**), staff-led conservation activities and events (**Cons**), reserve work parties (**Workparty**), children's events (**Children**) and Brueton Park's Nuts about Nature Club (**Nuts**), indoor talks & activities (**Indoor**) and the various area group events listed below under individual area groups. For information and booking of Brandon Marsh events ☎ 024 7630 8999, for guided walks ☎ 024 7630 8979, for Parkridge Centre events ☎ 0121 704 0768. Brandon Marsh E-mail: info@warkswt.cix.co.uk.
Entrance fee to Brandon Marsh Nature Centre - adults £2.50, children £1, family £6, concessionary £1.50, but members free. Entry to Brueton Park free. Tea rooms present at both. Their Conservation Activities and Events do not require booking, but contact reserve wardens (in **Working Parties** section earlier in this newsletter) to confirm if activity is still taking place. Web site: www.warwickshire-wildlife-trust.org.uk.
- * **WWT(AP)** - Alvecote Pools Green Team. Carry out recording and management work at Alvecote Pools reserve. 10am, 2nd Sun in month. Sept - March. Recording sessions in winter and summer. [Phil Thompson](#) ☎ 024 7639 2170.
- * **WWT(BMWP)** - Brandon Marsh Nature Reserve Working Party. Work on reserve 9:30am onwards each Sunday Sept - March. Also some Thursdays include lectures. [Ken Bond](#) ☎ 024 7632 8785.
- * **WWT(Central)** - Warwickshire Wildlife Trust. Central Area Group. [Howard Eccles](#) ☎ 01926 858378. All indoor meetings in Jephson Room of Royal Spa Centre, L. Spa 7:30pm. £1. Group currently inactive, but watch this space.
- * **WWT(Coventry)** - Warwickshire Wildlife Trust, Coventry Area Group. [James Irvine](#) ☎ 024 7641 0284. All meetings at Brandon Marsh Nature Centre.
- * **WWT(Rugby)** - Warwickshire Wildlife Trust, Rugby Area Group. Indoor meetings currently suspended. The group still organises regular work parties for sites such as Ashlawn Cutting and Newton Cutting - contact [Phil Parr](#) ☎ 01788 578272.
- * **WWT(SC)** - Warwickshire Wildlife Trust. Sutton Coldfield Area Group. Meets in the Large Hall at Holy Trinity Church, Lichfield Road, Sutton Coldfield 7:30pm. Adults £2. [Harvey Skelcher](#) ☎ 0121 605 9823 and [Ron Hawker](#) ☎ 0121 354 2531 for outdoor events.
- * **WWT(Stratford)** - Warwickshire Wildlife Trust, Stratford Area Group. Currently meets in Methodist Hall annexe, Old Town, Stratford 7.30pm. Adults £2.50. [Tricia Scott](#) ☎ 01789 731398.
- * **WWT(Solihull)** - Warwickshire Wildlife Trust, Solihull Area Group. Occasional evening meetings 7:30pm WI Hall, Union Rd. Solihull; also occasional day-time talks and walks at The Parkridge centre, Brueton Park. Adults £2, children 50p, visitors welcome. [Anne Adams](#) ☎ 0121 742 5288.

USEFUL WEB SITES (local groups and organisations only)

Banbury Ornithological Society:

www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/conservation/tucd04.htm

Birmingham & the Black Country Urban Wildlife Trust:

www.wildlifetrust.org.uk/urbanwt/

Birmingham Natural History Society:

<http://freespace.virgin.net/clare.h/bnhs.htm>

Birmingham Natural History Society (Mycological Section):

<http://freespace.virgin.net/william.moodie/wfs.htm>

British Trust for Conservation Volunteers (Warwickshire)

www.btcv.org/warwickshire

British Trust for Ornithology (Warwickshire):

www.uk.geocities.com/btowarks/BTO.htm

Butterfly Conservation (and associated moth group), Warwickshire Branch:

www.warwickshire-butterflies.org.uk

Butterfly Conservation (and associated moth group), West Midlands Branch:

www.westmidlandsbutterflyconservation.org.uk

Coventry & District Natural History & Scientific Society (and Coventry Nature Detectives):

www.cdnhss.org.uk

Coventry City Council:

www.coventry.gov.uk

CPRE, Warwickshire Branch

www.cprewarwickshire.org.uk

DobbiesWorld, Mancetter:

www.dobbiesworld.com

Hams Hall Environmental Studies Centre

www.hamshall.bham.org.uk

Herbert Art Gallery & Museum, Coventry

www.coventrymuseum.org.uk

Heritage Education (Warwickshire County Council):

www.warwickshire.gov.uk/heritageeducation

Hogarth's (Spikey's) Hedgehog Rescue

www.angelfire.com/comics/hogarth_bernadette/Spikey

sFP

Jephson Gardens Trees (David Howells)

<http://warkcom.net/live/cme2738.htm>

Knowle Society:

www.knowsociety.org.uk

Marsh Lane Nature Reserve (Packington Estate):

[www.packingtonestate.net/marsh/frameset/frameset.h](http://www.packingtonestate.net/marsh/frameset/frameset.htm)

tm

Middleton Hall Trust

www.middletonhalltrust.co.uk

National Trust (guide to local properties)

www.nationaltrust.org.uk/main/placestovisit

Natural World Experience:

www.naturalworldexperience.com

North Warwickshire Borough Council:

www.Northwarks.gov.uk

Nuneaton & Bedworth B.C.'s Countryside Team:

www.nuneatonandbedworth.gov.uk/leisure-culture/countryside

Oxfordshire - 'The Truly Useful Nature Conservation Directory':

www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/conservation/tucdindx.htm

Steven Cheshire's British Butterfly web site

(featuring much local info' & photography):

www.britishbutterflies.co.uk

Steve Stroud's Insect Images (mostly local):

www.sstroud.co.uk

Stratford Butterfly Farm:

www.butterflyfarm.co.uk

Stretton on Fosse Parish Wildlife website:

<http://myweb.tiscali.co.uk/phillclayton/index.htm>

Sutton Coldfield Natural History Society:

www.spnh.scnhs.org.uk

Sutton Park, The Friends Of:

www.fospa.org

The Natural History of Sutton Park web page:

www.telinco.co.uk/peter_coxhead/spnh

Ufton Fields web site:

www.geocities.com/croglinuk/

Warwickshire Amphibian & Reptile Team:

www.wartsoc.co.uk

Warwickshire Bat Group:

www.warksbats.co.uk

Warwickshire Biodiversity Action Plan web site:

www.warwickshire.gov.uk/biodiversity

Warwickshire County Council

www.warwickshire.gov.uk

Warwickshire County Council - Country Parks:

www.warwickshire.gov.uk/countryside - for more information about country parks and public rights of way in Warwickshire

Warwickshire Dragonfly Group:

www.reeve60.uklinux.net/wdg/

Warwickshire Fungus Survey:

<http://freespace.virgin.net/william.moodie/wfs.htm>

Warwickshire Geological Conservation Group:

www.wgcg.co.uk

Warwickshire Museum:

www.warwickshire.gov.uk/museum

Warwick Natural History Society:

<http://warkcom.net/wnhs>

Warwickshire Wildlife Trust:

www.warwickshire-wildlife-trust.org.uk

West Midland Bird Club:

www.westmidlandbirdclub.com

Wild Warwickshire web site (operated by Mark Smith, BTO, but featuring a variety of wildlife and useful links): www.wildwarwickshire.co.uk

WHERE TO SEND YOUR SITE AND SPECIES DATA AND SEEK EXPERTISE



Toby Woodhams, County Mammal Recorder

1. Site lists

- Dave Lowe, Principle Ecologist, Warwickshire Museum Field Services, The Butts, Warwick CV34 4SS (wants any Warwickshire, Coventry and Solihull site lists going). Fax: 01926 412974. E-mail: davidlowe@warwickshire.gov.uk.
- Gina Rowe, Director of Conservation, Warwickshire Wildlife Trust, Brandon Marsh Nature Centre, Brandon Lane, Coventry CV3 3GW (wants site lists for WWT reserves only). E-mail: Gina.rowe@wkw.org.uk.

In addition to the above, your species data should be sent to the taxonomic recorders within the following list:

2. Ants

- Marion Cornforth, E-mail: catwoman@coolkatz.co.uk or send paper records to Steven Falk at Warwickshire Museum.

3. Badgers

- Warwickshire Badger Group, Ian Scott, 25 Hermitage Way, Kenilworth CV8 2DU
- Dave Lowe (see 1. Sites lists)

(Both the above parties swap data regularly but the legal status of badgers means that it is important that both parties have up-to-date data-sets)

4. Bats

- Warwickshire Bat Group, c/o George Burton, Melrose, North Street, Marton, Rugby CV23 9RJ. E-mail: georgeburton@btinternet.com.

- Dave Lowe (see sites)

(It is important that both parties have up-to-date information on bat roosts, which are legally protected)

- For injured bats contact Susie Duke ☎ 01564 782612

5. Bees (not honey bees)

- Steven Falk, Senior Keeper of Natural History, Warwickshire Museum, Market Place, Warwick CV34 4SA. E-mail: stevenfalk@warwickshire.gov.uk.

6. Beetles

- Steve Lane, Keeper of Natural History, Herbert Art Gallery & Museum, Jordan Well, Coventry CV1 5QP (wants any site lists for Coventry), ☎ 024 7678 5313, E-mail: Steve.Lane@coventry.gov.uk.

7. Birds

- For Warwickshire contact: Jonathan Bowley, 17 Meadow Way, Fenny Compton, Southam, Warwickshire CV47 2WD, E-mail: warks-recorder@westmidlandbirdclub.com.
- For West Midlands, contact: Kevin Clement, 26 Hambrook Close, Dunstall Park, Wolverhampton West Midlands WV6 0XA E-mail: west-mids-recorder@westmidlandbirdclub.com.
- The West Midland Bird Club also operates an evening telephone hotline service to members.

8. Black Poplars (subspecies *betulifolia*)

- Steven Falk (see bees)

9. Bugs

- Steve Lane (see 5. Beetles) except aphids
- Aphids: John Robbins, 123b Parkgate Road, Coventry CV6 4GF.

10. Butterflies

- Keith Warmington, 30 New Street, Baddesley Ensor, Atherstone CV9 2DW, ☎ 01827 715873 or E-mail: keith@warmies.co.uk.

11. Dragonflies

- Peter Reeve The Outspan, Leamington Hastings, Nr Rugby CV23 8DZ, ☎ 01926 632400, E-mail: peter@reeve60.uklinux.net.

12. Mature Elms

- Steven Falk (see 4. Bees)

13. Flies

- Steven Falk (see 4. Bees) -
- but gall midges and agromyzid records (indeed any records of galls or mines) to John Robbins, 123b Parkgate Road, Coventry CV6 4GF.

14. Fungi

- Bert Brand, 14 Bishopton Lane, Stratford-upon-Avon CV37 9JN.

15. Grasshoppers & Crickets

- Peter Reeve The Outspan, Leamington Hastings, Nr Rugby CV23 8DZ, ☎ 01926 632400, E-mail: peter@reeve60.uklinux.net.

16. Herptiles (reptiles and amphibians)

- WART, c/o Jan Clemons, 34 Montalt Road, Cheylesmore, Coventry CV3 5LU. E-mail: janice.clemons@virgin.net.
- Records can be E-mailed to WART using forms at: www.wartsoc.co.uk/asurvey.html for amphibians and www.wartsoc.co.uk/rsurvey.html for reptiles.

- Dave Lowe (see 1. Site lists) should be informed of any Great-crested Newt colonies, which receive legal protection
- 17. Lichens**
- John Walton, Lichen Recorder c/o Warwickshire Museum (address as for Steven Falk)
- 18. Mammals**
- Toby Woodhams c/o Warwickshire Museum (address, E-mail and fax as for Steven Falk) maintains files for all species and exchanges data with the badger and bat groups
 - Rivers and Otters Project, c/o Pete Sanders, Warwickshire Wildlife Trust, Brandon Marsh Nature Centre (see sites) requires data for Otters and Water Voles.
 - Linda Clements ☎ 01926 843043 or Ann Wills ☎ 01926 427811 for hedgehog enquiries
- 19. Mosses**
- Michael Senior, 26 Hasilwood Square, Stoke, Coventry CV3 1GH.
- 20. Moths**
- David Brown, Jacksons Lawn, 25 Charlecote, Warwick CV35 9EW, ☎ 01789 840295 (macro-moths only).
 - Nigel Stone, 8 Grove Lane, Keresley End, Coventry CV7 8PNE-mail: njstone@hotmail.com (micro-moths only)
- 21. Plants (flowering ones)**
- James Partridge, 85 Willes Road, Leamington Spa, CV31 1BS, ☎ 01926 427452, E-mail: jmpart85@yahoo.co.uk.
- 22. Snails and Slugs**
- Jeff Brown, Mollusc Recorder c/o Warwickshire Museum (address as for Steven Falk).
- 23. Spiders**
- Richard Wright, 70 Norman Road, Rugby, CV21 1DN
- 24. Springtails**
- Keith Brocklehurst, E-mail: keith.brocklehurst@ntlworld.com
- 25. Trees**
- General tree identification enquiries can be sent to Steven Falk (see 4. Bees)
 - Concerns about tree felling, TPO issues etc should be directed to local authority tree officers/arboricultural officers
- 26. Wasps**
- Steven Falk (see 4. Bees) (aculeate ones only - not ichneumonids or other parasitica). Wasp nest problems should be directed to your local environmental health department.
 - John Robbins (see flies) gall wasps only.
- 27. Nature Conservation expertise**
- **County Ecologists (Warwickshire County Council)** - Dave Lowe, Anna Swift & colleagues (see 1. Site lists).
 - **Natural England, Worcester**, contact Anton Irving, ☎ 01295 768539.
 - **Warwickshire Wildlife Trust** - Gina Rowe and colleagues (see 1. Site lists).
 - **Solihull Borough Council Ecologist** - Bernie Higgins, see in Contact Details section (**SMBC**).
 - **Other local authority Ecologists** - non currently, but should any appear, we will list their contact details here.
 - **Canals** - Paul Wilkinson, ☎ 01827 252000, E-mail: paul.wilkinson@britishwaterways.
 - **Agri-environment schemes (e.g. Entry Level & Higher Level)** - **Natural England (RDS)**, **Worcester** or **FWAG** see Contact Details section above.
- 28. Environmental Education Centres**
- **Brandon Marsh Nature Centre (Warwickshire Wildlife Trust)** - ☎ 024 7630 2912.
 - **Parkridge Centre, Brueton Park (Warwickshire Wildlife Trust)** - ☎ 0121 704 0768.
 - **Coombe Countryside Park** - ☎ 024 7645 3720, E-mail: coombe.countrypark@coventry.gov.
 - **Hams Hall Environmental Studies Centre** - E.ON.UK, Hams Hall Distribution Park, Coleshill B46 2PR. Martin Wheeler ☎ 01675 475 939, E-mail: martin.wheeler@powergen.co.uk.
 - **Kingsbury Water Park, Ryton Pools and other County Council Country Parks** - ☎ 01827 872660. E-mail: parks@warwickshire.gov.uk.
 - **Springfield Study Centre** - Temple Balsall, contact Head of Centre, Springfield Study Centre, Kenilworth Road, Knowle, West Midlands B93 0AJ. ☎ 01564 779741, E-mail: springfd@lea.birmingham.gov.uk.
 - **Warwickshire Heritage Education** - St John's House, Warwick CV34 4NF. ☎ 01926 412034, E-mail: heritageeducation@warwickshire.gov.uk.
- 28. AGENDA 21 Officers** - these officers are employed by several local authorities to promote environmental awareness and sustainability
- **Coventry**: Chris Thomas ☎ 024 7683 2279, E-mail: chris.thomas@coventry.gov.uk.
 - **North Warwickshire Borough**: Julie Taylor ☎ 01827 719437, E-mail: julietaylor@northwarks.gov.uk.
 - **Nuneaton & Bedworth**: Dawn Ford ☎ 024 7637 6448, E-mail: dawnford@nuneaton-bedworthbc.gov.uk.
 - **Rugby District**: Stephen Marks ☎ 01788 533827, E-mail: Stephen.marks@rugby.gov.uk.
 - **Solihull Borough**: Dave Biss ☎ 0121 704 6874, E-mail: dbiss@solihull.gov.uk.
 - **Stratford District**: position vacant
 - **Warwick District**: Jenny Sansom ☎ 01926 456067, E-mail: jenny.sansom@warwickdc.gov.uk.
 - **Warwickshire County**: position vacant.
- 29. Illegal activities**

- PC Craig Fellows (Wildlife Liaison Officer, based at Leek Wootton) ☎ 01926 415000 (for suspected badger baiting, disturbance of nesting birds, bats, great-crested newts or illicit shooting/killing of wildlife).
- 30. Injured, orphaned or lost hedgehogs**
- Hogarth's (Spikey's) Hedgehog Rescue ☎ 01455 614 013 or 07748 265162
- 31. Geology**
- Dr Jon Radley, Keeper of Geology, Warwickshire Museum ☎ 01926 412481, E-mail: jonradley@warwickshire.gov.uk.
- 32. Anything Else**
- Direct to Steven Falk, Warwickshire Museum, Market Place, Warwick CV34 4SA who will place/attach the records to the relevant files or contact any further county recorders or appropriate experts. ☎ 01926 412481, E-mail: stevenfalk@warwickshire.gov.uk

NB If you are sending a species list to more than one person, please note this on the list so that the recipients do not end up copying the lists for others that already have them. If there is any confusion, contact me (Steven Falk, Warwickshire Museum).

Fancy becoming a county recorder?

There are still groups with no current recorders and other groups for which extra help is required. Contact Steven Falk or any of the above recorders if you wish to lend your support to biological recording in Warwickshire, Coventry or Solihull.

BIBLIOGRAPHY OF KEY WARWICKSHIRE NATURAL HISTORY BOOKS AND JOURNALS



David Brown, author of the Larger Moths of Warwickshire

OOP - Out of Print, but copies are viewable at the Warwickshire Museum unless otherwise stated.

* prefix - can be purchased directly from Warwickshire Museum.

General books and reports

- *Discovering wild Warwickshire - A guide to local nature reserves.* Warwickshire Wildlife Trust (2007). ISBN 978-1-874357-34-6.
- *Exploring Warwickshire's Wild Places* by Linda Barnett and Craig Emms (1998). S.B Publications. ISBN 1 85770 160 7.
- *Guidance for the selection of Non-Statutory Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation in Warwickshire.* WCC, English Nature & WWT (1998).
- *Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation in Coventry* by Steven Falk and Ali Glaisher (2000). Coventry City Council.
- *Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation in the West Midlands* by Andrews, Box & Douse (1989). Nature Conservancy Council, Shrewsbury. OOP.
- *The Coventry District - A Naturalist's Guide* by Coventry & District Natural History & Scientific Society (1960).
- *The Nature of Warwickshire* edited by Andy Tasker (1990). Warwickshire Nature Conservation Trust/Barracuda Books ISBN 0 86023 473 8.
- *The Victoria History of the counties of England - Warwickshire* (1904). OOP, viewable at County Records Office.
- *The Warwickshire Countryside - an ecological evaluation* by Pamela Copson & Jane Mitchell (1980). Warwickshire Museum. £10.
- *Warwickshire Landscape Guidelines* (3 Volumes) by Warwickshire County Council & Countryside Commission (1993). Warwickshire County Council.
- *West Midlands Regional Biodiversity Audit.* West Midlands Biodiversity Partnership (2001).
- *Natural Areas in the West Midlands Region.* English Nature (1999). ISBN 1 85716 453 9.
- *Woods, Wolds and Groves: the woodland of medieval Warwickshire* by Sarah Wager (1998). British Archaeological Reports, No. 269. ISBN 1 84058 002 X.

In addition to the above, a variety of local nature conservation strategies, water catchment strategies and planning documents such as the County Structure Plans, Unitary Development Plans and Local Plans can be viewed at Warwickshire Museum.

Habitat-specific

- *Grassland Inventory - Warwickshire.* English Nature (1995).
- *Grassland Inventory - West Midlands.* English Nature (1996).
- *Inventory of Ancient Woodland (Provisional) - Warwickshire.* Nature Conservancy Council (1985) OOP.
- *The Lowland Heathland Inventory.* English Nature & RSPB (1996).
- *West Midlands Inventory of Ancient Woodlands* by Lean & Robinson (1989). Nature Conservancy Council OOP.

Plants

- *A Computer-Mapped Flora - A Study of the County of Warwickshire* by Cadbury, Hawkes & Readett (1971). Academic Press. OOP.
- *A Fungus Flora of Warwickshire* edited by Malcolm Clark (1980). British Mycological Society. ISBN 0 903130 05 X. OOP?
- *The Flora of Warwickshire - The Flowering Plants, Ferns, Mosses & Lichens* by James Bagnall (1891). OOP.

- **Gall Inducing Fungi* by John Robbins (1995). Warwickshire Museum Benchmark Atlas. 75p + 40p p&p.
- **Lichens* by John Walton (1993). Warwickshire Museum Benchmark Atlas. £1.50 + 60p p&p.
- **Stoneworts* by Mary Burgoine (1991). Warwickshire Museum Benchmark Atlas. 50p + 30p p&p.
- **Plants Galled In Warwickshire* by John Robbins (1995). Warwickshire Museum Benchmark Atlas. £1.50 + 60p p&p.
- *A Catalogue of the trees of Warwickshire, Coventry and Solihull* by Steven Falk (2006 draft). Warwickshire Museum, available on line through the RINGs web site (click on 'The Big Tree Hunt'). It will be updated periodically with possible formal publication in the near future.

A new book on the wildflowers of Warwickshire should be published by Warwickshire County Council (Warwickshire Publications) in the near future.

Lepidoptera

- *Warwickshire's Butterflies, Their Habitats and Where to Find Them* by Keith Warmington and Margaret Vickery (2003). Warwickshire Branch of Butterfly Conservation. ISBN 0 9544701 0 9.
- *The Larger Moths of Warwickshire* by David Brown (2006). Atropos. ISBN 0-9551086-1-6
- *Brownfield sites of conservation importance for butterflies and moths in the West Midlands* by Jane Ellis (2006). Butterfly Conservation report 506-09.
- *Lepidoptera of the Midland (Birmingham Plateau) - A Concise History 1890 - 1990* by John Price (1992/3). Proceedings of the Birmingham Natural History Society, Vol. 26 (Numbers 3 & 4)
- **Lepidoptera of Warwickshire Part 3 (Smaller Moths)* by John Robbins (1992). Warwickshire Museum Benchmark Atlas. £9 + £3 p&p.
- **Notes on Studying the Smaller Moths* by John Robbins (1992). Warwickshire Museum. 80p + 30p p&p.
- **The Lepidoptera of Warwickshire Parts 1&2* by Roger Smith & David Brown (1987). Warwickshire Museum Benchmark Atlas. OOP.
- *Lepidoptera of Warwickshire 1900 - 1995 An Historical Summary* by Roger Smith (1998). Warwickshire Museum. OOP.

Other insects and invertebrates

- **Slugs and Snails* by Monica Walton (1994). Warwickshire Museum Benchmark Atlas. £1.20 + 50p p&p.
- **Millipedes* by Pam Copson (1991). Warwickshire Museum Benchmark Atlas. 25p + 30p p&p.

- **Centipedes* by Pam Copson (1991). Warwickshire Museum Benchmark Atlas. 25p + 30p p&p.
- **Orthopteroids (grasshoppers, cockroaches & earwigs)* by Pam Copson (1984, updated by John Paul and Darren Mann, 1995) Warwickshire Museum Benchmark Atlas. 50p + 30p p&p.
- **The True Bugs of Warwickshire* by John Price (1997). Warwickshire Museum Benchmark Atlas. £2 + 60p p&p.
- **Jumping Plantlice and General Introduction to Warwickshire Gall Inducers* by John Robbins (1997). Warwickshire Museum Benchmark Atlas. £1.20 + 50p p&p.
- **Aphids* by John Robbins (1995). Warwickshire Museum Benchmark Atlas. £2 + 60p p&p.
- **An Atlas of Warwickshire Beetles* by Steve Lane, Richard Wright and Trevor Forsyth (2002). Herbert Art Gallery & Museum/Warwickshire Museum £12.50 + £3 p&p. (replaces all the following beetle titles)
- *Provisional Checklist of the Beetles of Warwickshire* by Steve Lane (1998, revised 1999). Warwickshire Museum. OOP.
- *Ground Beetles* by Trevor Forsyth (1997). Warwickshire Museum Benchmark Atlas. OOP.
- *Click Beetles* by Steve Lane (1995). Warwickshire Museum Benchmark Atlas. OOP.
- *Leaf Beetles* by Steve Lane (1995). Warwickshire Museum Benchmark Atlas. OOP.
- *Weevils and Bark Beetles* by Dean Warren & Steve Lane (1996). Warwickshire Museum Benchmark Atlas. OOP.
- *Longhorn Beetles* by Steve Lane (1996). Warwickshire Museum Benchmark Atlas. OOP.
- *Jewel Beetles, Soldier Beetles, Glow-worms and Net-winged Beetles* by Steve Lane (1996). Warwickshire Museum Benchmark Atlas. OOP.
- *Cleroidea and Heteromera Beetles* by Steve Lane (1998). Warwickshire Museum Benchmark Atlas. OOP.
- **Hoverflies* by Adam Wright (1988, with 2000 & 2004 update by Steven Falk). Warwickshire Museum Benchmark Atlas. £1.20 + 50p p&p.
- **Fleas* by Bob George (1991). Warwickshire Museum Benchmark Atlas. 50p + 30p p&p.
- **Miscellaneous Gall-inducing Organisms* by John Robbins (1995). Warwickshire Museum Benchmark Atlas. £1.20 + 50p p&p.
- **Gall Wasps* by John Robbins (1994). Warwickshire Museum Benchmark Atlas. 60p + 30p p&p.
- **Gall Midges* by John Robbins (1995 updated in 2001). Warwickshire Museum Benchmark Atlas. £1.20 + 50p p&p.
- **Pseudoscorpions* by Pam Copson (1991). Warwickshire Museum Benchmark Atlas. 25p + 30p p&p.

- **Harvestmen* by Pam Copson (1991). Warwickshire Museum Benchmark Atlas. 25p + 30p p&p.
- **Spiders* by Richard Wright (1991). Warwickshire Museum Benchmark Atlas. £1.20 + 50p p&p.
- **Gall Mites* by John Robbins (1994, revised 1977). Warwickshire Museum Benchmark Atlas. 80p + 30p p&p.
- **Leafminers* by John Robbins (1992). Warwickshire Museum Benchmark Atlas. £8 + £2.50 p&p.
- **All Galls Pack* (8 provisional atlases by John Robbins). Warwickshire Museum Benchmark Atlas. £9 + £3.50 p&p.

Publications for various fly groups, bees and wasps are currently in preparation.

Birds

- *The New Birds of the West Midlands* by Graham & Janet Harrison (2005). West Midland Bird Club. ISBN 0-9507881-1-2-0. £39.
- *A Checklist of the Birds of the West Midlands* by the West Midland Bird Club, available from Warwick Museum, 50p + 30p p&p
- *The Birds of the West Midlands* by Graham Harrison et. al. (1982). West Midland Bird Club. ISBN 0 9507881 0 4.
- *The New Birds of The Banbury Area* edited by T.G. Easterbrook (1994). Banbury Ornithological Society. ISBN 0 9500216 3 6.
- *Bird of the Banbury Area 1972 - 1981* edited by T.G. Easterbrook (1983). Banbury Ornithological Society.
- *Birds of Shustoke Reservoirs, North Warwickshire 1970 - 1997* by Brian Kingston. Chris Kington Publishing.

Other vertebrates

- *Amphibians and Reptiles of Warwickshire* by Jan Clemons (1998). Warwickshire Museum Benchmark Atlas. 90p + 35p p&p.
- *The Mammals of Warwickshire* by Toby Woodhams (1999). Warwickshire Museum Benchmark Atlas. £1.20 + 40p p&p.
- *Warwickshire Dormouse Survey* by Stefan Bodnar (2000). English Nature (unpublished report)

Specific Sites/Areas

- *Stratford-Upon-Avon. A Flora and Fauna* by John M. Price (2002). Gem Publishing. ISBN 0 906802 09 1. £13.
- *Where Peacocks Pace - A Natural Historians Guide to Warwick* by Mark Smith (2008). Authorhouse.
- *The Historical Ecology of the Woods of Binley, Warwickshire - Ph.D. Thesis* by David Morfitt (2000). Coventry University. A CD viewable at

Warwickshire Museum, the County Record Office and Coventry Central Library.

- *A Natural History of Sutton Park* an ever-growing series of booklets available from the Sutton Coldfield Natural History Society.

In addition to the above, there are a good number of Environmental Impact Assessment reports, unpublished site survey reports, management plans and other site-specific information and literature within the biological record centres at Warwickshire Museum and Coventry Museum, and the offices of Warwickshire Wildlife Trust.

Local Journals

Available from the organisations cited, usually via membership subscription, but sometimes purchasable separately. They generally cover a wide range of natural history subjects at varying levels of scientific depth.

- *Warwickshire Wildlife*, magazine of the Warwickshire Wildlife Trust, produced 3 times per year.
- *Proceedings of the Birmingham Natural History Society (formerly Natural History and Philosophical Society)*.
- *Proceedings of the Coventry and District Natural History and Scientific Society*.
- *Warwick Natural History Society Annual Report*.
- *West Midland Bird Club Annual Report*
- *Brandon Marsh Nature Reserve Annual Report (available from Ken Bond of the volunteer group)*

In addition to the above, most of the societies and clubs in our region produce regular informal newsletters.

