

Please check the web site www.bnhs.org.uk or join the BNHS News Group for the latest information. In severe weather, the leaders may cancel the event if conditions are unsuitable. Please check the website early on the day or contact Sheila or Julia.

All indoor talks start at 8pm except the AGM which starts at 7:30pm and all are held at Maulden Village Hall, grid reference TL048380, post code MK45 2DP.

Parking is free. Visitors are encouraged.

A small charge is requested for refreshments at the talks and possibly on other occasions too.

Donations are always welcome.

For field meetings, wear stout footwear and warm clothing. OS Landranger Numbers 152, 153, 165 & 166 cover Bedfordshire.

(F) Particularly suitable for families and young people, especially YounGnats. Children 16 years and under must be accompanied by a responsible adult.

(L) Bring a picnic lunch for all day events.

REGRETTABLY NO DOGS ARE ALLOWED.

Unfortunately, some field trips will not be suitable for wheelchair users and pushchairs. Please contact the leader in advance if you have any concerns about accessibility.

* Indicates meetings organised by the ornithological section, the Bedfordshire Bird Club (BBC). For additional BBC meetings see the website: www.bedsbirdsclub.org.uk

***TUESDAY 26th SEPTEMBER, MAULDEN BBC talk** to celebrate the Club's 25th Anniversary we present '**Birds of Prey**' by Iolo Williams. Admission by ticket only. See BBC website for details.

SUNDAY 8th OCTOBER, OLD WARDEN 10am (F)

Walk in Swiss Garden for a joint meeting with Herts & Beds Fungi Group to explore the early 19th century landscape garden and adjoining woodland and lakeside picnic area. Entrance fee will be waived for members entering with the group at 10:00 prompt. Meet in the free car park, TL150448, SG18 9EP. Please book with Alan Outen before midnight Wednesday 4th October: alanouten@virginmedia.com 01462 811374. Leader: Alan Outen.

SUNDAY 15th OCTOBER, BROMHAM 11am – 4:30pm (F)

Bromham Mill Apple Day. Visit the BNHS stand at Bromham Mill, TL010507, MK43 8LP. See our nature table where you can touch the preserved material. Marvel at the photographs of the local wildlife. Test your knowledge with the quiz.

(There may be an entry fee.)

TUESDAY 17th OCTOBER, MAULDEN Talk 'A Tale of Trees: the battle to save Britain's ancient woodland'

by Derek Niemann, a freelance writer. Based on his book, a story of tragedy and heroism, ingenuity and blindness, the talk will tell of how and why we lost over one third of our ancient woodland in 40 years.

***TUESDAY 31st OCTOBER, MAULDEN BBC talk 'The Complete Owl'** by Dr Michael Leach, professional wildlife photographer, revealing the life of our resident British Owls including dramatic high-speed in-flight photography.

TUESDAY 21st NOVEMBER, MAULDEN

Talk 'Our changing orthopteran fauna' by Peter Sutton, Orthoptera National Recording Scheme Organiser. An overview of the British and Irish Orthoptera: the changing distribution in response to climate change, the status and management of some of our rarest orthopterans and recently naturalised and potential new species that may become established in the future.

MONDAY 27th NOVEMBER, LONDON 11am

Visit ZSL Library to see selected highlights of the collection such as items by the artist Edward Lear, the ornithologist John Gould, the oldest book and some archival material. Please book with Julia Powell by November 17th on 01582 661328 or juliapowell800@gmail.com.

***TUESDAY 28th NOVEMBER, MAULDEN**

BBC talk 'Swifts - the one bird we can all help' by Edward Mayer, Swift Conservation. Following his last visit in 2007, Edward will update us on the latest ways we can help this iconic species.

SUNDAY 3rd DECEMBER, HEATH & REACH 11am - 3pm (F)

Rushmere CP Christmas Fair. Visit the BNHS stand to see the Nature Table, displays and quizzes. Park in the Rushmere car park, SP912284, LU7 0EB. Parking £3.00 (coins only).

***SUNDAY 3rd DECEMBER, HENLOW 8:30am**

BBC walk round East Beds area for wintering species. Park and meet at Henlow Bridge Lakes, TL188379. Leader: Greg Nunn.

TUESDAY 5th DECEMBER, MAULDEN

Christmas Social evening with seasonal refreshments. Bring along a selection of your photos (on a CD or memory stick) and some food to share. Doors open 7:30pm.

TUESDAY 26th DECEMBER, WOBURN

9:30am – 12 noon (F)

Boxing Day Walk through Woburn Park. Meet at the Woburn Village car park, opposite the church in Park Street, SP950331, MK17 9PG. Leader: Mary Sheridan.

TUESDAY 16th JANUARY, MAULDEN

Talk 'One moth, ten thousand researchers: the story of Conker Tree Science' by Michael Pocock, ecologist at the Biological Records Centre. Why studying *Cameraria ohridella*, a leaf-mining moth on horse-chestnut trees via 'citizen science' helps us support tree health and biodiversity monitoring.

MONDAY 29th JANUARY, LUTON 10:30am

Visit Wardown House Museum. Glimpse an insight into a wealthy family home, including the natural history collection, during the Victorian period. Meet in entrance. Please book with Sheila Brooke by January 23rd on 01525 873396 or brooke.se@btinternet.com

***TUESDAY 30th JANUARY, MAULDEN**

BBC talk 'The Magic of Spurn' by Lizzie Bruce, FSBO Committee Member. Find out why Spurn Bird Observatory claims to be the UK's mainland migration hotspot.

WEDNESDAY 14th FEBRUARY, HEATH & REACH 11am - 3pm (F)

Visit the BNHS stand in the Visitor Centre, Rushmere CP to see the Nature Table, owl pellet dissection, displays, quizzes and more.

Take part in the Wildlife safari (weather permitting). Park in the Rushmere car park, SP912284, LU7 0EB. Parking £3.00 (coins only). Leader: Julia Powell.

TUESDAY 20th FEBRUARY, MAULDEN

Talk 'Wildlife Crime - How You Can Make A Difference' by a member of Birders Against Wildlife Crime. This is a group of volunteers who believe that we can all do something to help combat wildlife crime, by being "eyes in the field". They will explain their "3Rs" and other campaigns (including Hen Harrier Day) and will want to know what concerns you have about the state of our wildlife today.

***SUNDAY 25th FEBRUARY, HARROLD**

8:30am

BBC walk in Harrold-Odell CP for local wildfowl. Meet in the car park on Carlton Road, Harrold, MK43 7DS, SP957567. Leader: Richard Bashford.

SUNDAY 11th MARCH, TRING 10:30am (F)

Walk around College Lake, a BBOWT reserve with chalk grassland, woodland, scrub and hedgerows as well as marsh and open water. Introductory talk by a ranger followed by a self-guided walk. Entrance and parking on the left of the B4388 250m north of the canal bridge at Bulbourne. HP23 5QG, SP935140. Leader: Sheila Brooke.

TUESDAY 20th MARCH, MAULDEN 7:30pm

BNHS Annual General Meeting. After a short AGM, the Officers and Recorders will present their annual reports. **NOTE START TIME.**

***TUESDAY 27th MARCH, MAULDEN**

BBC talk 'Reclaiming South Georgia' by Prof Tony Martin, Team Leader of the 6 year

programme to eradicate rats on this UK Overseas Territory.

WEDNESDAY 28th MARCH, TOTTERNHOE

10:30am

Walk on Totternhoe Knolls to find wintergreen Man Orchids and migrating birds. We will also look at the management of the site and the new grazing regime. Park in the NT Car Park SP986217, LU6 1QU. Leader: Richard Knock.

WEDNESDAY 11th APRIL, THERFIELD

HEATH 10:30am (F)

Walk on Therfield Heath for Pasque Flowers and other spring chalk grassland wildlife. Approach Royston on A505 until round about at TL333403. Take Royston exit road. Turn first right up hill and take car park on right at TL336401. Leader: Graham Bellamy.

TUESDAY 17th APRIL, MAULDEN

Talk 'Genetic Engineering-what is it and do we need it?' by Peter Lillford CBE, visiting Professor at the School of Engineering, Birmingham. An explanation of the basic science and how it developed focussing on work with plants although Peter is willing to discuss human and animal experiments.

***SUNDAY 22nd APRIL, PEGSDON 8am**

BBC Morning walk over Pegsdon Hills for spring migrants. Park and meet in car park of Live and Let Live Inn, Pegsdon, TL121303. Finish around 11.00am. Leader: Jon Palmer.

***SUNDAY 29th APRIL, BROOM 7am**

BBC Early morning birding around Broom Gravel Pits for spring migrants. Park and meet at end of Kings Road, off High Street, Broom, TL172433. Finish by 12.00 noon. Leader: Stefan Baltruschat.

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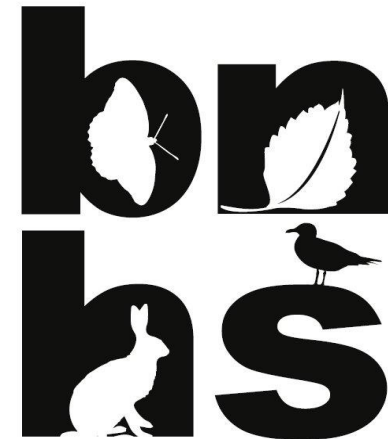
If you wish to know more about any of the events please contact either
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Web site: www.bnhs.org.uk

Exploring Bedfordshire's Wildlife



With the

Bedfordshire Natural History Society

**Winter Programme
2017 - 2018**