

Broadway Gravel Pit



Worcestershire



Bullfinch (photo © Pete Walkden)

This small wetland nature reserve is perfect for a range of birds, invertebrates and mammals.

The reserve is a mixture of open water, scrub and carr woodland. It floods seasonally and plays host to a range of birds throughout the year. Listen in spring for returning migrants such as chiffchaff, cuckoo and whitethroat.

The pools and marshy areas are great for plants and more than 160 species have been recorded here. Look for mare's tail from June to August, jointed rush, creeping bent and water speedwell.

Watch for toads, grass snakes, coots and moorhens. The site is good for dragonflies and damselflies like southern hawker and broad-bodied chaser; water levels can drop in summer but some nymphs are able to survive in wet mud.

If you're lucky you may catch a glimpse of kingfishers, emperor dragonflies, great crested newts, reed buntings, marsh tits, bullfinches or sedge warblers.

There are five species of willow at Broadway Gravel Pit: white, grey, crack, goat and osier. They help to support a wide variety of insects. More than 150 species of moth feed on the foliage and aphids, weevils, sawflies and gall wasps can be found there.



Grass snake (photo © Gordon Forrest)



Broomrape (photo © Rob Allen)



Chiffchaff (photo © Karen Summers)

Broadway Gravel pit is one of more than 75 Worcestershire Wildlife Trust nature reserves across the county that form part of our vision for a Living Landscape

By working with other landowners, managers and communities we aim to restore, recreate and reconnect fragmented natural habitats to achieve a landscape where wildlife can flourish and people can lead happier and healthier lives.

Worcestershire needs your help to create a better future for wildlife and a better environment for our children and grandchildren.

You can help protect wildlife by:

- Becoming a member
- Making a donation
- Volunteering to help
- Encouraging wildlife at home or work

We're part of a national network of The Wildlife Trusts, protecting wildlife across the UK.



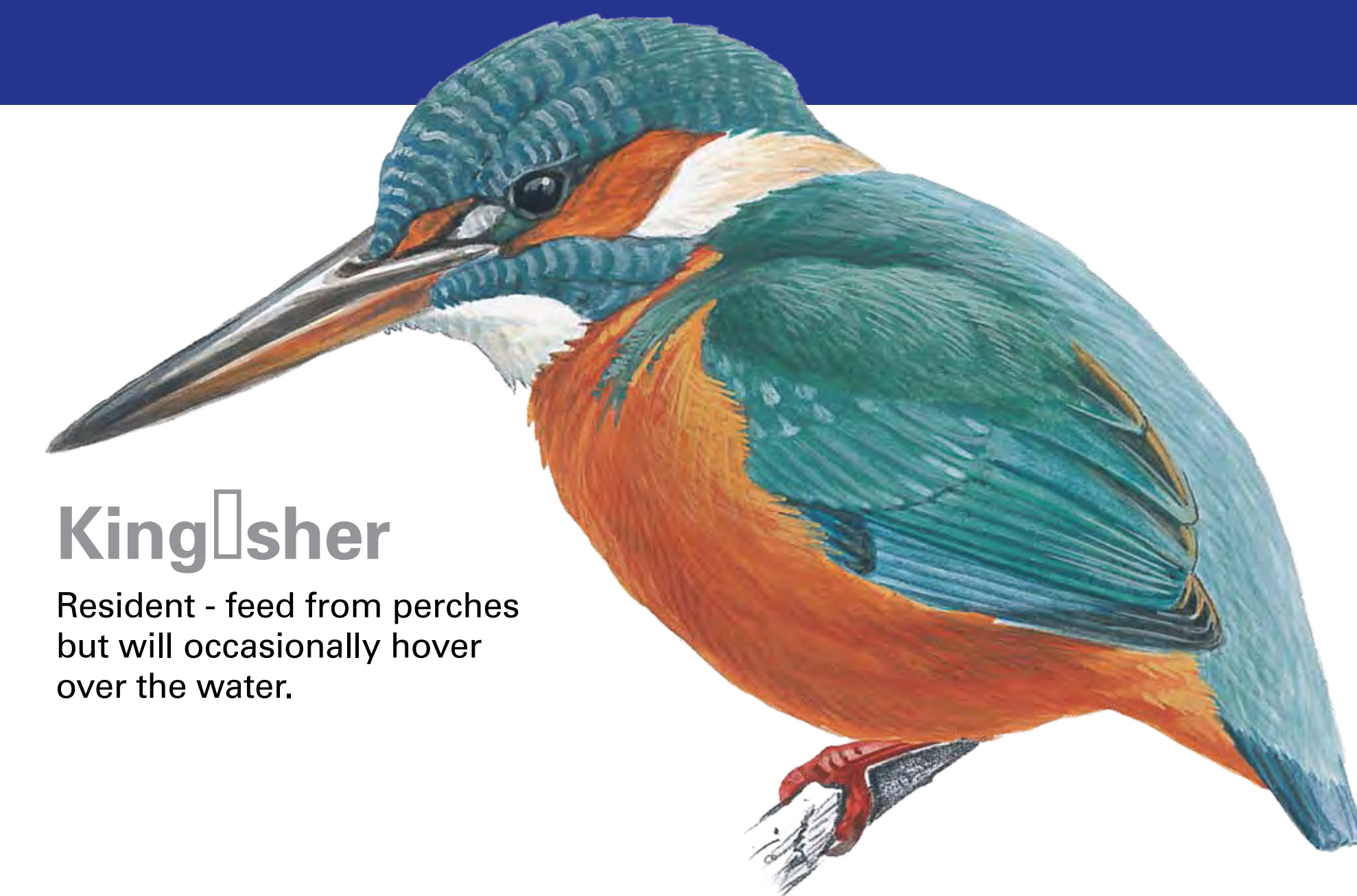
Reed Warbler

Migrant, seen late April to September - often heard rather than seen.



Kingfisher

Resident - feeds from perches but will occasionally hover over the water.



Broad-bodied Chaser

Will return to the same low perch after flying.

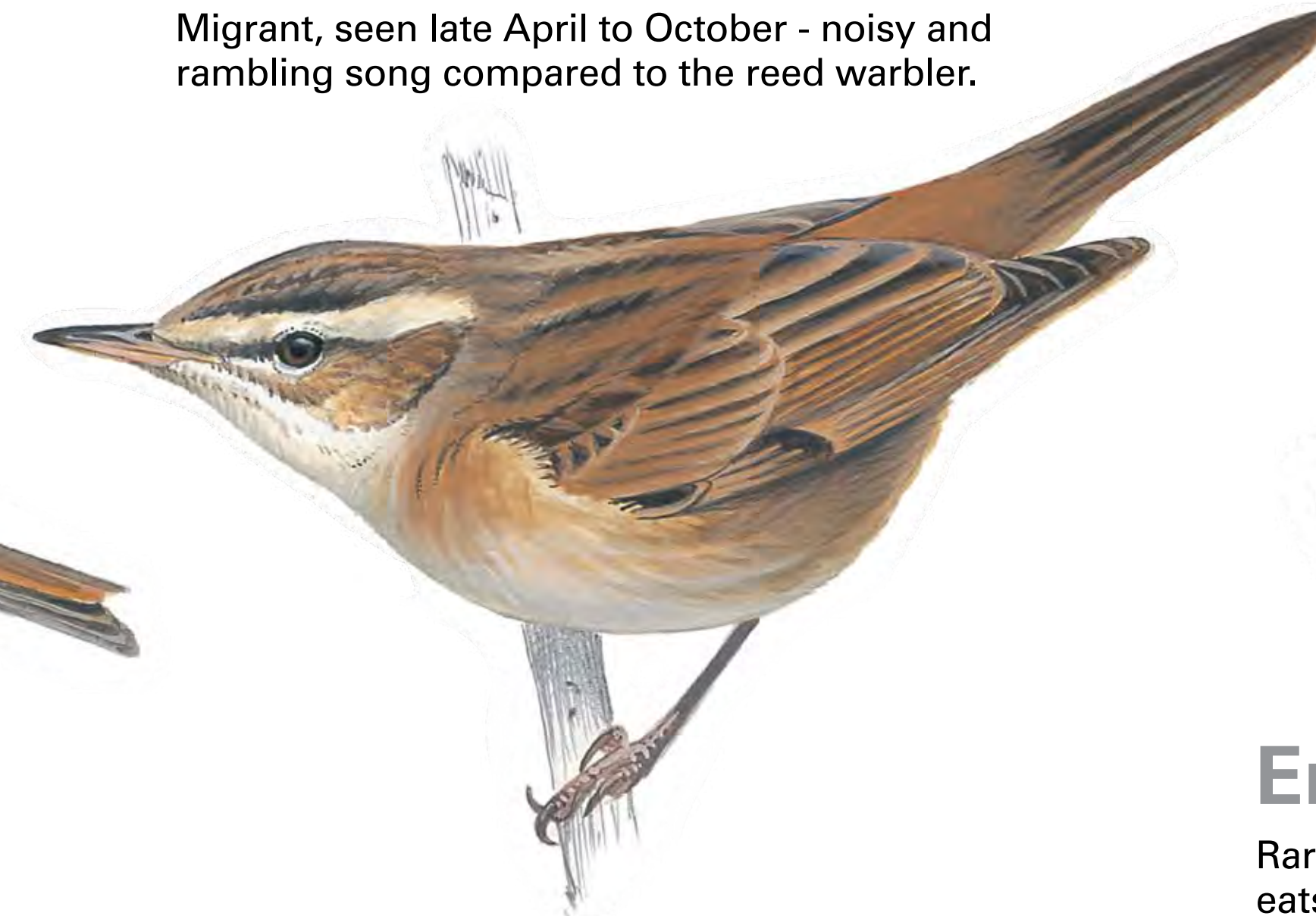


Reed Bunting

Resident - usually perches on top of reeds when singing.

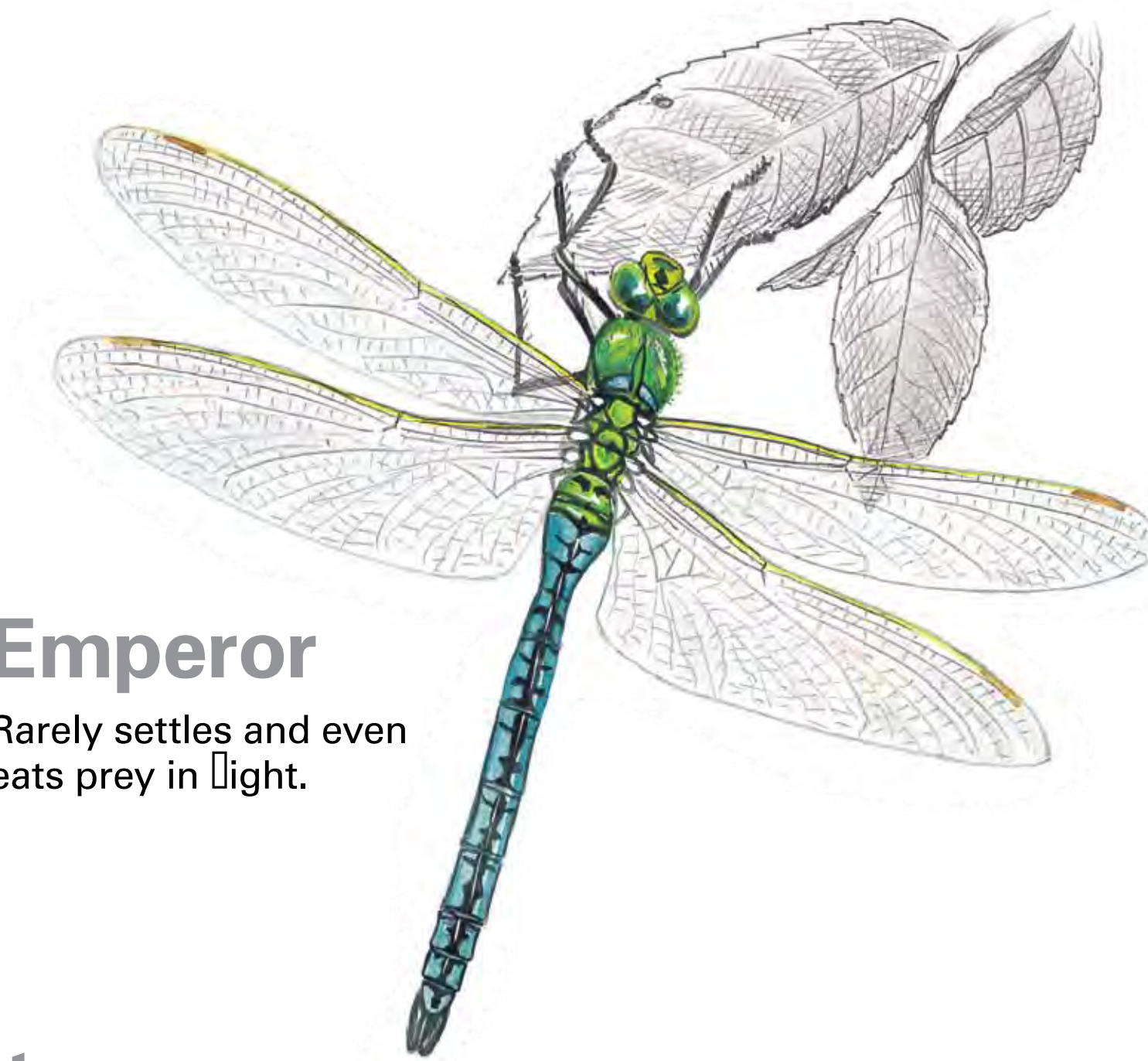
Sedge Warbler

Migrant, seen late April to October - noisy and rambling song compared to the reed warbler.



Emperor

Rarely settles and even eats prey in flight.



Southern Hawker

Hunts well away from water.



Moorhen

Resident - eats water plants, seeds, fruit, grasses, insects and worms.



Coot

Resident - larger than its cousin, the moorhen, with a white beak.



Common Frog

They have smooth skin and long legs for jumping away quickly.



Great Crested Newt

The largest of our native newt species.



Common Toad

They crawl rather than hop, have a rough 'warty' skin and prefer deep water and damp holes.

