

Southeast Worcestershire Local Group

Summer 2024 news



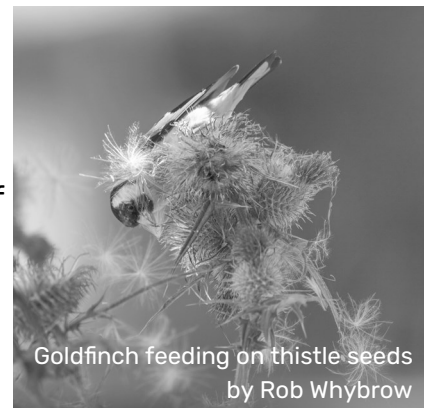
Worcestershire
Wildlife Trust

The committee would like to thank everyone from Worcestershire and beyond for their support for our events both indoor and out thus far in 2024. It has been encouraging to meet so many of you. We are only a small committee so we would welcome anyone who would like to join us in planning and organising future meetings. If you would like to know more please contact either Nick nickrose01@btinternet.com or John john.boon13@gmail.com

John Boon

August

It has always seemed to me that August is more like the beginning of autumn rather than the end of summer. As the month progresses grasses are brown rather than green and most plants have ceased flowering and set seed. There will still be some species, such as thistles and umbellifers, bringing colour to the fields and hedgerows but many will now be providing food for goldfinches. The numbers of moth species on the wing falls from its July peak and there will be fewer butterflies too. Speckled woods stay around well into autumn and August is the time for brown hairstreaks; but cool autumn days are just around the corner. Birds know this. Many migrating wading birds will have already begun their southward journey. Whinchats and wheatears stop off to feed at favoured spots and feeding flocks of finches start to form. So is your August summer's last hurrah or autumn's herald? For me there's an intangible change, a feeling in the air that summer is past. It will soon be time to turn out the thermals and look forward to the arrival of redwings and fieldfares and the excitement of the new season.



Our **midweek ambles** have proven very popular and we are pleased to extend them into autumn. In essence they are intended be a relaxed look at the wonders of nature - no expertise is required and we will be walking slowly, learning and sharing the knowledge we have. All are welcome.

Please see over for our autumn talks programme.

Friday 2nd August 2024 8pm to 11.30pm
Exploring Bats and Moths
Lower Smite Farm, between Worcester and Droitwich WR3 8SZ / S0892588
Refreshments will be provided. Please bring a torch. **Booking for this event is essential.**

Wednesday 21st August 2024 2pm to 4pm
Brown hairstreaks at Grafton Wood
Grafton Wood nature reserve, Grafton Flyford WR7 4PG (nearest) / S0962557
Parking is available by the church (please follow the signs to the Three Parishes Hall).

Tuesday 10th September 2024 10am to 12noon
Tiddesley Wood nature reserve
Tiddesley Wood car park, Pershore WR10 2AD (nearest) / S0929462

Thursday 17th October 10am to 12noon
Upton Warren Wetland Reserve (The Moors)
Moors Pool car park, B61 7ET / S0936677
Booking for this event is essential.

We don't charge for our ambles but donations are welcome. To book for Bats and Moths and Upton Warren, email john.boon13@gmail.com

Autumn talks programme

Wednesday 11th September 2024 7.30 pm Cost £3.00

Friends Meeting House, Cowl Street, Evesham WR11 4PN

Martyn Wilson from Merry May Honey: bees and the benefits of beekeeping

Wednesday 9th October 2024 7.30 pm Cost £3.00

Friends Meeting House, Cowl Street Evesham WR11 4PN

Liz Etheridge – Avon Meadows: making space for wildlife

Liz Etheridge from Wychavon District Council will tell the story of how Avon Meadows Community Wetland at Pershore came to be made and show us some of the wonderful wildlife that now calls this Local Nature Reserve home.

Wednesday 13th November 2024 7.30 pm Cost £3.00

Friends Meeting House, Cowl Street, Evesham WR11 4PN

Johnny Birks – Pine martens

Johnny is a member of the Worcestershire Mammal Group and will talk to us about the recovery of pine martens in Britain, including their reintroduction into the Forest of Dean and the hope that they might one day spread back into Worcestershire.

A Wild Life in Worcestershire - the Nature of Poetry

Evesham Poet Bob Woodroffe has published a collection of his nature poetry to celebrate Worcestershire's wildlife in all its glory.

All proceeds from the sale of the book will be donated to Worcestershire Wildlife Trust.

All the poems have been inspired by encounters with our county's wildlife. They cover the natural history of Worcestershire from its flora and fauna to its bird life.

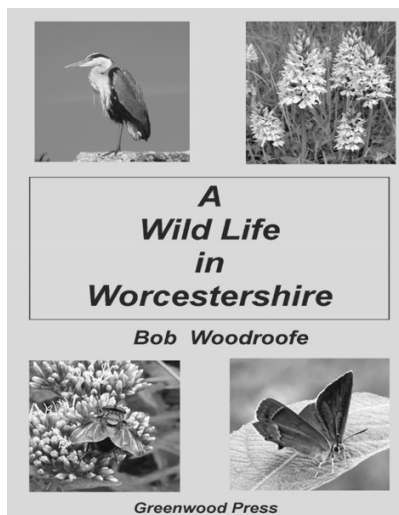
The 78 page paperback book contains 50 poems and is priced at £5.00 + £2.00p&p. You can buy it from Bob's website www.greenwoodpress or from Amazon.

Free of charge collections and deliveries are available in Evesham and local area by arrangement. Contact Bob

bob.woodroffe@outlook.com,
or phone 01386 446477.

"It is my attempt to say thank you to Worcestershire and its amazing variety of wildlife and to help it to continue to give pleasure to all for many years to come."

Bob Woodroffe



Helix

Hogweed skeletons rattle
White in the wind with snails
Banded brown and cream.
Each distinct from the other,
They clasp the hollow stems,
Climb belly-footed to the light.
Creep up six, seven eight feet,
Exposed, no sustenance here,
a sitting target, clustered together.
The brittle stalks festooned
with their circular patterns,
with brown lips or white lips,
Cepea nemoralis or hortensis,
Such spiral adornment that
clings, that flings love darts.