

Events & Courses Full Programme

December 2017-March 2018

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www.hiwwt.org.uk/whats-on

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- Trust reserve events
- Local Group events
- 👨‍👩‍👧 Family focussed events
- 🌊 Marine / on the beach

Please use the area codes, displayed on the map above and added to each event title, to help you to identify its location.

Please note all events are subject to change. For current information, please visit our website at www.hiwwt.org.uk/whats-on.

Last revised: 27/11/2017

Courses

The Wildlife Trust offers a wide range of wild learning experiences, run by our enthusiastic staff and local experts. Our courses are open to everyone and are suitable for those looking to learn something new or brush up on existing knowledge.

Please visit our website for full details of all our courses and to book your place. If you have any questions or would like any further information please use the contact details below.

How to Book

All courses have limited numbers and booking is essential.

Email: courses@hiwwt.org.uk

Phone: 01489 774406

Website: www.hiwwt.org.uk/courses

Living Willow Domes and Tunnels

Place: Testwood Lakes, Totton, Southampton

Date: Sun 5 Feb, 10am-3pm

Willow domes and tunnels are a fantastic natural way to enhance the play value of an area. Spend the day at Testwood Lakes and team build a dome and tunnel which can be enjoyed by children and adults alike.

Cost: £50

What's That Tree? – Winter

Place: Confirmed upon booking

Date: Fri 9 Feb, 9.30am-12.30pm

Learn how to identify trees and shrubs in winter using buds on twigs, bark and tree shape.

Cost: £35

Hedgerow Frame Baskets

Place: Blashford Lakes, Ellingham Drive, Ringwood, BH24 3PJ

Date: Mon 19 and Sun 25 Feb, 10am-2.30pm

Make your own hedgerow frame basket to take home using materials gathered on the beautiful Blashford Lakes Nature Reserve.

Cost: £95

Astronomy for Beginners

Place: Blashford Lakes Education Centre, Ellingham Drive, Ringwood BH24 3PJ

Date: Starts Tue 20 Feb, 7-9pm

Would you like to learn about the night sky, recognising constellations, understanding the solar system and deep space? We are running a four-week course suitable for beginners that will help you to learn more about the amazing night sky as well as how to use the equipment needed to see what is not visible to the naked eye.

Cost: £96

Living Willow Domes and Tunnels

Place: Testwood Lakes, Totton

Date: Sun 4 Mar, 10am-3pm

Willow domes and tunnels are a fantastic way to naturally enhance the play value of an area. Spend the day at Testwood Lakes and team-build a dome and tunnel which can be enjoyed by children and adults alike.

Cost: £60

Tracks and Signs of Wildlife

Place: Winnall Moors, Winchester

Date: Sat 17 Mar, 9.30am-12.30pm

Who left that there? Hone your nature detective skills and learn how to identify animal tracks and signs and discover what owls have for dinner.

Cost: £35

Bushcraft Introduction Weekend

Place: Roydon Woods, New Forest

Date: Sat 24 Mar, 10am - Sun 25 Mar, 3pm

Spend a fun weekend immersed in the world of bushcraft and survival skills.

Cost: £95

Wildlife Tots for Under 5s

The emphasis is on family learning and all children must be accompanied by adults. Activities are based mostly outdoors, in natural surroundings. Please come prepared with waterproofs and wellies. We ask for a suggested donation of **£4 per person attending**. Sorry, no dogs.

Please note dates are subject to change; please always check online at www.hiwwt.org.uk/whats-on before attending.

Blashford Wildlife Tots

When: Usually two sessions on 1st Monday each month, 10:30am-12noon and 1-2:30pm.

Where: Blashford Lakes Education Centre, Ellingham Drove, Ringwood, BH24 3PJ

Contact: Jim/Tracy 01425 472760 or BlashfordLakes@hiwwt.org.uk. **Booking essential.**

Blashford Buggy Walks – Fortnightly guided walks for parents and grandparents with little ones. Meet on alternate Friday mornings from 2nd Dec, 10.30am – 12noon.

Gosport Wildlife Tots

When: 3rd Saturday each month, 10am-12noon.

Where: Grange Farm, Little Woodham Lane, off Howe Road, unless stated otherwise. Runs with the Wildlife Watch group.

Contact: Hilary Percival 02392 527391 hrp7@hotmail.co.uk.

Isle of Wight Wildlife Tots

When: Thursday mornings, 10am–12noon during term time. No need to book.

Where: Bouldnor Forest Centre, near Yarmouth, Isle of Wight

Contact: Call Kathy Grogan on 01983 760018 or IoWeducation@hiwwt.org.uk.

Swanwick Wildlife Tots

When: Tuesdays: 5 Dec, 9 Jan, 6 Feb, 6 Mar. Twice at 10.30am-12noon and 1-2.30pm and Fridays 1pm – 2:30pm: 22 Dec, 26 Jan, 23 Feb, 23 Mar

Where: Swanwick Lakes Education Centre, Swanwick Way, off Sopwith Lane, Fareham

Contact: Dawn Preston/Jess Parsons 01489 570240 or SwanwickLakes@hiwwt.org.uk. **Booking essential.**

Testwood Wildlife Tots

When: Monthly on 2nd Tuesday at 10.30am-12noon and repeated at 1-2.30pm, last Friday of the month, 10.30am-12noon

Where: Testwood Lakes Centre, Brunel Rd, Totton, SO40 3WX (Map ref. SU 353 149)

Contact: Grace Brennan 02380 667929 or TestwoodLakes@hiwwt.org.uk. **Booking essential.**

Natural Babies

When: Every Tuesday 3-4.30pm (except 26 Dec and 2 Jan)

For babies 0-2yrs and parents for sensory play in nature.

Dads & Tots

When: Saturdays 10.30am-12noon: 16 Dec, 27 Jan, 24 Feb, 31 Mar

Dads bring your tots for fun play in woods and meadows.

Winchester Wildlife Tots (Winnall Moors)

When: Usually 2nd Thursday of each month, 9.30-11am.

Where: Winnall Moors nature reserve (Durngate entrance), Winchester

Contact: Susan Simmonds Susan.Simmonds@hiwwt.org.uk

Winchester Wildlife Tots (St. Cross)

When: 3rd Monday of each month, 10-11.30am

Where: St. Cross, Winchester

Contact: Susan Simmonds Susan.Simmonds@hiwwt.org.uk

Wildlife Watch

Wildlife Watch activities are based on learning and discovery outdoors and are suitable for families with children aged 6 to 15. **Booking is required** and we ask for a suggested donation of £4 per person attending. Sorry, no dogs.

Please note dates may be subject to change; please check online at www.hiwwt.org.uk/whats-on before attending.

Basingstoke Wildlife Watch

When: Last Saturday each month, 2–4pm.

Where: Locations around Basingstoke – please call to confirm.

Contact: Clare Lloyd Williams on 01256 782665 to book.

Blashford Wildlife Watch

When: 2nd Saturday each month, 10.30am–12.30pm.

Where: Blashford Lakes Education Centre, Ellingham Drove, Ringwood BH24 3PJ

Contact: David Caals 01202 814743 or caals.sdzm@talk21.com

Gosport Wildlife Watch

When: 3rd Saturday each month, 10am–12noon.

Where: Grange Farm, Little Woodham, off Howe Road, PO13 8AB, unless stated otherwise.

Contact: Hilary Percival on 02392 527391 or email hrp7@hotmail.co.uk to book.

Havant & Portsmouth Wildlife Watch

When: Saturdays 10am-12noon: 2 Dec, 13 Jan, 24 Feb, 24 Mar

Where: Staunton Country Park, PO9 5HB.

Contact: havantwildlifewatch@gmail.com to book.

Isle of Wight Wildlife Watch

When: Saturdays 2-4pm: 9 Dec (1pm start), 20 Jan, 24 Feb, 17 Mar. Booking essential.

Where: Various locations, call for details

Contact: Kathy Grogan on 01983 760018 to book.

Southampton Wildlife Watch

When: 2nd Saturday each month, 10am–12noon.

Where: The Roundhouse at Woodmill Activity Centre, Southampton (Map ref. SU 439 152)

Contact: lamulley@hotmail.com to book.

Southsea Wildlife Watch

When: Sat 10 Dec, 10am-12noon. **NB.** *Southsea Wildlife Watch will not run from Jan-Mar 2017 while building works take place at the Museum. The group will restart in April 2017.*

Where? Cumberland House Natural History Museum, Eastern Parade, Southsea, PO4 9RF

Contact: Erin Ramsbottom erinramsbottom@googlemail.com to book.

Swanwick Lakes Wildlife Watch

When: Thursdays 6.30-8pm: 15 Dec, 19 Jan, 16 Feb, 16 Mar and Saturdays 10.30am-12noon: 3 Dec, 7 Jan, 4 Feb, 4 Mar

Where: Swanwick Lakes Education Centre, Sopwith Way, Swanwick, SO31 7AY

Contact: Carly 07733980980 or Michelle 07784391604 or email swanwickwildlifewatch@gmail.com to book.

Testwood Wildlife Watch

When: Saturdays 2-4pm: 17 Dec, 28 Jan, 25 Feb, 25 Mar

Where: Testwood Lakes Education Centre, Totton, SO40 3WX.

Contact: Grace Brennan on 02380 667929 or Grace.Brennan@hiwwt.org.uk to book.

Winchester Wildlife Watch

When: 3rd Saturday each month, 10am–12 noon.

Where: Winnall Moors nature reserve, SO23 8DX.

Contact: winchesterwatch@yahoo.co.uk to book.

Wildlife Rangers and Young Naturalists

Get outside, learn new skills and improve your wildlife knowledge whilst having fun! Wildlife Rangers and Young Naturalists activities include practical conservation tasks, developing bushcraft skills and species surveys. Please dress to be outside and bring a packed lunch.

When & Where?

Testwood Lakes Wildlife Rangers: last Saturday of the month, 2-4pm. **Booking is essential -**

Please contact Sam or Grace 023 8066 7929 or TestwoodLakes@hiwwt.org.uk. £4 per person.

Blashford Lakes Young Naturalists: last Sunday of month, 10am-2.30pm. **Booking is essential -**

please contact Jim or Tracy 01425 472760 or BlashfordLakes@hiwwt.org.uk. £4 per person.

Walks, Talks & Events

Please note: Event attendees under 18 years of age must be accompanied by adults, unless otherwise stated.

December

NFW

Fridays 1st December to 23rd March

● **Natural Wellbeing** 11am-2.30pm

Participants can be involved in cooking and sharing an outdoor lunch, bird watching and outdoor craft activities. Blashford Lakes Centre, Ellingham Drove, Ringwood BH24 3PJ (Map ref. SU 151 079). Please contact Jim Day or Tracy Standish on 01425 472760 or BlashfordLakes@hiwwt.org.uk. Suggested donation £4 per person. Sorry, no dogs.

NFW

Saturday 2nd December

 **Winter Willow Wonders** 10.30am -12noon

Enjoy a short walk gathering materials before creating and decorating a willow wreath to take home in time for Christmas. Blashford Lakes Centre, Ellingham Drove, Ringwood. BH24 3PJ (Map ref. SU 151 079). Please contact Jim Day or Tracy Standish on 01425 472760 or BlashfordLakes@hiwwt.org.uk. Suggested donation £4 per person. Children must be accompanied by adults. Sorry, no dogs.

NFW

Sundays 3rd and 17th December, 1st, 7th, 21st January, 4th, 18th February and 4th March

● **Pop-Up Café** 10am-3pm

Planned for the first and third Sundays of the month, November to March. For further details about Nigel and Christine and their Walking Picnics, please visit www.walkingpicnics.co.uk. Blashford Lakes Centre, Ellingham Drove, Ringwood. BH24 3PJ (Map ref. SU 151 081). Please contact Jim Day or Tracy Standish on 01425 472760 or BlashfordLakes@hiwwt.org.uk. Free of charge to enter the reserve but donations welcome. Sorry, no dogs.

NFS

Sunday 3rd December

● **Waders and Wildfowl of Keyhaven and Pennington Marshes** 10am-12.30pm

Join Andy Lester on a coastal walk to see wintering waders and wildfowl at Keyhaven and Pennington Marshes. See the mass gathering of brent geese, watch roosting dunlin, black-tailed godwit and grey plover in the sheltered marshes. Booking is essential as numbers are limited. The sea wall is exposed so bring windproofs and suitable footwear. Park and meet in the Keyhaven pay and display car park (Map ref. SZ 306 915). Contact Coral Newton at coralnewton99@gmail.com or 01794 523759. Suggested donation £4 per person, £3 students. Sorry, no dogs.

IOW

Mondays 4th December to 26th March

● **Woodland Therapy** 11am-2.30pm.

These weekly sessions for adults promote mental health through nature connection. Activities are participant-focused and include green woodwork projects, campfire cooking, wildlife watching and friendship. Please get in touch to find out more. Bouldnor Forest Centre, Yarmouth, Isle of Wight PO41 0AB (Map ref. SZ 378 903). Please contact Kathy Grogan or Ric Temple on 01983 760018 or Kathy.Grogan@hiwwt.org.uk. No charge as sessions are Lottery funded. Sorry, no dogs. Wrap up warmly!

NFW

Tuesday 5th December

● **A History of Birds** 7.30-9.30pm

How did our birds acquire their names? Why did the medieval Church praise the crow, but despise the lapwing? Which feathered assassin was arrested for plotting the death of a prime minister? What bird did Charles II keep in his bedroom and Florence Nightingale keep in her pocket? Why do Raleigh Bicycles use a heron as a logo? Hopefully, you'll come away having been entertained and with some good tales to share next time you're waiting in a hide for a bittern or kingfisher to appear. Blashford Lakes Centre, Ellingham Drove, Ringwood. BH24 3PJ (Map ref. SU 151 079). Please contact Jim Day or Tracy Standish on 01425 472760 or BlashfordLakes@hiwwt.org.uk. Suggested donation £4 per person. Children must be accompanied by adults.

BD

Thursday 7th December

● **Winter Walk along the Basingstoke Canal** 10.30am-12.30pm

Join us for a winter morning walk along the Basingstoke Canal. This level, 5 mile towpath walk will take us from Odiham to Greywell Tunnel and back past King John's Castle and the Whitewater. Along the way look out for birds and berries and other wildlife. Why not join us for lunch in the nearby Waterwitch pub after the walk? Please advise us if you are staying for lunch so that the pub can reserve a table. Basingstoke Canal, Colt Hill Car Park, Colt Hill, Odiham RG29 1AL (Map ref. SU 747 718). Contact Mick Hook on 01256 359605 or hookm@hotmail.co.uk. Suggested donation £3 per person. Dogs on leads welcome.

NFW

Thursday 7th December

● **In to Roost** 3.30-4.30pm (dusk)

Watch as thousands of birds come onto the reserve to roost for the night. Bring binoculars and warm clothing. Meet at "Tern Hide". Park at the main Blashford Lakes Reserve car park (not the Centre), Ellingham Drove, near Ringwood. Booking is essential - please contact Bob Chapman on 01425 472760 or BlashfordLakes@hiwwt.org.uk. Suggested donation £4 per person. Sorry, no dogs.

IOW

Saturday 9th December

👨👩👧👦 **Family Christmas Workshop** 2-4pm

A family event to create Christmas crafts, wreaths and decorations and enjoy roasted chestnuts, seasonal punch and campfire treats. Booking essential. Bouldnor Forest Centre, Yarmouth, Isle of Wight PO41 0AB (Map ref. SZ 378 903). Please contact Kathy Grogan or Ric Temple on 01983 760018 or kathy.grogan@hiwwt.org.uk. Suggested donation £4. Sorry, no dogs. Wrap up warmly!

NFW

Wednesday 13th December● **Healthy Walk** 10.30am-12noon

The first of regular walks starting at 10.30am every 2nd and 4th Wednesday in the month and lasting for approximately 1½ hours. They're a great way to stretch your legs, explore what's on your doorstep and make new friends. Please wear suitable footwear for walking around the lakes. Walking for Health is coordinated by walking charity the Ramblers in partnership with cancer charity Macmillan Cancer Support. Meet at "Tern Hide". Park at the main Blashford Lakes Reserve car park (not the Centre), Ellingham Drive, near Ringwood. For more information please contact Nigel Owen on 01425 65511 or e-mail nigeltowen@aol.com. Free of charge but donations welcome. Sorry, no dogs.

WN

Wednesday 13th December● **Inspirational Places and Wildlife** 7.30-9.30pm

Come and share your photos of places far and near that have inspired a love of nature over a glass of mulled wine or soft drink and nibbles - or just come along. As last year photographic expertise not required – enthusiasm for the content is far more important. Equipment provided. Please contact Anne Ardill beforehand showing photographs. Badger Farm Community Centre, adjacent to far end of Sainsbury's store, Badger Farm Road, Winchester SO22 4QB (Map ref. SU 462 275). Ample parking. Please contact Anne Ardill on 01962 881312 or atardill2@gmail.com. Admission £4 including refreshments.

FA

Thursday 14th December● **A Wildlife Round-Up of the Year and Christmas Quiz** 7.30-9.30pm

Join us as Fareham Local Wildlife Trust's Chairman, Hazel Fotheringham, gives a wildlife round-up of the year, followed by a fun, flora and fauna Christmas quiz. Holy Trinity Church Hall, West Street, Fareham PO16 0EL. Contact Hazel Fotheringham on 01489 571125 or hazel.andsteve17@gmail.com. Suggested donation £4 per person. Parking available in public car parks in Trinity Street or Western Road.

GO

Friday 15th December● **Alver Valley and Festive Fun** 7.30-9.30pm

Join us for the last meeting of the year for a talk on the Alver Valley Country Park, by local expert Fred Gibson. To round off the evening there will of course be some festive treats and our annual quiz! Please note that children under 18 must be accompanied by adults. St Faith's Church, Victoria Square, Lee on the Solent PO13 9NF. Please contact Richard Bloom on 02392 527094 or rbloom5048@aol.com. Suggested donation £3 per person.

FA

Saturday 16th December🌲 **Festive Forest Fun** 10.30am-1pm

A family morning of Christmassy crafts and wintry tales, finishing with hot drinks around the campfire. Please feel free to bring food with you. Booking is essential. Swanwick Lakes Nature Reserve, Sopwith Way, Swanwick SO31 7AY (Map ref. SU 505 098). Please contact Jess or Dawn on 01489 570240 or SwanwickLakes@hiwwt.org.uk. Suggested donation £4 per person. Sorry, no dogs. Please wear outdoor clothing and wellies and bring a packed lunch.

SO

Sunday 17th December🌲 **Family Christmas Wreath Making** 9.30am-12.30pm

Join Susan Simmonds at Testwood Lakes to create your own Christmas wreath. We'll go out on the reserve to cut our materials and then bring them back to the study centre to make our natural wreaths. Testwood Lakes Study Centre, Calmore Industrial Estate, Brunel Road, Totton SO40 3WX. Please contact Susan Simmonds on 01962 828629 or email Susan.Simmonds@hiwwt.org.uk. Suggested donation £5 per person. Sorry, no dogs.

SO

Monday 18th December🌲 **Forest School Taster** 9.30-11.30am

Bring your 2-5 year-olds for some exploring, discovering, creating, constructing, playing and learning in the woods. This is a taster session to see if you might like to book onto our next 6 week Forest School programme, starting in January. Testwood Lakes Centre, Brunel Rd, Totton SO40 3WX (Map ref. SU 353 177). Please contact Sam Dawson or Grace Brennan on 02380667929 or TestwoodLakes@hiwwt.org.uk. Suggested donation £4 per child. Sorry, no dogs.

NFW

Thursday 21st December

● **In to Roost** 3.30-4.30pm (dusk)

Watch as thousands of birds come onto the reserve to roost for the night. Bring binoculars and warm clothing. Meet at "Tern Hide". Park at the main Blashford Lakes Reserve car park (not the Centre), Ellingham Drove, near Ringwood. Booking is essential - please contact Bob Chapman on 01425 472760 or BlashfordLakes@hiwwt.org.uk. Suggested donation £4 per person. Sorry, no dogs.

January 2018

SO

Monday 8th January

🌳 **6 week Forest School Programme** 9.30-11.30am

Bring your 2-5 year-olds for some exploring, discovering, creating, constructing, playing and learning in the woods. This is the first of a 6 week Forest School programme. Each session is flexible, going on the interests of the children. If you want to see what Forest School is like before you book, come to our taster session on 11th December. Booking essential. Testwood Lakes Centre, Brunel Rd, Totton, SO40 3WX (Map ref. SU 353 179). Please contact Sam Dawson or Grace Brennan on 02380667929 or testwoodlakes@hiwwt.org.uk. Cost: £39 for 6 sessions. Sorry, no dogs.

NFW

Tuesday 9th January

● **Members Only: Blashford Birds at Dusk** 3.45-4.45pm (dusk)

Winter evenings offer a daily spectacle as birds flock together to roost. Join us at Blashford Lakes to watch our wonderful winter wildfowl as they come back in their thousands to settle for the night. Blashford's Reserves Officer and birding expert, Bob Chapman, will be on hand to answer your questions and hot drinks will be provided. This event is limited to 15 participants so please book early to avoid disappointment. Please bring binoculars and wear warm clothing. Meet at "Tern Hide". Park at the main Blashford Lakes Reserve car park (not the Centre), Ellingham Drove, near Ringwood. Contact the Membership Team on 01489 774408. Suggested donation £4 donation per person including refreshments. Sorry, no dogs.

WN

Wednesday 10th January

● **Around the Austrian Alps** 7.30-9.30pm

Join Brian Fletcher for an illustrated talk on the great variety of wildlife to be found in this beautiful part of the world. Badger Farm Community Centre, adjacent to far end of Sainsbury's store, Badger Farm Road, Winchester SO22 4QB. Ample parking is available. Please contact Loraine on 01962 861182 or Anne via atardill2@gmail.com. Admission £4 to include tea or coffee.

FA

Thursday 11th January

● **Blow Away the Cobwebs - a Guided Walk** 10.30am-12noon

Join Reserves Staff at Swanwick Lakes for a New Year guided walk around the nature reserve. What better way to recover from the festive season? Booking is essential. Swanwick Lakes Nature Reserve, Sopwith Way, Swanwick SO31 7AY (Map ref. SU 505 098). Please contact Jess or Dawn on 01489 570240 or SwanwickLakes@hiwwt.org.uk. Suggested donation £4 per person. Sorry, no dogs. Please wear warm, waterproof coats and sturdy boots or wellies.

FA

Thursday 11th January

● **The Role of a Wildlife Ranger within the Forestry Commission** 7.30-9.30pm

Join us as Forestry Commission Ranger Ian Brownlee talks about conservation and deer management in Hampshire, Sussex and the Isle of Wight, including the South Downs and the old Forest of Bere. Wallington Village Hall, Broadcut, Fareham PO16 8ST. Contact Hazel Fotheringham on 01489 571125 or hazel.andsteve17@gmail.com. Suggested donation £4 per person. Parking is available in the public car park outside the hall.

ROM

Monday 15th January● **A Future for the Nature of Hampshire?** 7.30-9.30pm

Andy Lester, Romsey Group Chairman, will reflect on the future vision for nature in Hampshire. He will take a fresh look at what Hampshire wildlife could look like if we use a bit of creativity and imagination, including the new reserve at Fishlake Meadows. Crosfield Hall, Broadwater Road, Romsey SO51 8GL. Contact Coral Newton at coralnewton99@gmail.com or 01794 523759. Suggested donation £4 per person, £3 students.

SD

Wednesday 17th January● **Butterflies of the Meon Valley** 7.30-9.30pm

Butterfly Conservation expert Ashley Whitlock will present an illustrated talk about the Butterflies of Meon Valley. St Wilfrids Church Hall Padnell Road, Cowplain PO8 ODZ. Contact Peter Leversha on 02392 592711. Suggested donation £3 including refreshments.

BD

Thursday 18th January● **Winter Birds on Moor Green Lakes, Eversley** 10.30am-12.30pm

A visit to Moor Green Lakes, Eversley. Wildfowl numbers are at their maximum, widgeon being the most numerous duck with upwards of 500 on occasion. Also to be found in good numbers are gadwall, teal, mallard, shoveler, tufted duck and coot. A few goldeneye can usually be found and lately one or two smew have spent some of the winter period on the reserve. Grove Lake holds a winter night-time roost of goosander, for which the site is locally important. Access to a hide should make for a good morning's bird watching whatever the weather. Car parking in Lower Sandhurst Road car park in Finchampstead, Wokingham RG40 3TF (Map ref. SU 805 629). Contact Gerry Gardner on 01189 700859. Suggested donation £4 per person. Sorry, no dogs. Please share cars if possible.

GO

Friday 19th January● **Secrets of the Solent** 7.30-9.30pm

The Solent is one of the south coast's more hidden ecosystems. Join us to learn in more detail about the Secrets of the Solent project and why we must all come together to save our local marine life! Children under 18 must be accompanied by adults. St Faith's Church, Victoria Square, Lee on the Solent, Hampshire, PO13 9NF. Please contact Richard Bloom on 02392 527094 or rbloom5048@aol.com. Suggested donation £3 per person.

HHE

Saturday 20th January● **North Hayling and Oyster Beds** 10am-1pm

We will explore the farmlands of North Hayling and then check out the oyster beds for birds. At this time of the year be prepared for mud! Meet in the car park off Havant Rd behind the Esso garage, PO11 0LG (Map ref. SU 717 029). Contact John Goodspeed on 07811 435252 or john@havantnature.net. Suggested donation £2. Dogs on leads welcome.

ALR

Sunday 21st January● **Alresford Winter Bird Walk** 10am-2pm

Join John Clark for a guided walk of about 4 miles in the Alresford area to see winter birds. Bring a snack for a coffee stop. Meet at the bottom of Broad Street near the old fire station (Map ref. SU 588 329). Parking is available in the station car park (SU 588 325) or nearby streets. For further information, please contact Mary on 01962 864440. Suggested donation £4. Sorry, no dogs.

BW

Monday 22nd January● **Ladybirds!** 7.30-9.30pm

An illustrated talk by Bryan Pinchen of Hampshire Cultural Trust on the life of these tiny, valuable contributors to our gardens and wildlife. Church Hall, Free Street, Bishops Waltham. Parking available in the library car park next door. Contact Jane Gentry on 01489 890961 or bw@bwwildlife@gmail.com. Admission £3 per head including refreshments.

HHE

Wednesday 24th January● **Plants and Insects of Portsdown Hill - an Update** 7.30-9.30pm

Hear about the plants and insects of Portsdown Hill and how they have changed over the last 40 years, from Richard Jones, Portsdown Countryside Officer. Drama Studio, Warblington School, Southleigh Road, Havant PO9 2RR. Contact Andrew Powling on 02392 258457 or apowling01@btinternet.com. Suggested donation £3 per person. Follow HIWWT signs from School entrance to Drama Studio.

NFW

Thursday 25th January● **In to Roost** 4-5pm (dusk)

Watch as thousands of birds come onto the reserve to roost for the night. Bring binoculars and warm clothing. Meet at "Tern Hide". Park at the main Blashford Lakes Reserve car park (not the Centre), Ellingham Drive, near Ringwood. Booking is essential - please contact Bob Chapman on 01425 472760 or BlashfordLakes@hiwwt.org.uk. Suggested donation £4 per person. Sorry, no dogs.

ROM

Friday 26th January● **Members Only: Discover Fishlake Meadows** 10am-12.30pm. **Sorry, this event is FULLY BOOKED.**

Find out more about our vision for this spectacular wild place, plus a chance to spot some of the amazing birdlife that the site has become renowned for. This event has a limited number of places so book early to avoid disappointment. Please wear warm clothing and boots. Fishlake Meadows, Romsey (meeting place will be confirmed when booking). Contact Membership Team on 01489 774408. Suggested donation £4 per person. Sorry, no dogs.

ECF

Tuesday 30th January● **Hampshire's Hidden Wildlife Gems** 7.30-9.30pm

Jonathan Stokes will talk to us about Hampshire's hard-to-spot wildlife. The Bishopstoke Centre, Sydney Road, Bishopstoke. SO50 6DJ. Contact David Hill on 02380 267012 or d-hill2@sky.com. Admission £3 to include refreshments.

February

FA

Thursday 8th February● **The Enchanting Islands of the Galapagos and Rainforests of Ecuador** 7.30-9.30pm

Join us as Andy Tucker from Naturetrek talks through the magic of a visit to the enchanted islands of the Galapagos, showcasing some of the islands' endemic wildlife and rich history through a series of stunning photographs. After the break we will visit the Andes, cloud forests and Amazon rainforest of mainland Ecuador, one of the most biodiverse countries on earth. Wallington Village Hall, Broadcut, Fareham PO16 8ST. Contact Hazel Fotheringham on 01489 571125 or hazel.andsteve17@gmail.com. Suggested donation £4 per person. Parking available in public car park outside the hall.

IOW

Sunday 11th Feb● **Hazel Coppicing Day** 10am-3pm


Come and join us for a day's coppicing in Eaglehead and Bloodstone Copse, learning about this traditional woodland skill and the wildlife that it benefits. Booking essential. Meet at layby at the foot of Ashey Down (Map ref. SZ 575 874). Please contact Jamie Marsh on 01983 760018 or jamie.marsh@hiwwt.org.uk. Suggested donation £4 per person. Sorry, no dogs.

SO

Monday 12th February🌲 **Forest School Taster** 9.30-11.30am

Bring your 2-5 year-olds for some exploring, discovering, creating, constructing, playing and learning in the woods. This is a taster session to see if you might like to book onto our next 6 week Forest School programme, starting in February. Testwood Lakes Centre, Brunel Rd, Totton, SO40 3WX (Map ref. SU 353 177). Please contact Sam Dawson or Grace Brennan on 02380667929 or testwoodlakes@hiwwt.org.uk. Suggested donation £4 per child. Sorry, no dogs.

FA

Tuesday 13th February **Make a Bird Feeder** 10am-12noon or 1-3pm


Drop in to Swanwick Lakes any time between 10am and 12noon or 1 and 3pm. Find out how to provide food and nesting materials for your garden birds and make a bird feeder to take home. Swanwick Lakes Nature Reserve, Sopwith Way, Swanwick SO31 7AY (Map ref. SU 505 098). Please contact Jess or Dawn on 01489 570240 or SwanwickLakes@hiwwt.org.uk. Suggested donation £4 per child. Sorry, no dogs. Please wear outdoor clothing and wellies and bring a packed lunch.

NFW

Tuesday 13th February **Wild Days Out - Legends of the Lakes** 10am-3pm

Separate fact from fiction and join us on a quest to uncover the mysteries, mythical creatures and folklore of Blashford Lakes. Blashford Lakes Centre, Ellingham Drove, Ringwood. BH24 3PJ (Map ref. SU 151 079). Online booking: www.shop.hiwwt.org.uk. Further information from Jim Day or Tracy Standish at BlashfordLakes@hiwwt.org.uk. Cost: £16 per child. Sorry, no dogs.

NFW

Tuesday 13th February **In to Roost** 4.15-5.30pm (dusk)

Watch as thousands of birds come onto the reserve to roost for the night, booking is essential. Bring binoculars and warm clothing. Meet at "Tern Hide". Park at the main Blashford Lakes Reserve car park (not the Centre), Ellingham Drove, near Ringwood. Please contact Bob Chapman on 01425 472760 or BlashfordLakes@hiwwt.org.uk. Suggested donation £4 per person. Sorry, no dogs.

SO

Wednesday 14th February **Wicked Willow** 10am-2pm

Come and have a go at making your own willow animals, plants or other creations to take home. Have a walk to our living willow domes and tunnels too. Drop in any time. Suitable for adults and children aged 7 and over. Testwood Lakes Centre, Brunel Rd, Totton, SO40 3WX (Map ref. SU 353 176). Please contact Sam Dawson or Grace Brennan on 02380 667929 or testwoodlakes@hiwwt.org.uk. Suggested donation £4 per child. Sorry, no dogs.

NFW

Wednesday 14th February **Wild Days Out - Legends of the Lakes** 10am-3pm


Separate fact from fiction and join us on a quest to uncover the mysteries, mythical creatures and folklore of Blashford Lakes. Blashford Lakes Centre, Ellingham Drove, Ringwood BH24 3PJ (Map ref. SU 151 079). Online booking: www.shop.hiwwt.org.uk. Further information from Jim Day or Tracy Standish at BlashfordLakes@hiwwt.org.uk. Cost: £16 per child. Sorry, no dogs.

WN

Wednesday 14th February **The Solent and South Wight: The Trust's Living Seas** 7.30-9.30pm

Hear about seagrass beds, chalk reefs, rocky sponge gardens and the amazing life there beneath the waves with Tim Ferrero from the Trust, plus an update on the Trust's work to protect our seas. Badger Farm Community Centre, adjacent to far end of Sainsbury's store, Badger Farm Road, Winchester SO22 4QB (Map ref. SU 462 275). Ample parking available. Please contact Loraine on 01962 861182 or Anne at atardill2@gmail.com. Admission £4 to include tea or coffee.

SO

Thursday 15th Feb **Campfire Cooking** 10am-12noon (2-7 year-olds) and 2-4pm (8-12 year-olds)

Have a go at lighting your own fire and cook some marshmallows and popcorn. This event will take place in the woods if dry or in the Bronze Age roundhouse if wet. Suitable for 2-7 year-olds. Booking essential. Testwood Lakes Centre, Brunel Rd, Totton, SO40 3WX (Map ref. SU 353 177). Please contact Sam Dawson or Grace Brennan on 02380 667929 or testwoodlakes@hiwwt.org.uk. Suggested donation £4 per child. Sorry, no dogs.

NFW

Thursday 15th February

● **The Night Sky** 6.30-8.30pm

Spend an evening under the stars at Blashford Lakes with members from Fordingbridge Astronomers. Begin indoors with an introductory talk on the sky tonight, before heading outside to observe the late winter constellations. In the event of cloud an extended talk and indoor demonstration of telescopes and astro-software will be available. All proceeds from the event will be split between HIWWT and Fordingbridge Astronomers. Booking essential. Suitable for age 8 and over (children must be accompanied by adults). Blashford Lakes Centre, Ellingham Drive, Ringwood BH24 3PJ (Map ref. SU 151 080). Please contact Jim Day or Tracy Standish on 01425 472760 or BlashfordLakes@hiwwt.org.uk. Suggested donation £6 per person. Sorry, no dogs.

GO

Friday 16th February

● **Titchfield Haven: A South Coast Special** 7.30-9.30pm

Richard Levett will share his knowledge on one of the Solent's most important sites for our bird species. Learn what makes this Special Site of Scientific Interest located right on our doorstep such an important location for our fauna and flora, and how it has developed since designated as a site of natural national importance. Children under 18 must be accompanied by adults. St Faith's Church, Victoria Square, Lee on the Solent, Hampshire, PO13 9NF. Please contact Richard Bloom on 02392 527094 or rbloom5048@aol.com. Suggested donation £3 per person.

BD

Saturday 17th February

● **Snowdrops Along the River Test** 10.30am-12.30pm

Join us for a walk along the River Test at Overton to its source at Ashe to see snowdrops and returning spring birds. Meet at the car park at Turnpike Cottages off London Road on hill to village RG25 3NU (Map ref. SU 519 497). Contact Ruth Cairns on 01256 326364. Suggested donation £3 per person. Dogs on leads welcome. The walk is likely to be wet underfoot in parts.

SO

Saturday 17th February

● **Winter Walk along the Hamble Foreshore** 2.30-4.30pm

A guided walk along the foreshore from Universal Marina beside the Hamble river. Car park charges apply at Universal Marina so please car share if possible. Meet outside Aspire Boat Sales, Universal Marina, Sarisbury Green. Contact Jane Gentry on 01489 890961 or bw@bwwildlife@gmail.com. Suggested donation £3. Dogs on leads welcome.

ROM

Monday 19th February

● **Hawk Conservancy** 7.30-9.30pm

Learn about the Hawk Conservancy's conservation projects, including the role of the national bird of prey hospital with conservation, research and rehabilitation of wild injured raptors, the raptor nest box scheme with results and important data recorded on wild bird breeding and population indicators, the British kestrel survey and the work the Trust are doing in Asia and Africa with critically endangered species of vulture. Crosfield Hall, Broadwater Road, Romsey SO51 8GL. Contact Coral Newton at coralnewton99@gmail.com or 01794 523759. Suggested donation £4 per person, £3 students.

SD

Wednesday 21st February

● **Birds Around the World** 7.30-9.30pm

An illustrated talk by wildlife enthusiasts Deryn and Alan, who have spent several years visiting various locations photographing wildlife including our feathered friends seen in Asia, Africa, South and Central America. St Wilfrid's Church Hall, Padnell Road, Cowplain PO8 ODZ. Contact Peter Leversha on 02392 592711. Suggested donation £3 including refreshments.

HHE

Friday 23rd February

● **The Langbrook Stream and Southmoors** 2-4pm

Explore the Langbrook Stream and then the northern shore of Langstone Harbour looking for birds. There are likely to be muddy paths. Meet at the back of Solent Road Tesco in Havant, PO9 1TR (Map ref. SU 715 060). Contact John Goodspeed on 07811 435252 or john@havantnature.net. Suggested donation £2. Dogs on leads welcome.

NFS

Sunday 25th February

● **Birds at Keyhaven** 10am-3pm

Join John Clark for a bird walk of about 4 miles. Bring a packed lunch. Meet in the Keyhaven car park opposite The Gun public house (map ref SZ 306 915). Some free parking is available by the sea wall and charges apply in the car park. For further information, please contact Mary on 01962 864440. Suggested donation £4 per person. Sorry, no dogs.

BW

Monday 26th February

● **The Work of Amphibian and Reptile Conservation in the UK** 7.30-9.30pm

A talk about reptiles and amphibians by Rick Sharp, Dorset Field Officer, Amphibian and Reptile Conservation. Church Hall, Free Street, Bishops Waltham. Parking available in the library car park next door. Contact Jane Gentry on 01489 890961 or bw@bwwildlife@gmail.com. Admission £3 per head including refreshments.

ECF

Tuesday 27th February

● **Hampshire Swifts** 7.30-9.30pm

Local swift group member Andy Broadhurst will give a presentation on these fascinating birds. Chandlers Ford Community Centre, Hursley Road, Chandlers Ford SO53 2FT. Contact David Hill on 02380 267012 or dhill2@sky.com. Admission £3 to include refreshments.

HHE

Wednesday 28th February

● **The Future of Freshwaters** 7.30-9.30pm

Hear about our Hampshire rivers, the future threats they face and what the Wildlife Trust is doing about them from Ali Morse, Freshwater Specialist of the Trust. Drama Studio, Warblington School, Southleigh Road, Havant PO9 2RR. Contact Andrew Powling on 02392 258457 or apowling01@btinternet.com. Suggested donation £3 per person. Follow HIWWT signs from School entrance to Drama Studio.

March

FA

Thursday 8th March

● **Milton Locks: The Story of an Urban Nature Reserve** 7.30-9.30pm

Come and learn about one of Portsmouth's smaller but no less important nature reserves, and how the work of the Wildlife Trust has established it as a haven for many species of flora and fauna. Jessica Parsons, a key member of the reserve's team, will share her knowledge of this small but highly ecologically valued site located on our doorstep. Wallington Village Hall, Broadcut, Fareham, PO16 8ST. Contact Hazel Fotheringham on 01489 571125 or hazel.andsteve17@gmail.com. Suggested donation £4 per person. Parking available in public car park outside the hall.

PO

Saturday 10th March

● **Bird Walk at Farlington Marshes** 9.30am-2pm

Join the Winchester group for a 3 mile walk to see over-wintering wildfowl, waders, grebes and divers at the Trust's Farlington Marshes reserve. Bring a packed lunch. Meet in the reserve car park near the reserve entrance gate (map ref SU 679 044), off the Eastern Road (A27/A2030) roundabout near Portsmouth. For further information, please contact Mary on 01962 864440. Suggested donation £4 per person. Sorry, no dogs.

PO

Saturday 10th March

● **Milton's Hidden Seashore - Open Morning** 10am-12noon

Drop in any time between 10am and 12noon to meet the Milton's Hidden Seashore project team. Find out how you can get involved in the project and join in with some family activities. Milton Locks Nature Reserve, Locksway Road, Milton, Portsmouth PO4 8LT (Map ref. SZ 677 998). Please contact Jess on 01489 570240 or Jess.Parsons@hiwwt.org.uk. Donations welcome. Sorry, no dogs.

WN

Wednesday 14th March

● **Barton Meadows Nature Reserve** 7.30-9.30pm

Susan Simmonds from the Trust will explain how farmland will revert to wildflower rich meadows and the wildlife that eventually we can expect to see there. Badger Farm Community Centre, adjacent to far end of Sainsbury's store, Badger Farm Road, Winchester SO22 4QB (Map ref. SU 462 275). Ample parking available. Please contact Loraine on 01962 861182 or Anne via atardill2@gmail.com. Admission £4 to include tea or coffee.

GO

Friday 16th March

● **LEAF: Farming for the Future** 7.30-9.30pm

Increasing human population and demand for food places an increasing pressure on our agricultural systems, with negative impacts on our ecosystems as a result. Join us for a talk from LEAF (Linking Environment and Agriculture) and learn how the two do not always have to oppose each other and how we can adapt our practice to reduce the one of the major stresses on British ecosystems. Children under 18 must be accompanied by adults. St Faith's Church, Victoria Square, Lee on the Solent PO13 9NF. Please contact Richard Bloom on 02392 527094 or rbloom5048@aol.com. Suggested donation £3 per person.

NFW

Saturday 17th March

👨👩👧👦 **Family Bird Walk** 10am-12noon

Explore Blashford's lakes, woodland and hides in search of dabbling ducks, glorious grebes, fabulous finches and much more! Blashford Lakes Centre, Ellingham Drove, Ringwood BH24 3PJ (Map ref. SU 151 079). Please contact Jim Day or Tracy Standish on 01425 472760 or BlashfordLakes@hiwwt.org.uk. Suggested donation £4 per person. Children must be accompanied by adults. Sorry, no dogs.

ROM

Monday 19th March

● **Dragons in the Heather** 7.30-9.30pm

Hampshire and the Isle of Wight is host to 12 out of the 13 native amphibians and reptiles in the UK, including rarities such as the natterjack toad, sand lizard and smooth snake. Hear from Dr Tony Gent, Chief Executive of the UK Amphibian and Reptile Conservation Trust, on the work of the ARC Trust in supporting amphibian and reptile conservation and how you can get involved in local projects. Crosfield Hall, Broadwater Road, Romsey SO51 8GL. Contact Coral Newton at coralnewton99@gmail.com or 01794 523759. Suggested donation £4 per person, £3 students.

BD

Wednesday 21st March

● **Great Crested Newts at Popley Ponds** 5.45-7.15pm

A visit with a local expert to see great Crested Newts at Popley Ponds Nature Reserve during the evening, in their breeding season when they are most active. Numbers are limited due to the nature of the terrain so booking is essential. Meet in front of Tesco Express off Carpenters Down, Popley, Basingstoke RG24 9DR (Map ref. SU 639 436). Limited parking is available by the shops on Carpenters Down and on-street parking is also possible nearby. Contact Lydia Knight on 01256 334316. Suggested donation £3 per person. Please bring a torch and waterproof footwear is advisable. Sorry, no dogs.

SD

Wednesday 21st March

● **Urban Wildlife and its Conservation** 7.30-9.30pm

Well known Trust ecologist Dr David Rumble will present an illustrated talk on the importance of raising local awareness and involvement in biodiversity conservation. St Wilfrids Church Hall, Padnell Road, Cowplain PO8 ODZ. Contact Peter Leversha on 02392 592711. Suggested donation £3 including refreshments.

FA

Saturday 24th March

● **Brownwich and Titchfield Canal Path** 10am-2pm

We will walk from Titchfield to the shore at Brownwich and return via the Titchfield Haven canal path looking for birds and signs of spring. There may be muddy paths. Bring a lunch snack. Meet in the car park off Bridge Street, Titchfield PO14 4EA (Map ref. SU 541 054). Contact John Goodspeed on 07811 435252 or john@havantnature.net. Suggested donation £2. Dogs on leads welcome.

BW

Monday 26th March

● **Street End Farm - Wild Bird Food** 7.30-9.30pm

An illustrated talk by Lesley Smith from Street End Farm in Ashton Lane, Bishops Waltham, about the management and activities on the farm - known to many as the place where they buy their wild bird food! Church Hall, Free Street, Bishops Waltham. Parking available in the library car park next door. Contact Jane Gentry on 01489 890961 or bw@bwwildlife@gmail.com. Admission £3 per head including refreshments.

ECF

Tuesday 27th March

● **Hampshire - Nature in Trust** 7.30-9.30pm

Mike Read will take us on a photographic tour of some of Hampshire's Wildlife Trust reserves. Chandlers Ford Community Centre, Hursley Road, Chandlers Ford SO53 2FT. Contact David Hill on 02380 267012 or dhill2@sky.com. Admission £3 to include refreshments.

HHE

Wednesday 28th March

● **Wildlife of Titchfield Haven National Nature Reserve** 7.30-9.30pm

Hear about the plants, birds and other animals of an important nature reserve at the mouth of the River Meon, from photographer Gordon Small. Drama Studio, Warblington School, Southleigh Road, Havant PO9 2RR. Contact Andrew Powling on 02392 258457 or apowling01@btinternet.com. Suggested donation £3 per person. Follow HIWWT signs from school entrance to Drama Studio.