

Ledbury Naturalists'

Field Club

Winter Programme 2018-19

All meetings are held in the Burgage Hall Church Lane Ledbury on the third Friday of the month. Doors open at 7.00 pm and the meeting begins at 7.30 pm

2018

19 October

The wildlife of a traditional Herefordshire farm

Viv Geen Monitoring Officer, *The Countryside Restoration Trust*

Viv will talk about the work of the *Countryside Restoration Trust* in Herefordshire.

Awnells Farm is one of the two CRT farms in the county and supports a prize-winning herd of traditional Hereford cattle and a diverse range of farm wildlife. There will be a short film about the breeding Little Owls on the farm following the talk.

A guided walk around the farm will be offered in 2019.

Host: Kate Wollen

16 November

Tales from a Wildlife Ranger

Jamie Diplock Wildlife Ranger for *Forestry Commission England*

Jamie is based in the Forest of Dean, and will talk about his experiences with deer and feral wild boar and the many other species, such as the elusive goshawk, he encounters in the Forest of Dean.

Host: Chris Harris

07 December

AGM & Entertainment

The AGM will be short and the entertainment fun, so don't miss it. Refreshments will be available for which we will be requesting contributions near to the time.

2019

18 January

Members evening

This is your opportunity to pull out your images, dust them off and show them to other members. We will follow the successful format of last year which was to showcase the residential visit (north Devon this year) and a selection of other summer visits, and then move on to members' slides.

15 February

The Lugg Living Landscape

Sophie Cowling Lugg Living Landscape Project Officer, *Herefordshire Wildlife Trust*
Sophie will present an illustrated talk on the Trust's project to create and connect habitats in the floodplain of the River Lugg. The talk will focus on restoration works at Bodenham Lake Nature Reserve including large areas of reed-bed creation, wildlife monitoring and efforts to attract osprey.

Host: Nigel Hand

15 March

Wild gardening

Sue Mabberley Nant-y-Bedd Garden, Fforest Coal Pit, Brecon Beacons

Sue has been gardening in the Black Mountains of Wales for nearly 40 years. "Wild gardening' is a label that seems to fit the approach that she has developed here. Sue will talk about how nature has influenced her, creating a beautiful garden, which sits comfortably, and with a light footprint, within its landscape. The approach welcomes the spontaneity of self-seeders and wildflowers, but the garden is also a productive fruit and vegetable garden, a tranquil place to relax and a haven for wildlife. Sue explores how this balance is achieved and how this could translate to your own garden.

We plan to arrange a visit to Nant-y-Bedd Garden in 2019.

Host: Janet Parry

12 April

International Centre for Birds of Prey Conservation work here and abroad

Jemima Parry-Jones Director, *International Centre for Birds of Prey*

Jemima is known for her expertise in birds of prey and owls. She is also known for her dry and sometimes risky sense of humour. As she says herself the older you get the less worried you are about what other people think of you, which is a liberating thought! She plans on telling us a little of the history of the Centre and some of its conservation work, both in the UK and abroad saving various groups of birds of prey. She will bring two live birds to wake everyone up at the end of the talk.

Host: Eden Tanner