

Ledbury Naturalists'

Field Club

Winter Programme 2019-20

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

2019

18 October

Title The Secret Life of Crayfish

Speaker Richard Mundy, Forest Waters Officer, Gloucester Wildlife Trust

Summary The ecology of the native White-clawed crayfish: life-cycle, habitat, diet, predators, conservation status. Other introduced non-native crayfish species, particularly American signal crayfish: history, ecology, identification, interactions with the native crayfish including discussion of 'crayfish plague' the fungal disease carried by the American signal crayfish. Range and distribution of the two species with particular reference to Herefordshire and Gloucestershire. Conservation efforts to protect White-clawed crayfish.

Host Kate Wollen

15 November

Title Heritage Trees of the Three Counties

Speaker Archie Miles

Summary Renowned tree author and photographer Archie Miles reveals the most remarkable trees of Herefordshire, Worcestershire and Gloucestershire Archie Miles has been a professional photographer for forty years. With an abiding passion for the British landscape, he has carved a specialist niche in the world of trees and has written and photographed eight books on the subject. His latest book is *The Ash*.

Host Anne Crane

06 December

AGM & Entertainment

Summary Our AGMs are models of brevity allowing more time for eating, drinking and enjoying some light entertainment. We will ask, in due course, for food and drink contributions and for anyone with a musical or other performing bent to step up and offer to entertain the members.

17 January

Members evening

This is your opportunity to show your latest images. We will showcase the residential visit (the Knepp) and a selection of other summer visits, and then move on to members' slides. Please reserve your place to show slides with Janet Parry (janet@jobeys.plus.com or tel. 01531 640640).

21 February

Title Growing Native Orchids

Speaker Suzanne Noble

Summary Why orchids are unusual in the way they grow, how they grow in the wild, how I grow them in the laboratory and how to introduce them to your garden or meadow.

Host Alan Pike

20 March

Title Hedgehog talk to launch Ledbury hedgehog project

Speakers Anne Crane & Alan Pike

Summary Anne and Alan will speak about why this iconic, and much loved species, is feeling the pinch and what we can do to support hedgehog conservation in our town.

Host Janet Parry

17 April Public Lecture

Title A Photographer's Wild Britain

Speaker Nick Martin

Summary From reptiles on the Dorset heaths to the sea bird colonies of the Shetlands, Nick takes us around Britain describing some of the wild places and the special animals and birds that live there. Enjoy stunning images from swirling flocks of waders to lekking black grouse and basking adders.

Host Eden Tanner