

# Droitwich Local Group

## Summer 2022 News



**Worcestershire  
Wildlife Trust**

Summer days are finally here, although there have been a few moments where it's felt a little more like winter.

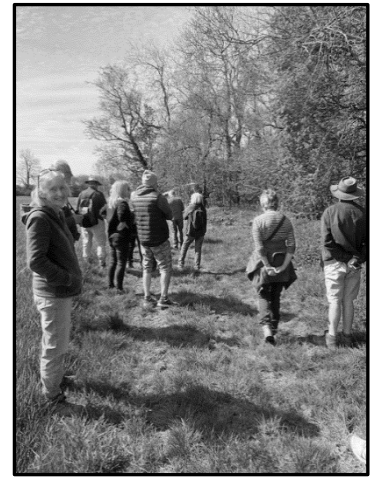
At last, we have started to regain some sense of 'normality'! On Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> April, a group of Trust supporters enjoyed an excellent walk, organised by your local committee, around Upper Hollowfields Farm, Hanbury, by kind permission of the Terry family.

Upper Hollowfields Farm is farmed sympathetically to benefit wildlife under the Natural England Higher Level Stewardship Scheme. Wild birdseed mixes are sown and hedges are managed on rotation to care for the differing requirements of species including the rare brown hairstreak butterfly. 80 species of birds have been recorded here through the RSPB Volunteer and Farmer Alliance.

The day of our visit was perfect and on entering the first field we saw a vixen and two cubs! Later on, we saw another fox, roe deer, possibly one fallow deer spotted by an eagle-eyed walker and several brown hares. Numerous birds were seen, at least 17 species clocked, with a whitethroat greeting us as we set off from the farm buildings, plus a variety of butterflies and wildflowers. We concluded that it wasn't bad for a Saturday morning stroll!



We learnt about the various crop rotations employed to provide periods of time with stubble for lapwings, rough ground for insects and legume mixes for pollinators. Field margins are wide and planted with wildflower mixes. The stream running through has many natural meanders and fallen logs are left to slow the flow and provide differing habitats.



All in all, we had a wonderful visit. Please visit their website for more information about this wonderful wildlife-friendly farm [www.wildhollowfields.co.uk](http://www.wildhollowfields.co.uk)

### **Talks & walks**

The team at Trust HQ are working on a programme of online talks to see us through the winter. To find out more, please visit: [www.worcswildlifetrust.co.uk](http://www.worcswildlifetrust.co.uk). Talks start at 19:00 and last for about an hour with time for questions. A donation of £2.50 per participant is requested – money well spent!

Please see over for our summer walk.

We look forward to seeing you soon!

*Celia*

*Your newsletter editor*

## Join us for a walk

Following our lovely visit to Upper Hollowfields Farm, we're looking forward to our next trip out...

Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> August, 10am

### **Trench Wood nature reserve**

Join us on this guided walk with Reserves Officer, Dominique Cragg, who will lead us around this beautiful woodland, highlighting some of its wonderful wildlife and how it's managed to benefit the wildlife. With any luck, she'll help us to see the wildlife we often miss on our unaccompanied visits!

Sturdy footwear should be worn and, as usual, a donation of £2.50 per person is requested please.

Numbers are limited and our last walk was oversubscribed so please book your place by getting in touch with Tony Barnby by email [ag\\_cmbarnby@hotmail.com](mailto:ag_cmbarnby@hotmail.com) or telephone 01527 821642.

For more information about Trench Wood, visit [www.worcswildlifetrust.co.uk/nature-reserves/trench-wood-nature-reserve](http://www.worcswildlifetrust.co.uk/nature-reserves/trench-wood-nature-reserve)

### **Got an idea?**

We would love to hear from you with your ideas for possible walks and talks to be arranged for future events. Please do not hesitate to contact us, using the information above.

We look forward to meeting some of you on our walk in August and, in the meantime, we hope you enjoy the summer!

## Discover our local wildlife ...and get recording



House sparrow by Karen Summers

The Trust has teamed up with Worcestershire Biological Records Centre and the Worcestershire Recorders in order to track some of our local wildlife. How are our house sparrows doing? Have your house martins returned? Have you spotted a hummingbird hawk-moth in your garden? How do you know what to look for or how to identify what you see?

You can help us to understand more about our wildlife just by taking a photo and uploading it via our website. We're looking for sightings of 15 target species but we'll accept photos of all wildlife and will help to identify species where we can.

Visit [www.worcswildlifetrust.co.uk/wildlife-sightings](http://www.worcswildlifetrust.co.uk/wildlife-sightings) for more information.