

For External Organisations and
Community Groups



Worcestershire

DIRECTORY OF SPEAKERS AND WALK LEADERS 2011-2



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Creating a Living Landscape

Welcome to the Worcestershire Wildlife Trust Directory of Speakers and Walk Leaders 2011-2

This directory was originally designed for the use of Worcestershire Wildlife Trust's Local Group committees for booking talks and walks for their programme of event, but speakers listed in this version are happy for other groups and organisations to use as well.

All details are correct to the best of our knowledge as at March 2011. It is intended that the directory will be updated annually. If you hear of any changes or new speakers please let Suzi Richer know – suzi@worcestershirowildlifetrust.org

Many of the speakers/leaders on the list ask only for their travel expenses and a donation to either Worcestershire Wildlife Trust or another wildlife charity. All of these speakers/leaders generously give up their free time and for this the Trust is very grateful.

Others ask for a fee and this is indicated in the particulars given for each person.

If you wish to contact a speaker or walk leader, please do so directly by using the contact details given. It is helpful to the speakers/leaders if you could send written confirmation of the talk/walk, what equipment you are supplying/expecting them to bring and clear directions for finding the venue. If a speaker is booked well in advance, you may also like to give them a reminder letter or phone call to confirm they are still able to attend.

Special thanks go to Trust volunteer Steve Dillworth for completing the lengthy task of updating this directory and to Wendy Carter for providing the front cover image.

PLEASE NOTE: The speakers listed in this directory are not necessarily part of Worcestershire Wildlife Trust and do not necessarily represent the views of the Trust.

If you would like to receive a copy of this directory by email for free, please email the Trust to request one, stating the group or organization you represent.

If you have any queries, comments or suggestions regarding the directory, please contact:

Worcestershire Wildlife Trust
Lower Smite Farm, Smite Hill, Hindlip, Worcester WR3 8SZ

Tel: 01905 754919 Fax: 01905 755868

Email: enquiries@worcestershirowildlifetrust.org Website: www.worcswildlifetrust.co.uk

Cover photograph by Wendy Carter – Blackstone Poppies near Bewdley

Imagine a Worcestershire rich in wildlife, brimming with wildflowers and abundant with birdsong.

Picture our county where the sounds and sights of our natural world inspire our children.

Think of a country where wildlife can move safely and freely – and we can easily access the countryside.

From restoration to re-creation, Worcestershire Wildlife Trust is working towards a county where wildlife flourishes in our countryside, towns and villages.

With our local knowledge and expertise our staff and volunteers are constantly working to protect habitats and species across the county.

We care for over 70 nature reserves – woods and heaths, pools and marshes, and meadows of international importance.

Working with landowners, local authorities, organisations, communities and individuals we advise how to protect and create places for our wildlife.

With support from our members we're making a difference. With your help we can achieve much more.

By joining Worcestershire Wildlife Trust you'll become part of an influential and growing conservation network of 47 Trusts and over 750,000 members across the UK.

Membership Benefits

- Enjoy over 70 nature reserves from Chance Wood in the north to Broadway Gravel Pit in the south.
- 3 magazines a year featuring local and national wildlife news
- Membership of your Local Group with talks, walks and social events
- Information on events, open days, walks, courses and volunteering opportunities
- Playing your part in securing the future of habitats and species in your local area

Wildlife Watch

Help us inspire your children and grandchildren by becoming Wildlife Watch members! Our junior club members receive a welcome pack, membership card, badge and pocket guide. With online resources, magazines, posters and competitions there's something for all ages.

£15 annual membership for upto 4 children

Join online today or call us on 01905 754919

www.worcswildlifetrust.co.uk



T denotes a talk or other indoor event, W a walk or outdoor meeting/event/trip. Comments about speaker requirements, subjects covered in the talks or descriptions of the walks, are within square brackets.

ADLAM, Elizabeth Oak Cottage, Alfrick, Worcester WR6 5ES

Tel: 01886 832331 E-mail: brian.adlam@virgin.net

When can be contacted: daytime.

T Talks with slides/Powerpoint presentation:

- The Amazonian rainforest.
- North American Serengeti [demise of megafauna at the end of the last Great Ice Age].
- The Pampa [South American prairie - ecosystem containing plants, animals and ancient tribes].
- Migration in the southern hemisphere.
- The land beneath the blue Caribbean [the world below sea level].
- The plants of paradise [exotic Caribbean flowers – native or invaders].
- Was this the second Eden? [changes due to man in the flora and fauna of the Mediterranean basin].
- A land of milk and honey [plants of the Bible lands].
- Why does that grow there? [man's impact on today's Mediterranean flora].
- The biogeography of Macaronesia [the variety of trees and flowering plants on these islands and how they arrived].
- The hills are alive... [Scandinavia – annual transformation of lands of high latitudes and altitudes into panoramas of brightly coloured flowers, and how the flowers survive Arctic weather].
- Chasing the seasons [land, sea and air animal migration in Scandinavia and the Baltic].
- Large mammals in cold waters.
- Conservation and management in Polar regions.
- The missing meat-eaters [Australian carnivores].
- The islands of the South Pacific [establishment of their unique flora and fauna].
- The nature of St Helena.
- Pyramids of energy [how all plants and animals live together by recycling energy].
- Genetic engineering – so what's new? [is this a new problem, or something that is only now coming into the public consciousness?].
- The kingdom of the deep [the ocean as a food provider for both sea and land animals].
- Why can't we pick the flowers? [landscape at risk from conflicting interests].
- A hitchhiker's guide to planet Earth [movement of plants with humans].
- Man and his art [how we knew the plants and animals of the time].
- Garden history (two talks):
 - (i)Mediterranean basin.
 - (ii)England's evolution of the garden.
- The great serpent mother [the Amazon].
- In the rainforest [Caribbean].
- Food in Polar waters.
- The Falkland Islands.

And many more! **All are 45 minutes in duration.**

Fee: no charge.

Equipment required: none.

Distance will travel: Worcestershire

Booking notice required: min 2 wks

Biographical info: a graduate and retired teacher of biological science, she is now a cruise lecturer and has travelled widely. Her particular interests lie in ecology, conservation and British wild flowers; other interests include marine biology and zoology.

ALLEN, Paul

Wyre Forest District Council, Green Street, Kidderminster,
Worcestershire DY10 1HA

Tel.: 01562 732971 E-mail: paul.allen@wyreforestdc.gov.uk
When can be contacted: leave a message on answerphone.

T Talk:

- Wildlife and nature reserves of the Wyre Forest district [he would much prefer to give the talk at the same time as a walk on the reserve. He prefers to talk to local groups within the WFDC area].

Fee: no charge.

Equipment required: screen or white wall.

W Walks:

- Guided walks on Wyre Forest district nature reserves.

Note: the talk and walks are only available if the Ranger Service programme allows.

Distance will travel: Wyre Forest district.

Booking notice required: as much as possible.

Biographical info: he is a Countryside Officer for the Wyre Forest District Council, and is the author of *Nature Notes* in the *Wyre Forest Shuttle* newspaper.

AMESS. Eddie

155 Kidderminster Rd South, West Hagley,
West Midlands DY9 0JB

Tel : 01562 700595 Mob : 07944 752454

When can be contacted : any time

T Talk with slides :

- "Badger Watch" Looking at the life of badgers & activity at a sett from personal observations.

Fee : £40 payable to local charities plus fuel costs.

Equipment required :Table approx 4ft long.

Distance will travel : 20 miles.

Booking notice : one month minimum.

Biographical information : Spent a number of years studying badgers, photographing and collecting information on local setts. Also dealing with and recording information of road casualties. Eddie has been a member of the WWT for many years.

BALDWIN, Bob

Woodsfield House, Jennet Tree Lane, Madresfield
Malvern, Worcestershire WR13 5BE

Tel : 01905 831873
Mob : 078807 24793

e-mail : bob.baldwin@virgin.net

W Walks :

- Leads walks of any distance in any terrain.

Fee : normally none, but may require minimal travel expenses

Distance will travel : Worcestershire and surrounding counties.

Booking notice required : 10 days.

Biographical info : very experienced walks leader, able to lead mixed ability groups. Leads walks regularly for a walking holiday company. He possesses formal navigation qualifications and an outdoor first aid certificate. He is able to provide countryside interpretation en route.

BATEMAN, Diana – see PARSONS**BEAMSLEY, Neil**

2 The Green, Honeybourne, Evesham, Worcs WR11 7PG

Tel.: 07870 581913 (mobile)

E-mail: neilbeamsley@hotmail.com

When can be contacted: evenings.

T Talks with slides, overhead projection and/or Powerpoint presentation:

- British wildlife.
- General conservation.
- Mammals, especially otters, water voles, bats.
- European protected species.

[Evenings and weekends only.]

Fee: £25 incl. travel.

Equipment required: digital projector,
possibly slide projector, overhead projector, tape player.

W Walks:

- Guided wildlife walks, negotiable - to suit local group requirements.

Distance will travel: 25 miles.

Booking notice required: 2 weeks.

Biographical info: he has a degree in ecology and is an experienced adult education lecturer with seven years' experience. He is currently a local government ecologist, licensed to work with bats and great crested newts, in which he has a life-long interest.

BETTS, Richard and Lesley

73 Windermere Way, Stourport on Severn, Worcestershire
DY13 8JR

Tel.: 01299 878840

When can be contacted: daytimes, use answerphone.

T Audiovisual presentations:

- The living countryside [music: Vivaldi, Mozart, Delibes; duration 42 minutes].
- Portmeirion [music: Vangelis; duration 15 minutes].
- Wordsworth country [music: Schubert; duration 12 minutes].
- These are the days of our lives [music: Queen; duration 2 minutes].
- Cathedral portraits [music: Bach, Handel].
- The lost gardens of Heligan [music: Debussy; duration 14 minutes].
- Cornish cameo [music: Odyssey; duration 8 minutes].
- Autumn [music: Fauré Pavane; duration 8 minutes].
- Witley Court [music: Grieg; duration 21 minutes].
- Gardens of Cornwall [music: Beethoven; duration 30 minutes].
- Gardens and cellars of Witley Court [music: Barber, Grieg, Mahler, Brahms; duration: 30 minutes].
- How to take better photographs [duration 60 minutes].

[Note: September to April only (not December), evenings only.]

Fee: £39 plus travel expenses of
40p/mile if more than 10 miles.

Equipment required: a large table.

Distance will travel: within a 40 mile
radius of Stourport.

Booking notice required: any time.

Biographical info: they have been general photographers for over 30 years,
with a keen interest in wildlife photography.

BILLS, David

26A High Street, Kinver, Staffordshire DY7 6HF

Tel.: 01384 873210

When can be contacted: any time, especially meal times.

T Talk with slides:

- Kinver Edge.

Fee: no charge.

Equipment required: none.

W Walks:

- Guided historical walks around Kinver. Will lead wildlife walks around the area jointly with National Trust warden.

Distance will travel for talks: anywhere
in Worcestershire.

Booking notice required: any time.

Biographical info: retired pharmacist. Past chairman of Kinver Civic Society, current president of Kinver Historical Society. Founder member, Kinver Edge Volunteers.

BODDINGTON, David (Dr)

The Down House, Bromyard, Herefordshire HR7 4QH

Tel.: 01885 482495

E-mail : olavbod@btinternet.com

When can be contacted: day or evening.

T

Talks with slides:

- The pied flycatcher.
- Arctic birds and flowers [not a mass of birds – the ecology of how they fit together].
- Bird migration.

Fee*: £25 to £30 minimum, depending on travel time (cheque to be made payable to Brockhampton Chapel, Bromyard), plus cost (in cash) of petrol used.

Equipment required: projector stand, backup slide projector welcomed

*He would be willing to waive the fee if the group he was visiting would provide a speaker free of charge (petrol paid) for the Bromyard Branch of Hereford Nature Trust.

Distance will travel: 40miles.

Booking notice required: 4 to 12 months, but will stand in at shorter notice if available.

Biographical info: retired rural general practitioner, gained an M.Sc. in Ecology in 1994. Has 60 years' experience of bird ringing, 38 years of studying pied flycatchers. Has made several trips to the High Arctic to study the fauna and flora.

BODNAR, Dr S.

995 Chester Road, Birmingham B24 0HG

Tel.: 07825 318259

E-mail: stefan.bodnar01@googlemail.com

When can be contacted: daytime preferably.

W**(Field Visits only)**

- Common bird identification.
- Mammals – signs and tracks.
- Bird ringing demonstrations.
- Bat identification and monitoring.

Fees: £60 plus travel expenses.

Distance will travel: West Midlands, Worcestershire, Warwickshire, Shropshire, Birmingham and the Black Country.

Booking notice required: as much as possible, minimum of 2 months.

Biographical info: a professional ecologist for 25 years, he has a wide experience of all aspects of wildlife, incl. abroad. He has studied dormice for 19 years, barn owls for 25 years, is an unrestricted BTO 'A' ringer and trainer, and holds or has held most UK protected species licences.

BRADLEY, Chris 'Abberley View', Callow Hill, Rock, Nr Kidderminster, Worcestershire
DY14 9XD

Tel.: 01299 266103 or 01299 404122
When can be contacted: evenings.

T Talks with slides:

- The realm of the fallow buck [the deer of the Wyre Forest].
- The land of the longhaired fallow [the deer of Mortimer Forest].

Fees: £40 plus cost of fuel. Equipment required: screen if available.

Distance will travel: 30 miles. Booking notice required: 1 month minimum.

Biographical info: has spent 40 years studying the deer of the Wyre Forest.
He is a member of the Wyre Forest Society, WWT, etc.

BROOKES, Martin Vale Wildlife Rescue, Station Road, Beckford, Tewkesbury,
Gloucestershire GL20 7AN

Tel.:01386 882288 E-mail: martin@valewildlife.org.uk
Web: www.valewildlife.org.uk

When can be contacted: Friday to Tuesday incl., 8 am to 5 pm.

T Talk + Powerpoint presentation:

- Work of Vale Wildlife Hospital and Rehabilitation Centre
[Duration 50 to 60 min plus questions.]

Fee: £45 including travel expenses. Equipment required: small table for laptop
and projector.

Distance will travel: 30 miles. Booking notice required: approx. 1 month.

Course: The VWR also offers a basic wildlife first aid and rehabilitation course on site at Beckford, run over three consecutive Sundays. Fee: £95. For more details, or to book, telephone Caroline or e-mail caroline@valewildlife.org.uk

BROWN, Charles Riverside, Victoria Street, Yoxall, Burton-on-Trent, Staffordshire

Tel.: 01543 472280

E-mail: charlie.image@btinternet.com

When can be contacted: any time.

T Talks with slides:

- The Falklands [trip to see the special birds and mammals (penguins to killer whales)].
- Up the Okavango [this river delta is the largest area of marshland in Africa, providing a home for a profusion of both resident and migratory birds].
- The Chobe [a look at the many birds and mammals found in the Chobe National Park, Botswana].
- The Serengeti [a Tanzanian photographic safari to see the many birds and animals to be found in the Serengeti and Ngorongoro Crater].
- Birds of Needwood Forest [birds in the woodland and surrounding area].
- The Hebrides for birds [a close-up look at the many birds found in these islands].
- Looking at waders [worldwide].
- America – Texas and Arizona [bird photographer's impression of two very differing habitats].
- Birds of the Rift Valley lakes [a visit to these magnificent lakes in Kenya and Tanzania renowned for wildlife, especially birds].
- Birds of the far north [a trip to Scotland, Iceland and arctic Lapland to see birds].
- A few very special places [birds and other wildlife in different special habitats around the world—owls feeding, cranes at pre-nesting gathering, winter geese, hummingbirds].

Fees: £60 plus travel expenses.

Equipment required: large screen if available.

Distance will travel: 80 miles.

Booking notice required: minimum of 7 days.

Biographical info: a lifelong birdwatcher and wildlife photographer, he has lectured on bird study for Birmingham University. He is a member of the West Midland Bird Club and the RSPB, is a past President of the Zoological Photographic Club and is an Associate of the Royal Photographic Society. He gained a 'highly commended' award in the 1999 'Wildlife Photographer of the Year' competition. He travels widely both at home and abroad as tour leader of specialist wildlife photographic groups.

BROWN, David

Jackson's Lawn, Charlecote, Nr Warwick CV35 9EW

Tel.: 01789 840295

E-mail: davidcgbrown@yahoo.co.uk

When can be contacted: most days/evenings.

T Talks with slides:

- Butterflies
- Moths

[All aspects of the above – survival methods including camouflage and warning colours, habitats, ecology of each species and local and national aspects of each species.]

Fees: £60 per hour incl. travel.

Equipment required: screen.

W Walks/outdoor meetings:

- Butterfly/day-flying moths walks.
- Moth trapping/sugaring.
- Moth identification workshops and field work.

[Will supply moth traps and all related equipment.]

Fees: as above.

Distance will travel: any distance.

Booking notice required: 2 weeks in winter months
but generally plans a year in advance.

Biographical info: a former school teacher, has had 36 years' experience in lecturing on lepidoptera for Birmingham and Warwick Universities plus field work, and has had 20 years experience in conducting residential courses for the Adult Residential Colleges Association and the Field Studies Council as well as at various universities and centres all over Great Britain. He is the Moth Conservation Officer for Warwickshire and has been the County Moth Recorder since 1971. He is the author of *The larger moths of Warwickshire* and is a regular contributor of articles for the entomological journals *Atropos* and *The Entomologist's Record*.

BURTON-PYE, David 29 Conway Road, Perton, Wolverhampton, Staffs WV67RQ

Tel.: 01902 743950; 07791 058351

E-mail: deebeeper@sky.com

When can be contacted: after 6 pm.

T Talks with slides:

- Great gardens (1, 2 and 3) [three talks].
- Magic of the mountains [the Lake District].
- Dolomites delight [walking and climbing].
- Joy of pics [photography].
- Magnificent Mont Blanc [Western Europe's highest peak].

Fee: £35 plus travel expenses of 45p/mile.

Equipment required: fixed screen in venue preferred. Blackout of venue necessary*.

Distance will travel: up to 30 mile radius from home.

Booking notice required: none; will stand in at short notice if available.

Biographical info: a keen photographer for 30 years, he is now in his 16th year of talks, many as repeat visits or via personal recommendations.

***Bookings only taken for October to mid-April unless venue has complete blackout facilities**

BUTLER, Roger

Hancocks Yard, Market Square, Kineton,
Warwickshire CV35 0LP

Tel.: 01926 641301

E-mail: roger522@btinternet.com

When can be contacted: most days & evenings or by e-mail.

T Talks with slides:

- A week on St Kilda [history, landscape and wildlife incl. the world's biggest gannetry, as well as images of other Hebridean islands].
- Penguins and puyas [journeys in South America, looking at wildlife, landscapes and people, incl. forests, volcanoes and coastlines]
- The monarchs of Mexico [travels in Mexico in search of the amazing monarch butterfly colonies. Millions of monarchs overwinter high in the Sierra Madre mountains in dense forests. The talk also includes jungle, wetlands and canyon lands.]
- Treasure Islands : a journey to some of the lesser known Hebridean islands, such as Colonsay, Canna, Muck and Ulva, with dramatic landscapes, wildlife and history.
- In the footsteps of the Dalai Lama : on foot through the mountains of Mimichal Pradesh in north west India.
- In Patagonia [wildest Chile and Patagonia, incl. wildlife, glaciers and the Torres del Paine National Park].
- In the high Himalayas [mountains, wildlife and people of the Annapurna region of Nepal. Spectacular landscapes and history].
- Through wildest Russia [two journeys in the Caucasus mountains and in the Panair mountains in Tadjikistan. Forests, flowers and landscapes.]
- The magic of Morocco [two journeys in Morocco: in the Atlas Mountains and on the edge of the Sahara].
- Across the roof of the world [from Bangladesh, through Nepal into Tibet and the high plateau north of the Himalayas, across Xihjiang province in western China, then along the Karakorum Highway into Pakistan].
- Landscape photography [looking at composition, seasons, colour, scale, etc. Incl. images from Britain and around the world].
- Canal heritage [landscapes and heritage of our 2000 mile canal network in England, Wales and Scotland].
- The Azores [landscapes and wildlife of the Azores Archipelago, way out in the Atlantic, with volcanic craters, cliffs and distinctive flora].

Fees: £70 plus travel.
(negotiable, depending on distance).

Equipment required: none. Booking notice required: none, can stand in at short notice.

Biographical info: Experienced speaker who gives illustrated talks throughout the UK to a wide range of groups and societies. Environmental consultant, writer and photographer – interested in all aspects of wildlife and natural history. Fellow of the Royal Geographical Society and Licentiate of the Royal Photographic Society.

CHURCH, Terry

6, Wharfedale Close, Wall Heath, Kingswinford, West Midlands DY6 9AZ

Tel.: 01384 292170; 07974 428261

E-mail: terrychurch@btclick.com

When can be contacted: any time.

T Talks: [**note: not illustrated, i.e. no slides**].

- “You couldn’t make it up” – a light hearted look at World events.
- Growing up in a village in the Black Country [in the 1950s/1960s].
- 1942 - a vintage year [a look at how life has changed in the last 65 years].

Fee: £35 plus travel expenses of 15p per mile.

Equipment required: none.

Distance will travel: 40 miles.

Booking notice required: none; will stand in at short notice, even same day.

Biographical info: has published four books on life in the village of Wall Heath. He is a humorous and entertaining speaker and has many years’ experience of talking to a wide range of organizations; having given over 130 talks in Worcestershire, Staffordshire and the West Midlands.

CLEMENT, Patrick

28, Haswell Road, Halesowen, West Midlands, B63 1DA

Tel.: 0121 501 1105

E-mail: patrick.clement1@btinternet.com

When can be contacted: any time.

T Talks with slides:

- Nature and conservation, the work of a wildlife group [describes the practical nature conservation work of the Halesowen Wildlife Group, including nest boxes (some with resident kestrels and tawny owls), pond creation, hedge laying, pollarding, etc. Illustrated with his own photographs of badgers, foxes, birds, butterflies, mice, voles, fungi etc.].
- The magic of moths [all about moths: how and where to find and attract different species using light, sugar solutions, wine, artificial pheromones, identification of macro and micro moths; also includes some butterflies].

[Note: 60 minute or 90 minute versions of each talk are offered.]

Fees: £30 to £40 depending on distance, incl. travel.

Equipment required: none.

Distance will travel: 30 mile radius of Halesowen.

Booking notice required: none.

Biographical info: has had a lifelong passion for natural history, nature conservation and nature photography. Now concentrating on moths. He is Reserve Manager for Penorchard Meadows Reserve.

COLLINS, Rebecca

12, Knightshill, Lea, Ross-on-Wye, Herefordshire HR9 7LA

Tel.: 01989 750790 (home); 01531 828199 (work); 07957 566319

E-mail: rebecca.collins@cec-ltd.org.uk

Web: www.cec-ltd.org.uk

When can be contacted: daytime except Wednesdays (workphone or mobile)

T Talks with slides:

- Bats [Introduction to species and British bat species].

Can also give a talk on world bat species, and also offers an interactive talk for children.

Talks can be adapted to the group in question.

Fee: negotiable plus travel expenses,
dependent on distance.

Equipment required: screen, extension lead,
table.

W Walks:

- Guided bat walks with bat detectors [with both adults and children].

Fees: as above.

Distance will travel: Worcestershire.

Booking notice required: 2 months minimum.

Biographical info: she has a degree in zoology, is a member of the Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (IEEM) and has Chartered Environmental Status. Professionally she is the Director and Principal Ecologist with her own ecological consultancy involved in planning and licensing work. She has many years of conservation experience, specialising in bats and other legally protected species, and holds survey licences for bats, great crested newts, small mammals incl. shrews and dormice. She is the Bat Conservation Trust regional representative for the West Midlands and is heavily involved in bat and mammal conservation at local, regional and national level, both professionally and as a volunteer.

CONWAY, Wendy EFIAP/Gold, P.P.S.A.

The Oaks, Parkend Walk, Coalway,
Gloucestershire GL16 7JR

Tel.: 01594 832956

E-mail: wendy@terry-wall.com

Web: www.terry-wall.com

When can be contacted: 10 am to 9 pm.

T Talks with slides or digitally projected images:

- Endless Skies- The Outer Hebrides
- Yorkshire Dales – a landscape and wildlife travelogue
- Bird's eye view of Lesvos [birds, flowers and people].
- Waiting for the light [UK wildlife, flowers and fungi].
- Two legged, four legged, furry and feathered [wildlife in Yellowstone and Florida, USA].
- Salud, dinero y amor [Texas and Arizona: birds, mammals and landscapes].
- Walk on the wildside [on safari in Kenya].
- Mizaru, Iwazaru, Kikazaru – Japanese wildlife!

Fee: £60, plus petrol expenses.

Equipment required: screen and tables for
display of cards and prints for sale.

Distance will travel: Up to 100 miles return;
further by arrangement.

Booking notice required: any – can also
stand in at short notice.

Biographical info: award-winning freelance wildlife photographer. Gives travelogue-style talks encompassing wildlife, flowers, landscapes and people, both UK and overseas.

COOK, Neil

Hanbury Hall, Droitwich, Worcestershire, WR9 7EA

Tel.: 01527 821014

neil.cook@nationaltrust.org.uk

When can be contacted: 8 am to 4 pm.

T Talk with power point slides:

- The re-creation of the gardens at Hanbury Hall [takes a journey through the re-creation of the gardens from 1993 to today].

Fee: £40 including travel.

Equipment required: Small table to put laptop & Computer on. Screen if possible but can bring own if not.

Distance will travel: 40 miles.

Booking notice required: three months.

Biographical info: has been Head Gardener at Hanbury Hall (National Trust) since 1988.

CRAWLEY, Derek

155a Eccleshall Road, Stafford ST16 1PD

Tel.: 0796 0330615

E-mail: derekcrawley@btinternet.com

Web: staffordshiremammalgroup.org

When can be contacted: any time.

T Talks with slides or digital presentation:

- Mammals of Staffordshire.
- Talks on individual mammal species – to be discussed.

W Walks:

- Mammal tracks, trails, signs.

Fees: generally, a donation to Staffordshire Mammal Group.

Equipment required: none.

Distance will travel: any.

Booking notice required: any.

Biographical info: Chairman of Staffordshire Mammal Group, mammal recorder.

CSERVENKA, Ken

19 Overhill Road, Stratton, Cirencester, Gloucs GL7 2LG

Tel : 01285 656480

E-mail : ken.cservenkaky.com

T Talk with slides :

- Wildlife of Exmoor – a general wildlife talk about Exmoor wildlife with strong emphasis on the herd of the wild Red Deer
- Collecting Butterflies with a camera – a talk featuring slides of most of the butterfly species found in the British Isles
- An Australian Wildlife Adventure – a holiday of a lifetime including photography of as much wildlife as possible. Travelling via Singapore, Port Douglas followed by the red centre including Ayers Rock, Kings Canyon and Alice Springs. Then on to Sydney including the Blue Mountains and finally the area around Melbourne before returning home via Hong Kong. Wildlife contents mostly consists of the birds with a few Kangaroo, reptiles and plants.

Fee : £35 plus approx fuel cost for return journey from home to the venue.

Equipment required : Larger screen if possible. (own screen only measures 50 x 50)

DAVIS, Mrs. Celia, B.Sc.(Agric) NDB

The Pines, Hodgetts Lane, Berkswell,
Coventry CV7 7DG

Tel.: 01676 533252

E-mail: celia.davis1@btinternet.com

When can be contacted: most times.

T Talks with digital presentation:

- Bees and beekeeping [introduction to beekeeping showing the relationship between beekeeping and the life of the honeybee].
- Bees, plants and the environment [interactions between bees and flowering plants, and the importance of these to the environment as a whole].
- Insects in the garden [some of the insects that live in the garden, their life-cycles and ecology. (Note - includes very few butterflies, moths or bees)].
- The sex life of plants [the structure and function of flowers in close-up].
- The wild bees and wasps [the natural history of the wild solitary and social bees and wasps].
- The world of butterflies and moths [an introduction to some of our native butterflies and moths, and their natural history].

Fee: £40 plus travel expenses.

Equipment required: table for projector and laptop.

Distance will travel: about 40 miles (open to discussion).

Booking notice required: as much as possible.

Biographical info: formerly a biology teacher, she has had a life-long interest in insects. Has been a beekeeper for 30 years and has written 2 books on the biology and behaviour of the honey bee. Honorary Life Vice-President, formerly Secretary, of Warwickshire Beekeepers.

DICKINS, Gordon 34 Coseley Avenue, Shrewsbury, Shropshire SY2 5UP

Tel.: 01743 242428 (home), E-mail: gordon.dickins1@btinternet.com

When can be contacted: Preferably weekday evenings (6–10 pm) /leave message..

T Talks with slides:

- The Shropshire Hills -visual tour of the county's varied hills & surrounding countryside, reference to folklore, writers, history & a few anecdotes along the way
- Shropshire Seasons - based on Gordon's first photographic book (over 6000copies sold).
- A Writer's Shropshire – a literary tour of Shropshire, picking up on some of many authors connected to the county, among them Mary Webb, A.E.Houseman, Dickens, Lawrence. Wodehouse etc – along with some light-hearted stuff as well.
- A Cornish Journey – although Shropshire born, Gordon's mother was Cornish. Talk /slide show comes from his love of Cornwall and its people. It aims to show not only its beauty but at least something of the real Cornwall.....beyond the tourist brochures.

Fee: £40 plus cost of petrol..

Equipment required: microphone if the organizers feel it necessary due to audience size.

Distance will travel: 50/60 miles, from Shrewsbury subject to other commitments.

Booking notice required: the longer the better but will stand in at short notice if available.

Biographical info: Retired Principal Librarian (managing services for children/young people) Retired 2008 after 35 years with Shropshire Library Service. Author of several books on Shropshire landscape & literary connections, including three books of his own photographs. Recently provided photographs for "John Osborne Entertains" by Meg Pybus, a cookery book based on the playwright's favourite recipes & an account of his final years in the Clun Valley. His photographs have been published in numerous books, magazines and tourist publications. He has contributed to national and local radio programmes, and was an adviser for Channel 4's *Literary Island* programme. He is Vice President of the Mary Webb Society.

DRAPER, Brian MBE

No 6 Almshouses, Ankerdine Hill, Knightwick,
Worcestershire. WR6 5PL

Tel.: 01886 821369 E-mail: brian.draper@martley.org
When can be contacted: often difficult but use answer phone.

T Talks with slides:

- The River Teme [from source to Severn].
 - The River Severn part I [from source to Bridgnorth].
 - The River Severn part II [from Bridgnorth to the sea].
 - The Severn Way.
 - The River Wye part I [source to Hereford].
 - The River Wye part II [Hereford to Chepstow].
 - What is a river?
 - The hidden wildlife of a city.
 - A naturalist's view of Scotland.
 - The Warwickshire Avon [from the battlefields of Naseby to Tewkesbury].
 - Ironbridge and Coalbrookdale [historical sites].
 - Where to watch wildlife along the River Severn.
 - The Countryside of Sir Edward Elgar
 - Water over my Wellies- The story of working on a river for 40 odd years (non illustrated).
- [Note: September to March only; no talks from beginning of April to end of August.]

W Also guided coach tours along the rivers listed above, as well as Elgar Country, Cotswold Villages and the Vale of Evesham, Herefordshire's Black and White Villages, Salt and Silk: a tour of south Cheshire. The villages & towns of Wiltshire/Gloucestershire border.

Fee: £50 including travel if local, beyond the county £50
+ travel expenses to be agreed.

Equipment required: screen if possible.

Distance will travel: unlimited. Booking notice required: at least 12 to 18 months.

Biographical info: he worked for almost 40 years on flood defence, land drainage and river conservation, during which time he gave many lectures on rivers and was the official schools lecturer for the Upper Severn Area of the National Rivers Authority. On his retirement in 1996 he became a full time lecturer and courier. A keen naturalist, walker and photographer, he was awarded an MBE for his work in furthering the conservation of rivers. He has lived all his life in the Teme Valley.

DRURY, Howard D.H.E (Hons) 8 Bagnell Road, Kings Heath, Birmingham B13 0SJ

Tel : 0121 443 3212

E-mail : howard@the drurys.com
www.thedrurys.com

T Large screen PowerPoint & digital presentations ;

- Why Trees ?
- Organic or Not ?
- Berried Treasures
- Growing Fruit in the 21st Century
- Any Colour but Green
- Gardening, Computers & the Internet
- The Wildlife Garden – planning and maintaining
- Cornwall – The Unknown Gardens
- A Gardeners Question Time
- Many more subjects (contact or send sae)

Fees : £70 for up to 75 people, larger groups slightly more. (Plus expenses)

Equipment required : Close suitable parking. A 13 Amp socket !

Booking notice : as much as possible.

Biographical info : Horticultural broadcaster, speaker, lecturer, writer, advisor, consultant.

12 years presenting TV Programmes. Runs gardening clubs. Leads garden holidays worldwide

EDGELEY, John Mole End, Main Street, Bishampton, Pershore, Worcs. WR10 2NH

Tel 01386 462 725
Mob 07885 149500

E-mail:john.edgeley@btopenworld.com

T Talks with slides :

- Apple Identification Workshops
- Fruit Crops –all aspects including pruning and organic growing
- Old Apple Varieties and their Conservation/ Traditional Orchards
- Vegetables
- Organic Growing

Fee : £90 minimum + traveling expenses Equipment required : Screen & stand

Distance will travel : any Available : By arrangement

Biographical info : M.Hort (RHS,) Cert Ed, Member RHS Fruit Trials Assessment Panel, Chairman : West Midlands Top Fruit Discussion Group.

FARMER, Gary 9, Clent Avenue, Headless Cross, Redditch, Worcestershire B97 5HH

Tel.: 01527 542322 E-mail: gary.farmer@tiscali.co.uk

When can be contacted: any time, use answer phone.

T Talks with slides:

- India – on the trail of the tiger.
- Ecuador and Galapagos – rainforest, mountains and magical islands.
- Uganda – from sunbirds to silverbacks.

Also, a variety of talks about Worcestershire wildlife, ranging from grasshoppers and other bugs, to general wildlife topics.

Shorter talks include the Azores, Transylvania, the Scillies, or a mixture.

Fee: around £25/donation to the WWT
plus travel expenses.

Equipment required: screen if available.

Distance will travel: around 20 miles.
can

Booking notice required: 3 months, but

sometimes be available at short notice.

Biographical info: a volunteer for WWT and Worcestershire Recorders for many years.

FISHER, Graham, MBE

Montgomery Lodge, 18 High Wood Close, Kingswinford,
West Midlands DY6 9XB

Tel./Fax: 01384270020

E-mail: grahamfisher@me.com

Mobile: 07885 786826

When can be contacted: any time.

T Talks with slides and/or Powerpoint presentation:

- The River Severn from source to sea.
- Various other waterway-related talks.
- Various talks on the Stourbridge glass industry, to include:
- Jewels on the cut [an examination of the glass industry and other industries along the Stourbridge canal],
- the history of the Portland Vase,
- an overview of Broadfield House Glass Museum.

Fee: around £75 (negotiable), travel
available.

Equipment required: large screen if

up to 20 miles included.

W Walks:

- Guided/assisted walks/tours in a variety of waterside locations – to be negotiated.

Distance will travel: within a 50 mile
radius of Kingswinford.

Booking notice required: any time.

Biographical info: a Black Country waterways enthusiast since the age of 12, he is Consultant Advisor for Spence Associates (UK) Inland Waterways Solutions and former Chairman of the Staffordshire and Worcestershire Canal Society. He has been heavily involved in many waterways charities including the Lapal Canal Trust, the Dudley Canal Trust and the Cotswold Canal Trust, and was voted Inland Waterways Personality of the Year 2005. He is a freelance ambassador for Broadfield House Glass Museum, and now hosts his own regular shows on 102.5FM *The Bridge* (Stourbridge).

FORREST, Gordon

97, Crabtree Lane, Bromsgrove, Worcs. B61 8PA.

Tel.: 01527 835446; 07885632964 (evenings)
E-mail : contact@worcestershirewildlifetalks.co.uk
www.worcestershirewildlifetalks.co.uk

When can be contacted: day and evening.

T Talks with slides:

- Photographic highlights of favourite WWT reserves.
- The wildlife of Chaddesley Woods.
- Upton Warren - Worcestershire's premier bird reserve.
- Badgers and their photography.
- Randan Meadows- Life among the anthills.
- Kingfishers.
- Woodpeckers.
- Worcestershire's reptiles.
- The nature of 'set-aside'.

[Note that the last four talks are shorter, each lasting around 40 minutes.]

Also: he can show wide variety of RSPB colour/sound films - list obtainable from above address.

Fees: free to WWT local groups. Equipment required: large table.
Others £35, negotiable for smaller groups.
Travel expenses included.

W Walks:

- Guided walk looking at the wildlife of Chaddesley Woods.
- Guided walk around Longmore Farm, Chaddesley Corbett.

Distance will travel: anywhere. Booking notice required: none;
Will do indoor meeting stand-ins if available.

Biographical info: works in the building trade. He has had a lifelong interest in nature/wildlife photography, and has written several books on Worcestershire wildlife, which include the photographs, experiences and general views of a wildlife photographer.

FRANCIS, Derek and Sue (Mrs) St Giles, Farley Road, Malvern,
Worcs WR14 1NF

Tel 01684 567021 (use answer phone) Fax: 01684 892671

When can be contacted: 9 am to 9 pm. Also messages can also be left 8.30 am to 5.30 pm c/o Francis of Malvern, tel. 01684 573823.

T Talks with slides:

- Africana one [east and central Africa as it was 30 years ago. Includes first pictures of mountain gorillas taken by a British amateur photographer. 1¼ hours.].
- Africana two [recent spectacular pictures of East African wildlife and landscapes. Includes a climb of Kilimanjaro. 1¼ hours.].
- Namibia [the oldest desert. Landscapes with unique flora and fauna.].
- Namibia revisited 2005 [the country in the rainy season. Dune ranges from the air. Close encounters with big cats. ¾ hour.].
- African highlights [the Egyptian White Desert. Djibouti. South Africa. Duration ¾ hour.].
- Ethiopia [Simien Mountains trek. Bale Mountains. Landscapes and indigenous flora and fauna. ¾ hour.].
- Darwin's enchanted islands [voyage round the Galapagos with the Angameyer brothers in their sailing yawls in the islands' pre-tourist destination days. 1 hour.].
- Galapagos revisited 2006 [¾ hour.].
- Trek to the lost world [climbing Mount Roraima in Venezuela, following Conan Doyle's story. Plants, crystal pools. 1 hour.].
- Chile and Argentina [horse riding in the Andes, including Torres del Paine and Huanquihue volcano, the Dickson, Grey and Perito Morino glaciers. 1 hour.].
- North Polar regions [Svalbard, Alaska, Kamchatka. Scenery and wildlife, including polar and brown bears, walrus, reindeer and caribou. ¾ hour.].
- Antarctica [the Falklands, South Georgia, South Shetlands, the Antarctic Peninsula. Penguins, albatrosses, seals. Icebergs, glaciers. ¾ hour.].
- Antarctica [the Ross Sea, Cape Washington. Emperor Penguins. The sub-Antarctic islands of New Zealand. ¾ hour.].
- Outback Australia [remote areas, wildlife and landscapes. 1¼ hours.].
- The clouds of Kinabalu [Sabah in Borneo. Climbing Mount Kinabalu. Butterflies, moths, orang-utans and cloudscapes. 1 hour.].
- Kamchatka – farthest Russia [volcanoes, brown bears and reindeer. 1 hour.].
- Nepal- Annapurna trek – inc. hang glider photos of the Himalayas & Annapurna
- Madagascar – the sixth continent [wildlife and landscapes. ¾ hour.].
- Cappadocia – central Turkey [scenery created by erosion of soft volcanic rock. Balloon flight and trekking. ¾ hour.].
- Papua New Guinea and the heart of Borneo [with WWF expeditions (late 2009)].
- Just bears and friends [brown, black, polar and spirit bears in Canada. ¾ hour.].
- **SIAM & INDIA** –New (¾hr)

Fee: normally £30, but no charge (incl. travel) to wildlife groups. Equipment required: screen if available.

Distance will travel: within an approx. 30 miles radius of Malvern.

Booking notice required: normally 14 days or more, but 24 hours in emergencies.

Biographical info: long history of wildlife photography, with most of the world covered, and they now give about 25 presentations a year. They have connections with the World Wildlife Fund and the David Shepherd Trust.

GASKIN, Stephanie

25, Haydock Close, Longford, Coventry CV6 6JX

E-mail: stephgaskin@yahoo.co.uk

When can be contacted: any time.

T Talks with slides:

- Habitats of North Wales [covers many different areas and types of vegetation incl. upland lake and valley, maritime, fenland, heathland, limestone grassland].
- Derbyshire delights [habitats and geology of the Peak District].
- New Zealand: the other side of the world [geology, habitats, wildlife incl. birds, ferns, flowering plants and larger animals such as sea lions].
- Desert life [arid regions of the world incl. Utah in the USA, Jordan, focusing mainly on botany but also incl. some geology and medicinal uses of plants by Native Americans].
- The magic of trees [mythology, folklore, biology and practical uses of our native trees].

Fees (talks and walks: £40 plus travel expenses.

Equipment required: none.

W Walks:

- Plants.
- Bird identification [incl. by song and call].
- Woodland habitats.
- Tree identification.

[In Warwickshire only - venue to be discussed with local group.]

Distance will travel (talks): 50 to 60 miles. Booking notice required: 6 weeks.

Biographical info: she has long been interested in natural history and conservation. She has been involved in teaching at a field studies centre and has volunteered with the BTCV, the National Trust and as a ranger in the Peak District National Park. The talks have resulted from her interest in natural history during her travels.

GREEN, Terry 7 Clattercut Lane, Rushock, Droitwich, Worcestershire WR9 0NW

Tel.: 01562 777411

E-mail: terryjgreen@btinternet.com

When can be contacted: any time – use answer phone.

T Talks with slides:

- Hedgehogs [general lifestyle and biology; helping hedgehogs - ways we can make their lives easier and longer].

[Only available for evening talks due to work commitments, but may be able to accommodate special events].

Fee: donation to British Hedgehog Preservation Society plus travel expenses at 40p/mile.

Equipment required: screen.

Distance will travel: all areas in minimum.

Booking notice required: 1 month

Worcestershire; other areas negotiable.

Biographical info: animal care lecturer at Pershore College. Was a hedgehog rescuer.

HALES, Mrs. Gillian

The Paddocks, The Common, Chelmarsh,
Bridgnorth, Shropshire WV16 6BG

Tel.: 01746 861271.

When can be contacted: early morning or after 3 pm most days.

T Talk with slides:

- Native owls [brings live owls].

Fee: approx. £55 depending on distance.

Equipment required: side table and a room to hide owls away.

Distance will travel: within 50- 60 mile radius.

Booking notice required: 3 months.

Biographical info: she has kept owls for 17 years.

HAMBLIN, Tony 8, Howard Close, Bidford on Avon, Warwickshire B50 4EL

Tel.: 01789 772795

E-mail: tony@nature100.wanadoo.co.uk

tony@tonyhamblin.co.uk

When can be contacted: any time.

T Talks with slides:

- The magic of Celtic islands [Skomer, Outer Hebrides and Shetlands].
- Warwickshire wildlife [birds, plants and animals found in Warwickshire].
- Gardening for wildlife [what to plant and how to encourage wildlife into the garden].
- Upland birds [birds of moorlands].
- Wetland birds [waders, herons, kingfishers].
- Woodland wonderland [trees, forest and woodlands and their flora and fauna].
- Birds of Texas [from Houston to the Mexican border].
- From Salt Lake to Yellowstone [autumn colour, birds and scenics].
- A look at Lesbos [birds, scenics and flowers on this lovely Greek island].
- Bosque del Apache [snow geese, cranes and much more].
- The Blossom Route [the story of the building of a new road from Evesham to Alcester and its impact on wildlife].
- Jambo Kenya [birds and mammals of Kenya].
- The Gambian experience [birds of Gambia].
- A taste of Tanzania [birds, mammals and scenics].
- The birds of Warwickshire [and Worcestershire].
- Charismatic birds of Britain.

Fee: £50 plus 35p/mile travel expenses.

Equipment required: tables.

Distance will travel: up to 100 miles.

Booking notice required: none.

Biographical info: Fellow of the Royal Photographic Society. Has been a wildlife photographer for the past 30 years, and has travelled throughout Britain, Europe, Africa and North America.

HARRIGAN, Jan, MBE (Mrs)
Worcestershire

Walk Mills Farm, Wychbold, Nr Droitwich,

WR9 0DH

Tel.: 07786 434793

Web: www.wychboldswanrescue.co.uk

When can be contacted: daytime.

T Talk with slides:

- Concern for swans [what they do. Brings small items to sell, e.g. badges, cards, pens].

Fee: £45 incl. travel.

Equipment required: just a darkened room.

Distance will travel: anywhere in Worcestershire.

Booking notice required: any time, depending on availability.

Biographical info: has been involved in swan rescue for more than 30 years and has given many talks about her experiences.

HAWKES, H.W. 3 Elgar Drive, Kempsey, Worcestershire WR5 3PU

Tel : 01905 821153

When can be contacted : any time – use answer phone.

- T Talks with slides
- The Florida Everglades
 - American wildlife refuges
 - American flora and fauna

(He is usually on holiday late April, early May and September)

Fee : donation to St Richards Hospice Equipment required : none

Distance will travel : 30 miles radius of Worcester.

Booking notice required : 1 month minimum

Biographical info : retired civil servant (scientific) with photography as his hobby.
Talks are based on four years spent in the USA and many subsequent visits.

HUGHES, A.J. (Tony) (Dr)

8, Birchwood Road, Malvern Link, Worcs WR14 1LD.

Tel.: 01886 832647

E-mail: tonyhughes3@btinternet.com

Web: www.tonyhughes3.btinternet.co.uk

When can be contacted: any time.

- T Talks with slides:
- Wild orchids of Europe. (This talk is fairly botanical, covering classification and identification of common species, less common species from many southern European locations, pollination and hybrids)
 - Springtime in Mallorca.
 - Crete in April.
 - Cyprus in March.
 - Southern Portugal – the Algarve.
 - Gargano – the ‘spur’ of Italy’s boot.
 - Spring flowers of Sicily.

[Above 6 talks cover the scenery, & endemic & other Mediterranean plants, especially orchids.]

- Mountain flowers of Switzerland [includes the Bernese Oberland, Zermatt and Saas Fee].
- The French Alps [includes the Alpes Maritime, the Vercors and the Haute Savoie].
- From Andorra to Gavarnie – the French Pyrenees.
- Lake Garda and the Dolomites.
- The Austrian Alps.
- Slovenia – the Julian Alps.

[The above six talks introduce a wide selection of flowers, including orchids, to be found in June and July. Duration of all the talks: about 75 minutes, but can be adjusted.]

Fee: £30 to £50, negotiable (depending on the size of the group) plus 25p a mile for the return trip. A proportion is donated to the WWT.

Equipment required : at least 12 feet of tabling for the display of publicity for the Hardy Orchid Society (books, maps, photographs).

Distance will travel: normally within 50 miles of Malvern but further is possible.

Booking notice required: any time, will stand in at short notice; **however, due to possible holiday commitments, long-notice bookings are only taken for September to the middle of March**, but will take short-notice bookings outside this period if available.

JARMAN, John 10 Purnell's Way, Knowle, Solihull, West Midlands B93 9JN

Tel.: 01564 774528

When can be contacted: almost any time.

T Talks with slides:

- History of the countryside [English].
- Nature in English place-names.
- Bredon – the story of a hill
- National Trust – The story of Baddesley Clinton

Fees: £25 minimum, plus travel expenses.

Equipment required: none.

Distance will travel: up to 40 miles from Knowle.

Booking notice required: 1 month.

Biographical info: he is a long-standing member of Warwickshire Wildlife Trust and is well known locally for public speaking. He is an accredited National Trust volunteer speaker.

JOHNSON, Peter 108 Ironstone Road, Chase Terrace, Burntwood, Staffordshire WS7 1LY

Tel.: 01543 270509

When can be contacted: any time, use answer phone.

T Talks with slides:

- Talks on travel with a wildlife bias on Africa, India and Nepal, St Kilda, Ecuador and the Galapagos, etc.
- Local butterflies and moths.

Fees: £35 plus travel expenses.

Equipment required: none.

Distance will travel: up to approx. 50 miles.

Booking notice required: any.

Biographical info: a retired college lecturer and a member of the RSPB, Staffordshire Wildlife Trust, Cannock Chase Task Force and Butterfly Conservation, he has an interest in wildlife photography.

JONES, Eric H. (Dr)

'Malacca', 2 Bamford Close, Guarlford, Malvern,
Worcestershire WR13 6PF

Tel.: 01684 574521

E-mail: ehskjones077@btinternet.com

When can be contacted: normally weekday mornings and evenings before 9 pm.

T Talks with slides or Powerpoint presentation:

- "Not Ours, but Ours to Look After" [National Parks and the role of the Campaign for National Parks - an overview of the National Parks of England and Wales, their administration and character, as well as the challenges they face].
- Croome past and present [the history of Croome Park; the parts played by the 6th Earl of Coventry and Capability Brown; the restoration of Park and Court by the National Trust].

Fees: donation to the Campaign for National
Parks (first talk) or the National Trust
(second talk) of not less than £40, plus
travel expenses of 30p/mile.

Equipment required: screen and
(if possible).

Distance will travel: up to 25 miles from home.

Booking notice required : preferably 3 months, exceptionally less.

Biographical info: former Head of English and Drama, and then Director of the International Office, University of Worcester. Member of the National Trust, the Campaign for National Parks and the Campaign for the Protection of Rural England.

JONES, Godfrey Rose Cottage, Pound Green, Upper Arley, Nr Bewdley,
Worcestershire DY12 3LF

Tel.: 01299 400156 E-mail: god3jones@tiscali.co.uk
When can be contacted: any reasonable time.

T Talk with slides:

- Pound Green Common SSSI . Regretably ,after a most successful CSS scheme funded by Natural England / Defra , which ended in 2009, the Common is up for sale on the open market. The Common's wildlife and biodiversity value is declining and unless we can get a suitable conservation organisation to buy it and undertake the necessary work, will be lost.

Fee: no charge, travel expenses appreciated.

Equipment required: 13 amp power point.

W Walk:

- Guided walk on Pound Green Common SSSI [of special interest are seasonal re-seeding with heather, the restored ponds, wet flush area restoration, grassland (lowland, grazed), two of the best anthill fields in the county (SSSIs) with associated diverse flora, adders (February/March), fallow deer, glow-worms (suggest an evening visit at the end of July), and 7 Ha of broad-leaved unmanaged woodland. Although very flexible, weekend visits are preferred]

. **He would particularly welcome interest from other local groups.**

Distance will travel: anywhere.

Booking notice required: 1 month.

Biographical info: retired teacher, secretary of Pound Green Commoner's Association. Can offer advice for the recipients of grant schemes for conservation work and on issues of public community involvement.

KING, Christine Pervin Cottage, Caynham, Nr. Ludlow, Shropshire SY8 3BP

TEL : 01584 876 819

T Talk :

- Flower Pressing- A Gardener's Hobby (including papermaking)

Fee : £30-50 plus expenses

Equipment required : Table

Equipment provided – examples of work

Distance : Will travel anywhere

Booking notice required : as much as possible

Biographical information : Recently retired primary school teacher, over 20 years experience of subject.

LANEY, Brian

5 South Close, Long Buckby, Northamptonshire NN6 7PX

Tel.: 01327 843847, 07899 987390 (mobile)

E-mail: brian.laney@gmail.com

When can be contacted: day or evening.

T Talks with slides:

- Some of Britain's rare and localised wild plants [species seen throughout the UK; slides have been updated as to what Brian has seen].
- Hunting for British orchids [species seen by Brian and some for which he has been involved in habitat management].
- The changing flora of Northamptonshire [new for the county and rediscovered extinct species found by Brian].

Fees: £80 incl. travel expenses.
display

Equipment required: screen, tables for
of Brian's articles, ID books and leaflets.

Distance will travel: anywhere but
check first.

Booking notice required: 3 months.

Biographical info: he is involved in eleven habitat management projects for rare and scarce plants, and in recording for the next Flora of Northamptonshire and the forthcoming Rare Plant Register. Brian has received an award from Plantlife International for Outstanding Volunteer in the Field 2006. He is Northamptonshire County Recorder for reptiles and amphibians. He works for Ecoline carrying out botanical surveys, great crested newt surveys and other conservation work. Brian leads botanical meetings every year either for the BSBI or the Wild Flower Society, and also leads reptile courses for the Northamptonshire Wildlife Trust (in 2009 this will be an amphibian course). With permission he has collected mudwort and yellow star of Bethlehem seed from sites in Northamptonshire for the Millennium Seed Bank based at Wakehurst Place, Sussex, in 2001 and 2008. Since 2002 Brian has recorded wild stick insect populations in the south-west of the UK for the National Recorder Malcolm Lee, and found the third new breeding species of stick insect for the Isles of Scilly in 2002, *Bacillus rossius*.

LAWRENCE, Bob

Tel 07831 323577

E-mail safari.farm@virgin.net

PowerPoint presentation Equipment required : screen or access to a light coloured wall. Projector useful but not essential.

Talks :

- “Behind the Scenes” at West Midland Safari Park.
- Careers talk for those interested in wildlife related matters.
- “My Deer” 40yrs of looking after/managing deer

Fee : £100 all inclusive for presentations within 30 miles of Bewdley.

Booking notice : as much as possible.

Biographical info : Director of Wildlife at West Midland Safari Park since its inception in 1973. Recipient of a Royal Television Society Award, a national NIACE award, a university chancellor’s award for outstanding achievement and a first in BSc (Hons) Zoo Biology. Bob’s work has involved widespread travel working on conservation projects at home and abroad, working with internationally recognized veterinary teams and working with many conservation bodies.

LEACH, Michael (Dr) Linden Cottage, Hazles Cross, Kingsley, Staffs. ST10 2ER

Tel.: 01538 755945

E-mail: mike.leach@lineone.net

Web: www.michael-leach.co.uk

When can be contacted: any time.

T Talks with slides:

- In the blink of an eye [photographs capturing high-speed action, revealing aspects of animal's lives that are invisible without the use of his unique and highly specialised technology].
- Snow monkeys [the story of Michael's time with a group of macaques in the Japanese Alps. Includes their survival techniques such as immersing themselves in hot pools.]
- Madagascar's ghosts [explores lemur behaviour and their unique habitat].
- Who's afraid of the big bad wolf [timber wolves in the Great Northern Forest – their complex social world, subtle behaviour and powerful family bonds. Talk unravels murky and misleading legend from fact.]
- In the steps of the ice bear [explores the life of the giant polar bears that roam the Arctic wilderness, the seals on which they depend and their turbulent relationships with humans, as well as their ancestors, the myths that surround them and their specialisation for the uncompromising environment of the North].
- Men of the forest [orang-utans in Borneo and Sumatra; Michael followed these solitary animals into the challenging igapo forest when researching his book, and tells the story of one of the world's most elusive primates and of our hunger for the palm oil that threatens their world].
- It's a funny way to make a living - part 1 [humorous introduction to, and basics of, wildlife photography. Not technical. Highs and lows of the job, how to photograph timid animals, tricks of the trade].
- It's a funny way to make a living – part 2 [further confessions of a wildlife photographer, featuring advice on how to make a wild cat more menacing, working with hen harriers on a Scottish mountain, photographing in underground dens and building a motorway in your garden shed].
- Enchanted islands [the story of the Galapagos Islands].
- Beneath the dark canopy [using his experiences in Indonesia, the Amazon Basin, West Africa and Central America, Michael explains how a tropical rainforest works and shows some of the highly specialised animals that have evolved to live in this fragile and intricate environment].
- The children's eternal forest [Bosque Eterno de los Ninos, one of the largest wildlife reserves in Central America and home to howler monkeys, sloths, sabrewinged hummingbirds and yet undiscovered species, was saved by children around the world. The story of the forest and its salvation.]
- The natural history of Christmas [explains the origin in natural history of our Christmas customs].
- Faces in the mirror [after living with gorillas, orang-utans, bonobos and chimpanzees in the wild, Michael explores some of the apes' behaviour and the dangers that may destroy them].
- Poles apart [the Arctic and Antarctic – Michael reveals the fragile domains of polar bears, king penguins, snowy owls, elephant seals and reindeer from both ends of the earth].
- China's silver cat bears [the story of the discovery of the giant pandas in the remote bamboo forests of China's Sichuan province, and looks at their life and future].

Continued..

- The complete owl [covers all resident British owls in folklore and fact, with details on hunting techniques etc. Includes high-speed photographs of owls in flight.]
- Owls of the world [Michael's adventures while working around the globe with 86 of the 133 species of owl].
- Animals behaving badly [surprising animal behaviour, including drunken monkeys, psychotic magpies, phobic ostriches and delinquent coots].
- In the midst of gorillas [living high in the forest with the mountain gorillas in Rwanda].

Fee: by negotiation.

Equipment required: large screen if possible.

Distance will travel: anywhere.

Booking notice required: none.

Biographical info: full-time wildlife photographer/author since 1977 and now one of Europe's top professionals. He has travelled to some of the wildest and most remote places on Earth. His photographs have been used in more than 800 books, appearing in over 60 countries. He has filmed TV documentaries for both the BBC and Independent Television. He is a frequent broadcaster and widely published author. Michael has written 24 books, translated into 11 languages, on subjects ranging from big cats and owls to great apes and bears. His illustrated articles have been used in a long list of magazines including Country Life, the Observer, Geographical and Amateur Photographer. His photographs have been used in every major wildlife and environmental magazine in Europe and the USA.

LEECH, Michael
2EL

Lyston House, Wormelow, Herefordshire, HR2

Tel: 01981 540520 When can be contacted: any time: day or evening.

T Talks with slides:

- Gardening and the media [stories about his famous gardening friends, describes trial and tribulations of preparing a TV programme and Radio 4's *Gardeners' Question Time*].
- Alpines.
- Down the garden path.
- Plants with personality.
- A naturalist's miscellany.
- British poisonous plants.
- Insect friends and foes in the garden.
- Medicinal plants.
- An African interlude.
- Winter colour in the garden.
- Hellebores.
- Flowers of Malta.
- Growing from seed.
- A day with Beth Chatto.
- Flowers of Barbados.
- Water gardening..

Also happy to serve on a 'Question Time' panel.

W Walks:

- Guided walks; emphasis is on entomology and botany.

Fees: £ £50–60 + travel expenses
depending on mileage and price of
diesel fuel.

Equipment required: two tables, for
display/plants etc.

Distance will travel: any area.

Booking notice required: 2 weeks.

Biographical info: gregarious gardener, botany boffin and entertaining entomologist (he discovered the moth *Luperina nickerlii leechi*). He gives horticultural lectures and talks to gardening clubs and horticultural societies. He is Chairman of the Gloucestershire Federation of Gardening Societies and an ex-Chairman of the Western Counties Group of the Hardy Plant Society.

MANTLE, Roy

37, Ludlow Road, Bridgnorth, Shropshire WV16 5AH.

Tel.: 01746 764732

E-mail: roy@homepccemail.co.uk

When can be contacted: any time.

T Talks with slides: [Duration of the talks: about 1¼ hours.]

- Wild wildflowers.
- Woodland flowers.
- Wayside flowers.
- Woodlands.
- Insect story.
- Shaping up [shapes and lifestyles of fungi].
- The story so far [fungi – how they grow, feed and reproduce].

Fee: £30 plus travelling expenses.

Equipment required: none.

W Walks:

- Guided walks looking at fungi in the autumn.

Fee: travelling expenses required.

Distance will travel: 50 miles from Bridgnorth.

Booking notice required: none.

Biographical info: Member of: British Mycological Society, Association of British Fungus Groups, Wyre Forest Study Group and the Shropshire Fungus Group (recorder). He leads fungus forays for English Nature, the Forestry Commission and local groups.

MORRIS, Rosemary and YATES, Bas

Wren's Nest, Droitwich Road, New End, Astwood Bank, Redditch, Worces B96 6NE

Tel.: 01527 893581 (Morris)
or 01386 792113 (Yates)

E-mail: rosemary.morris1@mypostoffice.co.uk
When can be contacted: any time.

T Talks with slides:

- Ecuador and Galapagos Islands – from volcanoes to wonderful wildlife
- Trinidad and Tobago (Birds Mammals RainForest) – a visit to Aisa Wright Centre and a small trip to Tobago & Little Tobago.
- Southern Ireland to the Highlands of Scotland (Kinsale, Ring of Kerry & Achill in Ireland & Anglesey, Mull, Iona, Orkney, John O'Groats and the Flow Country finishing in Loch Garten with Pine Martens, Red Squirrel & Ospreys.
-

T Talks with digital presentation:

- A Year in the life of Two Worcestershire Photographers – constantly updated with lots of Wildlife.
- Where Eagles Fly- The Outer Hebrides or Western Isles. Includes a look at the peat gatherers & a look at the history & wildlife. (Covers Lewis, Harris, North & South Uists)
- Awaken to Africa. Tanzania. Serengeti, Ngoro Ngoro etc – a wonderful Wildlife, a trip in the dry season (July/August).
- Wild Shetlands [a look at the most Northerly Scottish Isles – its Wildlife & Heritage.

Fee: £50 up to 10 miles but never more than £60. Equipment required: none.

Distance will travel: mainly Worcestershire. Booking notice : Anytime. Will also stand in at short notice if possible.

Biographical info: Bas and Rosie are cousins. Bas has worked on the land and in the countryside for over 60 years. Rosie has lived in the countryside all her life and has a passion for photography. Both are members of Cookhill and Studley Camera Club. They would like to pass on their passion for wildlife and travel.

MOULE , Reg

Hillcrest, 10 Stonebow Road, Drakes Broughton,
Worcs, WR10 2AP

Tel : 01905 840 868

E-mail : reg@moule51.fsnet.co.uk

When can be contacted : phone or e mail.

T Talks ; More than 20 talks available including :

- Fruit in Small Gardens
- Growing Wall Shrubs and Climbers
- Going Exotic –growing tree ferns, palms ,bananas etc
- Gardening with Grasses

Phone, e mail or send sae for full list of talks.

Fee : £70 + 25p a mile

Equipment required : none

Distance will travel : 50 miles,

Booking notice : as much as possible

Biographical information : Family background in Horticulture. Trained at Pershore College. Nursery/Garden Centre Manager. Gardening speaker for over 30 years. Regular Broadcaster on BBC Local and National Radio, as well as ITV and Sky Television.

NEWBURY, Phred (Mrs) 182, Cheltenham Road, Evesham, Worcestershire WR11 2LW

Tel.: 01386 48394 E-mail: phredandrob@freeola.net
When can be contacted: any time.

T Illustrated talks with Powerpoint presentation and DVD footage:

- Apes with Altitude [encounters with gorillas in Rwanda, Uganda and Gabon, and how the Gorilla Organization (formerly the Dian Fossey Gorilla Fund, Europe) helps the endangered animals and their human neighbours].
- 'E' is for Elephant [background information on African elephants, and encounters with savannah elephants in East and Southern Africa, forest elephants in Central Africa and desert elephants in Namibia. Includes DVD footage (shown on television) of an elephant being rescued from a swamp in Kenya.]
- Okavango Odyssey [safaris in Botswana and helping at a small pre-school in rural north-west Botswana].
- Madagascar Journey [to see the unique and rare wildlife of the island].

Fees: £40 incl. travel (minimum charge for small groups/short distances); fee negotiable for large events/groups and distances up to 100 miles. All proceeds are donated to relevant causes. i.e. the Gorilla Organization (*Gorillas*), Born Free Foundation (African elephants), Samochima Pre-School, Botswana (Okavango Odyssey) and The Durrell Wildlife Conservation Trust (*Madagascar journey*).

Equipment required: none.

Distance will travel: any area.

Booking notice required: ideally 8 weeks but can sometimes stand in at short notice.

Biographical info: a wildlife fundraiser for nearly 30 years, she has made multiple trips to Africa and one to Madagascar and has many contacts in the conservation field.

PARSONS, Diana (nee Bateman)

Baytree Cottage, Uphampton, Ombersley,
Nr Droitwich, Worcestershire WR9 OJS

Tel.: 01905 620952

When can be contacted: use answerphone.

T Talks:

- Fungus talks [autumn only, with displays of fresh wild fungi].

Fee: £50.
fungi.

Equipment required: tables for displaying

W Walks:

- Fungus forays [late spring and autumn. Records are collected of specimens found].

Fee: negotiable.

Distance will travel: 20 miles.
months.

Booking notice required: six to 12

Biographical info: has been studying mycology for 18 years. Leader of
Worcestershire Fungi Group. Has made TV and radio appearances.

PEACE, Alan

57 Wombourne Park, Wombourne, Wolverhampton. WV5 0LX

Tel: 01902 324065, 07791900445

E-mail: alrobpeace@btinternet.com

When can be contacted: any time.

T Talks with slides:

- "John O'Groats to Lands End – Bike-v- Bus". The story of a challenge between a pensioner using a bus pass & two young fit cyclists to see who could do the journey quickest.
- The barn owl - its plight and future.
- Himley Hall - past, present and future.
- Aid work in Eastern Europe.
- Across the roof of Africa – dare to dream.
- Never work with children or animals (by the man who has done both and survived!)
- Assault on Aconcagua: 23,000 feet = £23,000, share the adventure.

Fee: £40–100, depending on group size & distance travelled. Donated to Cancer Research UK.

Equipment required: large screen welcomed.

Distance will travel: all areas.

Biographical info: ex printer, youth leader and professional climbing instructor. He has climbed in Argentina, Italy, Russia, Morocco and Tanzania as well as in the UK. He is a member of the Board of Trustees of an international conservation charity. Was for ten years a volunteer lorry driver with the German Red Cross delivering humanitarian aid in Eastern Europe.

PEARCE, George

Cliffe Cottage, Little Ness Road, Ruyton-XI-Towns,
Shrewsbury SY4 1NB

Tel./Fax: 01939 260469, 07802 363 288

E-mail: badgergeorge@btconnect.com

Web: www.badgerconsultants.co.uk

When can be contacted: any time.

T Talks with slides:

- Lifestyle of the badger.
- Your Garden at Night (wildlife visitors)
- Lifestyle of the fox.
- How wildlife adapts to modern development.

[All talks based on personal experience.]

Fees: £40 plus travel at 55p per mile.

Equipment required: none.

Distance will travel: Staffordshire,
Warwickshire, Worcestershire,
Herefordshire, Cheshire, Derbyshire,
Leicestershire.

Booking notice required: 8 weeks.

Biographical info: a professional badger consultant, he has studied badgers and their behaviour, as well as other nocturnal wildlife especially foxes, for over 60 years. He lectures widely on the lifestyle of badgers and foxes, is recognised as a badger and fox expert by Magistrates and Crown Courts, and has been involved in injured badger, fox and small mammal and bird rehabilitation and return to the wild. Author of recently published book "Badger Conservation & Rehabilitation"

PICKERING, Pollyanna
2JJ

Brookvale House, Oaker, Matlock, Derbyshire DE4

Tel.: 01629 55851

E-mail: annalouise@talk.talk.net

Web: www.pollyannapickering.co.uk

When can be contacted: office hours.

T Talks with slides:

- A brush with wildlife [a light-hearted look at Pollyanna's life and work in the Peak District].
- A safari of Britain [a follow-up to the above talk, incl. journeys through the British Isles sketching and studying birds and mammals].
- On top of the world [an expedition into the high Arctic in search of polar bears].
- Giant pandas and sleeping dragons [a journey into a remote area in the Tibetan borderlands to paint and to work with sick pandas].
- An Indian summer [a journey to sketch tigers in remote reserves in southern India].
- The eye of the tiger [her travels into the foothills of the Himalayas in northern India to sketch Bengal tigers].
- Temple of the jaguar king [her travels through the rain forests in Belize to paint the jaguar].
- The company of wolves [a journey through Transylvania to paint wolves and other wildlife].
- The land of the snow tiger [searching for Amur tigers in Siberia].
- The land of the thunder dragon [an expedition to paint wildlife in the Himalayan country of Bhutan].

Fees: £125 plus travel expenses.

Equipment required: tables.

Distance will travel: any.

Booking notice required: up to 2 years depending on availability.

Biographical info: she is acclaimed as one of Europe's foremost wildlife artists and has won many awards for her work in both art and conservation. She is a patron of The Wildlife Art Society International as well as several other national charities incl. Raptor Rescue, The Badger Trust, Naturewatch and the African/Asian Conservation Trust. Her charitable foundation raises funds for international conservation and wildlife rescue.

PORTER, John

1, Merstow Cottages, Merstow Place, Evesham,
Worcestershire WR11 4AY.

Tel.: 01386 48448

E-mail: john.porter06@yahoo.co.uk

When can be contacted: March to October.

T Talks with slides:

- Rainforests and forest gardens [rainforest structure in the tropics, and traditional and modern systems of growing which mimic this. A project in Sri Lanka.].

Fee: £35 plus travel costs.

Equipment required: none.

(He is raising funds for Forests
for People, an NGO in Sri Lanka.)

Distance will travel: 25 miles.
month.

Booking notice required: at least 1

Biographical info: has a degree in biology, has travelled in south and south-east Asia
and west Africa.

PREECE, Peter

5 Orchard Way, Studley, Warwickshire B80 7NZ

Tel.: 01527 853444

E-mail: peterpreece777@btinternet.com

Web: peterpreece.com

When can be contacted: any time.

T Talks with slides:

- Images of Nature - Part 1.
- Images of Nature - Part 2

A guide to wildlife photography. [The talks include descriptions of how to build
feeding stations to attract wildlife, and the hides Peter uses. Much of the
photography is done in Worcestershire and Warwickshire.]

- Out of My Mind [describes how Peter first took up photography and started to
design and build life-like sets. The talk goes on to include new photographs of
wildlife taken quite recently].
- Every Picture Tells a Story (NEW)

[Note: each talk lasts about one hour.]

Fees: £40 plus travel.
available.

Equipment required: large screen if

Distance will travel: unlimited.

Booking notice required: 4 weeks.

Biographical info: a graphic designer for 32 years, he was made redundant in 1993.
His interest in wildlife photography began as a hobby but has grown over the past
ten years to become a passion.

RYTON ORGANIC GARDENS

Organic Enterprises Ltd, Garden Organic Ryton
Wolston Lane, Coventry CV8 3LG

Tel 024 7630 8211

E-mail : enquiry@gardenorganic.org.uk
www.gardenorganic.org.uk

W Group

Over 30 individual gardens in 10 acres of landscaped grounds, as well as wildflower meadow Cornfield, biodynamic garden, composting display, Vegetable Kingdom, organic shop, organic Restaurant.

Open seven days a week, guided tours available (charge), group concessions.

Gardens - Accessible for wheelchairs. Wheelchair hire available.

Bookings : tel 024 7630 8211 or e mail bookings@gardenorganic.co.uk

SALISBURY, Rachel

Spring Cottage, Crumpton Hill, Storridge, Malvern,
Worcestershire WR13 5HE

Tel.: 01886 833557

E-mail: rasalisbury@tiscali.co.uk

When can be contacted: any time.

T Talks with slides:

- The plant hunters.
- Plant propagation [practical demonstration].
- The conservation garden.
- What's in a name? [scientific naming of plants, their meanings and background stories].
- Plants of the month.
- Plants for hot spots.
- The contained garden [available as illustrated lecture or practical demonstration].
- Ranunculaceae.
- Garden plants: heritage and conservation.
- History of the glasshouse.
- The cottage garden.

Also, will organise quiz nights.

Fee: £75 plus travel expenses.

Equipment required: none.

Distance will travel: up to 50 miles,
further distances negotiable.

Booking notice required: normally up to
18 months but will stand in at short
notice.

Biographical info: graduated in horticulture at University of Nottingham, has previously lectured at Birmingham University in the Continuing Studies Department. She is currently working freelance with schools and teachers, as well as taming her own large garden and tending an allotment.

SAUNDERS, M.A. (Miss)

29 Beverley Gardens, Woodmancote, Nr
Cheltenham, Gloucestershire GL52 9QD

Tel.: 01242 672805 (ex-directory)

When can be contacted: most evenings, especially between 7 pm and 10.30 pm.

T Talks with slides:

- Drama of deserts [what are deserts and how life can survive in them].
- Ways of water and waterways [landscape formation and variety of human usage].
- Two faces of Patagonia [ecological (and historical) contrasts east and west of the Andes].
- Arctic Norway (ie the "Green Arctic")
- Walking Across Britain – and back.
- Three Islands – a comparison (Harris, Newfoundland & Greenland)
- Other talks available - ask for details
-

[Note that at present, evening engagements can be undertaken only during summer months (April to October).]

Fee: donation of £20 to £30 to a charity,
depending on the size of the audience.

Equipment required: projector stand,
extension lead; screen and slide
projector if possible.

Distance will travel: within 75 minutes from
months.
Cheltenham.

Booking notice required: 3 – 12

Biographical info: teacher and lecturer with a special interest in ecology and
environmental physiology. Widely travelled, with an additional interest in geology
and history.

SCATTERGOOD, D 15 Elwyn Close, Stretton, Burton on Trent. Staffs DE13 0BG

Tel : 07881 930408

E-mail: ezbirder@yahoo.co.uk

W Walks/outdoor meetings :

- Dawn Chorus events
- Dragonflies
- Birdwatching
- Mammals
- Butterflies
- Flowers/trees
- Moths

Fee : £40 plus travel expenses

Can bring binoculars, telescope, identification guides, compass, camera.

Distance will travel : approx 100miles throughout the Midlands.

Booking notice required : 2 months.

Biographical info : an environmental technician by trade, he has had 30+ years of self taught bird watching and twitching across the whole of the UK. He has carried out some survey and wildlife count work and is a Staffordshire Wildlife Trust volunteer warden. He has 15+ years experience of leading bird/wildlife walks in Staffordshire and Derbyshire.

ALSO

Lisa Scattergood does face painting for which she charges £25 an hour (includes materials and mileage). She can also teach craft workshops to adults and children on a wide variety of subjects suited to your theme; also at about £25 an hour depending on materials required..For info www.thecraftingowl.blogspot.com.

SHELDON, Sylvia (Mrs) Knowles Mill, Dowles Brook, Bewdley, Worcs DY12 2LX.

Tel.: 01299 404122

E-mail : Sylvia.sheldon@talktalk.net

When can be contacted: 9 am to 9-30 pm.

T Talks with slides:

- Seasons in the Wyre Forest.
- Seasons and wildlife around Knowles Mill.
- The secret life of the adder.
- Touring Scotland.

Fee: £40 plus cost of fuel.

Equipment required: screen or plain wall if available.

Distance will travel: 20 miles.

Booking notice required: as much as possible.

Biographical info: interested in local and natural history, with a special interest in reptiles and other flora and fauna in the Wyre Forest.

SHIRLEY, Peter

72 Dagger Lane, West Bromwich, West Midlands B71 4BS

Tel.: 0121 532 9265

E-mail: petershirley@blueyonder.co.uk

When can be contacted: any time.

T Talks with slides/digital presentations:

- Plant galls [biology, ecology and folklore].
- Wildlife of South Africa [incl. Kruger].
- Wildlife of Florida [incl. the Everglades].
- Wildlife and nature in towns and cities.

Fees: £35 plus travel expenses.

Equipment required: laptop and digital projector.

Distance will travel: Staffordshire, Worcestershire, Warwickshire.

Booking notice required: 6 weeks.

Biographical info: he has worked for the Wildlife Trusts for 20 years, focusing on urban wildlife. He is an author and broadcaster on nature conservation, is a founder member of the British Plant Gall Society, and is joint author of the Field Studies Council AIDGAP keys to British plant galls.

SLATER, Mike

149 Norton Leys, Rugby, Warwickshire CV22 5RS

Tel.: 01788 335881

E-mail: michael.slater50@ntlworld.com

Website: Butterfly Conservation, Warwickshire Branch

When can be contacted: e-mail anytime; evenings before 9 pm.

T Talks with Powerpoint presentation:

- British butterflies.
- Woodland butterflies.
- Grassland butterflies.
- Brownfield butterflies.
- Specialised butterfly talks.

Fees (talks and walks): £40 plus wall for travel expenses.,

Equipment required: screen or white talks.

W Walks/outdoor meetings:

- Butterfly walks in Warwickshire or nearby in Worcestershire.
- Butterfly identification and monitoring.
- Habitat creation.

Fees: £40 plus travel expenses.

Distance will travel: 50 miles, negotiable.

Booking notice required: 2 to 3 weeks.

Biographical info: Conservation Officer for Butterfly Conservation, Warwickshire Branch; Reserve Manager for Ryton Wood, Ryton Wood Meadow.

SMART, Trevor

Ravenshill Lodge, Lulsley, Knightwick, Worcs. WR6 5QP

Tel: 01886 821661

E-mail: trevor@trevnet.plus.com

Web: www.ravenshillwood.org.uk

When can be contacted: all weekend and after 6 pm on weekdays.

T Talks with Powerpoint presentation:

- Bees/wasps.
- Ravenshill Woodland Reserve.

Fee: £30 plus travel expenses.

Equipment required: screen.

Distance will travel: 30 miles.

W Walks:

- Guided walks around Ravenshill Woodland Reserve.
- Bee-keeping [venue: Ravenshill Woodland Reserve. An observation hive will be used for demonstration purposes. **Summer months only**].

Booking notice required: minimum of 8 weeks.

Biographical info: lifetime bird watcher, manager and owner of Ravenshill Woodland Reserve, beekeeper

STURDY, Ray FRGS

129 Northwick Road, Worcester, WR3 7EG

Tel.: 01905 456624

E-mail: ray.sturdy@talk21.com

Web: phototravels.co.uk

When can be contacted: any time.

T Talks with slides:

- Peru, the land of the Incas [Lima, Lake Titicaca, then a high Andes trek to Machu Picchu].
- China, ancient and modern [an amazing mixture of traditional and modern life, China has stunning scenery, vast rivers, bustling cities, many ornate royal palaces, and at Xian, the amazing terracotta warriors]
- Vesta Tilley [from a hard life to a crowning success for this talented theatre entertainer]
- A journey to Shangri-la [Nepal, its capital Kathmandu, then a trek through the Himalayas to Everest base camp].
- The swinging 60s remembered [the life and times].
- Travels through Tibet [to Lhasa and return across the 'Roof of the World' with a trip to Everest's north face].
- I.K. Brunel, a Victorian genius [his gigantic ships, new railways, bridges and tunnels].
- From pinholes to pixels [photography, the pioneers, historic pictures and the camera evolving into the digital age].
- The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia [the traditional and 21st century life in the vast deserts].
- Malvern's memories and marvels [the Victorians, the famous water cure and celebrities of the spa town in the hills].
- Tanzania, the high and the wild [to the summit of Kilimanjaro and a wildlife photographic safari in the Serengeti].
- The spirit of Triumph motorcycles [a 1902 start, an eventful history and a rebirth of British motorcycles for the 21st century].
- Patagonia explored [a pristine wilderness and amazing glaciers, then a visit to Santiago].
- Worcestershire remembered [what was life like in Worcestershire around 100 years ago? Good old days?].
- Travels in New Zealand [a wonderful place, with friendly people and stunning scenery].

A list containing more talks available from Ray Sturdy.

[Note: the talks last for 1 hour and are followed by any questions. There is usually a collection for the NSPCC.]

Fees: £40 donation to charity, plus travel expenses.

Equipment required: darkened room & glass water.

W Walks/outdoor meetings:

- Hill walking, wildlife/fauna.
- Local towns/woods.
- Digital/film photography.
- Industrial and local history.

Distance will travel: 50 miles radius.

Booking notice required: 1 week.

Biographical info: he is an expedition organiser, a youth leader and a keen photographer.

SUMMERS, Jean

Shearwater House, 10 Balaam's Wood Drive, Northfield,
Birmingham B31 5HF

Tel.: 0121 453 2193

E-mail: jean.summers@fsmail.net

Contact : anytime.

T Talks with slides:

- On wings to the Falklands.
- Ramsey Island – a volunteer's view.
- Isle of Eigg.
- Isle of Islay and the Wild Geese.
- Skokholm Island and Manx Shearwaters.
- Travels in Kenya.

Talks with powerpoint :

- Isles of Scilly
- Beaconfield Campsites and its wonderful flora and fauna.
- NGS Gardens visited.
- Operation Osprey and Scotland (available soon).

Fee: £40 up to 20 mile radius.

Equipment required: none.

Distance will travel: West Midlands,
Worcestershire, Warwickshire.

Booking notice required: as much as
possible.

Biographical info: past Chairman of the South Birmingham WWT Local Group, and reserve warden of Spinneyfields. She is a keen bird watcher and has studied rural studies at Pershore College and ornithology at the University of Birmingham. Jean has worked for many years as a Voluntary Warden for the RSPB on Ramsey Island and guarding th breeding ospreys at Loch Garten, Scotland. She loves photography and travel.

TANN-WATSON, Lynne, Mrs

49 Moira Road, Donisthorpe, Leicestershire DE12 7QD

Tel.: 01530 272835

E-mail: lynne.tann-watson@virgin.net

Web: www.witchsgarden.co.uk

When can be contacted: most times.

T Talks:

- An introduction to herbs [herbs, their history, folklore, culinary and medicinal uses].
- Wild herbs [uses of wild plants and 'weeds'].
- History of food in England.

Workshop:

- Making herbal preparations [one or two hours].

W Walks:

- Guided walks, talking about the history, folklore and uses of the plants growing along the way.

Fees (walks and talks): £35 plus mileage (negotiable).

Equipment required: two or three large tables for plants and displaying books for sale.

Distance will travel: 2 hours radius from home.

Booking notice required: as early as possible, but will stand in at short notice if available.

Biographical info: Lynne runs a small herbary. She has been growing and using herbs for 40 years, and has given talks on herbs for over 10 years.

TAYLOR, Barrie F.R.P.S. 178, Tamworth Road, Sutton Coldfield, West Midlands B75 6DL

Tel.: 0121 308 8726

E-mail: barriektaylor@talktal.net

When can be contacted: any time.

T Talks with slides:

- Birds in the Baltics (Finland, Norway and Poland) [owls, harriers, bitterns, terns and eiders].
- Galapagos Islands [unique wildlife].
- Costa Rica, its birds and wildlife [quetzal, hummingbirds and much more].
- Madagascar, the country and its wildlife [lemurs, birds, chameleons and scenery].
- Falkland Islands and Antarctica [penguins, elephant seals, caracaras].
- Indian birds and wildlife [tiger, Bharatpur and much more].
- Oceanic Islands [Galapagos, Madagascar, Falklands, Seychelles].
- Namibia [Etosha, Sossusvlei Dunes].
- Kenya, its birds and wildlife [leopard, cheetah, birds of prey].
- Alaska and Churchill [birds and mammals].
- Sea and coastal birds [UK and abroad].
- Trinidad and Tobago [exotic birds].
- Seychelles [granitic islands].
- Wetlands wildlife [ponds, lakes, rivers].
- Birds and wildlife around us.
- Let's go to the sea [marine birds etc.].
- Botswana [Okavango Delta].
- Tanzania [Serengeti etc.].
- Wildlife images.} - print lectures
- African images } - print lectures

Fees: to be discussed.

Equipment required: extension lead.

Distance will travel: up to 40 miles.

Booking notice required: a few weeks.

Biographical info: has led a number of trips for Avian Adventures to various parts of the world.

TAYLOR, Paul

24 Forge Road, Shustoke, Coleshill, Birmingham B46 2AU

Tel.: 07811 403713

E-mail: info@naturalworldexperience.com

Web: www.naturalworldexperience.com

When can be contacted: any time.

T Talk (illustrated):

- The world of minibeasts [hands-on experience with exotic creatures from around the world]. (Suitable for children.)

W Walks/outdoor meetings:

- Bug hunts.
- Pond dipping.

(Suitable for children.)

Fees: £30 per session plus travel expenses.

Equipment required: none.

Distance will travel: most areas.

Booking notice required: none.

Biographical info: he has been keeping exotic insects for many years and runs his own business providing family-oriented environmental activities and education. Now has a Bug Zoo and Gift Shop at Hatton Country World, Hatton, Nr Warwick.

TIDESWELL, David2 Church Farm Close, Stramshall, Nr Uttoxeter, Staffordshire
ST14 5AL

Tel.: 01889 565942.

When can be contacted: any time.

T Talks with slides:

- Attracting birds to our gardens [seasonal talk].
- Blue tit – raising a family.
- Our friendly garden robin – the natural and non-natural history of our robin redbreast.

Fee: £50 plus travel expenses.

Equipment required: a table for displaying books and bird feeders for sale.

Distance will travel: 60-70 mile radius.

Booking notice required: a few days, if available.

Biographical info: bird enthusiast, 'robin man' on BBC *Spring Watch*, BBC local radio contributor.

TILT, John

9, Meadow Close, Kington, Flyford Flavell, Worcestershire WR7 4DE

Tel.: 01386 792458; 07957 711031

E-mail: john.tilt2@btopenworld.com

When can be contacted: after 6 pm or on mobile.

T Talks with Powerpoint presentations:

- Grafton Wood History & Natural History.
- Ancient trees of Worcestershire -ancient tree recording.
- Conservation of the Brown Hairstreak Butterfly
- Butterflies - Transect recording.
- Butterflies – Worcestershire/Woodland Meadows
- Searching for British orchids.
- Wildlife & Butterflies of Scotland.

[Can vary the content and length of each talk depending on local group requirements.]

Fees: £30, travel expenses
Included

Equipment required: table for display board
& table for laptop computer.

W Walks:

- Grafton Wood - Birds, Flowers & Butterflies.

Willing to lead guided walks elsewhere.

Distance will travel: all areas.

Booking notice required: 4 weeks.
(but can fill in at short notice if available)

Biographical info: member of WWT since 1981. Has carried out BTO bird surveys for over 20 years. Was previously a member of Hornhill & Trench Wood management committees - now the Voluntary Reserve Manager of Grafton Wood.

Also a member of Butterfly Conservation- currently the Chairman of the West Midlands Branch and Transect Co-ordinator for the West Midlands. He has been involved with the Ancient Tree Register since the beginning having written the database for the project. John is also a member of Worcestershire Biological Record Centre.

UMPELBY, Roger, B.Sc., M.Phil.

The Cottage, Elmley Road, Ashton-under-Hill, Evesham,
Worcestershire, WR11 7SW

Tel.: 01386 881449

E-mail: roger@bugman.free-online.co.uk

When can be contacted: normally any time.

T All talks are extensively illustrated with digital images

Titles of talks :

:

- Friends and foes in the garden.
- Bugs: the good, the bad and the ugly.
- How to love lily beetles and admire slugs-the true facts about our most feared garden pests.
- "X-rated invertebrates" – savagery and sex in the garden
- All bugs bright and beautiful.
- Butterflies in Britain
- Beneficial creatures in the garden
- Biological control of pests
- Useful, beautiful, but unloved- an alternative look at weeds
- Pests and diseases of fruit
- Pests and diseases of vegetables
- Pests and diseases of ornamentals
- Pest and disease control without chemicals ?
- Bredon Hill through the year, a nature-lover's view
- A close-up view of the Cotswold countryside (mainly macro-photography)
- Life in the local undergrowth (mainly macro-photography)
- The wonder of wild flowers (mainly macro-photography)
- My favourite local nature photographs
- A plant lover's view of New Zealand.
- A plant lover's view of Fiji and Samoa

Fee: £10 to Wildlife Trusts, £40
minimum for other clubs and societies

Equipment required: none.

Travel expenses : 35p/mile plus any car park, toll charges etc.

Will travel: any distance, accommodation will be required if over 100 miles each way.

Available : anytime normally.

Biographical info: a professional applied entomologist and horticulturalist with many years' experience of consultancy and research with government and industry. Part time advisor for RHS and part-time lecturer at Pershore College. A passionate plant and nature lover who enjoys sharing his love and respect for the natural world with anyone prepared to listen.

VALE WILDLIFE RESCUE – see BROOKES, Martin

WALL, Terry EFIAP Platinum. PPSA.

The Oaks, Parkend Walk, Coalway,
Gloucestershire GL16 7JR

Tel.: 01594 832956

E-mail: wildimages@terry-wall.com

Web: www.terry-wall.com

When can be contacted: 10 am to 8 pm.

T Talks with digitally projected images:

- Year in the life of a Wall [wildlife and landscape of Lesvos, Galapagos Islands, White Sands and Bosque del Apache reserves in New Mexico].
- Wall on the wildside [birds and mammals in Florida, UK, Tanzania].
- Digital Wall [wildlife of Texas and Arizona].
- Digital Africa [wildlife, especially big cats, in Samburu, Lake Nakuru, Lake Naivasha and the Masai Mara].
- A Wall at the end of the world – Japan! Snow monkeys! Sea-eagles!
- A Wall around California : wildlife and landscapes.
- A View from a Wall : USA National Parks : Yellowstone, Grand Tetons et al – stunning autumn wildlife amidst the geyser basins.
- A Wall around my Garden : current UK wildlife touring around accessible places – just like Autumn Watch !

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[Talks are travelogue style and are suitable for all ages.]

Fee: £60, plus petrol expenses

Equipment required: screen and tables
for display and sale of prints and cards.

Distance will travel: up to 100 miles
return; further by arrangement.

Booking notice required: any – may be
available for stand-ins at short notice.

Biographical info: full time professional wildlife photographer. International award winner many times over.

WALTON, Derek

234, Loxley Road, Stratford upon Avon, Warwickshire, CV37 7DU

Tel.: 01789 550244

E-mail: derek.walton@ntworld.com

When can be contacted: any time.

T Talk with slides:

- Birds and water [general birds plus other subjects associated with water].
- Wild about a garden [wildlife and horticultural interest in and around his garden].

Fee: around £40, plus travel.

Equipment required: none.

Distance will travel: all counties adjacent to Warwickshire.

Biographical info: he is an Associate of the Royal Photographical Society and a member of its Nature Group. Has been photographing wildlife, specialising in birds, for 15 years at home and abroad.

WEAVER, Mike

9 Coronation Avenue, Rushwick, Worcester WR2 5TF

Tel.: 01905 425552; 07767895432 (mobile) E-mail: mike.weaver@ic24.net

When can be contacted: any time.

T Talk with slides:

- An evening with badgers [learn about badgers, their habits, lifestyles and their problems; rescue, rehabilitation and release of casualties; experiences with badgers throughout more than 28 years].

Equipment required: none.

Fee: £0 to £25 (incl. travel), depending on the group and size of the audience.

W Finding tracks and traces of badgers; how to tell signs from those of other animals; how to identify badger setts.

Distance will travel: Worcestershire.

Booking notice required: anytime, can stand in at short notice if available.

Biographical info: has had over 28 years' involvement with badgers, and has been a member of the Worcestershire Badger Group from August 1992 to February 2008, including nearly 10 years as chairman. He is now a professional wildlife consultant.

WILKES, Mike F.R.P.S. 43 Feckenham Road, Headless Cross, Redditch, Worcs B97 5AS

Tel.: 01527 550686

E-mail: wilkes.m1@sky.com

When can be contacted: any time.

T Talks with slides:

- Birds of the West Midlands [from nesting rooks to woodland birds, birds in old gravel pits and winter birds in an orchard].
- British birds from autumn to spring [England, Wales and Scotland].
- Spring in Spain [hoopoes, wheatears, shrikes and waders].
- Lesbos [a birder's dream island].
- Fabulous Florida [all the herons, egrets, swamp birds, birds of prey and meadow birds].
- Birds of southern Texas [water birds, desert birds and garden birds along the Texas coast].
- Wildlife of the cloud forest and Galapagos islands [visiting the ten best islands].
- The Gambia [seashore birds, garden birds and wildlife of the Abuku Forest].
- Kenya, a wildlife photographer's paradise [the main mammals, birds and landscapes of Kenya].
- North and south Tanzania.
- Tanzanian spectacular [visiting Lake Manyara, Serengeti and Tarangire National Parks and Ngorongoro Crater with their enormous variety of wildlife].
- Tanzania revisited.
- Zimbabwe safari [visiting Zambezi Valley, Mana Pools, Lake Kariba, Victoria Falls and Hwange National Park].

Fee: £30 to £35 depending on distance, travel included.

Equipment required: none.

Distance will travel: no limit.

Booking notice required: any time; may be available for stand-ins at short notice.

Biographical info: wildlife photographer and speaker for the last 30 years, professionally for the past 10. Organises and accompanies wildlife photography groups to Tanzania and the Galapagos Islands.

WILKINSON, Paul

6, Bossgate Close, Wombourne, South Staffordshire WV5 0NJ

Tel.: 01902 896544 or 079192 552527 (work mobile)

E-mail: plwilkinson1@sky.com or (work) paul.wilkinson@britishwaterways.co.uk.

When can be contacted: evenings and weekends if by telephone..

T Talks with digital presentation:

- Creatures of the Twilight- a look at nocturnal species & the competition that exists.
- The Amphibians and reptiles of the UK.
- The Amphibians and reptiles of Europe.
- The natural history of the Midlands canals.
- A year in the life of a village
- Fens Pools SAC : 30 years of monitoring great crested newts.
- The invasion of non native species.
- Water voles on the canal.
- Protected species – what you need to know.
- Creating a Wildlife haven on your doorstep.

Fees (walks and talks): £35 incl. travel expenses.

Equipment required: projector table and screen.

W Walks:

- Amphibians
- Reptiles
- Bats

Distance will travel: 30 miles: north Worcestershire/south Staffordshire.

Booking notice required: 1 month minimum, preferably 6 months

Biographical info: he has been a herpetologist for over 20 years and an ecologist for British Waterways for over 5 years. He holds a species licence for great-crested newts, white-clawed crayfish, floating water plantain, natterjack toads, badgers and water voles.

WILLIAMS, Alan and Sylvia

Greenlands, Miry Lane, Foston, Derby DE65 5PW

Tel.: 01283 813541, 07899 953734

When can be contacted: day and evening.

T Talks and DVD films:

- Living with barn owls [the film was made by the speakers on their private nature reserve Tean Valley Meadow].
- Living with nature [the planning, creation and natural development of Alan and Sylvia's 11 acre private nature reserve, including the many species of wildlife, flora and fauna that make it the rich place it is today].

[Each talk takes 15-20 min, followed by a 50 min film, then a question and answer session.]

Fee: £50 (used to support wild barn owls in east Staffordshire and south Derbyshire), plus travel expenses at 40p per mile.

Equipment required: display tables and a darkened room.

Distance will travel: to be agreed.

Booking notice required: any.

Biographical info: following retirement, Alan and Sylvia purchased 11 acres of land and created a nature reserve suitable as a barn owl habitat, which led to the establishment of barn owls on the site. The reserve and barn owl activity were featured on BBC Midlands Today *Spring and Autumn Watch* in 2007. Both are members of the Barn Owl Action Group of Staffordshire Wildlife Trust.

WREN, Graham, A.R.P.S.

The Kiln House, Great Doward, Whitchurch, Ross on Wye,
Herefordshire HR9 6DU

Tel.: 01600 890488

E-mail: grahamjwren@aol.com

When can be contacted: any time (answer phone); also by e-mail.

T Talks with slides:

- A summer on the Farne Islands.
- St Kilda [the people, their way of life and their dependence on birds].
- A Scandinavian journey [from Hardangervidda in southern Norway, through Sweden and northern Finland to Varanger Fjord].
- Arctic summer [the Varanger peninsular and the forests of northern Finland].
- Forty-five years 'in the field'.
- Nestboxes [over 40 years' experience].
- Baltic summer [visits to Gotland in the Baltic, incl. wildflowers and waders].
- Bird nesting habitats –past, present and future.
- Breeding birds of northern Britain [from the Highlands to the Sutherland flows and beyond to some of the islands of the north].
- Breeding birds of southern England [breeding habitats and nests with reference to changes in the countryside over the last thirty years].
- Wildlife in Ohio.
- Kenya wildlife safari.
- Birds and seals of the Farne Islands.
- Our changing countryside [changes in land use and farming practices and their effect on wildlife through the latter half of the 20th century.]
- Twenty-five years of farming and wildlife in Lincolnshire.
- The countryside in the 1960s.
- The best of Britain [introduction to some mammals, butterflies and moths, a fledgling cuckoo, and general country themes].
- Have camera, will travel [features a wide variety of subjects and places, in Britain and abroad – landscape, rural life and activities].
- Uluru and beyond [two months travelling in Australia].
- A Kiwi experience [a two month tour of New Zealand – landscape and wildlife].
- The Emerald Isle [concentrates on the west coast of Eire, landscape and flora].
- A Scottish affair [40 years of exploration - mainland and islands].

Fee: £45 to £55 plus travel expenses.

Equipment required: none.

Distance will travel: any area.

Booking notice required: any – available at short notice.

Biographical info: wildlife photographer/lecturer and tour guide. A lifelong student of natural history, he has worked in practical agriculture since 1959 and has a special interest in changes in bird nesting habitats and effects on their breeding populations. He has been a warden on the Farne Islands and a volunteer warden on RSPB reserves, and has travelled to many places in the world photographing birds. His slides have been deposited with Oxford Scientific Films since 1978 and some have been published in books, journals, magazines, videos and on electronic media. He has lectured on ornithology throughout the UK for the past 38 years.

YATES, Bas See MORRIS, Rosemary

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