

## Newsletter Winter 2020

### Welcome

**We hope you have been able to spend time out and about around Redditch during these strange times.**

The borough has a lot of open space to offer and you don't need to go far to find some green space where you can enjoy nature. Even the commonplace such as hearing a robin proclaiming its winter territory or seeing the first redwings of winter feeding on hedgerow berries can lift the spirits.



Redwing © Roy Porter

So wrap up warm and get out and embrace the changing seasons and we'll hopefully see you soon.

Until then, stay safe and well.

### Meetings update

#### **We've gone online!**

You will be only too aware that due to the continuing COVID-19 virus all our indoor meetings have been postponed.

At the time of writing in late October, we're continuing to work with staff at the Trust and with other Local Groups to produce an alternative online programme of talks. The first few online talks have gone down very well so why not sign up to one of the forthcoming talks.

December's meetings are about urban peregrines with Ed Drewitt and, just before Christmas, you can discover more about Natural History of Christmas with Michael Leach. Talks for 2021 are still being finalised but at time of writing, Redditch is planning on hosting an appropriately themed talk on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021!

Please keep your eyes on the Trust's website for the most up to date information.

**[www.worcswildlifetrust.co.uk/whats-on](http://www.worcswildlifetrust.co.uk/whats-on)**

## Committee News

The past few months has seen changes in the committee of your local group and, at the end of October, your local group committee finds itself without a chairperson. Jackie Hardy did a sterling job of steering the ship following the sad death of Peter Beckhelling (a character whose boots will take a lot of filling), but Jackie has had to stand down due to other commitments.

We are looking for new people to help out on the committee. Our tasks are not particularly time-consuming, especially with the current Covid-19 restrictions! For example, we're looking for help with booking speakers when our indoor meetings can resume as well as with pulling together content for this newsletter three times a year. If you can make a good cuppa for people attending our meetings, even better!

We are planning a drop-in session somewhere local as soon as we are able to have physical get-togethers and will let you have more information as soon as we can. In the meantime, if you would like to talk to someone about what is involved, please drop a line to Anne Williams at the Trust who liaises with all the local groups [anne@worcestershirewildlifetrust.org](mailto:anne@worcestershirewildlifetrust.org)

Thank you!

## Upton Warren has re-opened

...and your committee member, Sheena, was one of the first visitors...

*"I was there in the morning when it stayed fine and it was lovely to be back watching all the wildlife. There were lots of Canada geese, greylags, a great crested grebe swimming so elegantly, lots of various gulls, cormorants, a heron, a little egret, a pintail duck, some tufted and pochards as well as lapwing and curlew. On the bird feeders were lots of little birds including a great spotted woodpecker.*

*I had a thoroughly pleasant morning and it certainly left me with a 'feel good' factor."*

Providing that Covid-19 restrictions allow, Upton Warren is open for limited bookings on Thursdays and Saturdays. Book your session at [www.worcswildlifetrust.co.uk/whats-on](http://www.worcswildlifetrust.co.uk/whats-on)

## Join in at Iplsey Alders Marsh

Why not consider helping your local wildlife by volunteering on the first Sunday in the month. Mammals, birds, insects and flowers are thriving here together with grazing longhorn cattle.

Please contact Margot Bish on 01527 60004.

The group gathers at Winyates Green Meeting Rooms, Furze Lane at 10am on the first Sunday of the month.

Ipsley Alders is a beautiful nature reserve right on our doorsteps.