

Droitwich Local Group

Summer 2021 News



**Worcestershire
Wildlife Trust**

Greetings to you all and welcome to the summer edition of the Droitwich Spa branch of Worcestershire Wildlife Trust's newsletter! We hope that you are all safe and well and are enjoying the summer weather, at last.

As we ease ourselves cautiously into our newly found vaccinated freedom, we can reflect on having enjoyed some excellent online Zoom talks during the early spring season, on such diverse topics as Wildlife Gardening, Tricks That Nature Plays and an informative description of life and work at the Trust's Piper's Hill and Dodderhill Common nature reserve. We then enjoyed talks from May to July, discovering more about the fascinating worlds of flies, bees and Antarctica!

After much deliberation and discussion, and mindful of our members' welfare, most local groups were keen to maintain an online presence during the autumn months. The decision was taken to continue with a programme of Zoom talks until at least early 2022. This is to keep us all safe from unexpected new Covid variants that may arise during autumn and winter, relieve group committee members from the task of sanitising and cleaning facilities in hired venues and to maximise fundraising (in case of insufficient attendees at face-to-face meetings), as speakers and hire of hall costs would still have to be met if meetings were once again cancelled.

At the time of going to press, dates and speakers were being finalised but we're hoping to hear about the pioneering Dorset geologist Mary Anning and a panel of experts for an interactive Christmas special as well as two more exciting speakers to fill our autumn season from September to December.

Please do keep an eye on the Trust's website to see what's coming up and to book your tickets

www.worcswildlifetrust.co.uk/whats-on

Online talks start at 7pm and last for about 45 minutes with time for questions at the end. A donation of £2.50 per viewer is requested and we think this is definitely money well spent!

Please also see overleaf for our rescheduled programme of walks.

Don't miss out!

We are grateful for your continued support and for bearing with us during this rather difficult time for organising events. Here's to a more positive future and looking forward to seeing you all again as soon as possible!

Celia
Your newsletter editor

We are very much hoping to see some of you on our rescheduled walks over the next few months. Dates are provisional but we remain (quietly) confident that they will go ahead...

Saturday 14th August - Heathland Walk

Adam Wright, Countryside Officer for Wyre Forest District, will lead a four-mile walk covering The Devil's Spittleful, Rifle Range and Burlish Top nature reserves. He'll also talk about working with the Trust and plans for the land that joins these three nature reserves – the new Trust reserve at Dropping Well Farm.

Start: Blackstone car park (between Stourport and Bewdley) at 10:00am.

Saturday 11th September – Anthills and Woodlands Walk

Mervyn Needham, trustee and volunteer warden, will lead a four-mile walk on lanes and good tracks through anthill meadows, Randan Wood and Chaddesley Woods.

Start: 10:00am, meeting point to be confirmed.

Wednesday 13th October – Woods and Wildlife Walk

Join us for an eight-mile, self-led circular walk using the Trust's walks booklet and audio guide (narrated by Brett Westwood) from The Knapp and Papermill through Blackhouse, Crews Hill and Ravenshill Woods. Find more information about the route from www.worcswildlifetrust.co.uk/worcestershire-woods-wildlife-walk

Start: 10:00am, meet at The Knapp and Papermill entrance

Booking is essential as each walk is limited to 15 participants and all attendees would have to provide contact details (phone numbers, e-mail addresses) for Track and Trace procedures.

A donation of £5 per person is suggested and in these uncertain times we should remind you that the walks may have to be cancelled at short notice. We do hope this will not be the case and we look forward to meeting up as soon as possible.

For further information about these walks and to book a place, please contact either:

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Please check the website regularly to keep up to date with all our events

www.worcswildlifetrust.co.uk

