



Worcestershire
Wildlife Trust

Wyre Forest Local Group

Newsletter autumn 2025

Wildlife conservation acronyms

The world is full of acronyms and nature conservation is no exception. There are more than 200 different acronyms in this field (thank you to Richard Cory for the list). Here are just a few:

BWARS – Bees, Wasps & Ants Recording Society, **ELMs** – Environmental Land Management Scheme, **LBAP** – Local Biodiversity Action Plan, **LNRS** – Local Nature Recovery Strategy, **NIA** – Nature Improvement Area, to name a few.

Sight of Special Scientific Interest (**SSSI**) is one of the most well known. According to the Collins Dictionary, an SSSI is “an area identified by the Nature Conservancy Council or as having flora, fauna, or geological features of special interest.” These sites include woodland, orchard, grasslands, lowland meadows, heathland and pasture. There may be rare types of flora and fauna such as orchids, ancient woodland or trees alongside rare insects.

England has over 4,100 SSSIs covering more than 4,200 square miles.

Worcestershire Wildlife Trust manages a number of SSSIs that have public access. As with all their nature reserves, visitors should always stick to paths and dogs must be kept on a lead at all times. Cycling is only allowed on bridleways. You can find more information at www.worcestershirowildlifetrust.co.uk/nature-reserves

We’re lucky in that Wyre Forest District Council has the following SSSIs that you can also visit: The Rifle Range, Habberley Valley Local Nature Reserve, Hurcott Pools and Wood, Hartlebury Common and Puxton Marsh.

Other types of nature reserves within the Wyre Forest district include:

Bishops Field, near Wolverley, is a Local Wildlife Site (**LWS**). These are areas of land with ‘substantive nature conservation value’ that are identified and selected at a county level based on important, distinctive and threatened habitats and species that have a national, regional and a local context. Often these are small and have limited or no access but there are some owned by organisations and public bodies.

The Wyre Forest is the largest woodland National Nature Reserve (**NNR**). NNRs are designated by Natural England and are rare, precious areas that protect some of our country’s most important places for wildlife and geology.



The Wyre Forest National Nature Reserve
© Paul Lane

Talks

Everyone is welcome to join us at Holy Innocents Community Hall, Kidderminster at 7.30 p.m.
Admission £3.00

Thursday 4th September 2025 The Return of the Pine Marten by Johnny Birks

Johnny has been actively involved in pine marten research and conservation for more than 30 years.

Thursday 2nd October 2025 Parasites – just scratching the surface by Eden Tanner

Eden is a retired veterinary surgeon with a keen life-long interest in natural history.

Thursday 6th November 2025 Wildlife of Wales by Nick Martin

Nick is a wildlife photographer with a passion for nature and the countryside.

Thursday 4th December 2025 Christmas social

A short annual review followed by our Christmas social. An enjoyable way to start the festivities!

Walks

All start at 10a.m. Donations to the Trust. Well-behaved dogs on a lead welcome.

Sunday 14th September 2025 Strolling in the Trimpley area led by Richard Jeynes

A walk with views of the Severn Valley Railway, River Severn, Victoria Bridge and Trimpley reservoirs.

Details: Uneven paths / may be muddy in the woods / short section on the road / moderate ascents and descents / no stiles / four miles

Meet: Lower Trimpley car park on the left as you approach the STW site. Turn off Hoarstone Lane at the brown signpost to Trimpley Reservoir picnic place. GR S0775792

Sunday 12th October 2025 On Kinver Edge led by Roma Bubb & Chris Morris

A walk through woodland and heathland with panoramic views from the hillfort and, hopefully, a variety of fungi to see.

Details: No stiles. Approx three miles. No inclines.

Meet : Sandy Lane National Trust car park, DY11 5XT / GR S0835822

Sunday 16th November 2025 The Monarchs Way continued led by Mervyn Needham

Back to Chaddesley and more of the Monarchs Way, taking in Harvington Hall.

Details: three miles / no stiles.

Meet: Lane next to Chaddesley Corbett village hall, just off A448, DY10 4QA / GR S0888737

Sunday 14th December 2025 A stroll in rural Hagley led by Glyn Walters

A circular walk through beautiful Worcestershire countryside. Great views.

Details: three miles / short incline to start, then largely flat.

Meet: Pull in alongside road at Brake Lane, Hagley. DY8 2XP / GR S0893806

For more information about our walks, please contact either:

Roma Bubb: bubb.roma@outlook.com

or

Chris Morris: chrismorris222@btinternet.com

You can also find out more information at: www.worcswildlifetrust.co.uk

A big **thank you** to **Ruth Howell** for her many years on the Wyre Forest Local Group Committee, including in the role of Chair. She has worked tirelessly on our behalf and we will miss her, though look forward to seeing her again at our future talks.

For further information about the group, please contact Joan Kearton-Jones joan.kj@sky.com

Your editor – Caris Edwards