

Southeast Worcestershire Local Group

Summer newsletter 2026



Worcestershire
Wildlife Trust

The early months of 2026 were a busy time for the committee members of Southeast Worcestershire Local Group. With the welcome arrival of new committee members, we gathered to plan this year's priorities and activities to improve what we already offer for you, our local Worcestershire Wildlife Trust members. I'm pleased to share our thoughts with you.

We'll continue to play a crucial role in promoting the valuable work of the Trust to all members and non-members in our area. We are currently finalising a timetable of informative evening talks and presentations that will begin in September. Whilst a small number of diary dates for this autumn have been finalised, please keep an eye on the Trust's website www.worcswildlifetrust.co.uk/whats-on for information of more events. A full diary will be released in the next issue of our newsletter in November.

One of the things we'd like to do is to connect our local group with other community wildlife and conservation partners who are also making a difference for wildlife across southeast Worcestershire.

Please do take a moment to browse the pages of our newly designed newsletter. We hope that it informs and inspires readers of all ages.

Chris Wolstencroft
Southeast Local Group Chair



Broadway sunset by Kate Barry

Dawn Chorus Walk at Tiddesley Wood

What a glorious start to our dawn chorus walk at Tiddesley Wood on 2 May! The Flower Moon had just set behind Bredon Hill. There were 31 of us in the group, gathering in the dark car park before we quietly proceeded down the main track leading into the woods at 4.50am. Just before the first rays of dawn emerged, the silence was broken by a robin whose choral intent was to usurp a blackbird. The weather was perfect – dry and wind-still with a mistiness in the air. The bird song built up gradually between dawn and sunrise until we could enjoy a full-on crescendo of sound.

Approximately 20 bird species congregated to ensure a memorable open-air concert would be witnessed by us all. The melodic recital of a song thrush was supported by blackcaps, blue tits, whitethroats and a garden warbler who followed us down the track and thought that it could outdo the other birds.

A big thank you to my team of bird experts who, through their knowledge, helped provide a positive experience to the group.

Chris Wolstencroft

Autumn talks 2026

Our autumn programme takes place at the Friends Meeting House, Cowl Street, Evesham WR11 4PN, starting at 7.30 pm and costs £3.00. All are welcome, please do bring along friends and family.

Wednesday 9 September 2026

From his perspective as the Community Warden Officer out on the Trust's nature reserves, Ion Riley's talk covers three of Worcestershire Wildlife Trust's woodlands: Grafton, Tiddesley and Monkwood. Ion has been a keen birdwatcher all his life and has recently cultivated an interest in butterflies and dragonflies. He claims to have the best job in the Trust – inspiring visitors about the wildlife seen on Trust nature reserves.

Wednesday 11 November 2026

Dominique Cragg will talk about 'A Network for Nature in the Forest of Feckenham'. After completing a degree in Animal Biology, Dominique volunteered with the Trust and then became a trainee in 2012. She subsequently undertook a Master's degree and, after undertaking other conservation roles, she became Western Reserves Officer for the Trust in 2017. In early 2026, she became involved in the development of the new 'A Network for Nature' project.

Too soon departed: Bob Gillmor

Bob Gillmor was devoted to Worcestershire's natural world and had been involved with the Trust for over 30 years. He will be familiar to many of you as a long-serving committee member of this group, an organiser of the log sales and open day at Tiddesley Wood, as Mayor of Pershore or a member of the Pershore Abbey community. Bob was a long-standing trustee for the Trust, a founding member of the Friends of Avon Meadows in Pershore and a volunteer for the People's Trust for Endangered Species. Bob passed away in February and is much missed.



Your views and opinions

We'd love to know what you would like to see more, or less, of in future newsletters. Our intention is to deliver local news, inspiration and insight on topics relating to our area's wildlife and conservation in the best way possible for you.

Please get in touch to let us know:
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